THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAE CORPS OE SIGNALS

THE OEEICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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VOL. XIX.—No. 215. JANUARY 1938 PRICE—SIXPENCE

Editorial Notes.

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

We are indebted to Lieutenant-Colonel (Q.M.) A. Newton, O.B.E., "A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, India, for a descriptive account of THE WAZIRISTAN OPERATIONS, 1937, which will be published complete in our February issue.

Ex-No. 2319986 Signalman C. W. Chisnall, now living at 22, Colindale Avenue, Hendon, N.W.9, would be glad to hear from any of his old friends still serving, with whom he is anxious to keep in touch.

EXETER AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

Unveiling of the War Memorial Tablet, and Annual Branch Dinner, 27th November, 1937.—When Major E. H. Varwell, D.S.O., who commanded the 27th (Wessex) Divisional Signal Company during the Great War, asked Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., Colonel-Commandant, Royal Signals, to unveil the beautiful Memorial Tablet dedicated to those of the Wessex Signal Companies who fell in the War, he gave a brief outline of "Signals" progress in Exeter since the Wessex Divisional Telegraph Company, R.E. (T.F.) was first formed in 1908.

The nucleus of that Company, he said, was obtained from the Devon and Somerset Volunteer Engineers and the Exeter and South Devon Rifle Volunteers.

He gave a vivid description of their first old-fashioned cable "cart" (which was not always referred to by its vocabulary name), and added that those who were called upon to man it

had vivid recollections of having to wind up miles and miles of cable by hand, owing to what was commonly known as a "slipping clutch."

In 1909, they had banded together about thirty-five good men and true, who, being fascinated by their work, very soon

mastered the essential technicalities. No effort was spared, and in the following year they found themselves taking part in the 3rd Divisional Manœuvres on Salisbury Plain with their much-abused cable " cart," plus a brand new cable wagon (new pattern).

In succeeding years, they bore their share of manœuvres around Wareham with the 2nd (London) Territorial Division, also with the Regular Army in the Cambridgeshire area.

When war broke out, in 1914, the speaker added, and with his officers, N.C.O.s and men solidly behind him, he offered the Wessex Divisional Signal Company for service overseas, and they proceeded to France in December, 1914, as a complete Divisional Signal Company, the first complete Divisional Signal Company of the Territorial Force to land in France.

As a preliminary to calling upon Brigadier Clementi Smith to perform the unveiling ceremony, Major Varwell explained that the reason the Tablet had not been erected earlier was, that until recently it had been extremely difficult to get in touch with their old comrades, but the establishment of a local branch of the Corps Association had removed that obstacle and made the ceremony possible.

Brigadier Clementi Smith thanked Major Varwell and all ranks of Wessex Divisional Signals for delegating such a pleasant task to him, and said that he considered it a great honour to be selected for the purpose of unveiling their Memorial Tablet. It signified the reverence with which surviving members of the Unit remembered their old comrades, who had made the supreme sacrifice, and he reminded his listeners that it was their job to " carry on " and cement the foundations so well and truly laid by the pioneers of the Unit.

He then unveiled the Memorial and, after a dedicatory prayer and blessing by the Ven. A. H. Thompson, Archdeacon of Exeter, those present stood in silence while the "Last Post" and " Reveille " were sounded on the silver bugle presented to Wessex Signals by the Lord Lieutenant of Devon in 1920.

Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command, laid a wreath beneath the Tablet, as did also Mr. F. Hand, of the Salisbury and District Branch.

Immediately following this ceremony, Colonel W. G. Michelmore, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., Chairman of the Exeter Branch, presided at the Annual Dinner, which was attended by ninety-seven members and guests, many of whom had journeyed from all parts of the south of England. It was, to say the least of it, a splendid gathering, and one could not but feel thrilled to be amongst such a reunion of Old Comrades. Major Varwell proposed the toast of " The Signals Association," to which Brigadier Clementi Smith responded.

Colonel W. G. Michelmore gave the toast of " The Visitors," and welcomed the Archdeacon and members from other branches. The prestige of Royal Signals was, he said, higher than that of any other Corps in the British Army, and they might well be proud to be associated with it. He referred to the record number of situations found for unemployed members, and added that the Association was at present in the happy position of having more vacancies on offer than they had candidates to nominate. He considered that great credit was due to those who were responsible for such a satisfactory state of affairs.

The Ven. A. H. Thompson, replying, expressed his thanks for having been called upon to dedicate their Memorial Tablet, and also for being invited to such a representative reunion of Old Comrades. He was, he said, thoroughly enjoying a novel experience, and confessed that he was conscious of a spirit of comradeship which was unique in his experience and could only be for the good and well-being of the community as a whole.

Major J. W. Western, O.B.E., T.D., proposed the toast of "Absent Friends."

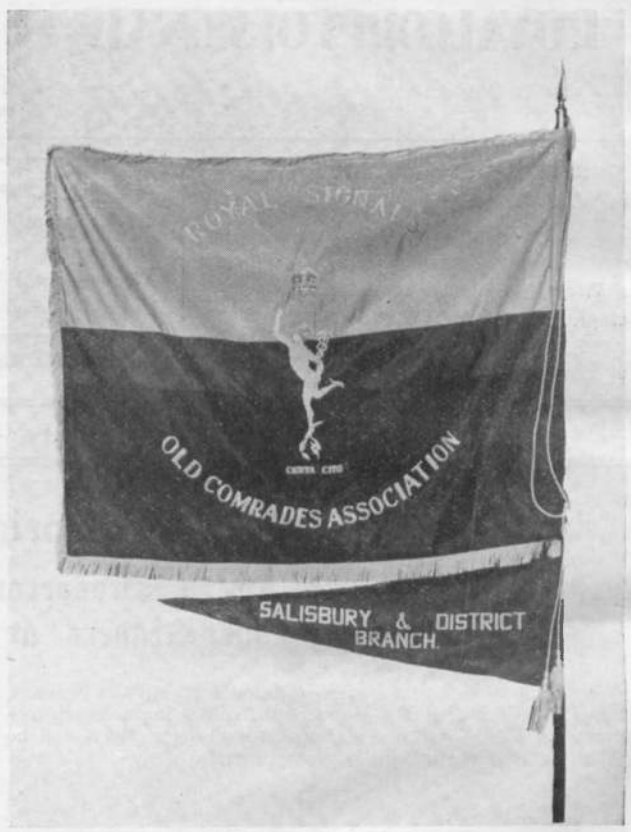
The evening's entertainment then proceeded with a concert and community singing. The scene when "Auld Lang Syne" was sung was one to be remembered. Forming a huge circle around the Salisbury Banner and its escort, the assembly " chained up " in traditional fashion, and did full justice to the time-honoured refrain, until finally, and with the flag dipped, all stood to attention for the National Anthem.

We were all very glad to see amongst us Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C. (Officer Commanding, 43rd Wessex Signals), Major W. J. L. Cornelius (O.C., No. 1 Company), Captain T. H. Reeks (O.C., No. 3 Company), Captain L. E. O. Evans, Lieutenants Spicer and Totterdell (No. 3 Company), and Lieutenant P. D. Gracey of 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Our General Secretary, Mr. W. Butler, was also fortunately able to be with us, and we were pleased to have his company, also to hear such a good account of the work of the Association. He is ever ready to help us on all occasions, and a Branch Secretary feels happy in his labours when he gets such quick and efficient support from Headquarters.

My last note must be one of deep gratitude to Captain C. W. Knight and his small band of helpers at the Priory—Messrs. F. F. West, H. W. Boulger, G. Stone and members of No. 3 Company—for all they so willingly did to make our 1937 Annual Dinner the great success it was.

OLD SPARK.



SALISBURY AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

The Sixth Annual Dinner of the Salisbury and District Branch of Signals Association was held at the Cafe Rendezvous, Salisbury, on Friday, 19th November, 1937.

A very enjoyable evening was spent by about seventy members and visiting friends, and the following Toasts were given: " THE KING," proposed by Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C.; " HER ROYAL HIGHNESS, THE PRINCESS ROYAL, COLONEL-IN-CHIEF," proposed by Major G. R. Halliday.

" THE SALISBURY AND DISTRICT BRANCH " was proposed by Colonel A. C. Allen, D.S.O., M.C., who described the activities of the Branch during the past twelve months. Their Committee, he said, had spared no pains to make the local Branch a live organization for mutual help and guidance to all its members. Their efforts to institute a weekly games night, however, had not met with the response they had anticipated, which could probably be accounted for by the fact that Branch members lived in a very scattered area. Referring to their Annual Ball, he thought it a matter for regret that there was not a hall large enough in Salisbury to provide better and more adequate accommodation. He appealed to members to support the

Branch Committee in their efforts to provide social entertainment generally and particularly the annual Band Concert which was accepted by all as a real musical treat.

The Branch, he said, now numbered eighty-six members, and he reminded his listeners that much unnecessary clerical work and expense could be avoided if they would all assist the Committee in their voluntary work by paying subscriptions promptly when they became due. It was vitally necessary, he added, to build up the finances of the Branch, and with that end in view he had recently put forward a proposition to Headquarter Office, which had been formally approved by the Central Committee as a matter of general policy and would entail a corresponding amendment to Association Rules. The scheme he referred to made provision for the payment of one shilling and sixpence per head from Headquarter Funds to all Branch Committees in future for each man placed in employment by the Branch, and was intended to reimburse Branch Funds for expenses so incurred. That, he pointed out, was an added incentive to them to accommodate as many of their out-of-work members as possible with congenial situations, and he appealed to all members to help the Committee in this important matter as and when they were in a position to do so.

He was pleased to say that entirely through the keen and alert activities of Mr. Cole, their Honorary Branch Secretary, no less than seventy-four members had been placed in employment during the past year, and he considered that to be a splendid achievement. In recognition of his valuable services, the Central Committee had recently conferred upon Mr. Cole, Honorary Life Membership of the Association and it was, in his opinion, recognition well merited.

In conclusion, the speaker thanked Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., for coming all the way from Catterick to attend their annual dinner, and voiced his regret that this would be the last occasion on which two other loyal Committee members would be with them in their present capacities. Colonel Bradley, who shortly leaves the Command, and Major Halliday, who had been posted to India. He expressed the hope that both these officers would remember the happy days they had spent at Salisbury.

A telegram from Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal, wishing all a happy and enjoyable evening was read to the assembly.

Responding to the toast, Brigadier Heymann said there had been great changes in Salisbury during the past four years and referred to the time when he and a very small band of enthusiasts met periodically at the White Horse Hotel in Castle Street to discuss the possibilities of inaugurating and developing a local Branch of the Old Comrades' Association. Much had happened since those struggling days, and he warmly congratulated the Branch on the progress they had made.

Speaking of the Corps generally, he mentioned that many reservists had returned to the Colours under the new regulations, and all had passed their respective trade tests. The Corps, however, was still in need of recruits, and that there were great openings for promotion was aptly illustrated, he suggested, by the numerous warrant officers who had recently been gazetted to commissioned rank.

Referring to the Salisbury and District Branch of the Association, Brigadier Heymann reminded his listeners that there was a real bond of friendship between himself and them which time would only cement more firmly. As Colonel Allen remarked, it was, perhaps, a long journey from Catterick, but the welcome he received on arrival was ample compensation and the fact that he had undertaken it to join them at their annual dinner was, he hoped, sufficient in itself to convince them of his sincerity. He wished them continued prosperity in all their undertakings.

The toast of "ABSENT FRIENDS" was proposed by Mr. E. Hands, and the assembly stood in reverent silence in memory of those who had "passed over."

Then followed two interesting ceremonies. Colonel Allen stated that with the growth of their movement and as Chairman of the Salisbury and District Branch, he had for some long time felt the need of an official flag or banner for use on all ceremonial occasions. It had been his privilege to provide the decoration in question and he called upon Brigadier Heymann to present the Colours, together with a pair of white gauntlets, the gift of Major G. R. Halliday, to Mr. F. Cole, the Standard Bearer elect. Amid scenes of enthusiasm, Brigadier Heymann presented the silken banner suitably inscribed with the insignia of the Corps and the Association, remarking, as he did so, that it was a most handsome gift, greatly appreciated by the members; also that in handing them over to Mr. Cole for safe custody he knew of no one more deserving of the honour. The Colours were then placed at the end of the dining-hall where they were on view for the rest of the evening.

The next item was in the nature of a surprise presentation to "Fred" Cole, in recognition of his long and faithful service to the Association. It took the form of a radio set and, in making the presentation, Colonel Bradley described it as his most pleasant task of the evening. It was instigated, he said, not by their Senior Branch officials but by the rank and file, and signified the very great respect and affection they all had for their Branch Secretary. Both Brigadier Heymann and myself, he added, know what a tremendous amount of time and thought Mr. Cole devotes to Association work. As a clerk in the Southern Command Headquarter Office he is busily occupied on clerical work all day, and yet practically the whole of his spare time is given over to secretarial work for the O.C.A. Truly, a "busman's holiday." Until some months ago, the task of obtaining jobs has been no easy matter, but Mr. Cole struggled doggedly on against all difficulties, steadily building up his organization and, at the same time, a reputation for "Signalmen" as good employees. He was thus in a position to take immediate advantage of the sudden improvement in labour conditions at the beginning of the year and succeeded in placing over 70 members in good employment. Mr. Cole asks for nothing more in return for his efforts than to see this Branch prosper and flourish. But we members of the Branch feel we must express our appreciation of his efforts and, therefore, ask Mr. Cole to accept this radio set with our most grateful thanks for all the excellent work he has done on our behalf.

It was with some emotion that Mr. Cole rose to thank Colonel Bradley and his fellow branch members for their handsome gift. He confessed to having felt the strain of his self-appointed task during recent months, but the appointment of Mr. Joy as assistant secretary had, he said, done much to relieve the pressure. There were others, he added, without whose valuable assistance he could not have achieved the results which were credited to him, and he particularly desired to thank Captain Phillips of the National Association, Mr. Robinson, and Mr. Butler, General Secretary of the Association, for their ever-ready advice and close co-operation on all occasions. In conveying his grateful thanks to all concerned, the speaker said he would treasure their gift and would always look back with pride to this sixth annual Branch dinner.

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, Dorset	Munition Worker
2	Ex-Signalman, Croydon	Postman
3	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Steward
4	Ex-Signalman, Preston	Miner
5	Ex-N.C.O., Brighton	Postman
6	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
7	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
8	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
9	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
10	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
11	Ex-N.C.O., Brighton	Postman
12	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
13	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
14	Ex-N.C.O., London	Clerk
15	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
16	Ex-Signalman, London	Fitter
17	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
18	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
19	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
20	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
21	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
22	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
23	Ex-N.C.O., London	Labourer
24	Ex-N.C.O., London	Transport Foreman
25	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
26	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
27	Ex-Signalman, London	Post Officer Cleaner
28	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	P.O. Engineering Dept.
29	Ex-Signalman, Croydon	P.O. Engineering Dept.
30	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Engineer
31	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Garage Hand
32	Ex-Signalman, Taunton	Labourer
33	Ex-N.C.O., Warley	P.O. Engineering Dept.
34	Ex-Signalman, Warley	Postman
35	Ex-Signalman, Warley	Postman
36	Ex-W.O., Chester	Draughtsman
37	Ex-N.C.O., Exeter	Clerk
38	Ex-N.C.O., Bulford	Clerk
39	Ex-Signalman, Devonport	Lineman

(36, Signals Association, Chester Branch.)

(37 to 39 inclusive, Signals Association, Salisbury and District Branch.)

GENERAL SECRETARY AND EDITOR.

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Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following:

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:
"D" Troop Mobile Divisional Signals.
Officers' Mess, S.T.C., Catterick.
Chester Branch.
3rd Indian Divisional Signals.
The Army Council (Grant from Royal Tournament Profits Fund).

BANKERS' ORDER INSTRUCTIONS from:
Lieutenant (T.M.O.) A. Trapmore.

APPEALS dealt with:

1	Ex-Signalman, Hants	Loan	£2	0	0
2	Ex-Signalman, Stirling	Grant	£1	0	0
3	Ex-Driver, Gateshead-on-Tyne	Grant	£2	0	0
4	Ex-N.C.O., Grantham	Grant	£2	0	0
5	Ex-Signalman, Wrexham	Grant	£1	0	0
6	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Grant	£3	0	0
7	Ex-Signalman, Sidcup	Grant	£2	0	0
8	Ex-Signalman, Durham	Grant	£1	0	0
9	Ex-Signalman, Southampton	Grant	£1	0	0
10	Ex-Signalman, Dartford	Loan	£5	16	0
11	N.C.O., India	Grant	£1	7	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 December, 1937.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR,—The following is notified for publication in the January, 1938, WIRE.

Dates on which top individuals were registered on the Waiting List for the Married Quarters Roll :—

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 14/10/1932.
(b) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 28/12/1931.

Yours faithfully, E. N. F. HITCHINS, Colonel,
i/c Royal Signals Records.

No. 1 Company, "A" Corps Signals, Bannu.
25th November, 1937.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR,—I shall be obliged if you will allow me space to rectify a wrong impression which 1st Indian Divisional Signals notes gave in the October issue of the WIRE.

In connection with the present Waziristan Operations, they state " . . . the route was constructed by detachments of F.A. Cable Section and the Construction Section . . . both Sections belong to 'A' Corps Signals. One interesting defect occurred. It was discovered that, owing to the excessive straining of the cables on the ballies (it should be remembered that the Construction Section are used to dealing with comparatively heavy wires on the Bannu-Razmak route up to 600 lbs. G.I. wire), joints in the cable partially pulled out, causing intermittent faults which were very difficult to find."

The line was a purely 1st Indian Divisional Signals line, constructed with their cable under their orders and supervision. Presumably they issued instructions as to the tension at which the cable was to be erected. The Detachment, F.A. Cable Section, had been attached to 1st Indian Divisional Signals for some months, and the " Detachment Construction Section " consisted of eleven odd men who were not for the moment required for any other job. All joints, at any rate those made by the latter detachment, were soldered. So it is difficult to see how they could have pulled out, however badly they were made.

The point of the remark about the Construction Section being used to dealing with 600 lbs. per mile G.I. wire escapes me, as ratchets and vices are used for pulling up this type of wire, and these were not, and could not, be used on ballied cable.

Finally, I should like to add that during the last training season, and the Khaisora Operations, this Company put up about thirty-six miles of ballied cable, and not a single case of joints pulling out occurred.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) N. M. HAY, Lieutenant, Royal Signals,
Commanding No. 1 Company, "A" Corps Signals, Bannu.

103, Kearsley Road, Crumpsall, Manchester, 8.
29th November, 1937.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR,—Will you please allow me a little of your valuable space to enquire after the whereabouts of a number of the old lads who were in No. 1 W/T Company, Abbassia, Cairo, between 1921 and 1925 ?

I would like to hear from Jock Tunell, Pitts, Browning, Carpenter, the " White-eyed Kaffirs " mouth-organ band (of which I was a member), or anyone else, as I feel that a reunion would be appreciated by all of them.

My recollections of Abbassia are very pleasant, because we had at that time the best athletic team in the Command. I have done many a " hundred " on the Slade Ground.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,
H. T. GRANT.

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Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Major M. V. Smelt from India to Aldershot ("A" Corps Signals).
Major G. C. Winckley from London to India (Kohat District Signals).
Captain H. D. Mountford from Catterick to Aldershot (No. 2 Company, G.H.Q. Signals).
Captain C. A. H. Chadwick from Staff College to Aldershot (2nd Divisional Signals).
Captain C. G. Moore from Staff College to Aldershot (" A " Corps Signals).
Captain H. V. Ewbank from Catterick to Staff College, Camberley.
Captain H. O. Pargeter from India to Blackdown (1st A.A. Group Signals).
Lieutenant R. Pearce from Catterick to Woolwich (Military College of Science).
Lieutenant P. O. J. Nicholson from Aldershot to Waziristan District Signals.
Lieutenant W. R. Smith-Windham from Perham Down to Catterick (School of Signals).
Lieutenant T. E. Dobson from Catterick (S.T.C.) to Catterick (School of Signals).
Lieutenant W. G. Tucker from Aldershot to Woolwich (R.M.A.)
Lieutenant R. Webb, from Tidworth to Spike Island (S.I.C.D.S.S.).
Lieutenant W. G. Daubeny from India to Catterick (S.T.C.).
Lieutenant A. C. R. Stead from Canterbury to Peshawar District Signals.
Lieutenant J. F. Campbell from Bulford to Palestine Force Signals.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

[War Office, 12/11/37]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Captain A. E. Morrison relinquishes the appointment of Adjutant, 10/10/37.

Captain A. E. Morrison is seconded whilst employed as Inspector of Signals, Iraq Army, 10/10/37.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Lieutenant-Colonel M. F. Allan to be Brevet-Colonel, 22/7/37.

F. N. McMillan to be 2nd Lieutenant, 13/11/37.

S. Helm to be 2nd Lieutenant, 13/11/37.

[War Office, 16/11/37

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

North Midland Corps Signals. Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel C. J. Underwood to be superannuated on vacating command, 14/11/37. Major S. Harker-Smith to be Lieutenant-Colonel, 14/11/37. Captain T. A. Darling to be Major, 14/11/37. Lieutenant J. E. J. Perkins to be Captain, 14/11/37.

1st A.A. Divisional Signals. Lieutenant-Colonel G. C. Wickins, T.D., to be Brevet-Colonel, 3/11/37.

[War Office, 19/11/37

REGULAR ARMY—MEMORANDA.

Lieutenant-Colonel P. B. D. H. Foot, h.p., late Royal Signals, retires on retired pay, 20/11/37.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.

2nd Lieutenant M. Peachey to be Lieutenant, 17/11/37.

T. A. Wilson to be 2nd Lieutenant, 20/11/37.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

42nd (E.L.) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel W. S. Ashley to be superannuated on vacating command, 5/11/37.

43rd (W.) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant C. G. H. Govier resigns his commission, 20/11/37.

49th (W.R.) Divisional Signals. J. E. Denton to be 2nd Lieutenant, 20/11/37.

54th (E.A.) Divisional Signals. 2nd Lieutenant R. V. Pascoe to be Lieutenant, 27/10/37.

[War Office, 23/11/37]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Lieutenant H. E. F. Middleton is seconded for service under the Colonial Office, 29/10/37.

[War Office, 26/11/37]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.

T. W. Norrish to be 2nd Lieutenant, 27/11/37.

[War Office, 3/12/37]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Captain J. H. Brown, M.M., to be Major, 20/10/37.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Captain W. E. Chinn, from Regular Army R. of O., Royal Signals, to be Captain with p. and a. as a Lieutenant, 1/1/36, with seniority 12/11/34. (Substituted for notice in the "Gazette" of 31/12/35.)

[War Office, 7/12/37]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

42nd (E.L.) Divisional Signals. F. P. McKellen to be 2nd Lieutenant, 8/12/37.

44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant J. S. Hann to be Captain, 1/11/37.

1st A.A. Divisional Signals. 2nd Lieutenant A. P. Jack to be Lieutenant, 8/12/37.

Signal Unit, Manchester University Contingent, O.T.C.

This Unit, which was formed in October, 1936, carried out its first Annual Training at Aldershot in July, 1937. The Unit was accommodated by "A" Corps Signals, and is greatly indebted to Major W. U. Tyrrell, Royal Signals, for his organisation of the training programme and the interest he took in the welfare of the Officer Cadets.

Full advantage was taken of the opportunity of carrying out training at a military centre, and besides being able to see and use some of the latest signal equipment, the Unit was also taken over the Royal Air Force Station at Farnborough.

The Annual Inspection was carried out by Colonel G. G. Rawson, Royal Signals.

Certificates.—Thirteen candidates took the practical examination in Certificate "A" (Signals), and nine passed. Of this number, however, seven passed subject to re-classification. Ten candidates took the practical examination in Certificate "B" (Signals), and nine passed. Of this number, seven passed subject to re-classification.

General.—Sergeant Powell, our Permanent Staff Instructor, has tackled a difficult job well, and is always ready to give us all the assistance required.

We hear unofficially that we go to Scarborough in 1938, and are looking forward to meeting the 5th Divisional Signals.

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.]

Promoted Warrant Officer Class II (Company Sergeant-Major).

2309071	C.Q.M.S. Willis S. E.	26/7/37	15
*3179138	C.Q.M.S. Russell J.	13/8/37	73

FOREMAN-OF-SIGNALS ROSTER.

Promoted Warrant Officer Class II (Foreman-of-Signals Quartermaster-Sergeant).

2306509	C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Tilford C.	25/9/37	9

Promoted Company Quartermaster-Sergeant.

2313750	Sergeant Knox C.	11/8/37	17
*1850370	Sergeant Conway C.	13/8/37	74

Promoted Sergeant.

731478	L/Sergeant Beard C.	11/8/37	33
2309825	L/Sergeant Riando B.	13/8/37	33
1040795	L/Sergeant Shaw W.	22/8/37	33

Appointed Lance Sergeant.

2317636	Corporal Kerr G.	4/8/37	42
2315156	Corporal Hylands V.	8/8/37	42
3903614	Corporal Trew J.	18/8/37	42
2309651	Corporal Bevans S.	21/8/37	42
2306790	Corporal Walker E.	25/8/37	33

Promoted Corporal.

2320036	L/Corporal Williams B.	30/6/37	62
2316560	L/Corporal Boniface P.	4/7/37	62
2321126	L/Corporal Pitney P.	18/7/37	62
2321296	L/Corporal Mills I.	13/8/37	63
2321311	L/Corporal Rhead T.	19/8/37	63
2318710	L/Corporal Stokoe I.	21/8/37	63
2316600	L/Corporal Godley L.	22/8/37	63

Appointed Lance Corporal.

774937	Signalman Froude F.	3/3/37
2318059	Signalman Spearman G.	1/4/37

* Special Roster.

2320498	Signalman Kiely R.	13/4/37
2323351	Signalman Shipley H.	2/5/37
2564842	Signalman Bolam F.	2/5/37
2324097	Signalman Booth F.	3/5/37
2317976	Signalman Turner H.	5/5/37
2321876	Signalman Wiseman H.	5/5/37
2317020	Signalman Ormston W.	2/5/37
2318961	Signalman Juniper A.	14/5/37
2323564	Signalman Mould R.	14/5/37
2321980	Signalman Marley E.	14/5/37
2322268	Signalman Williams J.	14/5/37
2323203	Signalman Pearson S.	14/5/37
2321204	Signalman Cox F. R.	14/5/37
2324367	Signalman Herbert J.	14/5/37
2325104	Signalman Fowles G. A.	14/5/37
2323087	Signalman Fisk A. R.	14/5/37
2321210	Signalman Stone R.	14/5/37
2320953	Signalman Nicolson N.	14/5/37
2324222	Signalman Dunbar J.	14/5/37
6975858	Signalman Hazard J.	14/5/37
830672	Signalman Stevens H.	14/5/37
2322186	Signalman Mellor T.	14/5/37
2320866	Signalman Hamblett A. E.	14/5/37
3596407	Signalman Potts J.	14/5/37
2321181	Signalman Tagg B.	14/5/37
2322004	Signalman Moore M.	14/5/37
2320908	Signalman Gallagher M.	14/5/37
2321666	Signalman Bartram S. I.	14/5/37
5947899	Signalman Boniface E.	14/5/37
2322436	Signalman Barrett R.	14/5/37
3596237	Signalman Nicholson J.	14/5/37
2754509	Signalman McGuire F.	14/5/37

Discharges.

1857466	C.Q.M.S. Hawley A.	29/11/37	15
2311491	Sergeant Hobby H.	15/11/37	20
5875302	Sergeant Cheverton B.	16/11/37	29
1856967	Sergeant Hinds W.	30/11/37	18
2306504	Sergeant Wooldridge A.	15/11/37	18
2312224	L/Sergeant Negro A.	3/11/37	29
31078	L/Sergeant Weir W.	4/11/37	36
4338034	Corporal Adlington W.	3/11/37	47
28727	F/S/Sergeant Heath A.	4/11/37	12

Transferred to Army Reserve.

2320263	L/Corporal Scanlan M.	14/11/37
2318016	L/Corporal Wallis C.	13/11/37 .. 04

Plain Tales

Pick Yourself Up.—And while you are about it, brush yourself down and start all over again. A Happy New Year, children and young people. Of course, you understand that this page is not written for anyone else. As Milton could so easily have said, "Blessed are the young in spirit, for they shall laugh at misfortune." So off we go again with the best of luck and a happy return from foreign stations. Always remember that "Tomorrow is another day." Why you should remember this is not quite clear, but there is a good hearty ring about it, and you might as well understand that if you have a raging toothache to-day but lack the courage to see a dentist, you are in for an interesting time.

There are several things to say, so I must run along.

Spot Silver.—I was gratified to note that someone at Aldershot had agreed that a scheme to increase pensions was a sound proposition. It just shows that one should not form hasty conclusions about Aldershot people. I've thought of something else, but I do not expect them to agree with me this time. The Territorial Army is in the limelight at last. Adjutants and R.S.M.s get an increase in pay. Now that, of course, is a very good thing, but it is going to be interesting to see whether anyone has given a thought to the T.A. Quartermaster. In a Technical Corps, the "Q" job is one that calls for a special knowledge and quite a lot of experience if things are to run smoothly. It is a full-time affair and as such should be paid for.

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Another brilliant idea I had the other day was that soldiers on active service should get extra pay. I wonder if they do. Such a lot has happened since the Army suffered a staggering loss by my—but I digress. What I mean is, it is possible that the men on the N.W. Frontier are all drawing an extra two bob a day; but, of course, I wouldn't know. Perhaps you recall that we were given extra pay in the Great War. A penny a day, I think. Film stunt artists get more than that nowadays, but then, their work is quite dangerous. I've got some more ideas. What? You don't want to hear them? Well—I never!

How Good?—There is very little doubt that the Royal Signals are pretty good chaps. Anyone in the Corps will tell you so. It is not, however, a very good thing for the troops to go quietly on their ways with this knowledge too deeply rooted. They must be shaken up occasionally. With the terrific competition for the high places that will surely result now that promotion is to get a new deal, it behoves some of you to go into the question of what you have under your hats. Do you get the best use out of your faculties? Come over here a minute and answer some questions. Do you say "you was"?

Write down the names of six people whom you see daily and know very well. Answer quickly. How do they part their hair?

What was the very last thing you ate at dinner yesterday?

Don't look yet. How many laceholes are there in your shoes?

Give the registration numbers of three cars you see every day.

My! What a witness you'd make. Get two or three friends. All start together and write down the names of articles of food that begin with the letter "b." First to get ten, wins. Roars of laughter. You're not so good after all, are you? Go through the alphabet and get an inferiority complex. If you are married, your wife will beat you at this. Don't ask me how I know.

Ukann Larfe.—A heavy brooding silence hung over the lagoon. Ukann Larfe passed a weary hand across his eyes and gazed at the rank vegetation that grew down to the water's edge. Then he gazed at some more vegetation even ranker that grew down to the edge further along. Tiring of this unprofitable occupation, he drew a revolver from his pocket and idly twirled the chamber. His finger curled round the trigger. Suddenly, with a smothered curse, he flung the weapon on the floor of the cabin. If not to-day, then to-morrow. What did it matter ? (As a matter of fact, it didn't, but he doesn't know that.)

What was that ? He sprang to his feet and trained his telescope on the beach.

" Heavens. I'm blind ! " he screamed.

" Don't be silly, darling," said Hermione Larfe, rushing in from the wireless room. " That thing is full of ink. I thought it was a fountain pen."

Ukann Larfe threw the telescope from him with a muttered oath.

" Darling," said Hermione. " That's very naughty."

He substituted a smothered curse, and kicked the telescope overboard. A bicycle bell rang discordantly on the still air, and a man pushed his way through the dense foliage.

" Why—Uky. It's a postman," gasped his wife.

(You ought to try gasping a sentence like that.)

" Hi ! " yelled the man. "Are you Mr. Larfe ? "

The detective nodded dumbly.

" Well, 'ere's a letter for yer."

In less time than it takes to tell, well not much longer anyway, they had kicked Inspector Faceache into wakefulness and rowed across to the waiting postman.

Ukann Larfe opened the envelope with shaking fingers, and, as he read the single sheet of paper, every vestige of colour left his face.

" What does it say ? " asked Hermione anxiously. " My poor Uky, what is it ? " He looked at his wife with despairing eyes and tore the paper into a thousand pieces.

" Read that," he rasped, and threw them in her face.

With a violent shove he parted the postman from his bicycle, and rode off into the forest.

"And don't call me Uky," he yelled as he disappeared.

Startling developments soon. About time, too !

The Countess.—I stood on the edge of the pavement and gazed across the road at the unlighted front of the magnificent town house of the Countess Fibre. My job was to get a story from her. At first glance this would not appear to be a very difficult matter, since the Countess and I were on very good, not to say intimate, terms. The lady, however, was of a somewhat violent and reckless nature, and one could never be sure of one's reception. As I stood fighting a desire to go home to my Blinko (send for illustrated catalogue), the front door opened and a man passed out with such speed that he struck the railings beside me. The door slammed at the same moment.

The man sat up with his back to the railings.

" Goo," he said, and wiped the blood from a cut over his eye. There seemed to be no suitable reply to this, so I waited.

" I'll say she's tough," he volunteered after a few minutes, during which he endeavoured to reassemble himself.

" Excuse me," I said, " but are you —— ? "

" Yeah," he cut in, " I'm a gangster, but that dame's got my watch, cigarette case and five thousand palookas. Boy, I'm a failure."

Back at the flat, I lit a cigarette, and picked up the telephone. I was going to explain to the Editor—but some other time, FH ?

P.S.—I wish I knew what was in Ukann Larfe's letter. Well, I've got about three weeks in which to think about it, so be good.

BARLEUX.

(Correspondent Disguised for Safety)
" Now then ' Bull,' Split the beans, and tell *Wire* readers which were your worst moments in the Ring?! "

Corps Sports.

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

Royal Signals versus Royal Engineers.—The Royal Signals beat the Royal Engineers at Aldershot on 15th November by one penalty goal to nil. The Signals' forwards proved better in the loose, while the Sappers obtained the ball more often in the scrummages. Quite early in the game the Sappers were awarded a penalty in our " twenty-five," but the kick failed. Stead then started a forward movement, backed up by Linton, which was stopped just short of the Sappers' goal line. Gordon, of the Sappers, opened up a three-quarter movement, but he was well tackled by Harrison. The second half started off with a series of forward rushes on both sides in which Linton just failed to score. The Signals were awarded a penalty wide out near the touch line, and a good kick by Hamersley made the score 3—0. Lowe, of the Signals, soon made a good cut through, backed up by Linton, but the movement was well stopped by the Sappers' full back.

Payne hooked well for the Sappers during the second half, and the Signals' wing forwards were good in defence. Just before the end, Lonnon relieved the Signals' line with a good break away. Both full backs kicked well, especially Beck for the Signals, who also tackled well. The Sappers' wings—Dalton and Worth—were fast and dangerous, but were well marked. Freeman, the Signals' stand-off half was conspicuous for his tackling. Inglis (the Scottish international), France and Ramsay were good Sapper forwards, and in the Signals' pack, Linton, Stead and Hamersley were outstanding.

Royal Artillery versus Royal Signals.—The Royal Artillery beat the Royal Corps of Signals at Aldershot by two goals and two penalty goals (16 points) to a penalty goal (3 points).

About ten minutes after the kick-off, Billsen cut through for the Artillery and very nearly put in Taylor. Then an infringement by the Signals near their " twenty-five " allowed Jones to kick a penalty goal. After some midfield play, Rees and MacFetridge led a good forward rush, but Bone relieved with a good kick. Billsen again made a good opening, and Jones appeared to have scored, but was tackled and carried over the dead-ball line. The Signals were now getting the ball in the tight scrummages as well as in the loose, but the Artillery outsides were always the more dangerous. A free kick against the Artillery enabled Hamersley to kick a good goal. Shortly before half-time, however, Billsen scored after a strong run, Jones converting. The Signals' forwards started off with a rush, but Taylor relieved with a good kick to touch. The Artillery were then awarded a free kick for " foot-up " and Jones kicked a goal from near the half-way line.

A passing movement among the Artillery forwards took the ball from the half-way line to within a few yards of the Signals' goal line ; here Jones was tackled, but managed to pass in time to Rees, who scored, Jones once more converting. Shortly before

no-side, the Signals, led by Stead, made a grand onrush, but nothing came of it.

ROYAL ARTILLERY.—L/Bdr. MacMahen (back) ; B. M. O'Brien W. B. Paxton, G. H. T. Billsen and R. K. Jones (three-quarter backs) ; R. D. B. Taylor and T. A. Mead (half-backs) ; Sergeant McCarthy, L. R. H. Leach, Sergeant Rose, J. W. Ree; D. A. Block, M. W. Head, C. H. MacFetridge and L/Bdr. Rees (forwards).

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS.—Signalman Bone (back) ; Signalman Lowe, Lance Corporal Beck, Signalman Harrison, Lieutenant Atkinson (three-quarter backs) ; Lieutenant Freeman and Signalman Hocking (half-backs) ; 2nd Lieutenant Travers, 2nd Lieutenant Hamersley, Signalman Cleets, Lieutenant Stead, Lieutenant Starr, Lieutenant Lonnon, Sergeant Myddleton and Lieutenant Linton (forwards).

Royal Military Academy versus Royal Signals.—Played at Woolwich in ideal conditions on Monday, 29th November, and resulted in a win for the R.M.A. by two goals and one try (13 points) to two tries (6 points).

The R.M.A. outsides frequently looked dangerous, but bad passing and good defence, helped by quick-breaking forwards, of whom Linton was always prominent, often brought their movements to a standstill. Apart from Bradley and Freeman, there was little thrust in the Signals' outsides, but Harrison was very valuable in defence. Both backs were above average, and played very sound games. .The forwards, on the whole, were evenly matched, but the R.M.A. pack, well led by McGrath, got the ball more often than their opponents, especially from the loose scrums.

The game started by the R.M.A. nearly scoring twice running, due to cut throughs by Rice, but Signals fought back and against the run of the game scored far out by Birkett. The try was not converted. Even play followed, and then the ball came out to Bradley, who crossed kicked, and Starr went over near the posts. The kick was charged down. Half-time came with a score of 6—0.

For twenty minutes, play was up and down the field, and then the R.M.A. outsides began to hold the ball, with the result that Rice cut through, swerved past the full back, and scored under the posts. Heath kicked at goal, hit the cross-bar, but failed to go over. Again play was even for some minutes, until a quick heel and some quick passing across the R.M.A. three-quarters gave Elmsley the chance to go hard for the corner flag and score a try. Heath converted this with an excellent kick. Just before the end, Rice cut through to score near the posts. Heath was again successful with the kick.

R.M.A.—A. W. Mathew; J. B. Ragg, J. E. P. Peirce, J. E. V. Rice, J. R. S. Elmsley; G. B. Russell, B. P. W. Clapin; H. N. F. Patterson, W. McGrath, T. B. McVicker, J. D. T. Brett, M. G. Heath, M. A. Phelp, P. M. Kerr, H. A. P. Heaslop.

ROYAL SIGNALS.—Lance Corporal Beck; Signalman Bone, Signalman Lowe, Signalman Harrison, Lieutenant Bradley; 2nd Lieutenant Freeman, Signalman Hocking ; 2nd Lieutenant Travers, 2nd Lieutenant Hamersley, 2nd Lieutenant Birkett, Lieutenant Starr, 2nd Lieutenant Hayles, Lieutenant Linton, Sergeant Myddleton, Lieutenant Lonnon.

Royal Tank Corps versus Royal Signals.—The Royal Tank Corps beat the Royal Corps of Signals at Aldershot by 14 points to none. After ten minutes of even play, Powls broke away from a line out on the Signals " twenty-five " and passed to Robinson, who forced his way over near the corner flag. This try was not converted, but a quarter of an hour later, Peebles kicked a penalty goal, and the Tanks led by six points. There was little else of note during the first half, except one remarkably fine tackle of Bradley by Williamson.

Soon after half-time, the Signals were penalised for offside in the centre of the field only five yards from the halfway line ; and Peebles landed a goal with a perfect kick. The outside movements were few, but as the game went on, Gummer was able to get his three-quarters moving on occasions. The Signals centres, however, tackled resolutely, and although Walker tried to burst through, the defence held. Blades, on the Tanks' left wing was injured and had to go off, Cornish coming out of the scrummage to replace him, but the Tanks generally maintained the upper hand. Hamersley worked hard in the Signals' forwards and Travers played an excellent game. The last score came just before the end. Charlton passed out to Gummer only fifteen yards from the Signals' line. The latter broke through and passed to Graham, who was backing up well and took the pass and hurled himself over. Peebles converted this try.

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS.—Lance Corporal Beck (back) ; Signalman Brooks, Signalman Harrison, 2nd Lieutenant Dickson, Lieutenant Bradley (three-quarter backs) ; Lieutenant Freeman and Signalman Hocking (half-backs) ; 2nd Lieutenant Travers, 2nd Lieutenant Hamersley, Corporal Snell, 2nd Lieutenant Hayles, Captain Smyth, 2nd Lieutenant Birkett, Sergeant Myddleton and Lieutenant Linton (forwards).

ROYAL TANK CORPS.—Pte. Peebles (back) ; 2nd Lieutenant Williamson, Ford, Corporal Walker, Lance Corporal Blades (three-quarter backs) ; Lance Corporal Gummer, Corporal Charlton (half-backs) ; Corporal Jack, Lieutenant Offord, Pte. Powles, Lieutenant Graham, Lance Corporal McLachlan, Pte. Cornish, Corporal Robinson and Lieutenant Page (forwards).

(Signed) W. A. PURSER, Lieutenant, Royal Signals,
Officer i/c Corps Rugby.

CORPS HOCKEY.

A trial match was played at Catterick on 2nd December, and, after the game, a side was selected to represent the Corps versus Catterick Garrison on 4th December. Several players in the selected Garrison side were also from the Corps. The game had to be cancelled late in the morning, owing to a severe fall of snow.

The Royal Tank Corps Game.—This was played on the ground of the Officers' Club, Aldershot, on 8th December, and resulted in a win for the Corps with a score of 3—1. The ground was in very good condition, and, consequently, the game was fast and open.

After about ten minutes even play, the Corps scored when 2nd Lieutenant S. F. M. Howe obtained a goal from a penalty corner. For some time the Corps forwards pressed strongly, and Lieutenant F. S. Whiteway-Wilkinson scored a sceond goal. Just before half-time, Captain J. E. Cairnes, the Irish International, scored for the Tanks. Play was very even in the second half, and the only further score was a goal by Lance Sergeant Waterton, which resulted from good combination by the forwards. The outstanding player in the Corps side was C.S.M. Carpenter at right-back. On several occasions he broke up dangerous attacks by good tackling and intercepting. 2nd Lieutenant S. F. M. Howe played very soundly at centre-half, and supported the forwards well in attack. The forward line combined well, and worked efficiently, without any players showing outstanding brilliance. The game was really well umpired, a factor which contributed to the enjoyment of both players and spectators.

The team was: Lance Sergeant Gay (Depot Battalion), C.S.M. Carpenter (Depot Battalion), Lieutenant A. T. Sladen (Training Battalion), Lance Corporal Froud (4th Divisional Signals), 2nd Lieutenant S. F. M. Howe (Training Battalion), Lance Corporal Mills (" B " Troop Cavalry Signals), Lieutenant J. D. L. Morris (Training Battalion), Signalman Walker (4th Divisional Signals), Lance Corporal Locke (Training Battalion), Lance Sergeant Waterton ("A" Corps Signals), Lieutanant F. S. Whiteway-Wilkinson (A.A. Group Signals).

Corps " Jimmies " for this season have been awarded to: Lieutenant A. T. Sladen, Lieutenant J. D. L. Morris, Lieutenant F. S. Whiteway-Wilkinson, 2nd Lieutenant S. F. M. Howe, C.S.M. Carpenter, Lance Sergeant Gay, Lance Corporal Mills and Lance Corporal Froud.

(Signed) J. E. S. SANDERS, Lieutenant, Royal Signals,
Officer i/c Corps Hockey.

HOME STATIONS

3RD DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, BULFORD CAMP

Panoramic Photograph Co. Manchester

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

School of Signals.

For a week it has been snowing every day, thawing every evening, and freezing every night. The net result is about four inches of ice on all our roads, and the paths requiring delicate manœuvring by our more comfortable contemporaries. However, persistent sanding and diligent digging are having their result, and we hope to get out of camp safely for the Christmas parole.

At the moment, the Company is not too busy (except in thinking about Christmas, home, beer and things like that). We have just finished with a R.S.I. Course, and will see the end of another two Courses this week. However, there is little respite, as January will again see us inundated with those intent on their D.s and Q.1.s.

Quite a number of Schoolites have left us during the last month. Sergeant Murphy has proceeded on leave pending discharge. Signalman Bell has departed on a Vocational Training Course at Leeds. C.S.M. Bawden has left us to take up an appointment with the City of London Signals, T.A. Signalman Henry has been posted to the Training Battalion for duty with the band as "Corps Crooner." Sergeant Jones, of the East Surrey Regiment, complete with cycle, has returned to his Unit. Last, but not least, Lance Corporal Ronnie Beck—otherwise known as A. N. Other of the Rochdale Hornets—is leaving to-day for "Civvy Street." So long, Sparrow!

Congratulations to Sergeant and Mrs. Finney on the birth of a daughter, Shirley Ann, on 15th November.

Welcome to Corporal Hudson, who has come to fill the important position of draughtsman.

S.O.S.

Sergeants' Mess.

Greetings.—May we wish all Units of the Royal Corps a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

If any snow is required for the Christmas holiday, then we have plenty to spare. Indents should be made out to the School of Signals, Catterick Camp.

Children's Christmas Party.—This function was held in the Newbiggin Hall on 15th December. C.Q.M.S. Edmunds of the Training Battalion assumed the role of Santa Claus. His entry down the artificial chimney—immediately following a film showing his narrow escape from death by falling from an aeroplane—was greeted in the usual manner by an expectant audience.

Everyone had a jolly good time, and thanks are due to Colonel and Mrs. Henderson, the officers and their ladies, and also to R.S.M. Freemantle and the volunteer scene shifters from the Training Battalion for their efforts on behalf of the Children's Party.

P.S.I. Course.—We have a wealth of sergeant-majors at the School of Signals. The reason can be attributed to No. 17 and No. 18 P.S.I. Course, which is mainly comprised of "Crowns" and "Coats of Arms." Occasionally, mere sergeants can be seen amidst the throng, looking enviously at the many highly polished brown boots and leggings which adorn the Mess floor. They are an exceedingly jovial crew, and the Mess in general will be sorry when the voice of "Dickey Bird" is no longer heard. We expect that the caterer will heave a huge sigh of relief, and put about five-dozen pint glasses back into the cellar until they are required again for a similar assembly.

Farewell.—During the month we had to say "cheerio" to Sergeant Murphy J., who has proceeded on fourteen days' leave "pending." We hear that he is going to help out the War Office. Our very best wishes go with Sergeant and Mrs. Murphy in their new sphere. I wonder whether he would mind if we called him "Belisha's latest beacon"!

Christmas Draw.—This event was held last night. The list of casualties, which is not yet to hand, must be held over until next month.

Heard in School.—"Yes, the new automatic potato contraption is all right, but we've still got to put the spuds in and take 'em out again!"

"D" Company, Training Battalion.

General.—By the time these notes appear in print, the festive season will be past and gone. We hope that all members of the Corps, at home and abroad, had the Christmas they hoped for and that good fortune strides with them in the New Year.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the fold Sergeant Thorne, Corporal Johns, and Lance Corporals Baker and Dolaghan from that sun-baked country; also Corporals Booth, Dodd and Lance Corporal Burke from Field Units.

Departures.—The undermentioned will be leaving these snowy wastes on 15th December: Lance Sergeants Edwards F. and Camin F., and Lance Corporal Tomkins J.; also Sergeant Parker W., Signalmen Oliver T., Cade, Preskett, White and Harding G. from Ireland, who were attached to us for draft purposes. It is a case of from the "Impossible" to the "Non-Blighty."

Marriages.—Congratulations are extended to Signalman Lewis J. on the occasion of his marriage to Joyce Elizabeth Pattinson, at Auckland, on 27th November, 1937.

Old Soldiers' Brigade.—Congratulations to Sergeant Dunningham on "going the distance" and receiving the award of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

Discharge.—Driver (I.C.) Hamilton has been discharged on compassionate grounds. We wish him the best of luck in "Civvy Street," and are pleased to hear that he was successful in obtaining a situation.

Agony.—Which Junior N.C.O. has that "soft velvet skin"? No wonder we do not get a chance, Bill!

We are wondering when the next demonstration of the flying fish and the one-man jazz band will be given by the one and only "Young Busc."

H. E. S.

"E" Company, Training Battalion.

General.—A recent influx of recruits from the Depot Battalion has helped to swell our number, and bring the Company back to its normal strength. Training, training and still more training is the order of the day. No doubt this will please the various Field Units immensely, as the demand for men appears to be on the increase.

The Catterick winter has got into its stride rather early this year, and, at the moment, everything seems set for a record season in the way of snowfall. The sole topic of interest is Christmas leave. At the moment, the Cadre look very worried. The leave period duty list has just been published, and does it shake them ? It looks as if " Happy " must console himself with dreams of Carnoustie, and deepen his gloom with the strains of his Italian " Chest Expanders."

Infections.—A drastic malady has ravaged the ranks of our Junior N.C.O.s, and brand new ration bags are predominant in our midst. Even our confirmed bachelor has let us down, and has been quickly followed by a notability of the C.Q.M. Staff. Bear up, fellows, they say that after ten years you begin to get used to it. Those who are on the brink of the precipice should take heed.

Marriages.—Congratulations to the following on attaining the matrimonial status : Corporal Routledge J. S., who was married to Miss Lily Illingworth, at Middlesbrough, on 27th November ; and Lance Corporal Farrar T. to Miss Bertha E. Wright, at Richmond, on 8th December. " Roll up that map of Europe."

Arrivals.—We welcome to this land of eternal snow, Captain E. L. L. Vulliamy from 4th Indian Divisional Signals.

Departures.—Lance Sergeant Camin F., who has apparently decided that another little cruise will not do him any harm. He will be leaving us within the next few days for India.

Sport.—The Company soccer team are going great guns now, and, after many years, we are going to have our name inscribed on the Mackworth Football Shield. Results to date are as follows : Mackworth Trophy Final : " E " Company v. the School of Signals, won 3—2. Garrison League : " E " Company v. Royal Tank Corps, won 10—2. Friendly : " E " Company v. Royal Engineers, won 3—1.

Rugby.—Mackworth Trophy. 1st round : " E " Company v. Dismounted Wing, won 5—0. 2nd round : " E " Company v. School of Signals, lost 3—15.

Billiards.—Like the soccer team, the Company billiards team were successful in the S.T.C. Inter-Company Tournament. The deciding match with the School of Signals resulted as follows : " E " Company, 5 ; School of Signals, 1. The " Billiard Prophet" of the School of Signals appears to have read the oracle incorrectly See last month's WIRE notes.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Lance Sergeant Reilly (Band) on his promotion.

Higher Mathematics.—Can anyone calculate for me the arithmetical value of $\frac{0}{100}$? (Log tables or slide rules may be obtained on demand) ?

Strange But True.—It is scarcely credible that Epsom salts could find their own way into a bag of sweets. I wonder !

Poetic.—Unfortunately, the censor could not see his way to endorse the commendable (?) effort of a young soldier of this famous Company.

Jews' Mail.—To Rodden and McQueen. " What about a line ? I'm waiting all the time." .

Taffy to Roddie (222), somewhere East of Suez. " Ever heard of a place called Catterick ? "

PIP.

"F" Company, Training Battalion.

General.—Each bedside has now been equipped with a 5-ft. length of matting. Besides adding to the comfort of the barrack rooms, this adds considerably to the brightness. Everyone is now keyed up for the Christmas holiday. Old boys will remember the " annual gobble," which is always held before the " break up." This year, it is being held on a grand scale. Sergeant Sullivan has promised us a real dance band, and we hope to stage the concert and the " gobble " in the men's restaurant of the N.A.A.F.I., in which there is a stage.

Since our last notes, we have had a real taste of winter. Snow on 19th November was a big surprise. There had been no previous indication that snow was so near. It fell so heavy, that it lasted a week. In common with the rest of England this time, we have had a second heavy fall. It has been snowing since Saturday—it is now Thursday—and it is still going strong.

Sport.—Not much this month, owing to the weather. We have still a tie in the third round of the Boys' Army Soccer to play off when the grounds are playable. This will leave us with one representative in the fourth round.

At rugby, our Company team beat Ampleforth College 3rd XV by a substantial margin. This was a very creditable performance. Our Colts XV were beaten by Richmond Grammar School Colts. We hope to reverse this decision next term.

The Company Boxing Championships resulted as follows :

	WINNER.	RUNNER-UP.
Mosquito-weight ..	Green J.	Tucker J.
Fly-weight	Warren R.	Sanders A.
Feather-weight ..	Green B.	Pritchard A.
Light-weight ..	Allan T.	Perkins G.
Middle-weight ..	Roberts D.	Uttley H.
Midge-weight ..	Willmott L.	Cooper W.
Bantam-weight ..	Brooks S.	Barton D.
Welter-weight ..	Chapman.	Halford.
Heavy-weight ..	Billet W.	Athow W.

We then held a boxing match against Ampleforth College, whom we congratulate on their victory. We warn them that we are out to reverse this result when we meet again next February. Here are the results :

Midget-weight :	Willmott lost to Haigh.
Mosquito-weight :	Tucker lost to Farrell.
Fly-weight :	Warren beat Brady.
Bantam-weight :	Brooks lost to Gillow.
Feather-weight :	Green beat Hill ; Pritchard received a walk-over.
Light-weight :	Finnigan beat Greeve.
Heavy-weight :	Roberts lost to Rochford ; Chapman lost to Brady.
Result :	" F " Company, 13 points ; Ampleforth, 14 points.

Mackworth Shooting.—The team is still without a success, but we warn the other teams to beware, as we are determined not to be the Cinderella of the Signal Training Centre in these activities. In our last shoot we all registered over 90 ; a distinct improvement on last year's 85—95 scores.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess Training Battalion

General.—The mystery surrounding the absence of our notes in the November issue has been cleared up, thanks to Mr. Editor.

During the course of the past month, we have had but very little to record. The weather is, well, not of the best for Catterick, but folk must not grumble, as it isn't everywhere that snow is so consistently falling. Up to the present, this part of Yorkshire has had a good share of winter.

Arrivals and Departures.—Several changes have taken place during the month. W.O. II. Pinhorn (A.E.C.) has left us for Colchester after a short stay. We miss his fatherly advice. Sergeant Instructor Allden (A.E.C.) has taken over the reins. Once again the trooping season has called on Lance Sergeants Edwards, Camin F., Clarke C. and Jones H. for overseas service. We wish them all the best of luck at their new Stations.

Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.—Congratulations to Sergeant (Stan) Dunningham, who, having sat hard and fast for eighteen years, has been honourably awarded.

Entertainments.—Our monthly whist drive and dance for the second time this season was almost upset by the weather. The whist drive was not a great success, but the dance, as usual, was

full of pep. The annual Christmas Draw and dance takes place on 20th December at Newbiggin Hall, for which arrangements are in full swing. The Christmas Draw it is hoped will be as successful as in previous years.

S.O.S.—To " Bozzy," India. "If you have developed the snaps, send a couple to Bill. ' R.' "

Agony.—To " Binnie " Hayles, B.E. " Be jabbers, I sure am sorry. Look out for screed later."

Sports.—No matches have been played, owing to grounds being out of bounds.

TICH.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

"A" Corps Signals.

General.—I am afraid that the loss of our former scribe (who has proceeded to China) is mainly the reason for the lack of notes from "A" Corps Signals.

Since the return of the Unit from the " Land of Benskins," conversation has veered round to the usual post-manœuvre trend, " When are you going on furlough ? " Of course, the lucky few who are proceeding to the far-flung outposts have first choice, and at the time of writing, are returning to the fold with the happy knowledge that it won't be long now.

Departures to Warmer Climes.—Corporal Hatton T. to Jamaica ; Sergeant Gresham, Lance Corporal Copsey and Signalman Brewster to Tientsin Signal Section ; Signalman Barritt, Binningsley, Taylor W., Player and Harrington to Hong Kong Signal Company. There are still plenty more who are likely to be travelling East for the winter. We wish them a pleasant voyage, and hope that we shall still be on the Farnborough frontier to welcome them back once more.

Arrivals.—These are too numerous for publication, but we trust that all who have joined "A" Corps within the last few months will quickly settle down, and that their stay with us will be a happy one.

Individual Training.—This is now in full swing, and, judging by the furrowed brows to be seen, the questions are becoming more difficult to answer. Let us hope that the Trade Testing Board will be generous and return a 100 per cent. vote for these noble lads.

Promotions.—Congratulations to R.S.M. Spong H., C.S.M. Beverley, C.Q.M.S. Napper, Corporals Launders and Grigg, Lance Corporals Grattage, Shillite, Allaway, Dowell, Trusselle and Sutcliffe, and U/Lance Corporals Tucker, Gorringe, Barnett, Wilding, Hardy, Martin, Funnell, Macphersen, Smith R. D., Reece, Yates, Boxall and Rushton R. on attaining the ranks and appointments stated.

Marriages.—Now that winter is here the following have decided that there is nothing better than a fireplace (with plenty of coal), house slippers and a big armchair. Congratulations to Lance Corporal Harris, U/Lance Corporal Yates, Signalmen Armstrong and Drysdale, and Driver Lloyd.

Births.—The following are now the proud possessors of a daughter : Corporals Halman and Beardmore and Driver Smith.

Things We Should Like to Know.—Where is Loughborough and when is the Fair ?
Who is the Copper Kettle ?
What has gone wrong with Fleet ?
Who wants some friendship " very cheap " ?
What is a " Phony Actor " ?

Junior N.C.O.s' Drill Course.—1st Student : " Pile arms by numbers ! On the word ' one,' the odd numbers will..... Squad, place your rifles against the wall."

By the time these notes appear in print this Course will have finished, and it is hoped that all concerned will have passed with flying colours.

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CELLARS STOCKED — PAYMENT AS CONSUMED

Greetings.—It gives me pleasure to wish all ranks of the Corps at home and abroad a most happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

MIKIEIEVER.

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

All ranks of the Unit send their sincere greetings for a jolly Christmas and a happy New Year to all members of the Corps at home and abroad, with special remembrance to our comrades serving with our sister corps in Africa, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Further, we wish all ex-members of the Corps a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

For the information of all those interested, I have compiled a Unit Directory for December, 1937 : Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel A. L. Harris, M.C. ; Adjutant, Captain W. O. Bowen, O.B.E. ; Quartermaster, Captain and Quartermaster A. E. Winton, D.C.M. ; Technical Maintenance Officer, Lieutenant T. W. Harrison ; Company Officers : Captain T. C. Thompson, M.C., Lieutenants D. R. Yearsley and G. G. L. Hinde, 2nd Lieutenants C. A. Henn-Collins and H. B. de M. Hunter ; W.O.s, Staff Sergeants and Sergeants : R.S.M. Westwood, R.Q.M.S. Goodman, C.S.M.s Hamlin and Minns, C.Q.M.S.s Dempsey, Greenall and Fleet, Farrier Staff Sergeant Mains, Sergeants Andrews, Nokes, Cotterell, Chalmers, Pattenden, Cooke R. J., Hoyland (" Hefty ") and Warren.

Captain T. C. Thompson, M.C., has just joined the Unit after a sojourn with the Canadian Signals. Other senior officers are due to arrive in the near future. Major C. T. Hughes, M.C., recently left us for the Southern Command Signal Company. We miss his merry clatter on the typewriter on matters concerning the P.R.I. Lieutenant P. O. J. Nicholson has also recently left us for a tour in India, and is now probably " on trek " in the Far North-West.

The Unit is very much depleted in number. This, unfortunately is no novelty in the Regular Army of to-day. We hope that the added attractions in barrack life, future prospects, etc., will bring the recruits along. I already gather that things are beginning to look up.

We have said good-bye and *bon voyage* to a considerable number of N.C.O.s and men, who left on the *California, Dunera, Nevasa*, etc., for various stations overseas during November. We hope that they have enjoyed the voyage and are now settling down in their new Units. We have also said farewell to Sergeants Newmarch A. G. (" Biff "). We wish him every success in civilian life and hope he will soon settle down in his new job at the Dockyard.

While we are on the subject of " depressions," may I contribute our weather report for the benefit of those who have recently left the Unit for sunnier climes. November at Aldershot—cold, not so cold, d—— cold, sunshine (a little), rain (up to standard), fog, more fog (a complete black out). Forecast for December—no change.

Now we will get on to something more cheery. Christmas leave. The Unit—that is, what is left of us—breaks up for the long furlough from 6th December until 4th January. A few have been left to " hold the fort."

It may interest overseas readers to know that members of the Aldershot Command Golf Club have, for some time now, very generously permitted other ranks to join the Club at very reduced fees. The course is one of long standing, very interesting, contains eighteen holes and covers about 7,000 yards. On behalf of those other ranks who play golf, may we be permitted to express our sincere appreciation of this privilege.

No. 1 Company.

General.—It's funny how journalism (*sic*) gets one. I go on leave to-morrow, and am scribbling like mad. There will be a chorus of " whys " from 1st Divites, but we all become hardened to such things.

Congratulations to L/Sgt. Geere on his promotion, and to Corporal Thompson on being selected for a Corps hockey trial. Also to the hockey team on getting through the first round of the Army Cup Tournament.

We said " hail and farewell " to George Collett last week. He arrived from " Palforce," but left almost immediately for " Civvy Street " to take up employment in the G.P.O., London. My surmise regarding Sergeant " Biff " Newmarch was right. He has left us to work in the C.I.A.s branch at Woolwich. Remember us in your reports, Biff ! Lance Corporal Tich Melly has the itch to travel. At the moment he is on leave, but on his return he goes to Northern Ireland. Keep him away from your " Philcos," if any ; morse to him is like jazz to anyone else—only morse so ! Sorry ! Buck " China Command " Taylor crossed the barrack square to join No. 2, G.H.Q. He was always " Peiping " us down ! One man's meat is another man's poison !

Drafts.—Lance Corporal Luscombe to Malta Signal Section ; Corporal Vize, Signalmen Law, Mitchell, Neatham, Smith, and Starkey, Drivers Rice, Sims and Wilkinson to Palestine. May their tours abroad be as long and pleasant as they wish. Gosh ! I almost missed them. Lance Corporal " Badgy " Chapman, Signalmen Anderson, James and Mason to India.

We welcome Signalmen Campbell, Potts and Ayling from India. At present they are becoming familiar with English customs at home on leave. Corporal Pettit (our Tom) wins the prize for plunging this month. He has re-engaged for twenty-one years with the colours. But the first prize, gents, one cycle (battered), complete with ration bag and accumulator, is awarded to Corporal Hickman, who married Miss Kitty Grant of Camberwell on Sunday, 14th November. I attended the ceremony in my official capacity and also as a friend. Everything was explained to me in detail : the bride's dress, the bridesmaid's gown, but " smoke got in my eyes," and now everything is rather hazy. Thirty-six guests sat down to the wedding breakfast, which lasted well into the early hours of the morning. A truly satisfactory wedding. Best wishes to the couple. I'll try to send some photographs next month.

Physical training is in the air. For a quarter of an hour every morning, everyone in the Unit is doing his best to regain that sylph-like figure so much admired by the fair sex. The gruntings and groans that one hears tell their own story. I know some people whose " wirth " is as much as their " girth." Have " Peety " on them !

Strange how the news gets around when I am in the throes of writing. Here is the first visitor : To Gingwin (ex-Cyprus, '34-'35) : " Still going strong. The above address will find me. Boris (Rat)."

Leave commences at the end of the week. Fourteen days of freedom. Bob, make the most of it ! Watch my " Weddings " paragraph next month. I'm riding hard on them. The burning question is : " Can the Bachelors' Club still carry on ? "

I'll ring off now, wishing everyone at home and abroad a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Guess I will not be so popular next month, so, we who are about to die, etc. Fellow scribes, of course, will agree that all is grist to the mill.

TOMMIE.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters.

General.—At this time of the year notes are very hard to compose. Leave is drawing near, and everyone is awaiting the festive season. The weather has been exceedingly cold and miserable during the past week or so ; more like Catterick than the south.

There are very few events of interest to note for this month The first period of Individual Training is drawing to a close, and higher ratings are in the offing. Unit Headquarters staff is sadly depleted these days ; the recent drafts have made a huge dent in their establishment. Let us hope that the Depot will soon fill their places.

Orders.—" He will take with him his current driving licence and a 3-ton lorry ! " Presumably transport will be provided !

Departures.—We are sorry to lose our late Pay N.C.O., Sergeant Gover, who has decided to try the T.A. He has gone to the City of London Signals, where he is relieving Sergeant Drudge as P.S.I.

Boxing Gala.—A Boxing Gala, under the auspices of the Boxing Committee (Lieutenants J. A. Burgess and P. G. Curry, R.S.M. Spindler and Lance Sergeant Brunton) was held in No. 4 Dining Hall, Mons Barracks, Aldershot, on 9th December. In spite of perfectly filthy weather, a packed hall witnessed an excellent evening's novices boxing, which was characterised by good healthy punching. There are no love taps in a novices' boxing competition, and this competition was no exception to this generally accepted fact.

Major H. A. Spencer, M.C. (a pugilist of great repute in his time), proved an excellent referee, and gave a lot of useful advice.

Signalman Webb won the light-weight event, after beating Signalman Birkett in the first bout, and inflicting somewhat severe punishment upon Signalman Ward in the final bout. Signalman Ward had an easy task in his first bout with Signalman Sanderson, who didn't feel inclined to rise from the boards, after being put there so gently by Signalman Ward.

The welter-weight competition was won by Signalman White, who had a walk-over. (Paddy must be an impregnable bulwark.)

The middle-weight event was won by Lance Corporal Potts. It was unfortunate that Signalman McLaughlin, Potts' opponent in the final bout, could not keep his hand closed when hitting his opponent. McLaughlin paid the penalty for his infringement of the rules, and was disqualified. Next time, Haggis, we will put a penny in your hand, and then, maybe, you'll keep it closed. With careful tuition, McLaughlin should be a good boxer, He is a cool customer.

Signalman Irvine won the bantam event by defeating Signalman Lewis.

A tit-bit of the evening was the Boys' Competition. These youngsters gave a remarkable exhibition. The footwork of Boy Jones was amazing to watch. Here are some true fighters with plenty of go in them.

After witnessing the boxing, we were treated to an "All in wrestling match." The antagonists were the " Taunton Tiger " and the " Masked Marvel." These two sprang at one another in a most fiendish manner, hair and ears were pulled unmercifully, and they seemed to enjoy the cannibal practice of masticating human flesh. The " Masked Marvel " was awarded the decision by the referee, who had been unceremoniously bundled out of the ring.

Major G. W. Odell, Royal Signals, presented medals to the winners and best losers. Lieutenant P. G. Curry, Royal Signals, the Sports Officer, extended to Major Spencer the thanks of all for his judging. Credit is due to Sergeant Brunton for producing such good results in so short a time, and we hope to see the boxing spirit renewed after Christmas. Glue your wig on next time, Sergeant !

In conclusion, we wish all ranks of the Corps, both at home and abroad, the compliments of the season, and may it be a " wet " one.

No. 1 Company.

Introductory.—The pen is mightier than the sword, but nobody could be found to wield this mighty weapon. After listening to the Company clerk wailing for hours for someone to write these notes, I pulled out my handkerchief and, wiping away a few tears, promised to write them for him. As a budding author, I should be better employed feeding pigs, but I had to do something. After falling on my neck to show his appreciation, I left the aforementioned clerk to sit musing in front of the fire, whilst I used my frozen hand in an endeavour to accomplish notoriety in the literary world. As a matter of fact, " Frontier Fred," our last scribe, has departed on a well-earned furlough, and now has the pleasure of recounting his truly novel experiences on the Frontier to smaller and sweeter ears than those in the vicinity of the barrack-room fire.

General.—The Company still dwindles as more boats depart from Southampton Water. There seems to be quite a number departing from England, home and beauty for India and the mystic East. By Christmas there will only be a skeleton Company left. Enough about boats, the thought of them even makes yours truly shake.

Entertainments.—Under the able management of Mr. Lewis (the Chaplain) an Edgar Wallace play was produced by the Officers' Amateur Theatrical Party. The play, " *The Frightened Lady*," was such a success that there is a rumour that they should go on tour. It was a very good play, and very well acted.

I think the Unit Boxing Gala should also come under the heading of entertainment. It was really very entertaining. Gentleman Jim had nothing on some of our Company boxers with their ultra-modern " windmill " style. Indeed, a member of the Company was such a gentleman that he didn't fight at all. Having a " walk-over " in the first round, he proceeded to have another " walk-over " in the final bout, and was thus acclaimed the undefeated welter-weight champion without striking a blow. After the boxing, we had a terrific battle between the " Masked Marvel " from the U.S.A. and the " Taunton Tiger " ; and what a battle ! There was blood flying in all directions, with women screaming and fainting all over the place. It was horrible ! After circling round each other for a few minutes, the " Taunton Tiger " let out a blood-curdling scream, and flung himself at the " Masked Marvel," bearing him down to the ground. He then attempted to gouge his opponent's eyes out. Unsuccessful, he decided to twist his opponent's foot round until one could hear the bones breaking. What a scrap it was ! Everybody thoroughly enjoyed the match, which came to an end with the " Masked Marvel " hugging the " Taunton Tiger " and whispering sweet nothings into his ear ; a fitting end to a magnificent display by two worthy champions.

Cross-country Running.—So far we have had a very successful season, but owing to the trooping season our team for the New Year will have to rely on arrivals from Catterick. We have provided runners for the Command on occasions and Sergeant Shardlow is a regular member of that team. Here are the results of the 2nd Divisional Signals cross-country team's efforts :

v. A.A. Signals, Blackdown. Won by 200 points.
v. A.A. Signals, "A" Corps Signals and 1st Divisional Signals. Won by 140 points.
v. 2nd Tanks, 4th Tanks, "A" Corps Signals and 1st Divisional Signals. Won by 47 points.

This was the annual group run, and each member received a Command Medal. Our first man, Sergeant Shardlow, was fifth in the run.

The 2nd Divisional Signals v. R.A.F., Andover, Run resulted in a win for us by 4 points. Our first scoring six were : Sergeant Shardlow, Signalmen Neve and Lewis, Lance Corporal Tagg, Signalmen Pitman and Wyers. They have received their 1937-38 Jimmies.

Departures.—On Wednesday, 15th December, we lose Lance Corporal Taylor, Signalmen Dunn, Eames, Robinson and Stephenson, who sail for the shores of " Ponki." On Wednesday, 22nd December, we lose Signalmen Cook T., Scarrott and Hall K., who sail for Sarafand. We wish them every success in their new Units. *Bon voyage !*

Jews' Mail and Agony.—Paddy, 456. " Congrats. on Southenier. Yours, 482."

NOBBY.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Everyone is now eagerly looking forward to Christmas furlough, and the end of the first period of I.T. Considering the number of books, etc., which have been drawn, there should be some very good results. Our numbers are still depleted, and we are losing still more on the 15th December, when another draft departs for India.

A fitter Britain, or shall we say " Company," is still our motto, and fine results are being achieved from the morning half-hour of physical training.

Boxing.—The novices' boxing took place on 9th December. There were some fine fights, and we must compliment Signalman Irvine, our Company bantam-weight, on his success, and the award of a medal. Congratulations also to Signalmen Hillery, Hunter and Ward on being awarded medals as " the three best losers."

Cross-country Running.—We must compliment the undermentioned of the Unit cross-country team on their recent successes, both against the R.A.F. at Andover, and in the Group Run a fortnight ago, when they were presented with medals for the winning team : Lance Corporals Tagg and Brown, Signalmen Lewis, Wyres and Neve.

Arrivals.—We welcome Corporal Ditchfield from India, and hope that his stay here will be a pleasant one.

Departures.—Signalman Payne to civilian life on discharge ; Signalmen Seiles, Houlden, Cosford and Leak to Government Training Centres, for Vocational Training ; Signalmen Thompson, Neve, Penn, Ryder and Jones, and Lance Corporal Thirkell to India on 15th December. We wish them all the best of luck.

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Marriages.—The lads keep joining the matrimonial throng. Congratulations to Sergeant (Fiddler) Aitken, who just managed to tie the knot before leaving for Palestine. We also congratulate Lance Corporal Penn, Signalman Parry and Driver Stoker on taking up double harness. We still have plenty of suspects.

Jews' Mail.—Lance Corporal Bennett, India. "What about a line? Waxxie. (Four months to go.)"

Jock Burns, Catterick. "Short of paper yet? Tommy, 6 A.S.S."

M. and D. to L. and S. "Write Karachi."

DARKY.

No. 3 Company.

Weather.—We are now in the midst of one of Buchan's cold spells. Although it is cold enough to make the proverbial brass monkey uncomfortable, there is no truth in the story that is going round of an occupant of these barracks, who complained that he had been kept awake all night by his false teeth chattering in the glass by his bed.

General.—Our C.S.M. is now enjoying the bracing air of Uckfield after his sojourn in the Far East. Driver Thomson is also on leave in Tillicoultry, which is the name of a place, not a weed-killer. We have welcomed and sent on leave Signalman Wright from Meerut. Two arrivals are due from the S.T.C., but as they are on draft, it will be another case of "ships that pass in the night."

All our vehicles have been inspected by the C.I.A. and O.M.E., and a good report was obtained. It reflects great credit on all those who worked very hard to get things up to scratch.

En Passant.—We were very interested in the article in the *Daily Mail* of 1st December, 1937, "The Army still seeks a Swinger." It used to be a very common tribe.

We are sorry that Mr. Ricketts had to sigh. We have been doing our bit and three interesting candidates have been interviewed. Their records are recorded below:

EGBERTA SMACKEM. He was discovered playing a mouth organ on the steps of the Aldershot Underground by Ambrose, who engaged him on the spot. Unluckily, he broke his false teeth, and was unable to blow. He then took a Postal Course in the zither, at Ash University. From Ash he took up saxophonery at Normandy. With incredible versatility, he mastered the piccolo, Jews' harp, Chinese cymbal and French horn. His playing of the eternal triangle in the Strikilofsky Orchestra, in 1934, and his performance as third anvil in the Chain Gang Madrigals stamps him as a finished artist.

ALBERT WINTERBOTHAM. At the "Meeting of Friends Philharmonic Society's Concert," he sang soprano, being the three-hundred-and-forty-second from the right in the ninety-second row of the choir. With the world at his feet, he nearly had to retire in 1930 by mistaking two flies on his music for two top Cs. As a composer, his best-known composition is "Dartmoor," in which there are three movements—Black Maria, Unjust Trial and Home Sweet Home Again.

VLADIMER SPITTHOUT. He started on the trombone; studied the gramophone under Columbia, wireless under Marconi, and the typewriter Underwood.

So there, Mr. Ricketts, take your pick; they are sound in wind, limb and eye.

Finis.—As the hangman said to the prisoner, "Here's to the 'neck' time."

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

VIRTUS IN ARDUIS.

General.—We apologise for the absence of notes last month. The 16th slipped by whilst the correspondent was in a tough spot—the dentist's chair!

We do hope that all Units, wherever they are, had a right royal Christmas, and celebrated the event in the time-honoured fashion. We are not too late, however, to wish you all the best in the New Year; quick troopers (homeward bound, of course); a share in the Pools; new Stations; or anything else preferred. In passing, we thank all those who remembered us with cards They cannot be acknowledged individually, so thanks, pals!

Sergeant Greig returned from Winterbourne Gunner flourishing a gas mask in one hand and a "Q1" in the other. The demonstrations at the School will, no doubt, provide the subject for many more "grips."

Plaudits.—To Lance Sergeant Hart on dodging the "mat" for eighteen years, and getting a medal for it.

To our Bill, proud father of a daughter, born on 8th November, 1937. There was no medal for him!

India.—We send you Signalmen Burden and Perilli on 8th January. Both new to the game, but, like all the Empire shakers sent by us, they can take it.

Sport.—We have played two or three games, but the old bugbear of insufficient men to raise a team has compelled us to ease down on our fixtures. However, we hope to make ourselves felt during the cricket season.

Looking Back.—Reflecting on 1937, I think that we can give ourselves several pats on the back. We have seen several operators go, and have trained others, so that throughout the year we have had smooth working both on and off the Set. There have certainly been tough times, and desperate "N.s" have been sent on their way to an old friend of ours, but, on the whole, I think that we have lived up to our Latin motto, which translated means, "Courage in Difficulties." Several changes have been effected for the better, and we look forward to the New Year with every confidence. Good listening, our gang!

Boomerangs.—Austin. "I bet you didn't spend Christmas on the Frontier. Frank."

Jim Verlander. "Received card; thanks. Staff ABY. Ginger Watson."

Yes, he still does it, only in a modernised way. It is a motor cycle now instead of the old grid. He hasn't been caught yet, but by the look in his eyes, it won't be long.

Staff, Loa.—We have received your card, but very little else!

Tailpiece.—We shall be "gripping" each other on how leave and the coupons prospered by the time that these notes are published.

May you all have had the good time we think we are going to have is the wish of

FRANKIE.

1st Anti-Aircraft Group Signals, Blackdown.

1st December, 1937.

General.—Since our last notes appeared in this Journal, many familiar faces have left us. I have already given the names, etc., of those going, and do not propose to publish them again. But one word must be said here in bidding adieu to Sergeant Hodgson and family, who left us on 19th November for Waziristan District Signals. We were very sorry to lose him, and that old saying, "our loss is their gain," is repeated in this case with emphasis. Cheerio, Bert, and all the best from those at Blackdown! To those other ranks of this Unit, who are now in Palestine and India, we wish all the very best. Corporal Powell and Signalman Couzens will now be somewhere in the Mediterranean about the time these notes appear, *en route* for Ceylon. Cheers, Sandy! "Can ye hear me, mother?"

Smoker.—A smoker was held at Blackdown for all ranks in the N.A.A.F.I., by kind permission of our Commanding Officer, Major E. J. Murphy, Royal Signals. Everyone attended this enjoyable evening, and the wine flowed freely. We all enjoyed ourselves, and when closing time came "Auld Lang Syne" was sung with "much of the muchness." We were sorry that Lieutenant A. J. Hamilton, of No. 2 Area Signal Section, was unable to be present, but we drank his health, nevertheless.

During the evening, those talented gave us an indication of their ability. Carrol Levis should have been present for the "Old Homestead." Those who helped with this part of the programme were: Major Murphy at the piano for community singing; C.S.M. Dowie with "action" singing; C.S.M. Penfold as the "Family Man"; Sergeant Brookes reminded us of "Popeye"; Signalman Blunt in "The Overcoat Agent";

Signalman Bennett, our " Dismal Desmond " ; and Lieutenant H. H. Goldsborough, R.E., at the piano. Lance Sergeant Glass production of the programme was a great effort ; here are some of the tit-bits in it :

" FIGURES." Have you considered the state of your accounts ? If not, why not ? Apply for full particulars to RESOLUTION HODGE. Overdrafts a speciality. Code : C.R.A. " BULLETS." For words of apt and original comment, apply the Gripper. Code : Quetta.

OLD SONG REVIVED (to be sung to the tune of " Dolly Grey") :

Good-bye, Blackdown, I must leave you,
Tho' it breaks my heart to go ;
Something tells me that I'm needed,
At the front to fight the foe.
See, the Signal boys are marching,
I can no longer stay ;
Hark ! I hear the trumpets calling,
Good-bye ! Hip ! Hip ! Hooray !

This verse should be sung with tears in the eyes and McEwans at the lips.

It was during the evening that Lance Corporal Leigh handed over the " Gripper Shield " to Corporal O'Malley. Strange how the tales of Quetta grip them.

Congratulations.—These to Corporal O'Malley on promotion to that rank, as from 14th October, 1937, and to Lance Corporal Judd, who dropped the " U " on the same date.

Howlers.—Heard quite recently in the Hut of Knowledge.

Q. Who is the " Mother Country " ?
A. A bore in South Africa.

Q. Where does the most tea come from ?
A. Liptons.

Q. One of the causes of the Indian Mutiny ?
A. The Boston Tea Party.

Q. Where is St. Helena ?
A. In the Sahara.

Q. What is an abstract noun ?
A. A packet of fags on a Thursday.

Annual Musketry.—The undermentioned BIG SHOTS are to be congratulated for their Cups and prizes, won during the Annual Musketry Course. These were presented by our Commanding Officer during the Smoker on 18th November : Lance Corporal Dewhurst, highest score ; Signalman Downs, most improved score on the previous year ; Lance Corporal Buxton, best revolver shot ; No. 1 Section, McSwiney Cup.

Jews' Mail.—To Signalman Hodgson, now residing in Hong Kong. " Letter received by Stump. Thanks for regards. Shades of No. 1 Cable Section breaking up."

To Signalman " Digger " Dale. " Some more of the Blackdownites joining you soon. Tickey, Swede, etc."

Tailpiece.—A happy New Year to all.

A. V. I.

9th December.

The Sting is in the Tail.—To form an Area Signal Section, the following will be embarking for Egypt early in January : Sergeant Betts, Lance Corporals Boughen and Wright, Signalmen Short, Powley, Seymour, Alexander, Carmichael, Evans, Carty, Rix, Pearce, Stembridge, Bland, Havlin, Underwood, De La Porte and Rawlinson. And they thought they were safe, too.

E. F. M.

Mobile Divisional Signals, Salisbury.

Barnard Street, Salisbury.

Headquarters, Mobile Divisional Signals, was formed in October, 1937. We have a temporary home with Mobile Division Headquarters, and will be at Andover for 1938.

We take this opportunity of wishing our elder kindred Units a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

We hope that by this time next year we shall be able to take our place as a fully-fledged Unit ; the difficulties before us in regard to men, equipment and accommodation appear to be very great. This Unit will be different to all others, owing to the dispersion of its Squadrons. Nevertheless, the Mobile Division is going to be a first-class formation, and we are sure that Mobile Divisional Signals will lead the way.

" D " Troop, now No. 2 Squadron, will be at Aldershot ; " E " Troop, now No. 3 Squadron, will remain at Tidworth ; Tank Brigade Signals, now No. 4 Squadron, will stay at Perham Down until their new barracks are built at Warminster. Many of us regret the passing of the old names, but the new Establishments, if and when we get the men, demand a more conspicuous name than " Troop."

In this Unit we depend entirely on wireless, and we are sure that the high standard of wireless communication provided by Tank Brigade Signals and the Troops will be maintained.

F. TOWNSEND
The City Bootmaker
Every Description of Boots and Shoes made to order
REPAIRS NEATLY EXECUTED
81 CASTLE ST., CANTERBURY

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

No. 2 Company.

December.

General.—We take this opportunity of wishing our former O.C., Major F. T. Pope, *bon voyage*. He embarked for Malaya Signal Section on 22nd December. Also to our C.S.M. (C.S.M. Newman), who has left us for Sarafand. Here is wishing them the best of luck at their new Stations.

We also offer a hearty send-off to all the horses that have been shot and sold during the past few months, and hope we shall never see them again.

Marriages.—All the Company join in hearty congratulations to Signalman Packman P. C. and Miss G. Payne on their marriage at Canterbury, and hope their life partnership will be a long and happy one. I suppose I shall have to light the office fires myself now.

Births.—To Signalman and Mrs. Francis, a bouncing baby boy. Once again hearty congratulations on this addition to the Company strength.

Annual Furlough.—Everyone is eagerly looking forward to 16th December, and thirty-one days' leave. One or two have been fitted with evening dress suits. This is quite in order, as " Pip " likes to see the boys look smart.

Agony Column.—A bit late, but congratulations to Jack London. Where were you, Freddy " M " ?

" I'm leaving the Service at the end of February, so what about a job ? Sergeant Handford." Poor old Sergeant !

HAPPY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—We must apologise for the spasmodic appearance of notes during the past few months, but hope to make regular contributions in the future. Individual training is now almost at an end, and the " akkers " will soon flow ! Our sympathies are with Officer i/c Operators' Classes. How those instructors faded ! Leave and draft badly depleted our numbers.

Sport.—Both the Inter-Section and Six-a-side Football Competitions have been won and lost, and our Commanding Officer,

Lieutenant-Colonel H. A. J. Parsons, M.C., kindly presented the trophies. Of this, more anon.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the Company: Lance Sergeants Walsh H. and Meldrum G., Lance Corporal Angus D. and Signalman Benson J. It is hoped their stay will be long and free from the irritants of life.

Departures.—Pompey has gone, long live Pompey! Sergeants Marchant M. and Kemp A., Lance Sergeant Walsh M., Lance Corporals Lloyd C. and Cox J., Signalmen Cox C., Farry G., Thorne R., Lipop H., Welsh W., Pratt I. and Matthews R. All to India. I am sure that you are all pleased to get away from this lovely English countryside.

Greetings.—The season's greetings to all at home and abroad, and may your elbows never tire and your tummies never go back on you.

Gongs.—Congratulations to the following on being awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal: C.S.M. Newman and Corporal Honey A.

Promotions.—The usual hand to Corporal Davidson F. on being promoted to that rank.

The Last Game.—News has just been received of the death of ex-Corporal Palmer (Pedlar). Who of the old 4th Division at Colchester will ever forget that black, bobbing head on the soccer field? And will those who witnessed that grand performance of his in the Army Cup Final, 1930-31, ever forget that great sportsman, Pedlar? Fate had played him some scurvy tricks during the last three or four years, and now this is the final blow. Sympathy is extended to his wife, three children and relatives in their bereavement.

"J" Section.

Six-a-Side Football.—In a six-a-side tournament held this month, "J" Section managed to come out winners, after going right through without losing a match. The Cup was presented by Lieutenant-Colonel Parsons, M.C., to the ever-smiling "Daisy."

Agony Column.—To F. J., somewhere in India. "Needing a best man, Frankie? Who said I couldn't take it? Jordy—5¼ Fame."

"Wos," "F" Company. "How about a line? Stamps 1½d. each. No duty. Watty."

Marriages.—Signalman Packman D. to Miss Doris Harton at Canterbury. Somebody else is thinking about it, but there is nothing definite; we live in hopes.

THREECOY.

"K" Section.

Maybe, folks, you have not heard of the Strood Mangler, or, come to that, the Ramsgate Mauler. No? Still, who cares? But you have heard of "K" Section. Yes? Thinking of such a Section, my mind wanders back to the days of the good old gladiators, the arena, loads of lions, and brave blokes rescuing fair creatures, male or female, from the jaws of death. What a life! Now that is a real good description of the "K" Section boys; the sturdiest crowd of huskies you will ever see, or ever likely to.

Everyone secretly hopes to be posted to "K," but only the fittest survive. Tough isn't the word; the others go elsewhere. They try very hard to compete, poor fellows, but the answer is in the photograph.

Now on that photograph there are only ten players. Shucks! We really did not need so many, but rules are rules, and we are all men of honour in "K" Section. The missing man is Lance Corporal Froud F., the star of the team. A great fellow and an all-round sportsman, and likewise a very good-looking fellow, dark and handsome. Ah! but the affairs of Cupid could not wait. That reminds me. We are only young once. (Roll on, summer, and let's get rid of my rheumatism!)

It is a fact that all the team are of the good-looking "he-man" type.

In the final game, we played "F" Section, having swept "J" completely aside in the match before. The lads played up

splendidly all the way, with Frankie Froud playing an all-star game at centre-half. "F" Section fought back really well, but it was just a matter of time until we forged ahead. We take our hats off to the "F" Section goalie, who kept the score from reaching double figures. He played an outstanding game. Driver (I.C.) Waites is his name. Darn him! He stopped my shot, and now I have nothing to write home about.

Our Section Sergeant, Sergeant Tommy Ball, is still nodding them in. He has played in China, Egypt, in fact, everywhere, and is still playing centre-forward for the 4th Division. Just cannot do without him. He came along to see us win the League Championship and Shield, without a doubt in his mind as to the result.

After the match, the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel H. A. J. Parsons, M.C., Royal Signals, presented the Shield and prizes to "K" Section, and said that he wished both teams could have won. "F" Section certainly put up a grand fight. I will just run through the team, in case you should see them somewhere. You will then be able to point them out to your friends with a shaking forefinger and proudly say, "K" Section, By Jove! In the rear rank (left to right): Signalmen Connell, Walker (Larry), Staite, Marshall and Walker (Mickey); (front rank) Signalmen Markendale and Allen, Lieutenant B. A. H. Bogle, Royal Signals, Signalman Roberts and Lance Corporal Chambers. I could tell you lots about these boys, but space will not permit, and modesty will be our downfall.

Well, so long, folks! We are going to lift the Athletic Cup soon and brand a "K" on it. Tell you all about it later. If you have any unbeaten records, please do not bring them near us.

LIONEL EDWARD.

Sergeants' Mess.

This historic institution, situated in the heart of the land of "young mutton" and old curiosity shops, opens this month's notes by assuring all and sundry that the Mess has passed almost entirely into new hands. We therefore extend the glad hand of welcome to R.S.M. Kingman G., C.S.M. Hall (posted to No. 3 Company), C.Q.M.S. Wilson, Lance Sergeant Walsh, and also to C.Q.M.S. Jackson, Sergeants Wales and Freemantle. C.Q.M.S. Jackson and Sergeant Freemantle were with us only temporarily. The former is now on furlough, whilst the latter is now in the land of the Pharaohs.

We had two successful dances during the month of November; one on the 10th, the other on the 24th. Before this goes into print, another dance will have taken place, on 5th December, following the Christmas Draw. But more of this anon.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

It is with the deepest regret that we have to record the death of Mrs. Deptford, the wife of our R.Q.S.M., after a comparatively short illness. Mrs. Deptford "joined" the Corps on 27th November, 1923, whilst her husband was serving with "A" Corps Signals, Pirbright, and a good many readers will remember

her at Ewshott, Catterick Camp and at Aldershot. By a remarkable stroke of fate, her death took place on the fourteenth anniversary of her wedding.

Always of a cheerful nature, and ever willing to give a helping hand where necessary, Mrs. Deptford made a great many friends throughout the Corps. I am sure that all members of the Corps who knew her will join with me in extending the deepest sympathy to R.Q.M.S. Deptford and his two daughters, Joan and Doreen, in their great loss.

The funeral took place at Mitcham Road Cemetery, Croydon, on Thursday, 2nd December.

On the eve of writing these notes another tragic piece of news has been received. That well-known, all-round sportsman, Corporal Ferrier, was killed in a road accident at Catterick Camp on Friday, 10th December. Corporal Ferrier was very well known throughout the Corps, and particularly in Scarborough and district, as he served in this Unit for some considerable time. The funeral took place on Tuesday, 14th December, and a firing party, under Sergeant Cowan, and a representative party from the Unit, under Lieutenant N. I. Bower, attended. The interment was at Scalby. The deepest sympathy is extended to Mrs. Ferrier and relations in their great loss.

Yet another draft has departed from this Unit. Corporal Dillon, Lance Corporal Thom and a few other hardy souls have gone to India, and I don't blame them this weather; and what a splendid time of the year to leave England. They will soon be followed by drafts to Hong Kong and Sarafand. On 22nd December we are due to lose Major E. Levett, who, although only serving with this Unit for a very short while, was very popular with all ranks. We wish Major and Mrs. Levett and family *bon voyage* and a safe return.

Lieutenant A. Hill and Lance Sergeant Cummings have rejoined the Unit on completion of a Course at the Anti-Gas Wing of the Small Arms School.

A hearty welcome is extended to the following on being posted to this Unit from the Stations shown against their names: Signalmen Nugent and Elliott from Meerut; Corporal Macey, Lance Corporal Fill and Signalman Mallett from Palestine; and C.Q.M.S. Baldwin from Glasgow. The latter has not yet arrived, but he receives a hearty welcome just the same, particularly as he will be here for Christmas.

At the time of writing, Scarborough is sheltering under a white mantle of snow. "Roll on the boat," say the lads.

Driver Rhodes G. has left us for "Civvy Street"; we wish him every success in his quest for employment. Signalman Spencer is now undergoing a Vocational Training Course in welding, at Aldershot.

We are somewhat belated with our Christmas wishes to all Units, and hope we are quite in order to wish all Signal Units a very happy and prosperous New Year.

Sergeants' Mess.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of Mrs. Deptford (wife of R.Q.M.S. Deptford of this Unit), which occurred at Bedale on 27th November. The sincere sympathy of this Mess is offered to R.Q.M.S. Deptford and family in their tragic bereavement.

Departures.—Sergeants Miles and Noel Hunt to the land of Jews and Philistines on 19th November, but what a tub—the *California!* Lance Sergeant Gordon to India on 20th November. The Frontier is a good life for five years, Jock! Sergeant (Lank) Cowan to civilian life on 23rd December. Never mind, Lank! matches are cheap!

Arrivals.—C.S.M. Fleming A. from India on 25th November. C.Q.M.S. Baldwin D. R. is due to join us on 19th December from 52nd Divisional Signals, T.A. The glad hand is extended to both these new-comers.

General.—The Christmas Draw is in full swing. One member is fond of getting his ticket for tuppence. Five kings, one flop. (Ask Shoey!)

Greetings.—The Mess send their heartiest greetings and seasonal compliments to all friends and acquaintances all over the world.

That is all, folks!

CUMO.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

8th December.

General.—To all members of the Corps, at home and abroad, N.I.S.C. sends best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year. We also hope that the Christmas came up to expectations, and that there were no regrets. Judging from our preparations, aspirins are the only essentials which have been left out. I am laying in a private stock.

The weather seems determined to remind us that there is not much time to go before Christmas; we have had our share of snow, and the frost is (seasonable song) croo-el. Various remarks heard during the early mornings indicate that the new barracks, with "h. and c.," would be greatly appreciated here right now. Hot-water bottles will soon make their appearance if our hardy man from the border has his own way.

Little of general note has happened during the last month, except the many moves of personnel, due to drafts and Inter-Company postings. Thanks to annual furlough, Part II Orders will help considerably in filling these notes for the next few months. Overseas arrivals are sure of a real welcome in Northern Ireland, as the news of their coming has already reached us.

Arrivals.—Sergeant Peters, well known to many of our Indian readers, joined us on 20th November, and surprised us by not wearing an overcoat, not even on our coldest day. Signalman Burnett left Londonderry, and arrived in Belfast on 25th November. The reason will be found under the next heading. Signalmen Brierly, Lamb and Reece, on the 23rd, and Signalmen Whalley, Robinson and Waterfield arrived in Belfast on 24th November. To them all we say welcome, and hope that they enjoy their stay with us. There are reports of still further additions to our messing strength.

Births.—A son, Walter, to Signalman and Mrs. Burnett, at Belfast, on 24th November. Congratulations.

Departures.—This month's departures have been lighter. On 23rd November, Lance Sergeant Bowie, Corporal Stretch and Signalman Smith left Belfast for the Training Battalion, Catterick, *en route* for India. They will be joined in Catterick before proceeding abroad by Signalman Tassinari, who is at present on local leave. Signalman McCormack dropped the "Signalman" in favour of "Mr.", and transferred to the Army Reserve on 24th November. He went straight to a job with the G.P.O. at Coleraine; a bit of luck, which we hope will be only a forerunner of much more in "Civvy Street."

Congratulations.—Three more undetected crime records have been set up. C.Q.M.S. Hoyland, Sergeant Double and Lance Sergeant Worsley stood the rounds on 4th December to celebrate their Long Service and Good Conduct Medals. It only goes to prove that one half of the Army still doesn't know how the other half gets away with it. Our congratulations to all three, coupled with the hope that they will keep it up for some time to come. We refer to their records; they will certainly keep up the medals.

Marriages.—On 23rd November, Signalman Tassinari to Rose Mulholland. The good wishes of the Company for their happiness are theirs.

Agony.—Recently, the C.O. decided to move his table to a more convenient position, and the fitter got busy. After moving the table, he commenced to replace the bell-push and circuit, but in so doing, rang the bell far more than the Orderly Room staff cared about. When he eventually tried the bell circuit there was no ring. Later, he looked into the office and asked if the bell had been disconnected.

"No," said the C.S.M., "but I put a bit of 'coggage' in it."

"Heavens, and I've taken the circuit to pieces to see what was the matter!"

This one was heard in the barrack-room. A married man brought his kit to the room, but was deficient of a water-bottle cork. He was told to get another before Room Inspection, and that his story of having lost it on the way to the room was the same as that heard in a recent case, for which the fellow received "five days."

"Five days," echoed our old soldier. "Was that all? When I lost my entrenching tool, I told them that the Germans had pinched it, but I got 'seven days' just the same."

Jews' Mail.—"Will Mr. B. P. McCann, late Wazirdist, communicate with Corporal Oliver or Signalman Coram of this Unit (Belfast)?"

Finale.—Any boats left?

SPUD-CAN.

LONDONDERRY DETACHMENT.

Very little of importance has occurred since last month. We welcome Signalmen Reece and Lamb to the Maiden City. After exploring the famous walls and other places of beauty, they have decided to like this place.

We congratulate Lance Corporal Whitters on his appointment, and hope that the mountains of Mourne are as friendly as the Buncrana back road. Congratulations also to Signalman Burnett on being the proud father of another son. Incidentally, we hope he likes Belfast.

The frost has bitten very hard, and the approach to the wireless station is like glass.

Captain Orr paid us a visit, when he arrived to act as Boxing Judge in 'Derry; he was accompanied by Corporal Oliver and Signalman Cooper. 'Derry greeted them with a lot of rain, and spoilt a pleasant occasion.

Signalman McCormack left us recently to take up employment with the G.P.O. at Coleraine. We miss his ready Irish wit, but wish him the best of luck in his new sphere.

We join with our H.Q. scribe and others in wishing the Corps a prosperous New Year—not forgetting BARLEUX.

HEC ME.

FORT DUNREE DETACHMENT.

Having been brow-beaten into taking up penmanship (the last penman I knew received five years for signing the wrong name on a cheque), I will try to open in a happy vein.

Congratulations to Signalman and Mrs. Tassinari. May their voyage together be a long and pleasant one with plenty of sunshine and no rough seas.

We were very pleased to note that Cupid's dart found another billet in the niche of time. It seems to be the way in 'Derry. No doubt Paddy is pleased to note this hopping from twig to twig, and should have started earlier. Is it " well, well, well ! " or just " well, well ! "

The linemen must not work in inclement weather. Just imagine, twelve months' pay for one week's work. Correct me if I'm wrong, but the weather really is atrocious, Jacko, isn't it ?

The attached personnel's football team, comprising ourselves and our old companions, the R.E.s, have been beating all comers in the neighbourhood. Having beaten two sections of the R.A., with a goal average of 11 to 5, we took on the local civilians and beat them 4—2. Owing to the shortage of men, we were forced to borrow three players from the Battery for this match. The very next day—a very crafty move—we were challenged by the Battery. With much trouble, we managed to turn out a team, and, carrying more passengers than the " Shanghai Express," we won the game by 8—3. One of these days we shall meet a football team, and I will then leave a blank space where the report should be. I forgot to mention that our prolific goal scorer (Sid to you) scored all the goals. I might as well tell you first.

Schozzle may be interested to hear that a tin-whistle has been heard in the cabin during night duties. The stunt of another famous orchestra ?

Senior Wranglers.—" We still have herrings on Fridays, Tass ! "

" Robbo," formerly N.I.S.C. "Am looking forward to the prodigal's return. S.S."

" I.W.," Omagh. " The Irish police really are wonderful. You should always ask the owner first or joy-ride with a joy-stick. Jock."

ASPENLIEF.

BALLYKINLER DETACHMENT.

General.—Jack Frost has paid us several visits. Although Old Man Snow was on his way, he couldn't make the distance, but came to rest on the Mourne Mountains. We are keeping an eye on him and hoping that he never makes the remaining short distance. The rain, generally accompanied by high wind, is also a frequent visitor. In short, it is wintry weather; and yet I am informed that winter does not start here until after Christmas.

Several new buildings are in course of construction, and I am wondering why one building was pointed out to me by a certain individual. Was it a refrigerator or the Guard Room ?

Most of the Regiment are away, enjoying their hard-earned furlough, and their absence tends to make a dull place more dull.

Moves.—Corporal Ashworth to Belfast; Signalman Whitters from Londonderry to Belfast, picking up a yard of stripe *en route*.

Hatches, Matches and Dispatches.—Nil. But keep an eye on the notes under this heading. Something is going to happen very soon.

Agony.—Local bus and train service.

Conclusion.—We conclude by wishing all readers of the WIRE a bright and prosperous New Year.

SAND 'ILLS.

ARMAGH DETACHMENT.

We apologise for the absence of our notes in the last issue; our scribe was on leave. At the time of writing, we are all snowed up, but the sun is shining again and the snow is rapidly melting.

At the beginning of October, Lance Corporal (Dodo) Watts left Armagh for Catterick, the first stage of a long journey to China. We wish him the best of luck in his future home.

Old Armaghites may be interested to know that the new cinema (the " Ritz ") has been opened at last and it is very smart inside. Other improvements include the charging plant in our new wireless station. The chug of the Duggie (and the fitter's remarks with regard to same) have given way to the steady hum of our new machine. Everything is now " bright and beautiful " in the " Charging " department.

Agony.—" Young Marshall," somewhere in India. " What about a line to Nobby, ex-4-Medium, 'A' Corps ? "

That is all for this month, except to wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year.

ELEMEE.

South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.

Spike Island Detachment,

General.—January notes are always difficult. We feel that we should be recounting the tales of the " good times that had been enjoyed by all." We shall, nevertheless, be on good ground if we congratulate everyone on their contribution to the merry Christmas, added with a wish for a happy New Year to everybody. The need for keeping open does not allow us to disperse for private celebrations, but duties have been arranged to leave as many as possible free at the " useful " hours. Q.M.S. Tilford proceeds on furlough for both feasts, and Signalman Jones follows him in time for the New Year toasts. The remainder will make the most of local arrangements. Subject to a bad memory, Christmas will be reviewed in February.

Arrivals.—We have been lucky enough to receive most of our reliefs already. We therefore welcome the following: Signalman Miller and family from Scarborough; Signalman Gillan from the Reserve via Catterick; Signalman Arkell from the Training Battalion. The " I.M." is overjoyed to see Signalman Smith back from Bere Island. Poor Johnny had to double as " E.F." and " I.M." for a month, and did not think much of it.

Departures.—Corporal Richardson F., Signalmen Shergold and Obrien to Catterick for India. Good luck to them all, and we trust the two first-named will be able to eat all the way.

SPIKE.

Bere Island Detachment.

General.—The Detachment still holds its own in this " Bere-ly " known outpost of the Empire (very fond of that phrase down here). Off duty, we might explain that " holding our own " is often a joke thrust upon us by the weather, which seems to treat us to a good gale every day or so. The " own " refers to our miles of P/L, the aerial system and six Caps, S.D. Still, there must be something attractive in the rugged beauty of the place (apart from " Hooky "), for we all like it.

Arrivals.—Signalman Healey from leave. We wonder why he did it !

Departures.—Signalman Smith to Spike, after relieving Healey for leave.

Agony.—One Scot and one Taffy, both potential electric welders (or second choice), still using their prayer mats, but not getting " through."

BERE'IOH.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

"A" Company, Signal Training Battalion.

The coming of cooler and drier weather brings with it the usual increase in our social and recreational activities. The golfers are now going round in 69 strokes, hours, or days, as the case might be, and the course presents the usual patches of burnt grass peculiar to golf courses. Golfers' language it is estimated contains 193 words not found in the English dictionary. Incidentally, last Sunday I heard one member use 192 of them without repeating himself. He would have used the full vocabulary only he managed to hit the ball.

From golf to tennis is but a short step. The ball is usually driven about the same distance, if you hit it. The Company tennis courts are well patronised each evening, and we may produce a Perry yet. On the other hand, as the non-tennis players say, we may not.

Annual weapon training, much to everyones relief, is now completed, and despite the inevitably bad rifles, which " nobody can shoot with," ammunition which " definitely fell short of the target " and " obviously bent chargers," the shooting was up to the usual standard. Top score was made by Signalman Young with a score of 61 out of 65. Interviewed by our correspondent, he stated that after his practice as dog-shooter, bulls presented no difficulty.

The opening of recruiting in India has so far brought us eleven temporary additions. We wish them all every success in the Corps.

Although only one B.O.R. of this Unit took part in the Garrison Horse Show, held in November, the efforts of the S.T.C. were very creditable, considering the competition from other Units in Jubbulpore. Our successes were as follows: Open Jumping for the Governor's Cup, won by C.H.M. M. Ali Khan, riding the very appropriately-named " Kangaroo Baby." O.R.s' Jumping, won by Hav. Battan Singh on horse No. 13. Lucky 13 for a change. The bad luck this time dogged Sergeant Farlow, who, although placed third, had the very unfortunate experience of being stopped twice by the judges, owing first to a dog on the course, and secondly to a jump falling, which resulted in his horse refusing. Tent Pegging was won by the S.T.C. team (Captain Burridge, Sergeant Farlow, C.H.M. Mahboob Ali Khan and Naik Karan Singh). Another " First " was carried off in the Class for A.T. Carts, and a " Second " in the Class for a Pair of Pack Mules.

Congratulations to the following on their various elevations: Lance Corporal Ditchfield to Corporal, U/Lance Corporal White to the Corps Roster, Signalman Softly on stepping into the shoes vacated by U/Lance Corporal White, and Corporal Paling to Marriage Allowance Roll.

The annual sorting out of inventories in those " dreadful " Stations—Catterick and Scarborough—has so far not produced any visitors to Jubbulpore, though we have expectations. " We," of course, means those due to change places with them on arrival. Signalmen Trott and Redding, *en route* to the U.K., and civil life, take with them our best wishes, while to Sergeant Ferdinando and Corporal Wattle, *en route* to the Home Establishment, we give the usual cheers.

The temperature has now dropped to a very uncomfortable figure. But never mind, lads, just think of all those unfortunates who are compelled to face the snow and frost of Catterick for years and years.

The annual migrations up and down India have now commenced, and the following have moved to new Stations: R.S.M. Noonan and family to Quetta, Sergeant Harvey to Poona, Signalman Everitt to D.I.K., and Signalman Crellin to Quetta. From other Units have arrived Sergeant Wheeler and Signalman Vercoe.

And now to all we extend hearty Christmas greetings and best wishes for 1938. W.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

October, 1937.

General.—Everything; including visits from all those to Jubbulpore to enjoy the cool breezes, soft starry nights and—you know the rest. The cool weather having arrived, and with it the latest shades in gents. autumn suitings, outdoor enthusiasts are getting their fill—tennis fans are energetically chasing balls all over Jubbulpore, and golfers, too, are coming into their own—and so we go on.

Social and Sporting.—The soccer match versus the Sergeants' Mess of the Leicestershire Regiment has been duly played and won by the narrow margin of one goal. In the return match with the Gunners we were not quite so successful, losing by the odd goal. All these games have been very enjoyable, and we all hope to have some more next season. We shall have one or two gaps to fill in our team, and, unless we collect one or two more stars, it is going to be difficult.

Whist, " house " and impromptu dances continue to flourish. The high spot of the month, the Armistice Ball, was held at the G.C.F. on 9th November. This turned out to be the usual success, and Signals upheld tradition by manning the W.O.s and Sergeants' Bar and a couple of sideshows. As Christmas is in the offing, functions are being kept down to a minimum; all our energy is being reserved for the Christmas spate.

Arrivals and Departures.—To Quetta, R.S.M. and Mrs. Noonan; To U.K., for the Home Establishment, Sergeant Ferdinando (up the Haggis!); to Poona, Sergeant Harvey; to U.K., for the Home Establishment, Sergeant Patheyjohns (our late landlord). From Rawalpindi, Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Mutter W., M.B.E.; from U.K., families of Q.M.S. Mutter, Sergeant Benfield and Lance Sergeant Powell.

To all, coming and going, we extend the usual welcome and regrets.

Corporals' Room.

14th November, 1937.

Being elevated to the ranks of the few who waste good paper and printing ink each month is a doubtful privilege, my friends, and as my literary efforts in the past have been confined to the " letter home each week " variety, I am convinced that no " best sellers " will ever come from this pen.

General.—Our annual whist drive and dance takes place on Wednesday, the 17th, and most of the members of the Decoration Committee have been busy lately erecting " Ditchfield—Dehavilands," which are, as the name suggests, a product of the Ditchfield grey matter ("A" Corps Sigs., Aldershot, to note). When the first was duly launched, some few weeks ago, some of the mockers suggested a trial flight from the top of one of the wireless station masts, but I think " Ditch " must have been a bit behind with the instalments on his insurance policy. We did not get any trial flights. By this time the aeronautical bug had bitten several members of our " Pub," and now we have more 'planes than Imperial Airways. If anyone wants to pop home for the week-end, just apply to us.

Armistice Day.—The Unit held the usual parade service, and afterwards, with the rest of the Garrison, marched past the Governor of the Central Provinces.

Billiards.—The final of the Mess Handicap Stakes was played early this month. Corporal Connolly met Lance Corporal Ditchfield (what, that man again!) before a vast crowd; quite fifteen were there. But, alas, my friends, the Ditchfield eye was missing dots, and his H.T. was down; so Corporal Connolly lifted and filled the " Piala." Afterwards, all the Rothschilds present had a go at filling it, and in the end we even stung the R.S.M. for a " fill." Interviewed by our special correspondent, the winner said he owed his success to early morning P.T., and

a rub down with *Sporting Life* afterwards. We have cabled Lindrum to watch his step, as our Tich is on his trail.

Arrivals.—We offer the usual open palm to Lance Corporal Williams, who has been scrounging in Bangalore, and has at last been found out. Also to Corporals Wright and Paling (this is somewhat late), who have been on six months' leave to Blighty. We must congratulate Corporal Paling, who gave up single blessedness for wedded bliss. We must take " Tubby " Wright to task for managing to put on so much weight.

Have any of our readers seen a " Silly Symphony " where the King is depicted with a golden touch. Everything he touches turns to gold. Well, we have his counterpart here, and it's none other than Corporal " Ernie " Chambers. Ex-Jubbites will remember the luck of his brother, Lance Corporal " Ted " Chambers, and verily the Chambers' luck is a family affair. Our " Ernie " must have won his passage money home by now in the " pokey die " school, and not content with that, he lifted the 500 cigarettes that were raffled in aid of the Dance Fund. Now I hear that he is sitting pretty with about nine goals in the Mess " Buster."

" Der Tag."—The Mess " Nauch " went off with an extra loud bang last night, and everyone had a good time. True to form our " Ernie " managed to win one of the five rupees in the swindle.

There was a goodly crowd, with a fair number of ladies. Banham Sahib was there as usual, treading the light fantastic. I had a trip with " Lofty " Rymer at about 1 a.m. " Lofty " did not like the bends in the floor, and after clasping each other like brothers for about ten minutes, we retired to recuperate.

We were unfortunate in our choice of dates for this function, as there was also a dance at the Nerbudda Club, and so most of the officers of the Station were unable to visit us. We were very pleased to see Lieutenant-Colonel Pollard and Major Swan, and trust that they had a good time.

I must mention this. That man Ditchfield (what, again !) came in walking all lopsided. The Orderly Room had decided to present him with his second stripe. " Very undiplomatic," says Ditch., and after the usual salaams and felicitations from us he was well and truly stung. Altogether it was a very lively evening, *rigor mortis* setting in at about 3 a.m.

Thanks are due to the entertainments committee for the jolly good show and super-decorations ; The S.T.C. Band for the music ; Lance Corporal Dunlop for the refreshments ; and Corporals Connolly, Paling and Lance Corporal Crossley, who were the publicans and sinners for the night. Finally, I am sure that all the Mess will join me in offering our thanks to Mrs. Croucher, who by her efforts with the rolling pin, etc., made the food department such a big success. The cakes were grand. Thanks again, Mrs. Croucher !

As usual, after the procession comes the Corporation dust-cart. Thick heads and aspirins were the order of the morning after ; the thoughts of clearing up the wreckage had better be left unsaid. Largely due to the efforts of Corporal Cox G., things were squared up in record time and about twenty-five aching heads were able to rest on the pillows on Thursday afternoon. What a night, what a dance !

Jerusalem Special.—To " Lofty," " D " Troop, Aldershot. " How's the Brooms Course these days ? "

Blanco to Lance Corporal Melly, 1st Div., Aldershot. " I've made it, Tich, now what ? "

PERCY.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

"A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

General.—At the time of writing these notes, the return of the Unit from Waziristan is awaited on 20th December, and by the time they are in print, we hope to have resumed normal life at Rawalpindi.

No doubt the return will cause many upheavals ; soldiering in barracks always differs from life under canvas, but we hope that the advantage of the normal routine in barracks will soon be appreciated, despite those differences.

Curiously, it is a coincidence that those members of the Unit who were away on the Khaisora Operations, returned to Rawalpindi on 22nd December last year, and it looks as if preparations for Christmas are again to be made in a minimum of time. This year, however, there is a more confident hope that the Unit will stay in Rawalpindi for quite a considerable time before embarking on further adventures.

We hope that we shall now be able to foster something of the social side of the Unit ; social functions had, perforce, to disappear during 1937. The former attractions of the Unit, from the demonstrations of sporting prowess to the Monday night whist drives, and the Saturday night dances, may, possibly, soon be revived. Football activities will once again prove as interesting as in former years, and it is to be hoped that the boxing tournament will again bring the Unit into prominence. We shall probably be able to obtain better results than previously, in view of the fitness of our team members after their hardening life on the Frontier. It will, at any rate, be consoling to have some achievements to report in our sports notes.

An account of the activities of the Unit during the Waziristan Operations, 1937, has been submitted for publication.

Departures.—Our best wishes are tendered to Lieutenant A. F. McGill, Royal Signals, who has left us on posting to Waziristan District Signals. We trust that his tour of just under a year with the Unit will provide pleasant memories, and that he will find his new Unit up to expectations.

Extensions of Service.—Our felicitations this month go to Lance Corporals Rymer F. and Craik J., and Signalman Abbiss J., who have extended their service to complete twelve years with the Colours. This seems to discredit the stories one hears about things " rolling on."

Appointments.—Congratulations are extended to Lance Sergeant Allen J. (now safely in the United Kingdom for transfer to the Home Establishment) on his appointment. 'Twas only a few days after Darkie.

CAVE CANEM.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Headquarters.

October.

October has been a month of movement. Firstly, the Headquarters of the Division moved from Dosalli to Gambila on the edge of the Bhittani country, south of Bannu. Then forward to the frontier to Masti Khel, and lastly an advanced H.Q. went back to Mir Ali to control operations in that area. Quite a change after the long months spent in Dosalli. The 3rd Brigade remained behind in the Sham Plain area, at Shawali, then at Ghariom, and afterwards split up between Ghariom, Dosalli and Damdil. With the Brigade Section there remained a small detachment of the Operating Section. " B " Cable Section and one Pack W/T Section of "A" Corps Signals, not forgetting the office detachment of Kohat District Signals, which stayed in Ghariom.

The 2nd Brigade marched to the Bhittani country and joined up with the H.Q. of the Division there. The march began on 9th October, and the Brigade moved from Shawali to Next Camp, then to Bichhe the following day. Then from Bichhe to River Camp, passing the Commander-in-Chief, who was touring Waziristan, and had journeyed to Bichhe Kashkai to see the Force on the move.

At River Camp they halted for a day to carry out some punitive operations. The march was then continued to Jani Khel and Sulaiman Khel, where they joined up with Advanced H.Q., 1st Indian Division. Here another day's rest was taken, and although the advance into the Bhittani country was made without opposition, it was known that a watch was being kept, as a certain amount of trouble was expected.

The situation at that time was as follows : Rear H.Q. Division at Gambila on the main Bannu-D.I.K. road, about twenty-four miles from Bannu ; Advanced H.Q., 1st Division, with one

Battalion of the 1st Infantry Brigade at Masti Khel on the border and just about the road-head ; 2nd Infantry Brigade at Spalvi, inside the Bhitanni country and in the foot hills. A rough road had been constructed forward of Gambila and M.T. was able to reach Spalvi Camp about the time 2nd Infantry Brigade arrived there. "A" Corps Signals had constructed an F.S. route of two pairs from Gambila to Masti Khel, while forward there were cables put up on ballis which had been bought in Peshawar, the only place where sufficiently long and strong poles can be obtained.

Towards the end of the month, 2nd Infantry Brigade moved forward to Qalandar, only three miles from Kot, the capital of the Bhittani country, leaving at Spalvi sufficient troops to man the L.-of-C. At the same time, we opened a Signal Centre at Spalvi, and Rear Division closed down at Gambila and came up to Masti Khel. To begin with, the 2nd Infantry Brigade was strongly opposed when they moved out from Spalvi, and at one time it was thought that hostile lashkers were forming. However, nothing further materialised, and by dint of strong action the Bhittamis—never a warlike race—realised that their easiest course was to cause no more trouble. This they did, and the Din Faqir, their leader, came in to Jandola to make arrangements about handing over hostages and rifles.

At the same time, the presence of the Faqir of Ipi in the Madda Khel country north of Mir Ali and Miranshah was causing a certain amount of unrest, and the 9th Infantry Brigade from Mir Ali had to move out to Spinwam and Datta Khel to deal with hostile lashkars, and to mete out punishment by the destruction of towers. This was successfully accomplished, but as further operations were contemplated, the 9th Infantry Brigade concentrated at Miranshah and the 1st Infantry Brigade marched to Mir Ali from Gharion, while Advanced H.Q., 1st Division, moved from Masti Khel to Mir Ali to take over control.

There have been no further events and, except for a few raids and the odd sniper, peace seems to be returning to Waziristan, and with it the hope that we shall shortly be returning to Rawalpindi.

The country around Gambila and as far as Masti Khel is very different from that to which we have been accustomed near Dosalli and the Sham Plain. Here the ground is flat as far as the eye can see. The country, on the whole, is covered with arable land, but at present there is little sown land, and a horse is very useful. Instead of stones and rocks, there is sand and dust, which does its best to get into everything. After our move to Masti Khel we made big efforts to counteract this dust and to improve our camp area. Small stones and badjeree were brought up from the nullah bed about two miles distant, and gradually the whole camp was covered. Big stones had to be put down as a foundation on the roads used by M.T. and in the M.T. Park, otherwise the dust would have quickly worked its way to the surface again.

Many B.O.R.s can now call themselves "Lipai Experts." A very useful art out here. Instead of allowing dust and sand to accumulate on the floors of the tents, the surface is dug down about one foot ; the edges are then lined with a row of sandbags, then a mixture of mutti, bhoosa and water is plastered and smoothed over the walls and the floors, and allowed to dry. When dry, if forms a hard, smooth surface, which does not crack, and is easy to keep clean. It must be admitted that our Indian ranks are the real experts at this occupation. "Live and learn" ; it has certainly improved the appearance of the lines.

Games.—There is not much to say about games, because ever since our arrival in the Bhittani country there has been so much to do. We have since made a small football ground, which, although very sandy, provides excellent fun. We have made two tenni-quoit courts, one volley ballcourt and one basket ball ground. The last two games are mostly played by the Indian ranks, but basket ball has now been taken up by the British ranks, too.

Our Detachment with Advanced Division H.Q. at Mir Ali had little to do at the outset, and demands were made for hockey sticks and footballs. There are several good grounds there, and it was our first chance to play hockey since last May.

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2nd Infantry Brigade Signal Section.

Qalandar Khel Khile,
3rd November, 1937.

General.—Since our last notes, we have moved round so much that it only needs a few miles more and the gravel-crashing champions of the 1st Division (our modesty again) will have completed a circle. The 2nd Brigade moved out from Shawali on 9th October *en route* for the Bhittani country. The first day's march was to a site just beyond Middle Camp. A half-way halt was made at Ghariom, where "J" Section very kindly produced tea for both the British and Indian ranks, a gesture which was very much appreciated and for which we thank them.

Communication on the march was entirely by W/T, using a No. 1 Set when on the move, and a "C" Set when halted. Difficulty was experienced on the first night out owing to atmospherics ; for something like eight hours the only connection with the outside world was by No. 1 Set back to Ghariom.

On the following day we went to Bichhe ; this was our fourth visit, and camp was made on the new site known as Balmoral. Apart from a couple of long-range shots fired at the rear-guard, there was no incident. The march was notable, because, instead of following our previous route via the Mazai Raghza, we traversed a good road through a guard of honour supplied by local tribesmen working on the road. These very same people a few months previously had been making things uncomfortable for us.

From Bichhe to River Camp—the next stop—was a mere seven miles (memories of December). Gone were the spacious and well-kept lawns, tarmac roads and other modern conveniences. In their place there were just a few holes in the ground which we had dug months ago and the remains of a perimeter wall. Here the Brigade rested for a day, whilst a Battalion went out and blew up a Kot belonging to a local hostile. The next stage was to Jani Khel, which was quite an easy march. The country was now in direct contrast to what we had been accustomed to. It was one vast plain and we looked forward to a nice "cushy" march for our last stage before entering Bhittani

country. What a disillusionment awaited us! The journey was very unpleasant, rendered more so by the dust; even our old campaigners admitted that the conditions were the worst in their experience.

The day following our arrival at Sulaiman Khel, the canteen lorry made a welcome appearance. Our thanks are also due to Major V. C. Holland for getting his car through with what, to most of us, was some very necessary food in bottle form. A day's rest, and preparations were made for our entry into the Bhittani country. As this was the first time that a column had ever operated in this part of the world, all ranks were hoping that the enemy would stage a grand slam, if only to save his face, the idea being, of course, to inflict a really crushing defeat. For the Operation, the Brigade was divided into three separate columns, each taking a different route. The move commenced at midnight, and it was six p.m. before the last of the Section were in camp. The advance was unopposed, and, contrary to expectations, very little sniping was experienced.

On the second day, the Brigade moved out to cover a reconnaissance for the new road. Before the Advance Guard was a mile from camp, serious opposition was encountered, the enemy being estimated at about 270. Judging by the new sprint records that were established, Brigade H.Q. must have been in quite a vulnerable position. I have been assured that it is far from a joke to be standing in an unsheltered part of a river bed with enemy concentrating on you from three different directions. Opposition was encountered for a further three days, until they cried for peace. The Din Faqir surrendered his brother and asked for peace terms. Mention must be made of the five tribesmen who were caught by a Platoon of the 1/11th Sikhs in a bayonet charge. The moral effect, we understand, was very great. We moved up to Qalandar Khel, our present camp, and have also been as far as Kot, the capital of the Bhittani country. Everything is now peaceful and quiet and all ranks are optimistic of an early return to 'Pindi.

Scoops that Fleet Street Might Envy.—After having been in position for upwards of three hours, and in continual touch with the air, we were informed that our call sign was being displayed at a particular Map Reference. Further investigation proved it to be our own.

Agony.—To the mechanised men at Bulford, and Cyril in particular. "Oh, my poor old feet!"

Contributed by our Local "Kipling."—

Once within the tent at night,
What stories we do hear;
Of men, and mules, and deeds of might
And Battalion H.Q.'s beer.

When a grain of truth from tons of chaff
Once in a while is found,
The listeners then enjoy their laugh,
Till another tale goes round.

Too soon the years will pass and then
Our dim eyes will grow bright;
As we recall the times we've had,
And those tales in the tent at night.

Q. D. R.

26th November, 1937.

Apart from normal road protection duties and a column or two in search of water, there has been very little except the usual Part IIs to record. Lacking real, live news, we despatched our ace reporter to find some.

Departures.—One in particular, Signalman "Dusty" Miller of Egypt, Palestine, Sudan and Colchester fame, to "Civvy Street." We wish him luck in his new vocation. If he grips those partridges like he gripped us—phew!

Well-earned Respite.—Our O.C. Section has gone on seven days' leave to 'Pindi to recuperate after his strenuous efforts in the big game activities. Congratulations are extended to M.T.K. on securing the service that their circulation warrants (Gordon Beckles, alias Austen, and his little red book).

Incoherent Ramblings from Waziristan.—9.30 p.m. Crash! Tockdoom, diving for the floor, rapidly extinguishing Lamps, Hurricane, Mk. 1*, with vivid thoughts of what might have been and all we have left behind us; the boat fading far away, and all our savings (if any) to be spent by someone unknown. 10 p.m.—Having just very carefully and very slowly risen from the bowels of the earth, am informed that what we thought was hell let loose was, after all, nothing more dangerous than a Bania wallah loosing off a fourpenny firework! Such is war. Beastly stuff!

The Dream of an Old Etonian.—Dawn.—The Section Sergeant arrives at our tent, accompanied by the cook, with *chota bazri*, taking great care not to arouse us too rudely. He very gently asks us to rise, because later there may be some work to do. Breakfast.—Another cup with a chip out of it; darned disgusting, especially on Field Service. Break-time (sixty minutes after breakfast).—"Bearer, bring me two bars of nut milk and a packet of puff creams." And so on throughout the day.

That of an Old-Timer.—2 a.m.—Section Sergeant arrives. "If you are not out of it and under way in about two minutes, I'll ———," etc.

To Units at Home.—You are hereby warned that many old campaigners are proceeding home this trooper. To enable you all to arrive at the truth, and as a guide to those fortunate people bound for the land of Ind, here is a *pukka* description of Waziristan.

Situated in Southern India, amidst all the glories of the Orient, beautiful maidens singing under lofty palms, picturesque villages (with a smell of their own), game hunting galore, dusky ladies manipulating "punkhas" to keep the flies away. Very occasionally the "Signals" have a Scheme to break the monotony. Such is Waziristan, probably different to the tales that will be told by returning exiles. Pay no heed to their "gripping." It is truly a wonderful country, even the stones have a charm.

A Peep into the Future.—Out of the blue and almost cloudless sky, the giant airship descends and makes a graceful landing. Hardly has she moored, when, to the cry of "First blast of the whistle, all debts paid," homeward-bound troops embark for the twelve-hour trip to England, complete with the unexpended portion, and I.A.F. S-1524 (L.R.C.). Baggage not required immediately on arrival will be backloaded in accordance with this office letter R.M.S. Queen Mary, S/1999, dated 14-3-42 What a future!

Gems from our Scrap Book (All True).—The man who is being RETALIATED this trooper.

Exchange Operator: "Shall not be able to ring you for a couple of minutes, as we are changing the cells in the Tele. 110."

Was this a Mistake?—"Your extension for midnight marriage with Judge Advocate General sanctioned. Addressed to Captain ———."

Strictly in Confidence.—You are by now wondering what all this drivel is about. I've four whole years to do, but hope that after another month or two of this I shall be classified as a Class "A" Invalid with higher rate of ration money. A vacancy exists for the right type of man to take over this job. Qualifications: ability to type, using one finger all at once, a vivid imagination and suffering from any kind of mental disturbance. I am quitting as I only possess the latter.

SRID.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

24th November.

During the past month, preparations for the forthcoming Brigade training season have been the order. This means Schemes, inspections and more Schemes. Owing to the absence of our No. 1 Sets and sixteen B.O.R.s on the frontier, the organisation of the Troop has been somewhat modified. The Troop has been reorganised into Headquarters, four Britich ranks as mounted orderlies and six Indian rank V/T terminals. As the Brigade Camp is on a Unit basis, the D.R.s have been allotted to various Units of the Brigade. The Camp is being pitched on almost the same spot as last year ("umpteen" miles from nowhere) at Nurkot. This party move out on 3rd December, although the remainder of the Brigade, less Headquarters, have already left.

Indoor sports have made a welcome innovation, and whist drives on Thursdays and a " tombola " on Fridays help to supplement Sialkot's entertainment attractions. Led by a small committee, consisting of Lance Corporals Roake and Holder and the T.S.M., the first night proved a great success. The duties of M.C. were ably carried out by T.S.M. King.

A farewell Mess smoker was given to Sergeant Birchall J., who has left on transfer to the Territorials in Manchester (where the rain comes from). The Commanding Officer very kindly came along to the show, which was grandly supported by many friends from Regiments at the Station. Capacity estimates were rather under-estimated both in regard to the size of the Mess and the other kind. However, after the day of reckoning, a record month for sales has been recorded. Things have now returned to normal pending your return, Oscar. Signalman Rork J. (the man who could not make up his mind) has also left for the promised land. Should the ticket come up, I will bring the Set along with me.

The allotment of passages for payment furlough next year have come to hand. The contenders for leave were Sergeant Standen R., Signalmen Johnston W. and Swift A. I understand you got this leave through regular attendance, " Tich," and that you have been trying hard since your last leave. Jealousy, of course.

Things We Want to Know.—Firstly, which man wanted to put all his debits into the A.S.A. ? Secondly, which individual calculated the magnetic variation in these parts at 180 degrees East, or was this a back bearing of the North Pole ?

Poetic.—Here is a further effort from our tap dancer. I cannot accept the responsibility for the publication of this poem if there is any resultant fall in the number of recruits.

JOIN UP, MY LAD !

Welcome to the Army, boy,
You'll have a fine old time ;
Going home to Mum at night,
And returning prompt at nine.

And Sergeant-Majors, oh, so gay,
Will bring you tea in bed ;
And tell you if the weather's fine
Or rest your poor tired head.

The Squad Instructors, your best friends,
Not quite like days of yore,
Will treat you just like one of us,
And never, never bore.

A trial also, you may have,
To see if all's a tale ;
With entertainment free of charge,
And your picture in the *Daily Mail*.

That ever-green poem, well-known to all,
Of the spider and the fly,
Is just a myth, my boy,
Step up, and have a try.

WILJON.

KHANA.

Waziristan Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Razmak,
1st November, 1937.

With the temperature standing somewhere about the bottom of the glass, we are somewhat loath to arise these mornings. A quick plunge into the clear, cold water soon sends the blood coursing through our veins, and very quickly we are out for half an hour's P.T.

Our leisure hours are amply catered for now that the winter season is here. A stroll through the town's busy shopping centre, a cosy little supper party and a show in Razmak's fine cinema, is one of the most popular programmes. Of course, tastes differ !

Since the last notes, we have lost several of our friends, notably friend Taylor of the Razmak Brigade Section, friend Adlington (the bold, bad Bill) and one Fielding, styled "Arry." The last-named has proceeded on a Vocational Training Course, and the former have both severed their connection, via Barclay's Bank. A tea party in honour of the departing brethren was held in Salig Ram's Refreshment Tent, and several sacks of tea helped to warm the blood of good fellowship. Speeches were inflicted in the usual manner, and those dear old songs, beloved of all tea parties, were sung. Towards the close of the evening, the Razmak Rope Testing Agency passed around some fine old " Manilla," and the survivors then joined hands in "Auld Lang Syne."

An Inter-Section shuffle has recently taken place, and we all hope that the shuffled are happy in their new stations.

It is with pardonable pride that we notice how our attached personnel have taken to " Wazdiv." Signals. Their gratitude for the way in which we suffer their little peculiarities is almost human. Watt and Busby, two of their leading lights, are not looking forward to leaving us at all, and such is our affection for the poor dumb creatures that we fear scenes of great emotion will attend the parting.

It is only to be expected, after such a long spell of Signal Office and W/T work, that we have just about got the measure of the job. The greatest credit is due, without doubt, to our fine superintendents. That they can address three telephones at once, and at the same time look for an " O " message is a marvel. As a matter of fact, they cannot, but how those boys try ! Our favourite performer, old " Hyphen," is doing his best to keep the liver chart down, but no sooner has he cooled down to boiling than a batch of situation reports arrive, and he is off again.

It is possible that we may be back to normal in D.I.K. by the time that these notes are published, so we will take this opportunity of thanking the personnel of those other Units who have worked with us during the past months. They are good company, jolly good fellows, and not too unskilful on the key. But what grippers ! If they have enjoyed our company as much as we have theirs, they cannot have had too bad a time. See you next war, boys !

Late Request Item.—Information regarding the whereabouts, health and penmanship of one Hobling, last heard of hot-footing it for Darya Khan, is requested by Nick and other old pals.

QUOTHE THE RAVEN.

Razmak.
26th November, 1937.

A slight lapse which must occur between the submitting of these notes and their ultimate possible publication, due to the dictates of the higher command (who have first to pass them as fit matter for perusal), tends to nullify their value as a vehicle of news. As valuable historical data, however, we commend them to the student.

We agree that three months is a long time, but please consider the immense amount of work which has to be put in on the notes before they reach the Moghul of Belgravia. Firstly, they will be sent to the Cipher Department, where they will be pored over, sifted, strained and generally looked into for any hidden messages. They will then be passed to the Optical and Mathematical Department, whose highly-trained staff will co-operate to read between the lines and put two and two together. Should they survive this scrutiny, the notes will be sent to the Simla A.D.C., who, sworn under an oath of secrecy, will read them out in various tones, varying the inflections, accents and vowel sounds here and there. (It was once discovered that by singing the notes in the key of C sharp major, the colour of the S.S.O.'s pyjamas and the number of B.O.W.O.'s bank book (two closely guarded secrets) were divulged. This resulted in the uncovering of a large espionage organisation, trading under the name of Waziristan District Signals. Tne brain behind Room No. 13 never sleeps.)

It will, therefore, be realised that to submit news of this Unit would require the co-operation of (a) Old Moore, (b) R. H. Naylor, (c) The Pyramids. However, risking arrest and igno-

minous discharge, we will venture to chronicle the following well-known facts :

We are still situated in Razmak, with detachments at Dera Ismail Khan and Razani. " B " Company of our Corps of Q.M.s has, we understand, retired from Dosalli laden with the spoils of victory and, we suspect, a large sack of " scissors." We hope to be returning to a certain spot (which must remain anonymous for obvious reasons) in a short time, and anticipate heralding in the festive season there with a couple of " Death Watches," wherein shall be sung several well-known military dirges, and the spirit of Christmas shall be evoked by the " Geni of the Bott."

Festivities for the children and other encumbrances are also being planned, and if only we can get some money, the D.I.K. *Palais de Danse* will get a slap of whitewash. But what do you care ? As you read this, you'll be pondering on your chances for a spot of Easter leave.

The staff of that fearful publication, the *Wazdiv Showdown* sits regularly in committee on the morals and ethics of the Unit. But for our Corps of Q.M.s, however, the editor of the *Showdown* would have to shut up shop, as the rest of the Unit has very little time to fall into any sin, or run into any kind of danger. They are too busy working at Divisional Headquarters' Signal Office on wireless sets and at line telegraphy.

"A" Corps, having autographed the " Mines," have departed from our midst, leaving behind a small detachment about twice the size of our own little band (not counting the Q.M. branch, of course). These Corps personnel may be identified by the symbol "A" on their brows, and a decent air of humility. (Thursley '35 to you, Gamble !) As we wished this detachment good-bye last month (thus defeating the time lag), we will express the hope that they are happy in 'Pindi this month. (This thinking ahead is very confusing.) Like the poor, the blisters are still with us.

Nick Carter continues to beat up recruits for Narkover, and such is the prevailing enthusiasm, that some of the recruits have actually paid their subscription. Several others have reached the promissory stage.

Salig Ram's bluff and genial representative still keeps his staff on the *qui vive* lest their motto " clean, courteous, efficient —the speedy service " be sullied. His thirty-nine brothers, it will be remembered, went down in the great Persian oil merger with Ali Baba.

For sport, we are enjoying a series of friendly games of hockey with the Razmak Brigade Section and other Units ; the grim spectre of early morning P.T. is, like the afore-mentioned poor, ever with us.

Arrivals.—We welcome Lieutenants Honeybourne, Lyle and McGill, who have all joined us during the past month, and hope that they will enjoy their stay with us. Congratulations to Sergeant Lacey on the arrival of Robin Malcolm. We hear he " weighed in " at 110½ lbs. Is this a record ?

And so, bethinking himself that that was enough of this here, he arose, and wrapping his " E.I." about him, strode out into the night.

C. C. R. B.

Razmak Signal Section.

4th November, 1937.

Hullo, everybody ! " Razcol Signals " calling on a wavelength of 999999 gasometers. After spending seven weeks in the blue, we have returned to Razmak.

There is nothing of an exciting nature to relate. After a few changes of Camp, the Brigade decided to return to Azman Manza for a rest. During our stay there of about three weeks, we made one or two early morning reconnaissances, and opened the road for the Army Commander and the convoys. We also paid a visit to Sharwangi Narai to shepherd our next-door neighbours, " TOCOL," from Torwam to Azman Manza. " Rex," please note !

Things We Want to Know.—Who invented the " grid leak " ? Perhaps Chota knows ?

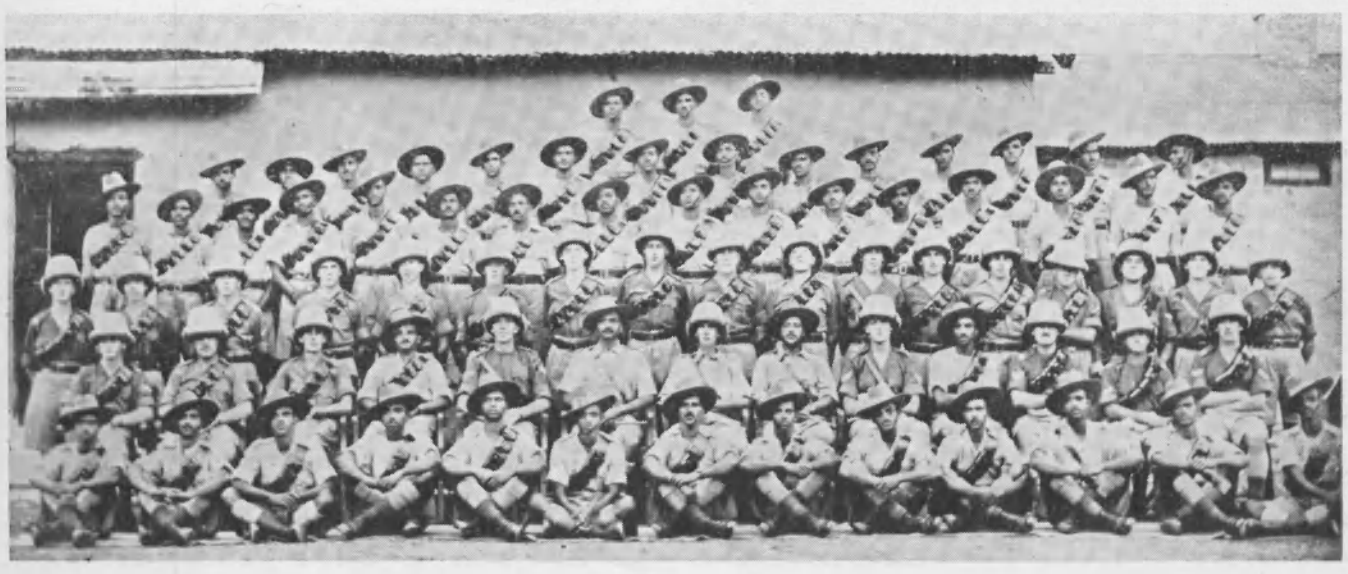
Why did the fitters' illuminations disappear after water fatigues at Azman Manza ?

Arrivals. Lieutenant D. C. Lyall from 1st Indian Divisional Signals ; Lieutenant C. T. Honeybourne from 3rd Indian Divisional Signals ; Sergeant Brown H., Corporal Bennet, Signalmen Wyatt, Woodcock and Mole from H.Q. Section ; Lance Corporal Frake and Signalman Maguire from " TOCOLSIGS." We present the glad hand to all of them, and hope that their sojourn in Razmak will benefit their health. Lest we forget—Signalman Mudge from Blighty leave.

Departures.—Captain Good, our O.C., to ten days' well-earned casual leave ; Lance Sergeant Hart and Lance Corporal Preston to H.Q. Section ; Lance Corporal Mackenzie and Signalman Briggs (79) to " TOCOLSIGS " ; Freddie Fox to " WANASIGS."

Sport.—We played our deadly rivals (H.Q.) at hockey on numerous occasions, although they beat us 3—1.

Horsemanship.—Sergeant Searle spends his early morning on the Maidan with the junior N.C.O.s of the Section, who are now developing a peculiar walk.



Greetings.—A merry Christmas and a happy New Year to the Corps, and, in particular, to all past members of the Section, wherever they may be.

Mail.—George, Catterick. " What about it ? Has the price of stamps gone up ? Earthy."

Mac and Arthur. " What about it ? Still waiting. Ben."

RAZMANIACS.

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

"B" Corps Signals, Karachi.

Unit Club.—Being very proud of our Club, we hasten to let the world know of our activities. Advertise, young man, advertise ! After all, if little birds can do it, so can we ! But little birds advertise pleasantly, you say ! True, very true ; you see, the customer is always right, but what are you going to do about it ?

Our Club was formed as a rendezvous for the members of the Unit and their guests. Of late it had sadly deteriorated, but now a change has come over the dismal ruin that once offended the eye. Through the unselfish, enthusiastic activities and hard work of Sergeant Frampton, Lance Corporal Stokoe and Signalmen Bolton, Nicholson, Derrick and Johnson, who deserve a " hand " for the good work they have carried out in their spare time, the Unit Club is once again the pleasant spot it used to be in "A" Corps Signals time. Literally, it is an oasis in the desert.

The tennis court has been renovated and improved upon tremendously. The miniature golf course of fourteen holes was also in its turn repaired, and now provides a source of amusement and backchat during the evening. As an antidote to a hectic game of table tennis, it is well recommended. The theory that anglers play this game best because of their patience is a matter of opinion. A waggish remark to the effect that for the same reason doctors and nurses should also be very proficient, was met with the usual pomp and ceremony.

On the other side of the Club House, in addition to the excellent lawn (for Karachi) and the flower beds, we have made a quoits " pit " (for the strong men), clock golf course and a tenni-quoit pitch. We hope to have these in full swing—throw or pitch, as you will—by the time that these notes appear in print.

As regards the Club House itself, a good " saf karo," new curtains, etc., make a vast difference. Indoor games, from the classy table tennis to the county sports of England (darts, dominoes and push half-penny) can be indulged in without incurring too much enmity on the part of your friends. There is, of course, as in all the best establishments, a bar. Please do not misunderstand us when we say—" a bar " like that. Reams have, and will still, be written about this intriguing little word. With a capital first letter, it spontaneously brings to our minds that dry-as-dust Temple—shrine of English " Lor." The thought of such dryness literally leads us to another bar, and as " bar " also means " to stop "—ahem !—we stop ! Oh, if only wives were so logical, the lot of mere man, and, in particular, the species of *homo sapiens* that serve His Majesty's Forces (not the barman), would indeed be easier. But there, all this, which you have already remarked upon very acidly, is digressing.

But truly, the Club is definitely the brightest spot in the cantonment and should any of you be staying in, or passing through, Karachi, rest assured of a hearty welcome, should you care to look us up.

At the time of writing, we have several tournaments in full swing—tennis, table tennis and a combined games tournament —the results of which I hope to give you next month. I may add that the ladies, bless them, although very few in number at present are also competing with the men folk, and are doing very well. But that is as it should be among friends in these enlightened days of, pardon me, sex equality. To make things much more interesting in the Club competitions, we need more lady members. You know, ladies, we simply adore being trounced by the fair sex. " For how can man die better than by facing fearful odds," or words to that effect. Please do not misunderstand the " fearful " part of that quotation, will you ?

By the way, if you do not like this, write to *John Bull* about it ; it will help recruiting—perhaps. We cater for everybody's tastes. A quiet drink in the cool of the evening, a spot of tennis or a game of bridge. The only item we deplore the lack of is a swimming pool, but one never knows, does two ?

RUSTY.

"O" Section, Bannu.

Time flies, but we still go on with a contented spirit in the knowledge that we are a spoke in the wheel of Waziristan Operations, 1937, and probably ——. No, but we still have hopes of being back in Karachi once more for Christmas.

There is really not much to write about from this sun-baked area, except that work and sport seem to mingle well when time permits. Work remains about the same and traffic averages are steady.

We have had the usual change round in personnel, and those who have returned from the forward areas look very red and healthy. The tales of sniping have been exaggerated in some cases. We doubt whether our artist is quite correct in regard to Ipi's automatic sniper rifle, which works by personal magnetism. We think that the magnetised brand known as M.B. is sometimes too strong.

The weather has gradually become cooler, and at night the necessity of a second blanket has become pronounced. We oft-times wonder if our old soldier came from Ireland or Iceland ; cold showers at reveille do not seem to worry him. We are very pleased that these are not included in the daily routine of duties. We notice that several of his office relief are adopting this cold procedure. Well done, you he-men ! You can have it. Notwithstanding the change in weather, we notice that several of our Serpentinites are still adorning the swimming baths with their presence. It is a pity that India's Journals do not cater for a Bathing Beau Contest, as there are some beautiful figures to be seen at the pool. What with Venus Fairclough and Marlene Spall, the contest would be very interesting, especially now that Cary Burrows considers himself the cave man of the Section. Look out, Boris Feather !

Congratulations.—To U/Lance Corporals Evans and Bracken on their first step on the ladder. Remember Napoleon's reference to Field-Marshal's batons and haversacks.

Farewell.—To our departed Company Commander, Major Dent, and to Mrs. Dent, we say *bon voyage*, with the Section's best wishes for his speedy recovery to good health. Good luck, sir !

Agony.—Now listen, you married folk. The D.C.M.A. is the District Controller of Married Areas. I knew a few provost chaps who had that job and done it well. Shades of Busty !

Things We Would Like to Know.—When did Norwich City win the Shove-halfpenny Shield ? Ask Varmer Davy.

Why a certain person with a few years more to do in this sunny clime keeps reading the shipping column ?

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

November, 1937.

Greetings.—We extend our heartiest greetings and very best wishes for the year 1938 to all members and past members of the Corps.

General.—The most important item of general interest is, what the troops are pleased to term, the " BIG DIG." Our readers' thoughts, especially those who remember the big digs of Catterick and Bulford, will probably turn to sports grounds, etc., but we happen to have plenty of those, so perish the thought. Our " dig " was a legacy from the Earthquake Demolition Squad, who did their job in the indifferent manner usual to their kind. leaving us to hold the baby, which consisted of piles of bricks and the remains of buildings. In fact, it had the appearance of a Corporation refuse tip, and our job is to clear it all up, and make our lines fit for heroes to live in. At first the task seemed rather hopeless, but after four weeks of steady going, the improvement is very noticeable, and before long we hope to be able to rein back and view the results of our labours with great satisfaction.

Heartiest congratulations to our athletic team who, at very short notice, and with very little training, turned out and won the District Inter-Company Athletic Cup by a very comfortable margin.

Arrivals and Departures.—Lance Corporal Pearce H. has arrived from Zhob Signal Section, and Signalman Crellin (Fighting Farrier) has joined from S.T.C., Jubbulpore. We trust that their stay in the Unit will be a very happy one.

Our second repatriation party, which left here on 31st October, comprised the following: C.Q.M.S. Wall and family, Corporal West, Signalmen Costin, Coombs, Smith, and, last but not least, C.S.M. Hebberd, who, having to leave at such a short notice, was deprived of a final " grip." Tough luck, sir! Visitors at Brighton are very plentiful, so there is no reason or excuse for getting out of practice.

Entertainments.—On 30th October, a triangular tournament was held in the Corporals' Room as a farewell gesture to the Blighty draft. The evening commenced with the usual pretence of indoor games, but soon the wine flowed freely, and before long the games were parked and everybody got down to more serious business. A very enjoyable evening was spent by all. It is a great pity thar we cannot have these farewell parties more frequently.

Personal.—" Best wishes for a happy New Year, Chota."

NIC.

No. 1 Company.

Reconstruction.—The Unit has joined the happy band of reconstruction workers of Quetta, pulling down old buildings, digging up foundations, and levelling the ground preparatory to the construction of " earthquake-proof " buildings. We wonder if we shall get to that stage. As far as we can make out, there is only one individual who is really happy about all this, namely, Sub-Conductor Simms; he really needs this kind of training.

Athletics.—The athletic team broke a ten-year record spell by winning the Baldist Cup. This success was due to the keenness shown by all concerned. Special mention should be made of the efforts of Corporal " Bertie " Hollingshead, better known as " Plunging Bertie," under whose watchful eye the competitors were duly trained. " Trainer Bertie "—to add to his list of honours—attributed our success to " lack of confounded confusion," so I shall beg him to write an article next month on how to train a team by lecturing them on the word " Confusion."

Departures.—The Company missed their " Shepherd " (C.S.M. Hebberd), who left the fold very suddenly and quietly a few days ago, just reaching the boat before the gangway was pulled up. I bet Alf and Sydney were surprised. Our best wishes go with you, sir, and do not forget to find some recruits by telling them what a heavenly place Quetta is.

Au revoir.

L. C. C.

Sergeants' Mess.

No Prizes Offered.—The air mail arrives; three people seem to be very pleased with themselves over something. We hear whispered conversations like: " Where are you getting yours? I know a good place in the Kabari." " No, I'm staying in Karachi for a few days." " What, me have that one, not likely." Well, here is the mystery solved. Arthur (C.Q.M.S. Fuller), Cheri (Sergeant Green) and our Jim (Sergeant Crabtree) have received the news that their wives embarked on 10th November to join them. To the ladies we offer a warm welcome, and hope that your stay in Quetta will be pleasant. Quetta is not a bad place, really; it shakes a bit now and then, but it is not all due to earth tremors. Ask Pop!

Departures.—Two more old soldiers have left the happy band; someone whispered they couldn't take it. On 31st October we said good-bye to " Bricky " (C.Q.M.S. Wall) and family, who left for Karachi to embark on H.T. *Dorsetshire*. The following day District Headquarters decided that " Badgy " (C.S.M. Hebberd) could also proceed by the same boat. I wonder if we will get as excited when our turn comes. The Orderly Room staff must be congratulated on doing the needful with the necessary documents, etc., in record time. Didn't think it was possible, eh, Nappi? Orders were not received until 1.30 p.m., yet documents were completed, farewells taken, and the C.S.M. caught the 5 p.m. mail for Karachi. What is it like being a civvy again? Here is wishing you both all the very best in your new spheres.

To " Pig " (Hyd'bad). " Sidney is steady again, for good this time, he says."

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

12th November.

General.—Extract from *Trimulgherry Razzle*, dated 7th November: " The Signal Troop personnel, looking like explorers from the African jungles, returned to barracks after a strenuous fortnight under canvas at Medchal."

From a technical, social and educational point of view, the camp was a huge success. Officially, the main events appeared to be Signal Exercises, night marches, procedure, conferences, water and feed, grooming, etc., but unofficially, well, that is another story.

This was the first real test for our W/T Detachments and although our Sets cannot be described as the last word in modernity, they stood the terrific pace magnificently, and, apart from a few minor defects, which were repaired on the spot, they were always in working order. The Indian W/T operators are really good, and with a little more experience and increased knowledge of English, they will soon be as capable and trustworthy as their white brothers. Our Sets were carried on pack, in a 30-cwt. lorry, and, as an experiment for quick mobility, in the Troop Ford car.

During Camp, the Chief Signal Officer visited the Troop, and was an interested spectator of the Unit in action during a " withdrawal."

Duck Shooting.—This was a keen sport during Camp, and our C.O., Captain Barker, together with Lieutenant Whistler and Corporals Brennan and Rhodes, endeavoured to kill some of these dainty birds for supper, but, alas, without success. Even with the aid of Lieutenant Whistler's home-made collapsible boat (inventors have made fortunes with less commendable achievements), our sharpshooters persistently returned to Camp with the air of a sweep ticket holder who hears that he has not drawn a horse. Perhaps they lack patience and a professional approach. " How to Kill Wild Ducks," by the Troop Brigade Major, would prove a cheap investment. This publication costs only Rs. 10/-. It is with deep regret that I state that we had no duck for supper! (P.S. from the shooters. The above is not quite true. The " bag " was one duck (with egg), three snipe and two partridge.)

Social Aspects of Camp Life.—It is wonderful to be in bed trying to enjoy your favourite author when thousands of unknown and unwanted flies, beetles and other creeping pests keep tickling your face and creeping down your back.

The scribe, alias Brigade Major, alias remount buster, alias chief bowaji, lobbed up " Scotch Mixture " for breakfast during a night scheme, and was lucky to escape with his life. It appears that my would-be pals were brought up in the Ritz, educated at Oxford and Dartmoor, and merely joined the Army for a holiday. Well, perhaps one day, when they sit on the embankment, they will welcome a plate of my speciality—a combination of fried, scrambled and boiled eggs.

Imagine sitting under a tree, drinking your hard-earned forenoon cup of tea, when a big snake drops on your head and tries to bite your nose. (This really happened.)

To the Scribe, 1st Indian Divisional Signals.—Please note that you omitted this Troop in your October notes about personnel held on command. They say that possession in nine-tenths of the law, but it is different in the Army.

Lighter Vein.—Who said " G.B." means Great Britain? He must have been thinking of his better-half at the time.

Our Bisley expert couldn't open a bully beef tin because he is left-handed and had a right-handed tin opener!

Where do ducks go during Camp time?

Things We Want to Know.—Why do officers' charges walk faster than B.O.R.s' four-legged friends? Is the difference in speed equivalent to the difference in pay?

Which crack golfer received a magnificent handicap?

Departures.—Sergeant Fairman on six months Blighty leave. Lance Sergeant Meldrum to U.K. on S.S. *Tuscania*. The Troop wish you the best of luck in " Civvy Street," and don't forget to support Arbroath F.C.

Competitions (Camp).—The following were the winners of the Camp trophies: GRIPPING, Ex-Boy Brennan; " FAIRY " TALES, Sergeant Page (he had no competition this year); SNARLY OWLETS, Trapper Snowball; TURKISH PUDDING, Corporal Rhodes (and he is still alive); PEGS PICKETTING, again Sergeant Page (hard luck, Sergeant Meldrum, you really tried hard); MIDNIGHT MELODIES, Happy Hyde (Jack Hylton, please note!).

Hockey.—Reference last month's notes. The Troop were beaten 3—1 (after extra time) in the Hockey Final. It was a great game, and we mean to win it next year.

Future.—We go to Brigade Camp on 25th November for three weeks, and after that, Christmas festivities (I hope).

BONNIE DUNDEE.

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Egypt Signals.

No. 3 Company.

December, 1937.

General.—Our first heading is always this, and we delight in telling you about this " Land of Romance " in which we have been training.

For the purpose of the Signal Concentration, which was held during the first two weeks of the month, " J " and " K " Sections combined, owing to shortage of personnel, to make one Brigade Signal Section ; a very successful arrangement, whereby each Section shared the honours. Several Schemes, which worked out very smoothly, were carried out ; the duration of the last was twenty-four hours and was directed by the C.S.O. Traffic was chiefly passed by visual, the Stations being kept clear by wireless and D.R.

" Z " (Tank) Signal Section, and " Y " (Troop) Signal Section, now form part of No. 2 Company, but remain with us for rations, accommodation, etc.

" Y " Section have carried out several Night Schemes with the Cavalry, and we hear that this year the tendency is for the Commanders to use wireless telephony, thus reducing actual registered traffic, yet using the wireless to its fullest advantage. They are thus able to explain to their subordinates each move before giving the actual orders for them to be carried out.

Mechanical Transport.—A few years ago, the saying that " an Army marches on its stomach " would have been true. Now it rides upon the vehicles designed and produced by Lord Nuffield. During the month, the Austins have been replaced by Morris 8-cwt. trucks that are not unlike the Infantry " Bug " truck in their design. We regret to note that these vehicles look like being a Fitters' bugbear, as their ground clearance is only eight inches, due to a steering damper being fitted underneath the front axle. Anyhow, our operators are jumping with joy, as these vehicles give the maximum of comfort, yet enable the Sets to be worked to their utmost efficiency.

Six of the C.D.P. 30-cwts. have been replaced by lorries of the " Leader " type. These are a much more serviceable vehicle for desert work—and I think those who travel in them will not need " Channel Drill."

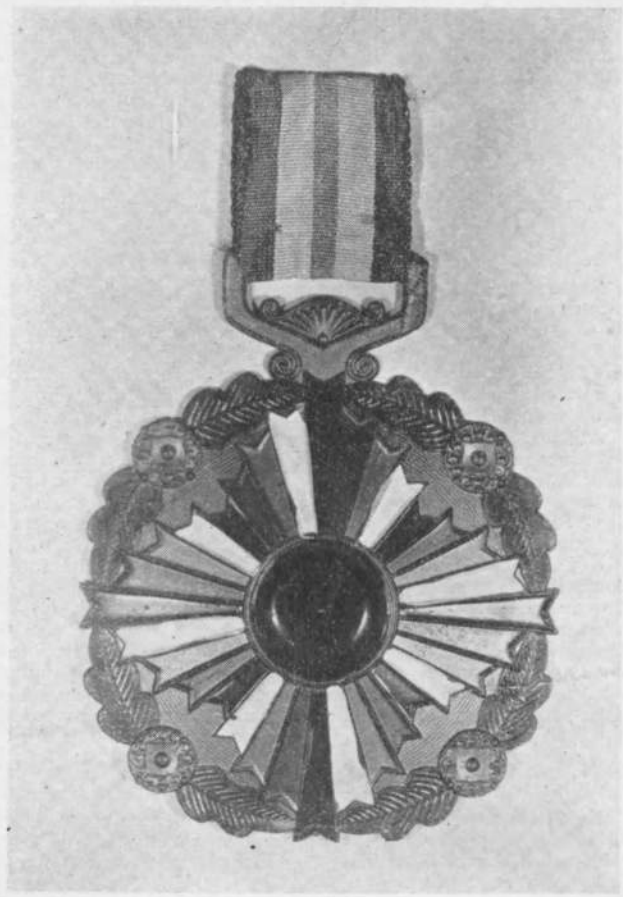
Departures.—On 6th November, Signalman Anderson left us for posting to the Home Establishment. A small, select farewell party was held on the eve of his departure, during the course of which he was presented with a medal in recognition of his efforts to make the name of Egypt Signals one to be feared in the football world of this Garrison. His departing speech, which began as follows, " Ye, whom I have fleeced so often," was very humorous. The Orderly Corporal delivering that well-known and much disliked order, " Five minutes to go," brought the party to a close.

Lance Corporal Rowlands proceeded to the U.K. on 23rd November for a Foreman-of-Signals Course, commencing in January. By his departure we lose one who has done his utmost to place the Unit well to the fore both in rugby and cross-country running. We take this opportunity to wish him all the best, and sincerely hope that his ambitions will be realised.

Boat Wallahs.—Poor lads, they are still with us, and never a move doth " Records " make to ease the laddies aching hearts. They cluster around the Dhobi, Muchi, Dursi, and " Naffy," but from none of these information bureaux can they obtain help. As a last resort, one actually asked the Orderly Room Sergeant. He received that age-old reply, " It is still classed under the heading of things to come." Cease fretting, lads, and sign on. I'll be with you in '40.

Pen Pals Corner.—Signalman Wetherall A. would like to hear from Signalman Ward (Bludge), somewhere in " Ponky."

Signalman Clarke P. is desirous of corresponding with Signalman Cranknell, "A" Corps Signals.



THE "JOURNALEEN" MEDAL
presented to Signalman Anderson on 7th November.

Interlude.—We wonder how many of the " Duff Cooper boys " and " Hore-Belisha boys," now serving in the Home Country, are coming out this trooper. D.A.D.O.S. has treated us fairly, and has given us new vehicles for " Ops." The D.R.s are now clamouring for " Matchless Sq. 4s," so that they can keep up with the column on the move. Blighty wallahs, join us ! It is a grand country ! Further particulars can be had upon application to the scribe.

ERASMAS.

"K" Section.

Greetings.—We wish all our readers a very happy New Year, and trust that ere its end each and everyone's ambitions will have been realised.

Section Training.—The first two weeks of the month were taken up with the Signal Concentration, and the Section was employed in working V/T to the Infantry Signal Sections, whilst the wireless personnel kept the stations clear.

During the latter part of the month distance tests on a Wyndham aerial were carried out. The results were very satisfactory.

Educational.—The results of the October examination are now to hand, and we find that Signalman McHugh (Red) has obtained his " First " for regular attendance. Signalman Hopkinson (Cuthbert) for the same reason was awarded his

" First " in Maths. (with a " D ") and English. Signalman Hunt (our Horace) has obtained his " First " in Maths. and English. We congratulate them all, especially the latter, who, as a candidate on the Fitters' Course, was unable to attend the preliminary instruction.

Courses.—Driver (I.C.) James E. E. (Ticker) passed a Fitter Signals Trade Test and re-mustered to the dizzy height of Signalman. Signalman Hunt has obtained the additional qualification of Fitter Signals.

Departures.—Signalman Anderson P., having completed his tour, left us on 8th November to take up Vocational Course Duties. We wish him the very best of luck.

Sports.—What a Section of athletes we are. We have won the Inter-Section billiards and tennis and completed the hat trick by winning the Inter-Section cross-country (as was foretold) by a very large margin of points.

In Conclusion.—We very kindly request " Records " to send us some D.R.s this trooper. There is no objection to them being musicians.

CAN CARRIER.

" Z " Troop.

Owing to various changes in the formation of this Unit, we are now no longer the famous No. 6 Tank Signal Section, a never-to-be-forgotten name. A certain individual, who shall be nameless, would have us believe that he knew it as No. 5 T.S.S. We have received the more modest designation of " Z " Troop. Of course we use the last letter of the alphabet, because, in spite of everything, we are still the last word in Sections.

Machine Gun Course.—Our instruction in the use of the various Tank M.G.s was proved not to have been in vain, when we fired our Course on 25th and 26th November. Everyone passed sufficiently well to merit no disgrace, but we do think that 113 holes on one target is a bit thick. Don't you, Sergeant ?

Schemes.—We have had several Schemes and Exercises with the 7th Hussars. The 7th are used to us now, and we have become acquainted with the ins and outs of Cavalry working, so that everything is as well as can be expected.

Congratulations.—To our two new brain specialists, Signalmen Sayer and Blenkinsop, who were successful in the local examinations for the First Class Certificate of Education. They know everything between them. All enquiries to be addressed to " Z " Troop.

Boxing.—Gerry is in the news again. Not content with winning his fight in the Unit Novices Competition, and versus the R.T.C., he entered for the Garrison Novices B.C., where he had three hard fights, being beaten in the third fight by a man that had every advantage. Good show, Gerry !

Answer to Speculation.—" K " Section enquired last month why the T.S.S. were growing moustaches. Owing to the responsible nature of our work, and the nervous strain entailed, the Section have grown them in order to provide chewing material in moments of intense concentration.

Thanks.—To Debonair Charles of Aldershot. " Thanks very much for your prompt reply to our appeal in this column."

Shylocks.—To Legge and Roberts, Palestine. " We would like a sample of Palestine stamps. How about obliging ? R. B. Birkett."

We Want to Know.—Why was R. P. issued with a rifle and an infantry waistcoat ?

Late News.—Scarry is a fencing champion !

FREDDIE ACK.

"X" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Cairo.

Important Announcement.—This month we must say good-bye to our honourable name of " G " Troop. The powers that be have decided that henceforth we will be known as " X " Troop. I suppose we shall get used to it, but it reminds me of the nameless witness. We are now officially part of No. 2 Company, Egypt Signals, although we are still under the wing of the 11th Hussars at Helmieh.

General.—This month has been a fairly busy one. The Troop has actively participated in several Cavalry Brigade and Signal Exercises, to say nothing of speech tests, C/W tests, vehicle tests, No. 1 Set tests, aerial tests, and W/T tests to England. The latter, unfortunately, were not ver ' successful.

Departures.—Corporal Reat has left us for that mythical land —England. In this popular N.C.O. we have lost an excellent hockey and tennis player. We wish him every success on his Foreman-of-Signals Course.

Football.—The Troop football team has had an occasional defeat this season. In our first game in the Section League (Egypt Signals), against " J " Section, there was no scoring on either side. We are looking forward to playing the other Sections.

News Flashes.—Angus Watson has deserted the ranks of the cigarette-card collectors and has joined the slightly more superior group of phil—filat—stamp collectors. The stamp men have not recognised him yet. They opine that his geographical and linguistic knowledge is at present inadequate for membership.

Interlude.—A certain gentleman of Welsh extraction (who incidentally claims to be the best-dressed man in the Troop) found two *grass* snakes at Gebel Hamid. The desert must have receded at least thirty miles !

Remark by a well-known 11th Hussar, overheard at a tug-of-war tournament : " Remember, you are not allowed to have your feet on the ground ! "

Heard in the 11th Hussars' garages. The topic began with valves, and led to neon tubes : " But how do they get the different colours ? " " Coloured filaments, of course."

Scraping.—Somebody of importance, and presumably possessed of an eye for colour, has decreed that once again we scrape and repaint the vehicles. This delightful pastime is enjoyed by everyone. The endless variety and interest attached to it, coupled with the opportunities for discussion and debate, makes scraping one of the most sought-after jobs in the Troop. Even Sergeants have a secret liking for it. The instrument used is a delicate and complicated one known as a " scraper," and certain members of the Troop have been known to acquire one secretly (nearly split an infinitive there !) in anticipation of the scraping season.

Radio Club Notes—SU1GT.—Things are beginning to smarten up now, and we are looking forward to some real D.X. in the near future. We are using crystal control now, followed by F.D. and P.A. The whole is supplied by only 350 volts and the results are surprising. S/S from Finland and Blighty are 6-7's. We have decided to alter the aerial and use a bit more power, and then sit back and hope for the W's and VE to roll in. We cannot get many Signals amateurs ; so what about it, you fellows (E.H.S.)

Conclusion.—A rich American travelling in Scotland wandered a good bit off his way. Encountering a native, " I guess I'm lost around here." " Is there a rrewarrd out for ye ? " asked the Scot. " No," said the Yank. " Then ye are still lost."

AMACN.

Palestine Force Signals.

Headquarters. Jerusalem.

7th December, 1937.

We must apologise for the absence of notes during the past two months.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to C.S.M. Tebby, Sergeants Crouch and Miles, Corporals Beardmore, Vigurs, Lane, Vize, Lavender and Weller, together with the other ranks who arrived in Jerusalem with the help of the S.S. *California* on 29th November. We wish them a happy stay in Jerusalem with a complete absence of curfews, armed hold-ups, incendiary bombs and other inconveniences, concerning which they have heard so much from the old hands.

Departures.—On 30th November, per S.S. *California*, Corporal Perfect and several other ranks. In December, per H.T. *Dunera*, C.S.M. Shilton, Sergeant Tennant and several other ranks, all

" Bound for Ol' Blighty's Sho-oar," some to return after leave, but the majority to remain.

Querulous Queries.—What caused " Tonypandy " to " pass out " the night before the boat sailed. The amount of wind expended in coaxing "Auld Lang Syne " from his dilapidated harmonica or the amount expended in froth-blowing ? No prizes offered. Truly a " rum " situation.

Why did Joe Wain come to Jerusalem for consolation ?

DIEHARD.

No. 3 Section.

Now that the Section is composed almost entirely of newcomers to this pleasant land, I am—out of sheer goodness of heart—writing a short " Guide to the Country." As there is hardly anybody left to contradict me, I should get away with it.

Tel-Aviv.—This is *the* Jewish City. It is known as the eighth wonder of the world. The wonder is that it doesn't collapse at any minute. Consists largely of cafes, restaurants and pawnshops, built almost entirely of plaster-of-paris and cardboard. In this place, everybody speaks a different language, so it is absurdly easy to make oneself understood. When purchasing anything, the method is to enter a shop, scowl darkly and make guttural noises in the throat. At the same time gazing intently at the article required. The shopkeeper then scurries away and fetches something which is not needed, at the same time saying, " Esser Piastres." Not knowing what " Esser Piastres " means, the buyer makes a gallant attempt to say " Too much " in Hebrew. As this is invariably unsuccessful, the customer is liable to find himself the owner of an unwanted body-belt, or something.

Everybody pretends to speak Hebrew, with varying degrees of success. I speak Hebrew rather well, I think. Everybody else seems to find it screamingly funny. This is another of the dangers in Tel-Aviv.

Lydda.—This is an Arab village. The population seems to find the manufacture of bombs (old salmon tin, Mark II*) a very engaging pursuit on wet Saturday evenings. On their Sunday morning stroll (for the digestion, you know) these are thrown at any car, railway train, camel, enemy, friend, or stray pi-dog they may happen to take a momentary dislike to. A fine impartiality is observed. In fact, the bomb manufacturer often blows himself up, but this only adds zest to the game. They are just great big children at heart.

Every other Wednesday there is a Peace Meeting. The meeting opens with a discussion on crops, and then goes by easy stages to an argument on the rival potentialities of gelignite and gunpowder. The main idea of these Brotherhood Meetings is to spin things out as long as possible, in order to give the women and children a chance to pinch each others garden and other produce. The meeting is broken up early in case Mohammed Ali wants to stab his brother-in-law on the way home. This would bring the police.

The produce thus acquired is sold to the Jews at a very low price. Naturally. They then plead poverty owing to the failure of the crops—due to the political situation. If lucky, they get a subsidy from the Government. This is spent on gunpowder—or gelignite—a matter of taste,—for more bombs.

There are a lot of other places, and a lot of interesting customs, such as shooting soldiers in the back from a dark alley. But these you will learn in good time, my children. Perhaps I might tell you more, sometime.

Postings.—Far too many for me to write. We hope the newcomers to the Section have a jolly time. Those returning to England are sure to. Of course, they will miss the old place. Think of us, sometimes, when you are alone, fellers !

By the way, there is to be a magnificent concert on the night before they go. Signalman Eastwood is going to sing " Rose Marie." At least, an attempt seems to be indicated. " Busty " Reeves is going to give a " bubble-blowing exhibition." Sergeant Jarvis is giving a monologue (yes, he usually does), entitled " Double up, there ! " and Signalman Pescod will then give his famous imitation of a jackknife. Sergeant Harrison is expected to give a demonstration on " How to lift the elbow," and may, if in the mood, talk about " Pink elephants I have known." As Signalman (Arch-Gripper) Graham is compering the show, we should all be asleep by this time.

Does Anybody Know.—From whence emanated the information that " The Signal for an emergency turn-out will be three loud blasts and a whistle " ? Perhaps he is afraid to tell us what they really said.

Sport.—The Inter-Hut Competitions are completed now, and No. 5 Hut eventually won. They won the football and the pass-ball. And then we found a three-wheeled lorry, a water tank and an elephant cage (or was it supposed to be a plough ?) on the hockey field early one morning, so there was not much left for anybody else to win. Nevertheless, it was a good show on their part. You ask them !

It was most unfortunate that the Coronation Cup should have escaped. The referee didn't. And talking of referees, is the rumour that Signalman Cruden has put in an application to transfer to the Wiltshire Regiment well founded ?

Work.—The former members of this Section will probably be interested and astounded to know the amount of traffic that passed through the Signal Office during the last six months. Here are the figures : D.R.L.S., 44,494 packages ; messages, 12,206. This only goes to show that we are not out here for our health, which is, perhaps, just as well.

CHIB.

No. 4 Section, Haifa.

1st December, 1937.

General.—There is a real high spot this month—a Fancy Dress Ball—to celebrate a certain " Big Boat." It was an amazing sight, but I will let " Sax " do the announcing.

Hullo, folks ! This is Carmel Camp calling you on the N.B.G. coast-to-coast hook-up, bringing to you a hiccough—sorry, folks !—a programme of hot music and red-hot news, sponsored by the XYZ Corporation of Palestine. This is your favourite announcer, Spike Rafferty, on the air ; the eyes, ears and nose of the Suk. Am I hot or am I hot ?

Flash !—Who is Assis ? What does he do ? Answers to those questions will appear in the hot scandal column of to-morrow's issue of the XYZ *Times*.

What is the difference between a galvanised inner-tube and a vulcanised inner-tube ? Answer that, you wise D.R. guys !

Who is the latest rage on Fifth Avenue ? What well-known sugar-daddies are buying her Rolls Royces and/or diamond rings ? Have you seen the new Flower Show at Carmel View Hotel ? Have you ever chased a beagle, if not, why not ? Here is your old Buddy, Spike, and is his face red, and is he pop-eyed through looking at that.gorgeous figure of the toast of Broadway ? Strip teasers, fan dancers, Trixies, Maries, haven't a thing on Vicky Hollins—what a motion ! what a hip-sway ! and how ! ! Do you follow me, boys—what ! You're right ahead of me ! Boy, what a bottle party this is, and what a load of dizzy dames there are here. Can you imagine a set of young bloods from the Signals, R.A.F., R.A.S.C., Essex, Hampshires and East Yorks. loose here ? Hold it everybody, and I will give you the low-down on a few of those present to-night : Professor Adolfus Walzki, bicyclologist, on " Why babies are black in Africa " ; the Mukhtar of Mukhtar Mukhtar ; Raffles, just his natural self ; Captain Phyllis Smith of the Girl Guides ; Dendy and Company, roadbuilders ; and Pop Eye. And now, folks, I turn the party over to you. Let her go, boys !

Boats.—The following embarked on S.S. *California* on 30th November, 1937, for U.K. leave, prior to a normal tour : Corporal Potts J., Lance Corporal Callan J. L., Signalmen Acock K., Chamberlain H. and McKay J.

The following leave us for home on H.T. *Dunera*, sailing from Alexandria on 4th December, 1937 : Corporals Allen C., Macey A. W. and Taylor E., Lance Corporals Wright W. A. and Fill W. E., Signalmen Barry M., Frazer M., Griffiths, Menzies R., Oates J., Smith H. T., Smith J. L., Terry A., Thewlis J., Watkins A. and Wilkins R., and Driver Leigh T.

Hospital.—" Gunner " Howitt is now well on the road to recovery, and we all await his smiling face. Signalman Fortune is also indisposed, and has a wonderful beard !

Facta Non Verba.—I think that we ought to congratulate Signalman Merritt S. on completing 25,000 miles of D.R.L.S. runs this year.

MERCURIOUS.

Malta Signal Section.

Command Signal Office, Valletta, Malta.

7th December, 1937.

General.—Troopships are now a common sight in the Grand Harbour, and as the season progresses, changes appear in the faces around us. As previously reported, two of our number have left us for the United Kingdom. Now, we are able to report some of the incoming guests. November saw the arrival of Lieutenant and Mrs. T. de B. Miller, followed closely by Lance Corporal Luscombe. To them we extend a hearty greeting and trust that they may soon feel at home in Malta, and will enjoy their stay to the full. Signalman Grace D. sailed for the United Kingdom on 7th December, after completing four years on the Island. We wish him good luck in his new Unit.

Certain of our members gaze thoughtfully at these troop carriers, but console themselves with the thought that there are others to come.

Local Headlines.—The opinion of the Malta Government is that taxis should have meters, whereas the owners think otherwise. As a result of conflicting opinions on the subject, there was a strike of car owners, and, in consequence, cars were unobtainable. Imagine the state of mind of troops proceeding to work in hired cars complete with police escorts. We are able to record that no naughty pickets found it necessary to impede the progress of our Empire builders.

Pay Sport.—On a recent pay day, an enquiry was submitted to our office staff regarding the time of pay. The reply came back with promptitude, "Kick off at 3.15!" As the enquirer was beyond the age of sport, we presume he did not compete.

Animal Training.—According to the local press, dogs perform labours unheard of, even in Belgium. The headline read: "Greyhound brings ship to Malta." Some dog!

Congratulations.—To Sergeant Cutler E. on gaining three subjects towards that elusive "First." Good hunting when you tackle the fourth again, Ted!

Courses.—As a result of a recent Command Gas Course, we now have two fully-fledged gas experts in Sergeant Williams ("Q.I.") and Corporal Rowe ("D"). No doubt our meters will now be read with more regularity!

In Conclusion.—We regret our lack of foresight in failing to extend Christmas greetings to Units of the Corps in time for publication. This Section extends to all Regular and affiliated Units of the Corps very best wishes for a successful and happy New Year.

Sport.—We are playing four games of hockey and soccer each week and have met with fair success. We hope some of the new arrivals will help to strengthen our teams.

SKIP.

Malaya Command Signal Company.

October.

Hello, everyone! Here is the nerve centre of the Empire again bringing you our latest news and scandal.

Every day the hum of high-powered machinery can be heard pervading the building; all Singapore is jealous of Digger's new lathe. The old one has been dumped at Changi. Almost any year now, the arrival of the new charging board and converter should enable us to get rid of the pounding monstrosity with us at present.

Signalman Carlson flashed across our horizon a couple of weeks ago in quest of a B.2. He is now squandering the extra cash accruing therefrom.

Dixie gave a very effective demonstration of how not to start an Austin, and fervently hopes that Joe Beckett will not add his hearty laughter to ours.

The linemen are still busy, or so they tell us, and now employ three Chinese death traps as well as the R.A.S.C. lorry in search of the phantom fault. The "C" Sets are still birdlike and chirpy, and the short-wave continues to shatter the ether. The amendments are all up to date, so you see that everyone is at work.

In the midst of all this feverish activity, we have found time for a little hockey. We have won two, drawn two and lost two, with a goal average of 12—12. We hate to admit that most of our stars come from Changi, but we have a few steady triers down here who are not doing too badly.

A football team from the Johore Military Forces paid us a visit last week and fixed us up to the tune of 3—1. Old Malayans will understand how the climate has taken its toll, for even old George Seager is a bit rocky now, while old hands like Digger and Farley are properly on their last legs.

A motor-mower specially adapted for cross-country and jungle work has arrived to deal with the new sports pitch, and the two S's find it nearly a whole time job keeping down the "lalang."

As far as the rest of the day's work is concerned, there is very little to report. The beer consumption remains steady; the "lime juicers" of the Company are holding out against temptation. Since the arrival of the billiard table, loud laughter drifts across the jungle as the Unit watches Ticky trying to pot the red. He plays snooker now, as there are more of them to aim at. Pip maintains his deadly accuracy at the dart board, but he is sadly handicapped now as his partner is more often than not away. Signalman McDonald must have been out dog-shooting the other day; he now wears a dog's leg on his arm and is seen around the Corporals' Mess.

We are very curious this month and would like to know:

How did Pip come to drop a soldering iron on a $11 radio valve? Why hasn't he had to pay for it?

Does Tandok still admire himself in a mirror as he files?

When the "C" Set was struck by lightning, did James feel like trying to get through on the spare?

Now that a bench grinder has appeared in the I.R.s' Shop, will there be any excuse for not keeping one's nose to it?

Is a Signalman entitled to be addressed as Esquire?

Tailpiece.—This, my dear readers, is definitely my last appearance in WIRE notes from Malaya. I am at the moment very undecided whether to take a trooper or travel in luxury by P. & O. Malaya, watch the School of Signals' notes for a joyful description of Singapore from the outside.

Auf Wiedersehen.

SOAPY.

8th November.

Well, well, well! Singapore, "Queen of the East," on the air again, giving Signals the world over news from this small corner of the Empire. But before doing so, we wish to tender to them our belated heartiest good wishes for Christmas and the New Year, especially to old Malayanites, C.S.M. Finney, Sergeant Watmore, Corporal Pearson and old-timer "Twitch," just to name a few of them.

Arrivals.—Nil, but we are living in hope.

Departures.—Lance Corporal Hudson to U.K. on 20th October, to attend a F-of-S Course at Catterick. The lads of this Company wish him good luck.

By the time that these notes are published, we shall have lost the services of Lance Sergeant Coton. He will be sadly missed, especially in our hockey team, where he was our leading light and an inspiration to the other players. The best of luck, Bill, in your new job, and don't forget to let us see your cheery face now and again.

Courses.—Our N.C.O. i/c M.T. leaves every morning, complete with full marching order, to attend a Gas Course at Tanglin Barracks, and every night he can be seen in a corner of the Corporals' Mess with his "Defence Against Gas" and notes. It is no wonder that I noticed a few grey hairs this morning. We will be watching Command Orders closely for a "Q" from you, Dix!

Tennis.—We found six candidates for the Centre Court in connection with the Garrison Tournament, but the form shown

by our stalwarts was not quite up to standard, and we had to retire early. What happened, Changi? We thought that you had some stars. Why not leave it to Alexandra.

Football.—The season is really over, but we still maintain a team and play a few friendly fixtures. The last two were against H.M.S. *Terror* (old crew), and the Details, 1st Battalion, Middlesex Regiment. We lost to the former by 2—1, thanks to Signalman (Hydrometer) Peck, who forgot which way he was playing and scored for the Terror. The latter we won by the only goal of the match; it was scored by that old N.F.W. warrior.

Hockey.—Still going strong with the aid of four Changi players, but we cannot actually boast, because, up to the time of going to press, our goals for and against are about equal, and if playing in a league we should be centrally situated.

Out-Station News and Moves.—Signalman Barrett wended his weary way from Changi to Fort Canning in order to assist our Victor in answering the phone. Signalman Chatfield was Barrett's relief in the Changi office, and for him it was a case of "out of the frying pan into the fire." Our "Slim" left the fold at Alexandra for duty at Pulau Brani. At least he calls it duty, but others are inclined to call it a rest cure. (He needs it after all the fan mail he receives and answers.)

G.O.C.'s Inspection.—This took place on 3rd November. For the past week there has been a bevy of paint brush wielders and brass polishers around the Signal Centre. We hope that Signals kept up the good reputation that they hold in Malayan circles. On the parade we mustered twenty files, and other Units were surprised at seeing so many Signals in Malaya. They were recruited from Changi, Fort Canning, Pulau Brani and Blakang Mati. Now it is over for another year, and Mr. Farley was heard to remark that it was his last one in Malaya, thank goodness.

Conclusion.—Cheerio, everybody! X314 next full moon.

OULD IRELAND '17.

Changi Detachment.

A happy New Year to all our readers! Although we have no front page news this month, no doubt the following will interest many former and present members of the Corps.

Discharge.—The whole Unit join in wishing Lance Sergeant Coton the very best of good luck in his new sphere of life. He recently left the fold (leave pending) to take up civil employment at His Majesty's Naval Base, Singapore, and now comes under the "Tuan" category. Well, Mr. (ahem) Coton, you have opened up another chapter in your eventful book of life, and we all sincerely hope the pages will spell success. Good luck and best wishes, Bill, from all those left behind, and who are still vainly striving to find the threads of a potential career. Exit Sergeant (Long-wave) Coton. Roll on the drums! Let the trumpet blast; and all join in, softly signing "Begone, dull care."

Someone has just discovered that he possesses a hidden talent for poetry. By the way, it is not T.B.C. this time!

When in an earth test, the galvo. kicks,
Along in a hurry comes C.Q.M.S. Nix;
He cudgels his brains and he scratches his head
Until all the linemen wish they were dead.
But with magical touch and furrowed brow
He soon makes that recalcitrant earth fault bow.
In fact, he conjures it clean away,
Is it luck or skill? I dare not say!

G.O.C.'s Inspection.—The Company paraded at full strength on the Padang at Alexandra for this inspection. One of "Seng Hups Midnight Specials" had been commandeered to convey the Changi Signal Detachment to the scene of the parade. After a hectic nightmare ride, we arrived intact, and added that "final touch" of smartness to the parade. (Growls from Alex.)

Our Brave, Fearless Linemen.—Signalman (Duty Lineman) Buck was recently asked to investigate why a certain telephone bell refused to ring in the local power station. After four hours had elapsed, one of his workmates, feeling rather perturbed over "B's" protracted absence, set off in pursuit. Arriving at the destination, he found no signs of any activity. That, in itself, wasn't unusual, but the place was apparently deserted. Suspecting foul play (Chinese pirates robbing Signalman Buck), he diligently searched around for possible clues. Suddenly he was electrified to hear a low, soft moan. Fearfully he glanced around the deserted room. It came again, this time louder, and sounded suspiciously like a grunt. Suddenly, glancing up, he espied, high up on the iron girders supporting the roof, a diminutive figure clinging precariously to a wooden rafter.

"Ahoy, there! Who are you, and what are you doing up there?"

"I'm the blooming Duty Lineman, and I'm trying to trace this 'ere circuit out; the telephone bell won't ring."

Boxing.—Signalman (Stick 'em up) Goldfinch has just returned from Tanglin, where he has been attempting to add fresh laurels to his already long list of wins. Unfortunately, his opponent had the advantage of reach and height. Goldfinch, saved by the bell in the first round, fought back gamely in the following two rounds, and put up a good show of pluck and grit against great odds. Well done, Goldfinch! A good loser is a credit to the Corps. But, oh, those eyes! Two lovely black eyes! And, oh, that nose! Still, he must be compensated by the fact that the younger set of Changi will be proud of their battle-scarred hero now. (Ex-"G" man Strong takes a back seat, reluctantly.)

We hear on good authority that Signalman Chatfield now furtively sports a cigarette holder in the approved manner. We understand that this is due to the good influence of a very important member of the Company.

TANDOK.

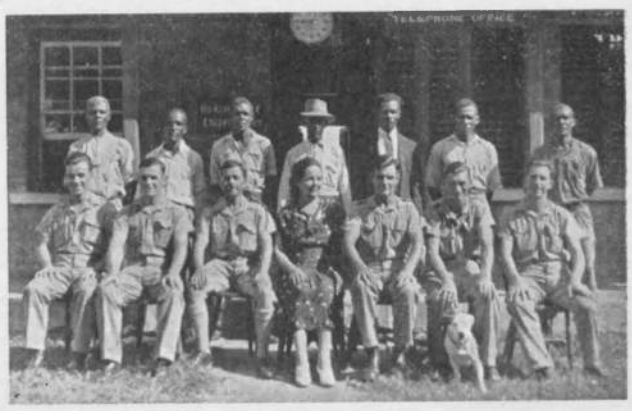
Jamaica Signal Section.

General.—The "high light" in our news this month is the arrival of the reliefs for our Section. They are C.Q.M.S. Greenfield (F-of-S) from 1st Divisional Signals, Corporal Hatton T. from "A" Corps Signals, and Signalman Hardy C. from Spike Island. To these new arrivals we extend a hearty welcome and hope that their stay in Jamaica will be a pleasant one.

Frenzied activity is the keynote of Q.M.S. White (F-of-S), Corporal Webb and Signalman Robson's existence as they prepare to leave. This was even more in evidence than usual, as word came through on Tuesday that they would be sailing on Wednesday instead of Thursday, as previously arranged. I think they will manage to be present on board when the *Oropesa* steams out of Kingston. We wish them a pleasant trip and congenial Stations.

Section Photograph.—This was taken outside the Exchange. It shows the Signal Section, prior to the arrival of the new members, and also Mrs. Harris, our switchboard operator, and the native linemen.

Reading from left to right: (front row) Signalman McDonald (I.M.T.), Lance Corporal Bracegirdle, Q.M.S. White (F-of-S), Mrs. Harris, Corporal Webb, Signalmen Robson and Norbury; (back row) Native linemen and labourers.



Annual Musketry.—The Signal Section and Royal Engineers fired their Annual Course on Monday, 18th October. This proved to be the usual spell of perspiring, etc., as the rifle ranges are somewhat sunbaked. The result, as far as the Signal Section was concerned, was satisfactory. The top score was registered by Signalman McDonald. This was a close finish as only three points separated his result from that of Corporal Webb.

ELGIN.

THE TERRITORIALS AND SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

The London Corps Signals, T.A. and Affiliated Supplementary Reserve Units.

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

14th December, 1937.

General.—Our fourteen classes of instruction are still going strong, and the roll of recruits is being added to almost daily. We are not very far short of our new Establishment of 400, and, if this rate of progress is maintained, we should reach that number about next April. We suppose that the powers that be will then inform us that our new Establishment has been increased to a 1,000 or so. Still, we're good !

Unveiling of Statue to Earl Haig.—Captain S. A. W. Philcox and C.S.M. Allardyce W. represented this Unit at the unveiling ceremony on 10th November.

Armistice Day.—Lieutenant P. R. Mann and eight other ranks attended the ceremony at the London Troops Memorial at the Royal Exchange.

Armistice Church Parade.—On Sunday morning, 14th November, led by the band of the Royal Engineers, the London Division, we moved from Headquarters and marched along various roads in the Putney district before entering the Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Putney. Here we listened to a very interesting sermon by the Rev. H. C. Kemp, A.K.C., Hon. C.F., Vicar of Putney. After the Service, we paraded again, and were inspected by our Hon. Colonel, Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D. Apart from representative detachments of the London Corps Signals Cadet Company, 47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals, O.C.A., 25th (London) Cyclists O.C.A., Fulham and Putney Division, British Red Cross Society and British Legion, there was a very large attendance of our own two Units. Out of a combined strength of approximately 500, the total T.A. and S.R. on parade was 420. After the inspection, we moved off to Fulham House. Colonel Vigers took the salute near the south side of Putney Bridge, and our C.O., Lieutenant -Colonel C. L. H. Humphreys, T.D., took it as we were nearing home. Companies then proceeded to pay out annual bounties to those who had earned them.

Sergeants' Mess.—Yet again we have to report the departure of another one from our midst. This time, however, it is not such a tragic wrench as those we have described recently. Nevertheless, we are sorry to lose him. Who ? Why, " Sailor," of course. " Sailor " who ? " Sailor " Haines—who else could it be ? Yes, ex-Acting C.S.M. Haines, P.S.I., has returned to "A" Corps, and, we understand, is due to sail for the " burning sands " early in the New Year. The S.R., to whom he was attached as P.S.I., will miss him very much. Both T.A. and S.R. members wish him all he wishes himself and then some. We hope, however, that Sergeant Todman A. E., who has joined us from "A" Corps Signals, to take " Sailor's " place, will settle down all happy and comfy-like in his new job. We take this opportunity of recording a very hearty welcome to Sergeant Todman and to Sergeant " Jock " Rankin (now T.A.), who came to us from the Northern Ireland Signals. Now we come to think of it, we have never mentioned that Sergeant Davis H. C. joined our " staff " on the—oh, a long time ago, from 1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi. We thought we had better tell you of the whereabouts of these fellows in case anyone wanted to know.

On Saturday, 27th November, we held our Mess Dinner and Dance. After dinner a very jolly evening's dance was thoroughly enjoyed by all. How are your Coronation feet, Dave ? " Plonk, plonk, plonk, the boys are dancing," as the old song nearly has it.

Social.—The Armistice Ball was exceptionally well attended, and everyone (we hope) spent a really jolly evening.

Football.—Our team is still keeping well to the top of the League table. We have only lost one match this year, and have two games in hand. Nice work.

Tailpiece.—Owing to our ever-increasing numbers, we have been obliged to hire a hall for the overflow from Headquarters. This particular place is known as Cobb Hall. One of the lads, who was late in arriving at Headquarters, missed the " coach " and so had to walk. On his way he stopped a man, who apparently had seen service, and said to him, " Do you know where Cobb 'all is, mate ? " " Cobb 'all," said the man, " why, that's in —— Afghanistan, aint it ? "

EFFEMMA.

The London Corps Signals Cadet Company.

The London Corps Signals Cadet Company looks ahead with confidence. The past year has been one of great activity, consolidation and improvement. Only the twin bogeys of finance and shortness of officers worry this Unit at all, otherwise no other clouds mar its horizon.

The annual inspection, held recently, was a great success. Captain H. C. B. Rogers, the Adjutant at Fulham House, was the Inspecting Officer. He paid eulogistic tribute to the Cadets, and of the value they were to their parent Unit. Accompanying him was the Hon. W. W. Astor, M.P., one of the most valued supporters and friends of this Cadet Company. Both spoke words of encouragement and praise, and expressed their hopes for the continued success and progress of the 1st West London Cadet Corps, of which this Company forms part. All the officers were on parade : Cadet-Major E. G. Paulus, Commanding Officer ; Cadet-Major A. Williams ; Cadet-Captain R. S. Pitt-Kethley, Cadet-Adjutant ; and Messrs. Gold and Forster.

It is hoped to form a Scottish Section in the New Year. This will be clad in diced glengarries, cut-away tunics, web belts, and tartan trews. The whole Unit will, however, receive Signal technical instruction, as before, through the kind co-operation of our parent Unit, the London Corps Signals, T.A., who are always ready to help us in every conceivable way.

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, 56, Regency Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

The Annual Dinner was held at Headquarters on Saturday, 11th December. There was a record attendance, and the Drill Hall presented a unique appearance when the tables were laid and the decorations completed.

Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel G. C. Wickins, T.D., presided for the Honorary Colonel, Colonel O. W. Nicholson, who just before the date was prevented from attending. Major-General Sir Frederick Pile, Bt., D.S.O., M.C., Commander of the 1st Anti-Aircraft Division, responded for the guests ; this toast was ably and humorously proposed by Major G. J. Morley Peel, T.D. The General, in a most interesting speech, paid a high compliment to the work which the Unit was carrying out for anti-aircraft defence, and referred to his visit to Headquarters on the first day of his command. According to the report in the *Times*, the Territorial Army had at one stride jumped to the first line of defence, and the 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals was the bedrock on which that line rested.

Colonel O. P. Edgcumbe, M.C., Chief Signal Officer, Eastern Command, proposed the toast of " The Unit," and congratulated the Commanding Officer on his recent promotion to Brevet-Colonel. He had followed with much interest the special technical work carried out by the Anti-Aircraft Signals during the year, and had inspected them in camp. Colonel Edgcumbe mentioned the close contact maintained by the Unit with the Post Office, and expressed his appreciation of its growth and work.

Colonel J. Waley Cohen, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., referred to his long association with the Commanding Officer, and stressed the value of utilising Post Office equipment for air defence signalling apparatus. His continued and active interest over many years in the Unit's activities is much appreciated.

The Commanding Officer reviewed the work during the past year, and stated that the experimental work which had been carried out was a definite step in the direction of co-ordinating the signalling arrangements for Anti-Aircraft Units. The Establishment had been practically doubled, but recruiting had proceeded steadily, and once again the Unit was approaching full strength.

The Anti-Aircraft Signals had been successful in winning the "Hansford" Cup, presented by Colonel B. Hansford, C.B., for competition among Units of the 1st Anti-Aircraft Division. The competition had been arranged for the first time this year, and the Anti-Aircraft Signals had the honour of being the first holders, having obtained the highest percentage attendance at camp in relation to strength. Additional miniature Cups were given by Dr. Hart, who is now so well known to all at Regency Street, as a part of his gift to the Unit of a Recruits' Cup. The Operating Sections would now also have a trophy for competition, as the Wireless Old Comrades, Royal Flying Corps, had been good enough to present a Shield for competition.

A further development is the formation of "D" Company of the 1st West London Cadet Battalion. The arrangements for the Cadets were explained, and Cadet Captain R. S. Pitt Kethley, who will be in charge of the Company, was present with the first Cadet, who appeared on the stage to the accompaniment of loud applause. The Cadets will be dressed in Scottish uniform, and recruits will be welcomed at Headquarters on Tuesday evenings from 7.30 p.m.

The Commanding Officer stressed the need for maintaining the voluntary system for defence as exemplified by the Territorial Army, and pointed out the value of the work which was being done in order to ensure national security.

Major-General Sir Frederick A. Pile, Bt., D.S.O., M.C., presented the Unit Cups and Trophies, but he insisted that Dr. Hart should present his own Cup and miniatures. Colonel B. Hansford, C.B., presented the "Hansford" Cup to the Unit, and in a speech describing the activities of the Territorial Army, voiced his hope that the competition would still further encourage recruiting. He congratulated the Signals on winning the Cup for the first time, and on the work the Unit was doing, adding his wish for the prosperity of all ranks in the coming year.

An excellent concert which followed was arranged by the Social Committee, with Major A. Hemsley, T.D., in charge. Songs, impersonations, sketches and conjuring were greeted enthusiastically by the audience. The *piece de resistance* for local colour was a sketch, "Messing About," an original item written by 2nd Lieutenant Blair. Most of the Unit officers took part, and the thinly-veiled references to members of the Unit from the C.O. to the last-joined recruit were received with much applause. Clever cameo sketches by the "Trumps" party terminated what was voted as the most successful social function ever held at these Headquarters.

We were delighted to welcome our guests, among whom space permits us to mention: Major-General Sir Frederick A. Pile, Bt., D.S.O., M.C., Brigadiers N. M. McLeod, D.S.O., M.C., G. G. Rawson, M.C., and L. D. Hicks, O.B.E., M.C., Colonels F. H. Kempe, M.C. (Regional Director, London Postal Region), B. Hansford, C.B., O. P. Edgcumbe, M.C., K. M. Loch, M.C., J. Waley Cohen, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., M. W. Emley, O.B.E., T.D., H. Carter, T.D., B.SC., M.I.E.E., F. Reid, M.C., T.D., and W. E. Rayner, T.D., Air-Commodore C. W. Nutting, O.B.E., D.S.O., Lieutenant-Colonel H. Leigh, A.M.I.MECH.E., Majors R. C. Reynolds, M.C., and H. N. Brown, Captains J. C. Rowe and W. S. Wasey, B. O. Anson, Esq., M.I.M.E. (Assistant Engineer-in-Chief, P.O.), Doctor Morris V. Hart, Messrs. Allen, Arnold, Fuller, Green, Hollow, Holliday, Ryan, Taylor, Topp, Weech, Woods, Wylie and Winterbourne, and C.S.M. Hopkins, M.B.E.

2nd Cavalry Signals (Middlesex Yeomanry).

Chelsea, London, S.W.3.

General.—There is very little of interest to write about this month. Our regular scribe, unfortunately, has been on the sick list and unable to contribute his usual offering. He assures me that he will be fit in a day or so, and will be able to say his piece next month. He will have, or should have, no shortage of notes then, what with Christmas and weddings (?) to write about. Maybe these thoughts were the cause of his transfer to the sick list! I'll say no more on the subject at present. I saw him with his sparring partner on Monday night, and I am usually a careful mortal.

Training.—This is in full swing, but it is a pity that so few can manage to appear at Headquarters. The last two or three drill nights have been very quiet. The only reason that I can ascribe to this state of affairs is that Christmas is near, and perhaps the majority are spending their evenings at home waiting for Santa to appear with his answer to their prayers.

Seriously, there is no reason why Headquarters should not be full every drill night. The training programmes cater for all tastes, and instructors are only too eager to impart their wide knowledge.

Week-end wireless training commences in January, so we should see a great improvement in the attendance figures. And what about the Travelling Allowance? One cannot qualify for that or the "bobs" for extra drills by staying at home—or can one?

Recruiting.—This is going great guns, and we are obtaining a very good type of man. There are quite a lot on the "waiting list," eager to be absorbed into the Regiment. Those under training are keen, and are coming along in fine style. If they can keep it up, we shall soon find our Recruits' Class sadly depleted.

Tailpiece.—Before closing, there is just one other thing. If recruiting for the ranks of WIRE members was as rapid as recruiting for the Regiment, we could soon form a Signals Association Branch of our very own. What about it, present members?

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B. E. H.

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42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Manchester.

Apology.—We must apologise for the absence of notes in the last few issues, and, as we do not intend to make any excuses (Peg-leg having had his cards duly stamped), on with the work.

Officers.—Colonel W. S. Ashley has now said good-bye to us, after commanding the Unit for five years. It is with much regret that we report this, as he had made himself a most popular C.O. with every officer and man, but, unfortunately, all good things come to an end, and so, sir, we take this opportunity of wishing you all the best for the future. We also tender our heartiest congratulations to Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Delaney on assuming command; we know that our new C.O. will continue with the same interest and success, and we wish him a very successful command.

Farewell Dinner.—Colonel W. S. Ashley was entertained at a dinner given in his honour by the officers of his Unit at Headquarters on 12th November. After dinner, the Colonel inspected the Colour Party, and gave them his blessing. We duly saw Colonel Ashley off in the usual 42nd Divisional Signals manner at the end of the evening.

Prize Distribution.—Our annual prize distribution was held on 30th October, when Lieutenant-General Sir Henry C. Jackson, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. (C.-in-C., Western Command), kindly presented the prizes. Colonel Ashley (Commanding Officer) reviewed the progress and training of the Unit during the past year. In his report he announced that permission had been granted to recruit twenty per cent. above the Establishment. Our present strength is 28 officers and 460 other ranks. The Establishment is 23 officers and 390 other ranks. Lieutenant-General Sir Henry C. Jackson, before presenting the prizes, congratulated the Unit on being over strength; he said that it was not often that he was able to make a speech without having to make an appeal for recruits. After the presentation, refreshments were served and the Hall cleared for dancing. Everyone voted it the best prize distribution that has been held for many years.

[Photo : The Northern Press Photo Agency.

Captain and Mrs. McNair leaving St. Peter's Church, Prestbury.

[Photo : The Northern Press Photo Agency.

Towing the Bridal Car.

[Photo : The Northern Press Photo Agency.

SAYING GOODBYE.

Promotion.—We congratulate Major E. R. Sutton and Captain E. J. S. Brookes on their recent promotions.

Training.—An intensive Course of Individual Training for both officers and men began on 1st November. Included is an Advanced Course in wireless training for the officers; and on Sunday, special operators' classes have been held. At the present time, our Drill Hall is like Broadcasting House—there is so much going on.

Ride.—On Sunday, 28th November, an Officers' Ride was held, starting from the R.A.S.C. Barracks, Manchester. Seven officers rode to the Stamford Arms, Dunham Massey, where they met Lieutenant-Colonel Delaney, Colonel Ashley and Major Sutton, and had lunch. (The meal was not taken standing at the mantelpiece.)

R.A.F. Co-operation.—Captain T. A. H. Lea, M.M., has just returned from a Western Command Senior Officers' Course with the 13th (A.C.) Squadron, R.A.F., at Odiham. Our press agent called on him for an interview, but he is unable to make a statement at present.

Marriage.—On Saturday, 20th November, our Adjutant (Captain A. J. G. McNair, Royal Signals) was married to Miss Daphne Margaret Whitworth, of Adlington, Cheshire, at St. Peter's Church, Prestbury. All the officers of the Unit attended, and, after the ceremony, formed a guard of honour outside the church. The P.S. and members of the Sergeants' Mess towed the bridal car through Prestbury. Afterwards, a reception was held at Macclesfield Town Hall, and, later, the happy couple left for the South of France. We wish them every happiness for the future.

Births.—A daughter has been born to Major and Mrs. H. E. M. Swan. Congratulations from Norton Street. (Major Swan was formerly our Adjutant.)

Agony Column.—Who shouted, " Say good-bye to mother ? "

We understand that " Old Faithful " is having trouble about a pair of borrowed " slacks " ; we are anxiously waiting to see their condition when returned.

It is true that our former C.O. is going in for poetry. We are looking forward to seeing his first effort in print.

Secret Service.—Tells us that we shall be camping in foreign lands again next Whitsun.

Forthcoming Events.—The Ladies' Dinner is to take place at Headquarters on 18th December. We are looking forward to this event, as it is one of the few occasions when the Mess members can show appreciation for their support of the Mess during the year. This event will be fully chronicled in next month's issue.

Gazette.—We welcome 2nd Lieutenant F. P. McKellen on his appointment to this Unit, and hope that he will enjoy his service with us.

Sergeants' Mess.—On Saturday, 11th December, we had our first function of the season—it was a Whist Drive and Hot-Pot Supper. It was very gratifying to see so many of our Mess members present. Many thanks are due to the ladies for contributing to the success of the evening.

Arrivals and Departures.—We extend a hearty welcome to Sergeants Mowatt A., Sharples H. and Birchall J., who recently arrived here for duty as Permanent Staff Instructors. We hope their stay will be a happy one. Best of luck to Sergeant Wooldridge in his new sphere of life. He is now a full-blown " Civvy." To C.Q.M.S.s Greenhall and Coleman we wish every success, and hope that they will not forget their tour with 42nd Divisional Signals.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Sergeant Whittington G. on his promotion to T/C.S.M.

Obituary.—We sincerely regret to report the death of Sergeant Dalby A., one of our oldest and most popular Mess members. He had been ill for some time, but we did not expect him to leave us so tragically. Our sympathies go out to his wife and relatives.

Agony.—To Bram Ji Singbi Rao. " Congratulations."

PUFF AND HUFF.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—Various events have taken place since our last notes were written. On 27th November I was present at the impressive unveiling ceremony at our Unit Headquarters of a Memorial Tablet in memory of our fallen comrades. The oak tablet was beautifully executed, and greater importance attaches to it as it is the work of one of our ex-members. Our Representative Colonel Commandant (Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O.) performed the unveiling ceremony, and the Archdeacon of Exeter Cathedral dedicated it. Wreaths were then laid beneath it by Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C. (C.S.O., Southern Command), and by the Exeter Branch of the Royal Signals O.C.A. The ceremony ended with the sounding of the " Last Post " and " Reveille."

The third Annual Dinner of the Exeter Branch of the O.C.A. then followed, and a very enjoyable time was spent renewing old acquaintances and making new friends. It was a tribute to the comradeship of the " Old Brigade " to see faces from places many miles distant—from Salisbury, Cornwall and Plymouth, to mention a few. The Branch Secretary (Major J. W. Western, O.B.E., T.D.) referred to a letter from a member from far-off Scotland, who was prevented from attending at the last moment. The speakers to the various toasts did much to keep alive the memory of those early days when these friendships were founded.

The officers of No. 3 Company held a most successful dance in their Priory Drill Hall on 10th December. It was voted an excellent evening by everybody.

On the following evening, No. 2 Company held its Annual Dinner at Southampton. I have no information about this function, as copy from that Unit is not yet to hand. The adverse weather conditions unfortunately prevented the attendance of a number of guests residing at a distance.

With regard to the training side of our activities. Most of the annual payments have been completed, and we look for a larger pay roll next year. Normal training is in full swing, and our young recruits have settled down very well indeed.

These notes will appear in the first issue for 1938, and we take the opportunity of wishing all our members, past and present, and all comrades, the very best of luck for 1938.

Events of major importance commenced to take shape in 1937, and we eagerly look forward to their fulfilment in part at least during the coming year. I refer to the issue of new and up-to-date apparatus, the possibility of additional service transport, and the settlement of details in connection with a new Drill Hall.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

York Street Drill Hall, Devonport.

No outstanding events have taken place during the last month, during which training has proceeded quietly. On 29th November the Adjutant gave an interesting lecture to the Company on the subject of anti-gas precautions ; the lecture was illustrated by a silent film. On 25th November 2nd Lieutenant L. H. Clemas

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lectured on Map Reading ; and on 6th December 2nd Lieutenant A. L. Farr covered the subjects of Elementary Electricity and Magnetism.

Major W. J. L. Cornelius, the Company Commander, was present at the unveiling of the War Memorial to the R.E. Signals at the Priory, Exeter, in November, and attended the Royal Signals, Old Comrades' dinner the same evening.

Lieutenant G. K. S. Edwards represented the Company at the very enjoyable Officers' Dance, held by No. 3 Company at their Drill Hall, Exeter.

The Company has been pleased to welcome at the Drill Hall two members of 5th Divisional Signals—Lance Corporal Gatford J. and Signalman Clarke J., who are attached to the 2nd Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment, while undergoing a Course in Plymouth. We are always glad to see any members of the Corps who may be in Plymouth.

ONECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

No. 2 Company.

Gloucester Road, Brighton.

General.—I must apologise for the absence of notes from this Company. As our readers are aware, scribes are born, not made.

Things are very quiet at present, and the only signs of activity are to be seen in the office, where C.S.M.s Wales and Church are busy bending over the files. Great beads of perspiration appear on their foreheads as they ponder deeply over a problem. The silence is only broken when someone dares to tread upon the threshold of their domain, and by those who care to break the silence by saying, " How do, fellows ? " The two gentle young things look up with astonishment, and burst forth with such words that does credit to any Sergeant-Major. It is only C.S.M. Wales handing over to C.S.M. Church, who has come to relieve him of the trouble and monotonous job of P.S.I., since C.S.M. Wales is leaving shortly for India.

Training.—Nothing of importance can be reported this month, owing to Christmas being so near at hand. Wireless lectures are the main topic. It is good to see the attentive faces of the class as Sergeant (Sparks) James reveals his knowledge. If it is not too late to mention about annual training at Canterbury, we should like to say that this year's attendance was indeed a great improvement on previous years. The weather was kind to us ; not a drop of rain falling during our fortnight's holiday. The work carried out was the usual routine, Company arrangements playing a prominent part. In next year's annual training we are in for a spot of work ; we shall be out for ten days at a stretch.

Boxing.—At the request of Lieutenant Ross, a great many lads have come forward to show their prowess as boxers. Now that we have the material, we must start training at once. Lance Corporal Pearson has the responsibility of coaching these aspirants, and, I am sure, will do his best to bring out their boxing abilities. We are hoping to take a strong team with us to Horsham, where the Territorial Championships will be held in February, and I am sure that all the lads will be keyed up with the will and determination to win.

Shooting.—Owing to the miniature range being rebuilt, our activities in this respect are dormant for the present. We hope to start again after the Christmas holidays.

Arrivals.—One and all welcome the arrival of C.S.M. Church W., and hope his stay will be a long and pleasant one.

Departure.—Having served his sentence (sorry, I mean period) of three years, C.S.M. Wales leaves us for a term in India.

Recruiting.—A steady flow of recruits are coming in. We have a few for discharge this month, so hope that the new arrivals will help to fill the breach.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Lance Corporals Pearson and Spencer on obtaining their first tape. Keep at it lads, the second is not far off.

Annual Dinner.—This function was held at Hurstpierpoint to celebrate the opening of the re-conditioned Drill Hall, and also to bid farewell to C.S.M. Wales. The Dinner was a swell affair and was attended by 80 per cent. of the Company and attached Sections. Musical arrangements were in the hands of Sergeant French and Mr. J. Clarke (our local comedian). Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Among the many guests present were : Lord Strathspey, Lieutenant-Colonel P. E. Hill, Lieutenant-Colonel A. H. Read, T.A., Colonel M. H. Logan, Major C. R. Spincer, R.A., Captains Freer-Ash and L. List, Lieutenants Brett and F. A. Angell, 2nd Lieutenants D. E. J. Ross, Shepherd, McK. Annand, A. C. Hamilton-Withers and Hayes.

Several speeches were made ; that given by 2nd Lieutenant Shepherd was particularly good. He spoke of the way in which Sergeant Williams had worked to bring the 226th and 227th Signal Sections up to the standard of efficiency they are to-day. Sergeant Williams has been the sole Instructor at the Hurstpierpoint Drill Hall, and everyone is glad to have such an efficient N.C.O., especially when the Sections are away from Company Headquarters. (Well done, Basher !)

Now for a word about C.S.M. Wales. We were rather pleased to see such a good gathering of the clans to wish old Peter the best of luck. After the O.C. had spoken about C.S.M. Wales, Peter, of course, had to respond, and so, with a big sigh, thanked everyone for their kindness shown to him during his three years' stay. Two things have usually been attributed to soldiers by comedians and others of that ilk : (a) that they simply fade away ; (b) that they loathe the Sergeant-Majors. Such cynics would have suffered a shock had they been at the dinner, given partly in honour of C.S.M. Wales, when we told him that we were sorry to lose him, gave him a clock, and all of us stood up and sang " For he's a jolly good fellow."

Well, Peter, it only goes to show how the boys appreciated you, and gives the music hall world something to think about. We wish you luck and *bon voyage*.

Obituary.—We are all sorry to hear of the passing of Colonel F. E. H. Keogh, T.D. He was for many years our Medical Officer, and I am sure that the Sergeants' Mess, when at camp, will miss his cheerful personality.

Conclusion.—After many enquiries we have yet to probe the mystery of how the Sergeant-Major came to be in the billiards final. We hope to furnish the answer in our next month's report.

NIMROD.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham, 28.

New Year greetings to all present and former members of the Royal Corps at home, abroad, or afloat.

Inter Alia.—In case our readers may have gained the impression that our Unit consists only of Despatch Riders (bless 'em), I hasten to explain that the prolonged absence of general notes from this Unit was really intended to be a subtle tactical ruse on the part of our scribe, with the twofold object, firstly of provoking some misguided individual to shoulder the responsibility, and secondly to derive the vain satisfaction of an overwhelming " fan mail " from distraught and anxious readers, all wondering what had become of " GETCHER." Instead, sweet nothing happened, which may be due to widespread illiteracy among the local troops, or perhaps the eclipsing of our literary pearls by our illustrious contemporary and colleague, the creator of Ukann Larfe. The net result is that " GETCHER " now enters upon his sixth year sojourn among other insignificant and futile scribe-worms, with the development that in future the WIRE will be on sale locally from ourselves every month. (Terms, spot cash !)

Courses.—A number of Technical Courses have been completed, the most recent being a Course for Sergeants and selected Junior N.C.O.s, based on all the essential branches of practical signal routine, and including extensive practice in the use of No. 1 Sets. The Course was most interesting and fascinating. The planning and preparation of it must have cost the Adjutant and P.S.I.s many sleepless nights and the burning of much midnight oil. Every lecture was accompanied by a summary in typescript, which, if filed and retained, will prove most useful for the purposes of reference.

Training.—The Unit organisation has now reverted to the three-Company basis, which had been suspended in favour of a local organisation a few years ago, owing to the shortage of trained personnel; but the improvement in recruiting during the last two years has placed the Unit in a strong position. In addition to the three trained Companies, there is also a Recruits' Wing.

A number of inter-changes between Section Officers and N.C.O.s has also been made, with a view to giving individuals better scope to acquire proficiency in all-round duties, thus making for greater flexibility.

Camp.—Camp this year will once again be on the "Plain," where we shall look forward to meeting and working with our old friends of 3rd Divisional Signals.

Sergeants' Mess.—A very successful dance was held on 27th November with a very satisfactory attendance, due largely to the efforts of the new committee. The Children's Party will take place on 18th December.

D.R.s' Display Team.—The team has been booked for a show in connection with a local Speedway Meeting on Boxing Day, but, owing to the state of the ground, it is not certain whether it will be possible for it to take place. The D.R.s' Club are arranging a Dance in January.

GETCHER.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals, T.A. and Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

General.—Hearty Christmas greetings and a very happy New Year to all Signal Units at home and abroad from Leeds. If any of you are ever passing this way, drop in; you will be very welcome.

The Operators' Course has now finished and the results have been the best ever. Our older operators are now reading at such a speed that they have even surprised themselves, while the younger ones have also improved wonderfully. Well done, everyone, not forgetting the Instructors, who must have worked very hard. We are re-opening on 11th January with Individual Training.

Promotions.—Congratulations to A/C.S.M. Gatford R. T., P.S.I., on being promoted to the T/C.S.M. with pay. Just another step towards that baton.

The Officers' Ball.—This will be held on Friday, 17th December, and it looks as though Switzerland has come to Leeds. I am referring to our Drill Hall, which has been decorated to look like a corner of that delightful country. An artist got to work a few weeks ago and painted on a very large canvas a delightful village nestling at the foot of some snow-clad mountains. About three hundred real fir trees arranged so as to represent a forest transformed our Drill Hall into a miniature Switzerland, and we only want a few bob-sleighs to complete the picture. It goes without saying that, as usual, the Ball will be a great success, and so adequately reward the officers, who have worked so hard.

Children's Party and Annual All-Ranks Ball.—These events will take place on 8th and 14th January respectively. More of this anon.

Sergeants' Mess.—In keeping with this time of the year, our Mess is now tastefully decorated, and we are all ready for the greatest "whoopee" of the year, to wit, Christmas. Reviewing the past year: the annual camp, the many successful social functions, the concerts and whist drives, etc., one realises the amount of hard work entailed in keeping things going, and we are indeed lucky in having such an able Management Committee. Well done!

M. S. R.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

Winter Training.—Winter training has been in full swing, and we are pleased to say, was very well attended. Our chaps have treated the recent rough weather very lightly, and came along to the Drill Hall with the object of improving their status.

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During the past few weeks, a Command Course has been in progress, under the able guidance of C.S.M. Archibold, Lance Sergeant Perkins and Lance Corporal Machin, who have been attached to us from 5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough. The Command Course consisted of two sections: N.C.O.s' Instruction, given by C.S.M. Archibold and Lance Sergeant Perkins, and instruction given by Lance Corporal Machin on the No. 1 Set. These Courses have been well attended, and great benefit has been derived by all N.C.O.s and men who attended.

Departures.—We very much regret the departure of Signalman Nickling, who has decided to throw in his lot with the Royal Signals (Regulars). We extend to him our very best wishes for his success. We shall miss him very much in our boxing team this year, but what is our loss will be the Regulars' gain. Good luck to you, Nickling!

Entertainments.—This year we are holding the annual Children's Christmas Treat on 20th December. Arrangements have already been made to ensure that everyone has a real good time. C.Q.M.S. Gibson is looking forward very much to playing once again the role of Santa Claus.

Our Annual Ball is being held on 6th January. The function last year was a huge success, but we are hoping for even greater things this time. Don't forget, you folk of No. 2, bring your pals along and let us have a jolly good time.

Boxing.—Boxing fever is very high here just now. Those selected to compete in the Unit Boxing Competition, to be held at Darlington, in January, are putting every ounce into their training to ensure that the Dent Cup comes to Middlesbrough this time without fail. Just a secret tip. It cannot go anywhere else after what we have seen in the gym.

Christmas Greetings.—To all at home and abroad we extend our heartiest Christmas greetings and best wishes for a real good time and the best of luck in the coming year.

MIDBRO.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

General.—We have been wondering why our Commanding Officer has had a somewhat puzzled look at times during the past month or so. We have now discovered the cause. It is Heraldry! We were able to recover from the waste-paper basket some of the early efforts of the draughtsman (he lives in Glasgow and has the M.M.) to produce a design for the Pipe-Major's Banner, which our Colonel-in-Chief, H.R.H. The Princess Royal, has most graciously offered to the Unit. We thought these ideas for the Signals side of the banner both original and amusing, so we are passing them on.

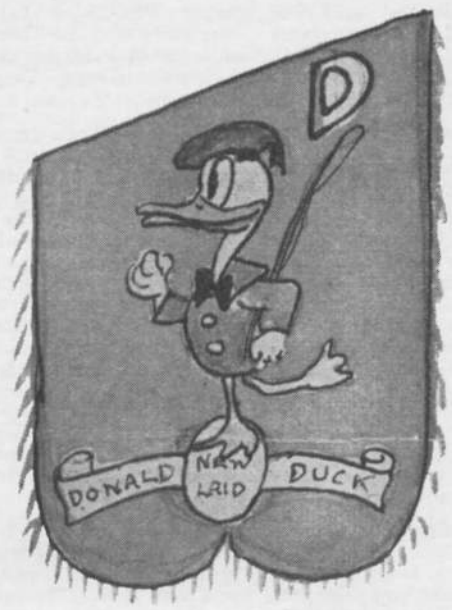
We now hear that the proposed design in its final form has been submitted by our Representative Colonel Commandant to the Princess Royal.

If, as the result of receiving this banner, the Band is to be turned out in full dress, our tails will even go higher. Apparently, in this case, too, there is going to be some debatable points such as the correct full dress for a drummer in a Pipe Band belonging to the Royal Corps of Signals.

"At Home."—We have not gone so far as to provide lounges for the ladies yet, but, in an endeavour to raise some recruits, an "At Home" was held last week. The apparatus used by the Unit was on view, and demonstrations given. The film of our last camp was also shown. This novel form of recruiting seemed to be greatly appreciated by all those who attended, and about twelve recruits were enlisted.

Dance.—The second winter dance was held on the 10th. Compared with the first dance of the season, this dance was not so great a success, and, no doubt, the arctic conditions had something to do with it.

Reunions.—An ex-fiddler of great renown, now serving with the Unit, has of late had a lot to say about the times when fiddlers were fiddlers. It appears that he recently met one of his old bridging-train pals, who, apparently, was also a fiddler of



great renown. Let us hope that when next they meet we shall be fortunate enough to be with them. The "Pig and Whistle" is such an ideal meeting place!

ONECOY.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

Notes are rather brief this month, as there has been no unusual occurrence during the month. Everyone is looking forward to the close of our first Courses, and the usual end-of-the-year festivities.

Our budding Gas expert has returned from his Course with the 1st Battalion, Gordon Highlanders, at Redford Barracks, Edinburgh. He appears to have a very good knowledge of his subject, considering the short time available for the Course. He states that the Course was very interesting, and that he had a really enjoyable stay in Edinburgh.

Our Operator Signals Cadre Instructors leave to-day for a short refresher course at Aberdeen. They will be followed on the 13th by our P.S.I., who is going to Headquarters for a brief P.S.I.'s administrative conference. We trust that they will all return brimming with knowledge to be imparted to the Company when we re-commence training after the New Year.

I am afraid this is our total contribution this month, but we will try to make up for it next time.

TWUCO.

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

21, Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Tommy Boyle.—Dear old Tommy Boyle has gone to his long rest. He passed away very suddenly on 30th November. It was only after Gailes, 1936, that Tommy left us. He was a Sergeant in our Construction Company of the S.R. Our departed comrade saw much service in his day. He served as a Regular soldier before the Great War. He saw much active service from 1914 to 1918. Tommy Boyle gave ten valuable years to the Supplementary Reserve. Of a quiet and retiring disposition, he was at all times a smart and efficient soldier. He will be best remembered as a Section Sergeant. He won for himself the respect of all ranks by his keen sense of duty, his kindliness, and his readiness to be helpful to others. The funeral took place at Craigton Cemetery on 3rd December. The S.R. and T.A. were represented by Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. Cumming, T.D.,

R.S.M. Murphy, and C.S.M. Murray. Pipe-Major Stuart Ritchie played the farewell lament at the graveside. So Tommy Boyle has gone forward to the " Parade " from which no man will be missing. Farewell, staunch old comrade of ours. There will yet be the " Reveille."

Glasgow Telegraph Reunion.—The nineteenth annual dinner of the Glasgow Telegraph Ex-Servicemen's Association took place at the Grand Hotel on 3rd December. This annual event is of special interest to Jardine Street, in that the association has amongst its members quite a number of the war-time Lowland Divisional Company, while, of course, most of the other members served with Units of the R.E. Signals. The event was one of the most successful of recent years. The 157th Infantry Brigade Signal Section flag-waggers and line operators were present almost to a man—surely a record after nineteen years. The Lowland Signal Units were represented by Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. Cumming and Lieutenant W. Johnstone. We were pleased to note the presence of Major J. Cameron, O.B.E., former Commanding Officer of the R.A.F. Signal Sections, Glasgow. We hope for a larger Jardine Street representation at the next gathering of Glasgow Telegraph ex-servicemen. We would add, however, that the presence of the serving officers who attended was fully appreciated.

The Officers.—The officers held a dance in the lounge of the Officers' Mess on 26th November. This gathering was not run on a very large scale, but, nevertheless, the dance was one of the most enjoyable held for a long time. The recently refitted and re-decorated lounge proved to be a most desirable Ball Room. We are glad that our officers spent such a happy evening. We trust that they may have a most successful social season.

Speed Merchants.—The O.C., Supplementary Reserve, and the Lieutenant-Quartermaster might well be described as denizens of the keyboard. It is not every day that we behold a Colonel challenging all comers to a morse-reading duel. The respected Colonel of whom we write is a fast operator. Expert senders fell before him. He read into the thirties, and near to the forties. The teleprinter held no terrors for him. The Colonel's ten agile fingers made the sparks fly. The Lieutenant-Quartermaster is an old hand at the game. There is no branch of civil or military signalling in which he does not excel, while certificates and diplomas *ad lib* testify to his high technical qualifications. There may be something in the words of the beer bar sage who lamented that our efficient Quartermaster should spend his days in the atmosphere of " Nil " returns, and part-worn clothing.

Sergeants' Mess.—The W.O.s and Sergeants danced on 10th December. So did their wives, their sweethearts, and friends from miles around. Didn't the tireless two hundred make whoopee! The lecture hall was a palace of pleasure. The lounge was a corner of comfort. It is a long time since the Sergeants held a dance like this one. It was a dazzling dance. They were a cheerful company. Here's to the next dance! Now what about the Theatre Night?

Contrast.—" An effort made last year to get the requisite number of men to enable the Glasgow Royal Engineers to go under canvas proved a failure."—*Glasgow Evening News*, 26th July, 1893.

" That military service is again attracting young men has been proved this week in Glasgow by the tremendous response made to the appeal of General Headquarters, Signals, Supplementary Reserve, who have their Headquarters at Jardine Street, Glasgow. The Establishment of the Unit has been increased, and a new detachment has been started in Edinburgh. So great has been the number of men applying for enlistment that the office at Jardine Street has proved too small, and a special room had to be provided. Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. Cumming, T.D., who commands the Unit, has recently received a letter of appreciation from the C.I.G.S. for the services rendered during the autumn manœuvres in England." —*The Evening Citizen*, Glasgow, 11th December, 1937.

1938.—May fortune never frown on our good comrades of the Corps in the New Year. May they and theirs be richly blessed. We in Glasgow think of our old friends at home and abroad. Salutations and wishes for all that is good from the City of Saint Mungo.

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They're layin' cable near 'Pindi,
Work the wireless at Hong Kong;
There's a Section out in Malta
Of the mob to which we belong;
Dot dashin' round by Delhi,
Waggin' flags in old Cawnpore,
Shovin' air-line up at Catt'rick,
Bli' me mates, we are some Corps!

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

14th December, 1937.

Despite the festive urge, we are really down to hard training this month. The Course of Individual Instruction which commenced on 3rd December is a comprehensive one, and, judging from the attendance, both popular and interesting.

It is pleasing to note that of the considerable number of men offering themselves for enlistment in the Unit, the majority have been influenced by the recommendation of friends already serving. This is undoubtedly responsible for the continued improvement in the type of recruit joining us, and, coupled with the prospect of a good camp at Tenby in July, 1938, there are grounds for future optimism.

Officers attended the Merchant Navy Defence Centre at Bute Docks, Cardiff, on 22nd November, 1937, for a lecture by Lieutenant-Commander T. H. Dickson, R.N., on " Submarines," Lieutenant-Commander Dickson has spent nearly twenty years in submarines, and, as to be expected, has the technical and tactical working of these craft at his finger tips. With the aid of lantern slides, his listeners, who included officers of the 614th (A.C.) Squadron, Auxiliary Air Force, received a clear and interesting impression of the subject. At the conclusion of the lecture, the lecturer, and officers of the R.A.F., returned to the Drill Hall, Park Street, and were entertained by the Unit officers.

On 6th December, 1937, Lieutenant-Colonel D. A. Brown,

M.C. (C.S.O., Western Command), accompanied by Colonel R. C. Seel, O.B.E., M.C., T.D. (D.C.S.O., Western Command), visited the Officers' Mess. He discussed methods of instruction and ideas in training with all officers, tackled their difficulties, and with his usual habit of getting down to brass tacks, gave practical advice for their solution. We are looking forward to another visit in January, 1938.

We are glad to know that C.S.M. Maynard A. R. G. is now much better after a serious illness. As luck would have it, his period of four years as P.S.I. to No. 1 Company concluded during his illness. His service with the Unit is marked with efficiency and conscientiousness. He is assured of affectionate regard by all at Park Street, and we hope for an early visit from him.

Sergeant Varley J. arrived from India on 16th November, to take up P.S.I. duties to No. 1 Company, vice C.S.M. Maynard. We extend to him a hearty welcome, and we are sure that he will be happy with us.

An All Ranks Dance was held at Park Street on 24th November. Over 250 attended this function, which was certainly a great success. Signalman Escott J. was M.C.

The Unit Association football team were unfortunately knocked out in the Divisional eliminating match of the Territorial Army Cup Competition by the 6th Battalion, Welch Regiment, on Saturday, 7th December, at Swansea. The score was 5—1. This is the first time that their opponents have figured in the competition. It was a fast game with the Signals doing a good deal of the attacking in the initial stage. The initiative, however, soon passed to the Welch Regiment, whose speedy forwards gave the Signals' custodian a very busy time. In fairness, let it be said, that the final score was not a true reflection of the game. The Signals produced some extraordinarily good movements, which, through lack of finishing power, failed to materialise in goals. Congratulations to the 6th Battalion, Welch Regiment, on winning a sporting and hard game.

Preparations are well forward for the Children's Christmas Party on Saturday, 18th December. Tea will be given at the Carlton Hotel, Cardiff, followed by a distribution of toys at the Drill Hall, Park Street. Santa Claus draws his kit from the Quartermaster in a few days. The whiskers, it is sad to relate, rest at the bottom of the D.R.s' tool chest.

Christmas will be over when these notes appear, but we trust that members of the Unit—past and present—will have spent happy time, and here's wishing them a prosperous New Year. Best wishes are also sent to Captain and Mrs. R. T. H. Gelston in India.

THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

No. 3 Company.

General.—On Armistice Sunday, 7th November, the Company was represented at the Cenotaph by Corporals Rixon and Dennison, who placed a wreath on the Memorial. At the Armistice Festival, on 11th November, the Company was again represented by one officer and eight warrant officers and N.C.O.s. (The Festival was similar to that given at the Albert Hall.) The party maintained the tradition of the Corps, and it was very pleasing to note the applause given by the spectators.

The O.C. has commenced monthly parades in uniform. These parades take place on the first Monday in the month, and every officer, N.C.O. and man parades in service dress (drill order). The result, so far, has been very good indeed. Keep it up, boys!

Trade Board.—It is with pleasure that the undermentioned names are published as a result of the Upgrading Course: Operators—Signalmen Swansborough, McPherson, Woolmer, Page and Nunn. Linemen—Signalmen Fry, Claydon, Smith A. and Ewing. Despatch Riders—Signalmen Maslyn and Croker. They have all received higher ratings. Congratulations are tendered to Signalman Maslyn on his award of the Cup for the smartest man on the Mayor's Parade. The Cup is presented by the O.C. annually.

Social.—"J" Section will be sitting down to a supper and social evening on Wednesday, 15th December, kindly given by their Section Officer, Lieutenant R. E. Jarvis. Of this, more anon.

Boxing.—The Company congratulates No. 1 Company on winning the Cup. No. 3 hope to do much better next year.

Sergeants' Mess.—Now that the Mess is in existence, things have been happening. A series of "Tombola" evenings are held on every third Wednesday, and they have been very successful. In the advertisement guessing competition (most of them being taken from mother) points went to Lieutenant Stevens, who won at one function, and to Sergeant Baxendale, who did likewise at another. I wonder why the ladies do not get a look in! More next month.

GIP.

The London Divisional Signals.

(City of London Signals.)

Signal House, 20, Atkins Road, Clapham Park, S.W.12.

Despatch Rider Reliability Trial, 21st November, 1937.—This event was held, as usual, in the country round Latimer on one of the coldest days of the year. The following extract from *Motor Cycling*, dated 24th November, gives a good description of the event:

"Last Sunday, the City of London Signals (T.A.) held a trial in the Latimer (Bucks) area. The competitors were all Territorial Army soldiers, and rode in uniform. Many of the men concerned took part in the trick-riding display at the Royal Tournament at Olympia. The course, which was two rounds of a fifteen-mile circuit, included only about five miles of secondary roads, the remainder being over open country, through woods, rivers and patches of mud. No route cards were issued, the riders having to find their way by map reading, the route being given by figure references. Only one of the competitors lost his way. No fewer than twenty-eight sections were observed, but the worst part of the course—a very innocent-looking bog—was not among them, as it was considered too difficult.

"On the whole, the sharp frost had made the course easier than was expected, and, apart from the unfortunate who got lost, only one competitor failed to finish. He was Signalman Payne, who stripped the valve-timing pinions of his machine and had to push home. The following were the results: 1, Signalman Bishop E. C. (Triumph); 2, Lance Corporal Knight J. D. (Triumph); 3, Signalman Meacher A. J. (Scott); 4, Signalman Kennard (Norton)."

Prize-giving.—City of London Signals were honoured on 7th December by the Director-General of the Territorial Army, General Sir Walter St. G. M. Kirke, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., who very kindly attended to present the prizes. He was accompanied by Lady Kirke. What must have been a record number of members of the Unit, their families and friends attended, and it is estimated that there were nearly 900 present. Chairs were provided for 750, but these proved totally inadequate. Further on will be found a report of the speeches of the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. C. Willway and Sir Walter Kirke. It is very much regretted that it is not possible to give a report of the speech of our Divisional Commander, Major-General P. R. C. Commings, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. The large gathering of distinguished guests included two former Commanding Officers, Colonel F. Fox, T.D., and Colonel G. D. Ozanne, M.C., and also Councillor W. H. Heath, who, deputising for the Mayor of Wandsworth, witnessed the award of the trophy to "F" Section. He had kindly presented this trophy to the Unit during his term of office as Mayor of Wandsworth in Coronation Year.

After welcoming General Sir Walter Kirke, Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. C. Willway said it was obvious that a Territorial Unit was dependant on the policy of His Majesty's Government and the working out of that policy by the War Office. Perhaps it was not quite so obvious that the efforts of a Commanding Officer to make his Unit efficient depended upon the Unit as a whole. "The Territorial Army, being a citizens' army, cannot flourish unless it is in tone with the feelings and the life of the civilian community," he continued. "That is why I am so pleased to see so many different sections of the community represented here to-night."

The Commanding Officer expressed his regret that, owing to illness, the Mayor of Wandsworth was unable to be present. He

was delighted, however, to welcome Councillor W. H. Heath, last year's Mayor of Wandsworth. "Councillor Heath was a Mayor who was quite out of the ordinary," went on Lieutenant-Colonel Willway. "His services to the Territorial Army were very great, and I am particularly pleased to see here here, not only because of his services to Wandsworth and the whole of the country, but so that he might present the splendid trophy that he has so kindly given to the Unit." (Applause.)

The Commanding Officer expressed his gratitude to the Wandsworth Borough Council for its co-operation, and especially his indebtedness to the employers of labour for the support that they had given him in allowing members of the Unit time off—a..d i ma y cases extra holidays with pay—in order that the men might attend annual training.

"Recruiting has been the theme song of all Commanding Officers for years past. Last year, at the prize distribution, I reported that the strength of the Unit was 347 against an Establishment of 352. I also stated that we were entitled to recruit up to 10 per cent. over Establishment. We have now passed that point, and are now allowed up to 20 per cent. over Establishment, which brings our Establishment up to 422. To-night our strength is 407. (Applause.) I do not want you to go away with the idea that our recruiting problem is now over. It is not; for while our present strength is highly satisfactory, it must be remembered that the normal annual wastage in a T.A. Unit is heavy. We need at least 100 recruits a year."

He went on to say that the Unit, in particular, needed morse operators and experienced electricians, as the opportunities available for training such men made it very difficult to produce all the expert tradesmen needed. He had formed a Cadet Company for boys, but wished to impress upon the parents that boys who joined the Cadet Company were not part of the Army. They simply joined to learn a useful technical trade. When they were seventeen, they would be eligible to join the Unit. He hoped to get the Cadet Corps going during the coming year, and already he had the nucleus.

"It has been a memorable year for the Territorial Army," said the Commanding Officer. "Those serving in the T.A. during those long black years when the most that a Commanding Officer could obtain from the authorities was sympathy, now find with a shock that the T.A. is being taken seriously. As far as the attitude of His Majesty's Government towards the T.A. is concerned, officers could not wish for anything more helpful at the present time, but I still believe that before we take our proper place in the minds of the public, there are an enormous number of misconceptions to be removed. You still find quite a number of people who have an idea that the Territorial Army is a very worthy, voluntary, semi-military organisation, which would be quite useful if it was to offer its service to the country in time of emergency. It is not realised that the Territorial Army is a part of the Army—the nucleus of the National Army. The only difference between the two armies is, that one is part-time professional, and the other whole-time professional. The changed status of the T.A. could not be better illustrated than it was recently in the promotion of the Director-General of the Territorial Army to a seat on the Army Council (applause), and the appointment of a Major-General of the Territorial Army to a post at the War Office as his deputy."

The Commanding Officer expressed the Unit's thanks to General Sir Walter Kirke for all he had done as Director-General of the Territorial Army. Lieutenant-Colonel Willway concluded by thanking the officers and men of the Unit for the splendid manner in which they had supported him.

Addressing the Unit, General Sir Walter Kirke said: "This is a red-letter year in the history of your Unit, and it is indeed a pleasure to visit a Unit which is in such a highly flourishing condition. The account of your numerous activities and successes indeed makes very pleasant reading. I hope that all well-wishers will study it as carefully as I have done.

"You will be glad to know that the Royal Corps of Signals throughout the country is steadily approaching full Establishment. You have done even better, as you are already well over it, and are one of those Units which have earned special distinction in the field of recruitment by being in the position to apply for permission to recruit up to 20 per cent. over Establishment. I appreciate that this success has complicated your housing problem.

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"I am not going to repeat all the information in your programme, but I would pay a special tribute to the fine performance put up at the Royal Tournament at Olympia by the detachment under the command of the son of your Honorary Colonel. That performance, which showed what the Territorial can do, was a source of pride not only to the Territorial Army, but also to their brothers in the Regular Army.

"I would also like to mention the formation of a Cadet Unit, which I am sure you will find a valuable asset in the future as a source for the provision of tradesmen. I am equally certain, too, that the Cadets themselves will derive great benefit from the technical training which they will receive.

"The Unit had the honour of being selected for service on the War Office Exercise with the Regular Army, where some of you doubtless got very valuable experience, and were certainly a great help to the War Office.

"I should like to say a word about the importance of the Royal Corps of Signals under modern conditions. As compared with former days, armies now are distributed on wide fronts and to great depths, this being advisable on account of air action, and possibly owing to the great increase in the speed of movement. It must be quite obvious that forces so distributed must be capable of quick and concerted communication. Without an efficient Signal Corps, Operations would be merely a disconnected dog-fight, without leadership or control. It is, therefore, not too much to say that a very great responsibility rests on the officers and men of the Royal Corps of Signals, since it is they alone who enable the commander to carry out a co-ordinated plan. The Signals are, in fact, the cement which binds the Army together in war.

"Those of you who have joined the Territorial Army never, I am sure, regret having done so. A technical Corps, in particular such as yours, has exceptional advantages, in that a man who joins it receives a valuable education, has a most enjoyable time, and at the same time derives all the satisfaction which naturally comes from the feeling that he is performing a great public duty. There must, of course, be an element of sacrifice in service

of this nature for everyone connected with it. You, who are actually serving in the Territorial Army, are giving up a certain amount of your leisure, which, perhaps, you might wish to employ otherwise. You do it gladly. In the case of the employers, they, too, are making sacrifices in encouraging you to join, and making it possible for you to carry out your military duties, and giving you the necessary leave to go to camp. It must be a source of pride to them to know that the Unit went to camp at nearly 90 per cent. of their strength, and that, counting both camps, the percentage of camp attendance was 105 per cent. of Establishment. These figures are a feather in the cap of the employers concerned.

" I would also like to pay a tribute to the ladies—the mothers, wives, or sweethearts of the men in this Unit. The old saying that ' the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world ' is probably as true to-day as it ever was, and we must congratulate them on the encouragement which they give their men folk to serve their country in this way.

" To-day, in the conditions which we see around us in the world, it is clear that the whole principle of voluntary service is undergoing its severest trial. It is equally clear, I think, that the principle cannot be successful unless everyone in the country directly or indirectly does everything possible to make it so. You here to-night are doing your best, and it is a very good best, to prove that voluntary service is still a possibility for a free and enlightened democracy. You are setting an example which the rest of the country will do well to follow."

Annual Dinner.—The officers held their Annual Dinner at Signal House on 9th December, and were honoured by the presence of Sir Thomas Inskip, C.B.E., K.C., M.P., the Minister for Co-ordination of Defence. The guests included General Sir Felix Ready, G.B.E., K.C.B., C.S.I., C.M.G., D.S.O., Major-General Sir John Brown, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., T.D., D.L., J.P., who has recently been appointed Deputy Director-General of the Territorial Army, and also both the Colonels Commandant, Royal Signals, Brigadier H. Clementi Smith and Brigadier R. H. Willan, and Sir Thomas Gardner, Director-General of the Post Office.

The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. C. Willway, proposing the toast of " The Guests," said, " A not unfamiliar opening for the speech that I am about to make to-night is to say, ' It gives me great pleasure to rise and welcome our guests,' although up to that moment the company had never been left in doubt as to whether the visitors really were welcome or not ! I shall avoid that opening, because, had our guests not already appreciated that they are welcome, nothing that I may now say is likely to change their opinion. In fact, the very infliction of a speech from me will probably be regarded as the final insult ! I am hopeful, however, that the distinguished company of guests who have done us the honour of making the expedition to what is euphonistically called Clapham Park, but is really Balham, will realise that if our entertainment falls somewhat short of that to be enjoyed at the Ritz, the spirit, both in the glass and in the heart is sound. This co-ordination of hand and heart—I hesitate to speak of co-ordination in the presence of Sir Thomas Inskip—has, I hope, produced a result which will demonstrate, at least, the intention of our hospitality.

" No ! Co-ordination, in one respect, is an alarming theme. It is my duty to welcome our guests by name, but the dictionary tells me that co-ordination is the 'Art of putting in the same order, rank or dignity.' How difficult ! How am I to apply that definition to my task ? Whom shall I mention first, whom last, and who shall I omit altogether ? The only safety for me seems to be to abandon co-ordination altogether, and ' prick ' names, as the Chancellor of the Exchequer (theoretically at least) pricks the Sheriffs. If my theory is, perhaps, as shaky as his, then probably I may be forgiven in such high company.

" Now, co-ordination or not, I must first prick Sir Thomas Inskip. He is, of course, a most distinguished lawyer, and was at one time Attorney-General. His achievements in the realm of law alone would add lustre to any gathering at which he might be a guest ; but to-night, we welcome him primarily as the Minister of the Crown responsible for the Co-ordination of Defence. We were honoured last year with the presence of the then Secretary of State for War, and I seem to remember that we importuned him with the special problems of our little Units of the Territorial Army and the Supplementary Reserve ; ignoring, perhaps, that his horizon extended not only to the whole of the Auxiliary Forces, but to the Regular Army as well. But Sir Thomas occupies a position which commands an even wider horizon than that. His range of vision includes a seascape, a landscape and whatever the equivalent in English may be of an ' airscape.' In his presence I rather feel that I should abandon the rather doubtful compliment we are apt to pay our distinguished guests of inviting them to give attention to our particular little grievances, and I will content myself with the comforting reflection that Sir Thomas would not be here to-night if his interpretation of his function did not include the co-ordination of the needs of the Territorial Army with those of the Regular Forces.

" Secondly, I must prick General Sir Felix Ready. He is, of course, a most distinguished soldier, and a one-time Quartermaster-General to the Forces. If, during the time that he was a member of the Army Council, that august body was not quite so much in the front pages of the newspapers as it has been lately, he must not feel that his work was any the less appreciated on that score. We feel it a great compliment that he should be our guest to-night.

" And now I come to Sir Thomas Gardiner, the Director-General of the Post Office. We are particularly pleased to see him to-night, as I think I am right in saying a most unfortunate misunderstanding deprived us of the pleasure of seeing him at our Dinner last year. He represents, probably, one of the really outstanding examples of co-ordination. The Supplemnetary Reserve Signal Units are recruited almost entirely from the Post Office, and the liaison between that body and the War Office is about as effective as it can be made. Perhaps this is an example that might be applied more widely.

" I feel it a particular privilege to have with us to-night Major-General Sir John Brown. In his position as Deputy Director-General of the Territorial Army, he occupies a post that every Commanding Officer in the Territorial Army has longed to see created. He brings to that post an unrivalled experience not only *of* the T.A., but *in* the T.A., which is a slightly different thing. I do not think that any of the Regiments or Corps in the Army will be offended if I suggest that the Royal Corps of Signals has carried co-ordination between its Regular, Supplementary Reservist and Territorial components as far as, if not further than, any.

" To have both the Colonels Commandant of the Corps present at this dinner is, I think, the best proof of the spirit which animate the Corps, and I want, on behalf of all the members of this Mess, to express to Brigadier Clementi Smith and Brigadier Willan our very great appreciation for coming here to-night. Their presence and that of the other Regular Officers of the Corps cements afresh the ties which bind us together, whether we are Regular, Supplementary Reserve or Territorial members of the Corps. After all, these names only represent different echelons of preparedness. The Corps is one and *its spirit is one*."

Colonel Willway then referred to the sorrow that was felt by the Mess at the unavoidable absence of their Divisional Commander, Major-General P. R. C. Commings, and continued : " I am in risk of forgetting that my function is but to be the *hors d'œuvre* to the substantial meal, which Sir Thomas Inskip is to provide, and much as I should like to mention all our guests by name, I feel that I may be forgiven if I include them all in a welcome which is not less personal because they are not individually named. I ask you to rise and drink the toast of ' Our Guests,' coupling with it the name of Sir Thomas Inskip."

Sir Thomas Inskip, who responded for the guests, spoke first of his task as Minister for the Co-ordination of Defence. On the question of supply, he spoke with due diffidence in the presence of Sir Felix Ready, who, having been Quartermaster-General, must know much more than he (Sir Thomas) could have learnt in eighteen months.

He was kind enough to assure the officers present of the very real encouragement that the knowledge that the T.A. included such Units as City of London Signals gave to those who, like himself, bore the burden of responsibility for the government of this country. He spoke of the encouragement given by the recent increase in strength of the T.A., and of his belief that it was only lack of reasonable accommodation and modern equipment which deterred those few thousands required to complete the T.A. to its Establishment, from joining. If each Unit of the

T.A. had as good a Headquarters as Signal House, there would be little difficulty in obtaining the necessary recruits. He assured his audience that steps were being taken to provide the T.A. with the equipment necessary for training.

His duties as Minister for Co-ordination of Defence were not those of a Supply Officer. Each of the three Services had their own normal supply systems. These three systems were not watertight compartments now, each was complementary to the other, working for a common end. Any future war, said Sir Thomas, must inevitably be a combined operation, embracing the work of all three Services. The success of any effort by the Defence Services must depend on the amount of co-operation achieved in peace, together with the maximum of goodwill between the three Services. The example of the officers and men of the T.A., he said, should stimulate not only the Government, but also all our fellow-subjects to greater efforts for the peace and welfare of this country. He asked his audience to assure others of the efforts which were being made to re-equip the Defence Forces.

It gave him, said Sir Thomas, the greatest possible pleasure to propose the toast of " City of London Signals," coupled with the names of Lord Pender and Colonel Waley Cohen.

Responding to the toast of " City of London Signals," Colonel the Lord Pender spoke first of the sacrifice that Sir Thomas Inskip had made to enable him to take up his important task as Minister for the Co-ordination of Defence. Likening Sir Thomas Inskip to a genial Father Christmas, Lord Pender hoped that at the approach of Christmas, with its tradition of giving presents, the Territorial Army might receive some long-wanted gift in the form of new equipment. Continuing his simile drawn from children's tales, Lord Pender spoke of the T.A. as " Cinderella," with not only two, but three ugly sisters, and hoped that a " Prince Charming " might soon grant all her desires. Like " Cinderella," the T.A. cost her parents—the Government—considerably less than her other sisters—the Regular Forces. He spoke of the wonderful inspiration of the Physical Fitness Display in the Lord Mayor's Show, and also urged his audience to do all that they could to support Sir Thomas Inskip and the other Ministers of the Crown in their great work.

Colonel J. Waley Cohen, who also responded to the toast, spoke of his long association with the City of London Signals, both in the Territorial Army and now in the Supplementary Reserve. Both Units are now at full strength. He spoke with pleasure of the days when he and Sir Thomas Inskip had been boys together at Clifton, that school which had produced so many famous men. He (Colonel J. Waley Cohen) had joined Signals in 1888, when, as a boy at Clifton, he had been a member of the Signal Section of the Cadet Corps. As a member of the Bristol Engineer Volunteers, he had learnt his morse in 1899 in the Bristol Telegraph Office. They must make our great public schools more aware of Royal Signals, and thus encourage an adequate inflow of young officers.

Royal Signals—Regular Army, Supplementary Reserve and Territorial Army—were one Corps in a very special way, he said ; and this was exemplified by the presence of both the Colonels Commandant. He mentioned that he had been to the Dominions, and could testify to the whole-hearted allegiance paid to the parent Corps by the Signal Corps there.

Line of Communication Signals, Supplementary Reserve.

The month has been an eventful one for Line of Communication Signals, S.R. On 27th November, our second annual prize-giving and drill competition took place. Shooting for the first half of the Waley Cohen Cup has taken place on the Unit Rifle Ranges, and, in spite of great improvement by Nos. 1 and 4 Companies in London, Liverpool won again.

On 27th November, the Guard Mounting Drill Section of the competition took place at Clapham, and a No. 3 Company team again came from Liverpool. The teams were judged by Captain Anthony, Royal Signals, and Captain Sir T. Falkiner, Coldstream Guards (Adjutant, H.A.C. Infantry Battalion). No. 1 Company were adjudged the best Company for drill, an event

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which speaks worlds for the hard work and leadership of Sergeant Sykes. On the aggregate for the competition, No. 3 Company were just the winners, and again able to take the Cup back to Liverpool.

No. 4 Company, of course, had won the Beard Cup in a competition held at Camp, and the Cup was presented for the first time. No. 1 Company had won the Company Efficiency Cup for their " all-year-round " performance.

After an appropriate interval for refreshments, the prizes were distributed by Mr. T. H. Boyd, Assistant Director General, G.P.O., who delivered a concise and clever speech.

The evening wound up with an entertainment by members of the Unit. We hope that the unexpected talent displayed will be made use of for future functions. Several members of the G.P.O. were also in attendance.

The bonds between the G.P.O. and the Unit were again cemented by the attendance of Sir Thomas Gardner, Director General, G.P.O., at the Annual Dinner held in the Officers' Mess on 9th December. Although these visits apparently affect the junior ranks of the Unit very little, they are tremendously appreciated, and help us to feel that the civilian element amongst our members is still, as always, indivisibly part of our military efforts in the Supplementary Reserve.

Haberdashers' Aske's School Cadet Corps.

1st Cadet Signal Company.

Affiliated to the London Divisional Signals (City of London Signals).

Visit to Signal House.—Through the kind invitation of the O.C., London Divisional Signals, thirteen cadets attended the distribution of prizes and concert at Signal House on 7th December, and very much enjoyed the evening.

News of Ex-Members.—As we know that several past members and present friends of the Unit are regular readers of the WIRE, we republish here (by courtesy of the Editor of *The Skylark*, the Haberdashers' School magazine), various recent items of news received from ex-members of the 1st Cadet Signal Company, and its forerunner, the School Signal Unit. Dates in brackets are those of service with the School Units.

L. W. Ellen (1/28-4/33) : Passed second out of forty candidates in the Probationary Assistant Engineers' Examination, G.P.O. T. A. Elliott (9/33-8/37) : Is now a Signalman in London Divisional Signals, T.A. J. A. T. French (9/34-2/37) : Is working in the laboratory of the G.P.O., Research Station. A. P. Morgan (9/30-5/35) : Is, we hear, doing well and enjoying life as W/T Operator, R.A.F. W. H. Sansom (1/29-8/31) : Is now a full Lieutenant, and commands " B " Cable Section, No. 1 Company, London Corps Signals. C. V. Smith (9/30-8/36) : Now an Officer Cadet in the Cambridge University O.T.C. Signal Company, and has been promoted Sergeant. A. T. Winny (1/29-12/33) : Is now M.T. officer, i/c A.F.V.s, in his Battalion (2nd West Yorkshire Regiment). J. Zinkin (9/36-8/37) : Has joined the Artillery of the Cambridge University O.T.C. (in which his brother, M. Zinkin, was B.Q.M.S. until last year).

SPORTS NOTES

Signal Training Centre.

Cross-country Running.—MACKWORTH TROPHY.—The third and final run was held on 10th November. The final team placings were: 1, "F" Company; 2, Dismounted Wing; 3, School of Signals; 4, "E" Company; 5, "D" Company; 6, Mounted Wing.

The individual placings were: 1, Signalman Craig (School of Signals); 2, Lance Corporal Blades ("F" Company); 3, Signalman Ball (Dismounted Wing); 4, Signalman Taylor ("E" Company); 5, Boy Baldock ("F" Company); 6, Lance Corporal Strutt ("D" Company); 7, Signalman Howarth (Mounted Wing); 8, Boy McKenna ("F" Company); 9, Boy Buddery ("F" Company); 10, Sergeant Boy Roberts ("F" Company).

The race was run over a 5½ miles course in two laps. "F" Company won by a comfortable margin, but it was very encouraging to see Dismounted Wing finish second. All the team ran well, and it is to be hoped that they will keep it up after leaving the Depot Battalion.

NORTH YORKSHIRE AND SOUTH DURHAM HARRIERS LEAGUE.—The League Competition for 1937-38 is now finished. S.T.C. won on three occasions, and were second on the other three. The Cup thus remains with us for another year. The total points and final placings were: 1, Signal Training Centre, 424; 2, Middlesbrough, 699; 3, Synthonia, 749; 4, West Hartlepool, 1,007; 5, R.A.F., Catterick, 1,150; 6, Darlington, 1,365; 7, R.A.F., Thornaby, 1,940.

Each Wing and Company was well represented in the team and each run saw more and more of our team being promoted to the fast pack. At the end of the season, over half of the team were in the fast pack, which meant that they had to concede three minutes' start. It therefore speaks very well for the performance of the team.

Members of the Corps will be glad to know that ex-Corporal Broadley was running. He is now Secretary of Darlington Harriers. Each run saw him competing in the fast pack, and he still shows most of them the way home.

1st Divisional Signals.

Football.—Owing to shortage of numbers, we are unable to produce any sort of form. Those who play do their very best and keep going to the last. We have a team in the Command League, but at present we are fairly well down the list.

We congratulate 2nd Divisional Signals on playing some very fine matches.

Hockey.—We are more favourably situated in regard to hockey players. The Unit team has entered the Command Tournament, which also eliminates for the Army Cup. Results so far are as follows: 1st round, 1st Divisional Signals v. Worcestershire Regiment, won, 3—2; 2nd round, 1st Divisional Signals v. 2nd Battalion The Buffs, drawn, 1—1. The re-play against the Buffs will not take place until 27th January, 1938.

Rugby.—Here again, as in our football activities, we are very much handicapped, but we keep going.

Tit-bits from Army Sporting Life.—The following may be of interest to overseas readers:

BOXING.—Aldershot Command v. Royal Navy and Royal Marines, at Aldershot. Result: Aldershot Command, 17 points; Royal Navy and Royal Marines, 14 points.

FOOTBALL.—The Army lost to the Dark Blues—3 goals to nil.

RUGBY.—Aldershot Command Tournament. Semi-finalists: 2nd Battalion, King's Own Regiment v. 2nd Battalion, Royal Tank Corps (holders). 2nd Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment, v. 1st Battalion, Welsh Guards.

The attraction here, on Monday, 6th December, on the Command Central Ground, is the Army XI at home to Everton. I understand, from well-informed circles, the Army Football Association are finding many engagements for the Army XI this season, in the hope that the team will be able to defeat both the French and Belgian Army teams.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Football.—The 1937-38 football season has so far been fairly successful for us. Unfortunately, we have not been able to keep the team with which we opened up; some have departed to sunnier climes, and some have gone to that life to which we all must depart sooner or later—where one must work for a living. Signalman Hough, who had been a member of the team for quite a number of years, was only able to play one game for us before he went and obtained a job somewhere in Liverpool. Corporal Cant was also a regular member of the team, but we have been deprived of his services, too; he is required to clear up a spot of bother in Palestine. The departure of these two players left a great hole in our team; both played in the half-back line, and this has necessitated the bringing in of men from the junior team to complete the senior team.

The seniors have met with varying success; brief details will be given later. The juniors are doing very well indeed, having lost only two matches; they occupy the top position in their Division. One match remains for the fulfilment of our fixtures, that against the 2nd Battalion, King's Own Royal Regiment. If we win this match, we shall be certain of winning the League.

In the Army Cup we were drawn against the D.C.L.I. in the first round. We defeated them fairly easily by 6—3. This match was played in pouring rain, and both teams are to be congratulated on putting up a grand display of football in such trying conditions. In the second round, we were drawn against the Welsh Guards. This time we met our Waterloo to the tune of 5—3. It is admitted that the Guards deserved their victory, simply because they adapted themselves much better to the condition of the ground. Nevertheless, I am certain that had we been drawn at home, we should possibly have been still in the Cup. Still, we are looking forward to next season, when we shall try to get a bit farther. In the Aldershot Senior Cup we were beaten by the 4th Battalion, Royal Tank Corps, by 4—2. In the Aldershot Junior Cup, our juniors received a bye in the first round, and in the second we are drawn against the Leicesters, whom we have already defeated twice in the League. This match is not due until February, so more anon.

Here are details of matches played so far:

SENIOR LEAGUE: 8th October, v. Leicesters, won 3—1; 11th October, v. S. Staffs, lost 2—13; 22nd October, v. Worcesters, won 6—0; 5th November, v. R.S. Fusiliers, won 5—1; 12th November, v. Leicesters, won 4—2; 30th November, v. S. Staffs., lost 4—7.

				Goals.		
P.	W.	D.	L.	For.	Agst.	Pts.
6	4	0	2	24	24	8

ARMY CUP: 27th October, v. D.C.L.I., won 6—3; 15th November, v. Welsh Guards, lost 3—5.

ALDERSHOT SENIOR CUP: 16th November, v. Royal Tank Corps, lost 2—4.

JUNIOR LEAGUE: 5th October, v. S. Staffs., drew 4—4; 12th October, v. King's Own, won 5—4; 19th October, v. Leicesters, won 4—1; 23rd October, v. R.S. Fusiliers, lost 0—5; 2nd November, v. R.S. Fusiliers, won 6—4; 11th November, v. Worcesters, drew 2—2; 18th November, v. Worcesters, won 4—2; 23rd November, v. S. Staffs., won 4—2; 29th November, v. Leicesters, won 8—3; 1st December, v. R.A.S.C., won 4—3; 15th December, v. R.A.S.C., lost 2—4.

				Goals.			
P.	W.	L.	D.	For.	Agst.	Pts.	Pos.
11	7	2	2	43	34	16	1st.

Standing (left to right) : Cpl. Funnell, Sigm. Harris, L/Cpl. Nicholson, Sigm. Sheldon, Sigm. McMeechan, Cpl. Cant, Sgt. Norcup.

Sitting (left to right) : L/Cpl. Stanley, Sigm. Brookes, Lieut. A. C. Shenton, Lt.Col. R. H. R. Neale, Sigm. Keenlyside, Sigm. Openshaw, Sigm. Hall.

GOAL SCORERS.—SENIOR LEAGUE : Lieutenant A. C. Shenton, 8 ; Lance Corporal Stanley, 5 ; Signalman Harris, 4 ; Signalman Bennett, 3 ; Signalman Keenlyside, 3 ; Lance Corporal Nicolson, 1. ARMY CUP : Lieutenant A. C. Shenton, 3 ; Signalman Keenlyside, 3 ; Lance Corporal Stanley, 1 ; Signalman Harris, 1 ; Signalman Brooks, 1. ALDERSHOT SENIOR CUP : Signalman Keenlyside, 1 ; Signalman Harris, 1. JUNIOR LEAGUE : Lieutenant A. C. Shenton, 12 ; Corporal Funnell, 6 ; Signalman Davies, 6 ; Signalman Eitches, 4 ; Lance Corporal Shannan, 3 ; Lance Corporal Nicolson, 2 ; Signalman Kyle, 2 ; Signalman Openshaw, 2.

The following each scored one : Lance Sergeant Watts, Signalmen Bennett, Hall, Stephenson, Moore and O'Connell.

1st Anti-Aircraft Group Signals, Blackdown.

Cross-country.—This year the Unit team have been trying to put the A.A. Group Signals on the map, and under C.S.M. Dowie and Lance Corporal McCarthy some satisfactory results have been obtained.

The Inter-Unit Run, held at Aldershot, produced the following results :

1.	2nd Divisional Signals	143 pts.
2.	1st A.A. Group Signals	285 ,,
3.	"A" Corps Signals	357 ,,
4.	1st Divisional Signals	438 ,,

This Unit's placings were as follows : Lance Corporal Buxton, 7th ; Signalman Mackenzie, 10th ; Signalman Hughes, 18th ; Signalman Sanderson, 20th ; Signalman Lewis, 21st ; Signalman Austin, 26th ; Lance Corporal McCarthy, 30th ; Signalman Barton, 33rd ; Signalman Ashworth, 36th ; Lance Corporal Fisk, 38th.

The next run was held at Blackdown on 17th November. This was No. 1 Group A.C.A.A. Run. Here we obtained 6th place, which was a very good performance, as we were running against Units much stronger than ours. Signalman Mackenzie did particularly well and must be congratulated.

Hockey.—1st A.A. Group Signals v. 2nd Battalion, Royal Tank Corps.—This game was played at Blackdown on 25th November. At the bully-off, the Tanks came straight down to the Signal goal. Lance Corporal Dewhurst and Major Murphy were called upon early to clear from two short corners awarded to the Tanks. After a good deal of pressing by the Tanks, Signalman Seymour got away and scored a fine goal after a solo run. This goal set up a great deal of pressure by the Tank forwards, which ended in the ball being sent over the Signal goal. It was at this stage that the Tanks scored two quick goals to put them ahead, but only to find the score level at half-time, after another brilliant goal by Signalman Seymour. From the change-over, the Tanks again pressed hard and scored another goal. Signals then fought hard for an equaliser. This came when Signalman Seymour again scored, after a penalty bully. In the closing stages the Tanks scored two quick goals. It was a good game, which we were sorry to lose ; but the team must be congratulated upon such a fine effort. The team comprised : Corporal O'Malley, Major Murphy, Lance Corporal Ward, Signalman Carmichael, Lance Corporal Dewhurst, Lance Corporal Cotterill, Lance Corporal Judd, Captain Gray, Signalman Seymour, Lieutenant Whiteway-Wilkinson and Signalman Rawlinson. Result : 2nd Battalion, Royal Tank Corps, 5 ; 1st A.A. Group Signals, 3.

Here are the results of some other League matches :

17th Nov.	v. 18th Field Brigade, R.A.	Won	4—3
23rd ,,	v. "E" Company, 1st A.A. Battalion, R.E.	,,	4—1
27th ,,	v. 1st A.A. Light Battery, R.A. ..	,,	9—2

Football.—This is going with a swing. The Group League provides for Companies and Batteries of our own strength. Here are some further results, which will probably indicate our form :

26th Nov.	v. "A" Company, 1st A.A. Battalion, R.E.	Lost	4—5
29th ,,	v. "E" Company, 1st A.A. Battalion, R.E.	Won	3—2

Corps Hockey.—Lieutenant F. S. Whiteway-Wilkinson was selected to play in the Corps match with Catterick Garrison.

A. V. I.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

This being our first season since the reorganisation of the Unit after the Palestine Emergency, some little time has had to be spent in unearthing the talent available. With half the season gone, one can look back and feel pleasantly surprised ; for the present side contains one or two players, who, providing they can be retained, will help considerably in the making of an Army Cup side for next season. It is inevitable, with the past soccer record of this Unit, that present day sides should be compared with that which had such a good run in 1930-31. One cannot claim that the present side equals the standard of the past, but no representative team of this Unit has had a better team spirit than the present one. This spirit, together with the fact that there remains a good deal of reserve talent, leads one to hope that the Unit will again be making a good show, when next season's Army Cup ties come along. Here are the results of our matches in the two Leagues :

MILITARY LEAGUE.

v. 1/P.W. Volunteers	Lost	2—3
v. 2/Royal Fusiliers	Won	3—2
v. 32nd Field Battery	Won	6—2
v. 2/Dorset Regiment	Won	2—1
v. R.A.S.C. (H.C.)	Drawn	2—2
v. 10th Company, R.A.M.C.	Won	3—0
v. 33rd Field Battery	Won	5—1
v. 3/R.T.C.	Won	7—2
v. R.A., Dover	Won	8—0
v. 2/Devon Regiment	Won	6—2

THANET LEAGUE.

v. Apollo F.C.	Home.	Lost	0—2
v. Apollo F.C.	Away.	Won	5—1
v. Faversham	Home.	Won	2—1
v. Faversham	Away.	Lost	1—2
v. Deal Wasps		Won	4—1
v. Deal Co-op.	Away.	Won	5—0
v. Deal Co-op.	Home.	Won	5—1
v. Southern Railway		Won	7—0
v. Sandwich		Won	8—2
v. Margate		Won	8—0

Rugby.—The rugby team, so far this season, has been fairly successful. We have played 14 matches, of which 7 have been won, 2 drawn and 5 lost. We were badly handicapped during the latter, as most of our rugby players had been sent abroad ; and, at the moment, we only have twenty playing members, of whom two are crocked. However, we hope for a little new blood to assist us in our battles after Christmas, as we have quite a full fixture list.

We had no success in the first round of the Army Cup, losing to the Devonshire Regiment in an away match to the tune of 20 points to 3. The game was played in real summer weather, and the pitch was fairly firm. At the start of the game, we more

than held our own, but tailed off towards the end. Considering its inexperience, the team put up a very good show.

In the "Cobb Nicholls," we travelled to Aldershot, had a slight argument with "A" Corps Signals, which we lost 9—3; their forwards having more weight and bustle than our own.

With regard to the individual members of the team, Lieutenants Lonnon and Bradley played in Army Trial XVs, and Lieutenant Bradley has played for the Army against Guy's Hospital. Lieutenants Stead, Lonnon and Bradley played for the Corps, and so has Signalman Lowe.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

November/December, 1937.

Inclement weather during the past month has interfered with sport. Rain and, more recently, snow have played havoc with our "pitches," and fixtures have suffered in consequence.

Hockey.—There is only one game to report—that versus the 1st Battalion, Welch Regiment, on 16th November, which we won very comfortably by 5—1. Against the cream of Battalion players, this is most encouraging. The Hockey Cup is the one trophy which has so far eluded us, but, with such promising material available, we are optimistic of adding yet another to our collection.

Soccer.—On 18th November, a depleted XI went down to the R.U.C. by 7—3. This reverse is still rankling, and, but for snow, we would probably have avenged that trouncing.

Against the 1st Battalion, East Lancashire Regiment, at Holywood on 24th November, we played a drawn game of 2—2. This was a rousing struggle. The ground was heavy and suited our fleet-footed opponents admirably; but, despite their artistry, accurate shooting on the part of our forwards left us with a two-goal advantage at the interval. The second moiety was less satisfactory. Injuries to two defenders crippled our offensiveness (that sounds Irish, but it is true, if one thinks), and the end came with Signals battling desperately to save a point.

Names of those players now representing the Unit may possibly be of interest to former N.I.S.C. sportsmen, and also, perhaps, to their contemporaries in Units abroad: Mr. Bayliss (ex-"A" Corps, Karachi), C.S.M. Bishop G. and Corporal Thomson L. (ex-"B" Corps, Rawalpindi), Lance Sergeant Barron A. and Corporal Oliver J. (ex-"Wazirdist"), Corporal Wood H. (ex-Singapore), Signalmen Jones H. (ex-Egypt, Aden and Shanghai—all in five years, too), Heslop J. (ex-Egypt), Eccles P. (ex-Palestine), and Lance Corporals Pilkington and Blount, and Signalman Hunt who have not yet left the "fold."

J. G. O.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Tennis.—

			Sets.	Games
v. "A" Squadron, 3rd Carabiniers	Away.	Lost.	4—5	48—53
v. "A" Squadron, ,, ,,	Home.	Won.	11—5	78—55
v. "A" Squadron, ,, ,,	Away.	Lost.	5—6	50—58
v. "A" Squadron, ,, ,,	Away.	Won.	6—4	46—46
v. B.M.H.	Away.	Won.	10—6	71—73

The following have represented the Troop in the above matches: Sergeant Redworth, Corporal Knight, Lance Corporals Allan and Holder, Signalmen Cass, Chappell, Pickering and Pittman. Staff Sergeant Lester and Sergeant Westacott of the R.E.s have able assisted the team.

Hockey.—

v. Murray College	Away.	Lost	0—2
v. Cantonment Police	Home.	Won	3—1
v. "H.Q." Wing, Worcestershire Regiment	Home.	Won	3—0
v. Cantonment Police	Away.	Won	2—1
v. "H.Q." Wing, Worcestershire Regiment	Away.	Won	2—1
v. 2nd Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment	Home.	Lost	1—2
v. District Courts Club	Home.	Draw	1—1
v. Cantonment Police	Home.	Draw	0—0
v. District Courts	Home.	Lost	1—2
v. B.M.H.	Home.	Lost	1—3
v. Pioneer Sports Club	Away.	Lost	0—4
v. Murray College	Home.	Lost	0—1

Football.—

v. The Signal Section, Worcestershire Regt.	Home.	Won	2—0

"B" Corps Signals, Karachi.

"O" Section, Bannu.

On the whole we are doing very well, and considering the amount of duty performed by the players, it is very pleasant to see the keenness displayed by them in all their games. Keep it up, "O"!

HOCKEY:	v. 2nd Echelon	Won	2—1
	v. 7th Tanks	Won	2—1
	v. 2/11th Sikhs	Drawn	2—2
	v. Bannu Gents	Lost	0—5
	v. 2/17th Dogras	Lost	0—5
FOOTBALL:	v. 2nd Echelon	Drawn	2—2
	v. H.N. Club	Drawn	2—2
	v. H.N. Club	Won	5—1
	v. 2nd Echelon	Drawn	3—3
	v. Khalsa College	Won	3—2

BEKORE.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

British Inter-Company Athletics, 1937.—After the Unit Sports, an athletic team was chosen for the District Sports. The team commenced training under the able management of Lieutenant P. C. Williams and Corporal Hollingshead. On the day of the District Sports, a vast crowd from the Unit proceeded to the sports ground to support their team. The spectators were astounded at the marvellous performance put up by the Signals team, which won the Cup easily by 22½ points. The results were as follows:

4 x 110 YARDS.—Lieutenant Williams, Lance Corporal Parry, Signalmen Attrill and Charlton 2nd

4 x 220 YARDS.—Lieutenant Williams, Lance Corporal Parry, Signalmen Attrill and Charlton .. .. .. 1st.

1 MILE TEAM.—Signalmen Lancaster, Pluquet, Goldsmith and Cooke G. .. .. 1st.

4 x 440 YARDS.—Signalmen Pluquet, Rosbotham, Campion and Gentleman .. .. 1st.

4 x 880 YARDS.—Signalmen Pluquet, Goldsmith, Hunter and Cooke G. .. .. 3rd.

POLE VAULT.—Signalmen Moir and Aldridge .. .. 2nd.

HIGH JUMP.—Lance Corporals Crockett and Harris .. 2nd.

LONG JUMP.—Lieutenant P. C. Williams and Signalman Attrill .. .. 2nd.

PUTTING THE SHOT.—Lieutenant P. C. Williams and Sergeant Warren .. .. 2nd.

4 x 120 YARDS (HURDLES).—Lieutenant P. C. Williams, Lance Corporals Harris and Crockett and Signalman Wardley .. .. 2nd.

THREE MILES TEAM.—Declared void, owing to the wrong distribution of finishing tallies. The team would have gained second place. The team comprised: Lance Corporal Smith, Signalmen Lancaster, Parker, Cooke L., and Goldsmith.

Egypt Signals.

Boxing.—The first steps have been made towards the revival of boxing in Egypt Signals. The ring has been rebuilt and a barrack-room made available for training. Details of the competitions in which the Corps has taken part to-date are given further on.

The main difficulty has been in filling the heavier weights. Bantams, feathers, light-weights and welter-weights of a very promising standard are available, but, unfortunately, there are no genuine middles, light-heavies or heavy-weights, who are either good boxers or anxious to learn, and we can only hope that the anxiously awaited drafts, when they do arrive, will include the material required to complete our team for the Command Championships next year. (Officer i/c Records, *please* note !)

The season started with an Inter-Section Novices Competition on 18th and 19th October. Thirty-six entries were received, mainly in the lighter weights. Fighting was keen and spirited, and the C.O. was able to congratulate all concerned, particularly the boxers, on a most successful show.

RESULTS.

Middle-weight : Winner, Signalman Burgon (" W " Troop) ; runner-up, Signalman Clarke (" W " Troop).

Welter-weight : Winner, Lance Corporal Davies (" D " Section) ; runner-up, Signalman Sayer (" Z " Troop).

Light-weight : Winner, Signalman Barker H. (" D " Section) ; runner-up, Signalman Ingram (" J " Section).

Feather-weight : Winner, Lance Corporal Marshall (" M " Section) ; runner-up, Signalman Shore (" W " Troop).

Bantam : Winner, Signalman Mullen (" K " Section) ; runner-up, Driver Kimpton (" W " Troop).

Special Boys' Contest : Winner, P. Anerson, (5th R.N.F.s) ; runner-up, Kenneth Fee, (Egypt Signals).

Best Losers' Prizes : Signalman Warren (" J " Section), Signalman Offord ("A" Section).

INTER-SECTION POINTS.

Winners, " W " Troop, 26 points ; 2nd, " D " Command Section, 22 points ; 3rd, " J " Section, 11 points ; 4th, "A" Section and " K " Section, 8 points each ; 6th, Tank Signal Section and " M " Section, 7 points each ; 8th, Unit Headquarters, 1 point.

EGYPT SIGNALS V. 6TH BATTALION, ROYAL TANK CORPS.

On 10th November a novices team match took place against the novices of the 6th Battalion, Royal Tank Corps. The programme was lengthened by two longer contests in which Lance Corporal Bothamley and Signalman Toft fought against two of the Tank Corps' more experienced boxers. A good evening's sport resulted in a win for Signals by seven fights to four. The complete results were as follows (Signals mentioned first in each case) :

Light-weights : Signalman Whittaker k.o. Pte. Milligan in second round ; Signalman Offord beat Pte. Bretall on points ; Signalman Ingram lost to Corporal Cummings on points ; Signalman Toft beat Pte. Grinstead on points.

Welter-weights : Signalman Warren k.o. Pte. Cone in the second round ; Signalman Sayer beat Pte. Schneidermann on points ; Lance Corporal Davies beat Lance Corporal Bayliss on points ; Lance Corporal Bothamley lost to Pte. Roberts on points.

Middle-weights : Signalman McHugh lost to Pte. Brown on points ; Signalman Clarke beat Pte. Burke on points ; Signalman Donnahey lost to Pte. Laing on points.

COMMAND INDIVIDUAL NOVICES BOXING.

This was held on 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th November. Egypt Signals provided seven competitors, all of whom got through at least one round of their weight before being eliminated, and two who were prevented by injury from competing in the semi-final ounds. Here are the results in detail :

SIGNALMAN MULLEN.—He was the only fly-weight entry, and sportingly agreed to compete in the weight above. He was beaten on points after a close fight by the eventual bantam-weight winner. He was presented with the fly-weight medal as a consolation prize.

SIGNALMAN KENDALL.—Won his first fight in the bantam-weights, but was prevented by an injured hand from taking part in the semi-final.

SIGNALMAN TOFT (light-weight).—Won his first fight well, in spite of a badly-cut eye, and went on to beat Signalman Ingram in one of the keenest fights of the whole competition. Unfortunately, his eye was again hit, and he was forbidden by the M.O. to fight in the semi-final. Although such statements are easier to make than to substantiate, there is little doubt that he would have won his weight but for the injury.

SIGNALMAN INGRAM.—Won his fight in the first round of the light-weights on points. He was beaten by Signalman Toft in the next round after a very close fight. This was particularly unfortunate in that Toft was unable to fight again, and Ingram was thus prevented from going on to the semi-final.

SIGNALMAN WARREN (welter-weight).—Warren is a fighter rather than a boxer. Knocked his man out quickly in his first fight, but was laid out himself by an even harder hitter in the next round, after some heavy exchanges.

SIGNALMAN SAYER (welter-weight).—Won his first two fights on points by a narrow margin, but lost the referee's casting vote in his third fight after a level contest. Sayer has a good defence and a good natural style, but needs to develop his hitting powers.

SIGNALMAN CLARKE (middle-weight).—Clarke, who is really a welter-weight, fought very well and defeated a much stronger opponent in his first fight. He was just beaten on points in the next round.

Generally speaking, Egypt Signals made as good a show in their re-appearance as could have been expected, and the competitors gained some useful experience. Two further team matches against other Units are being arranged, and a foundation is being made on which to build up next year, when we hope the heavier men will be available.

Fencing Club.—On looking round the Unit, I really think that fencing has come to stay. Fencing is now practised on five days of the week, and all members of the Club are showing a very keen interest, especially as Schemes, concert party rehearsals, and such things, tend to take up a fair amount of time. Our Officer i/c Fencing, Lieutenant M. A. Lloyd, who is himself a very keen and able fencer, has been appointed to membership of the Command Fencing Committee, which has just been formed.

There are at present five military clubs in the Command : Royal Signals, R.A.O.C., R.N.F.s, Camerons, and Royal Sussex. In addition, the R.A.F. have their own club.

We hope to hold our first match on Tuesday, 30th November, with the R.A.O.C. Actually, this is not a match in the true sense of the word, but a friendly meeting in order to give our members a chance of loose play and outside experience, and so avoid the " vicious circle " caused by fencing between ourselves.

So far we are concentrating on the foil alone, a weapon which must be thoroughly understood before we can start on the sabre and epee.

It is undoubtedly a very good sport, and I think that we should, with the continuance of our present keenness, make a fair name for ourselves during the current season.

TRIV.

Jamaica Signal Section.

The Staff and Command Troops' soccer team have made a very encouraging beginning in the Jamaica Third Division League contest, having won their first five games. An interesting game was played between S. and C.T. and Lucas F.C. Both these teams have been playing very well ; they were equal leaders in the league, and, consequently, a keen game ensued, which resulted in a 1—1 draw. The results of the games played so far this season by the S. and C.T. are as follows :

v. Y.M.C.A.	.. ..	Won 3—1
v. Gleaner	.. ..	Won 2—1
v. Metropolitan	.. ..	Won 4—3
v. Jamaica Public Service	.. ..	Won 2—0

The Signal Section was well represented in the S. & C.T. team. as the half-back line consists of Signalman Norbury, L/Cpl, Bracegirdle and Signalman McDonald.

ELGIN.

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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VOL. XIX.—No. 216 FEBRUARY 1938 PRICE—SIXPENCE

Editorial Notes.

Felicitations.—All ranks of the Corps will wish to associate themselves with us in congratulating Major-General E. A. Osborne, D.S.O., on his promotion to that rank with effect from 17th December, 1937, also on his appointment as Commander, 44th (Home Counties) Division, Territorial Army.

Waziristan Operations, 1937.—We also tender our congratulations to the undermentioned on having been decorated as shown for valuable and distinguished services rendered in the field during the Waziristan Operations, India, January to September, 1937 :

D.S.O.	Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. C. Penney, O.B.E., M.C.
M.B.E.	Lieutenant J. P. North.
M.M.	No. 3907733 Lance Corporal Hurst J. W.
M.M.	No. 2319212 Signalman Hooper M.

Corps Dinner.—With the approval of our Colonel-in-Chief, the Corps Committee have decided that the Annual Corps Dinner shall normally be held on the last Friday in May of each year.

Corps Promotion Roster (Pocket Edition).—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 cost of production. Assuming that the necessary information will be available within the next two months, will Unit representatives kindly indicate the number of copies they will be able to dispose of, as early as possible ?

On receipt of that information, the work will be put in hand immediately.

The booklet will be on sale at 1s. per copy—post free at home and abroad.

Bound Volumes of " The Wire " for 1937.—All readers, Units, Messes, etc., requiring Bound Volumes of the Corps magazine for 1937 are asked to submit their orders as early as possible. NO ROYAL SIGNALS MESS LIBRARY IS COMPLETE WITHOUT IT. Price 8s. per copy—post free at home or abroad.

Aldershot " Signals Week," 1938.—We are authorised to announce that the next Annual Reunion of the Aldershot and District Branch of Signals Association is scheduled to take place at Mons Barracks, Aldershot, on Saturday and Sunday, 25th and 26th June. Will Branch representatives please notify their members accordingly ?

As on previous occasions, a large number of individual invitations will be sent direct to members whose addresses are known, but ALL ex-Royal Signals and R.E. (Signal Service) are cordially invited to attend, and it is hoped that as many as possible will be present at the 1938 gathering.

Full particulars will be supplied on application to the Hon. Secretary, Royal Signals Old Comrades' Association (Aldershot Branch), 1st Divisional Signals, Mons Barracks, Aldershot.

LEEDS BRANCH, SIGNALS ASSOCIATION.

The Monthly Meeting and Smoking Concert took place at Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds, on Monday, 3rd January. Captain J. G. Parry took the chair, and was supported by C.S.M. Joynes W., the Hon. Branch Secretary. There was a very good attendance and an enjoyable evening was spent.

A cordial invitation is extended to all members or ex-members of the Corps residing in this area to join the local Branch of their Association. Regular meetings are arranged for the first Monday in each month.

BOURNEMOUTH AND DISTRICT BRANCH, SIGNALS ASSOCIATION.

A new Branch of the Association having recently been inaugurated in the Bournemouth area, we invite those interested in the movement to communicate direct with the Hon. Branch Secretary, Mr. S. J. Rouse, 123, Ensbury Park Road, Winton, Bournemouth.

GLASGOW AND DISTRICT BRANCH, SIGNALS ASSOCIATION.

It is proposed to start a Branch of the Corps Association in Glasgow at an early date.

In order that an inaugural meeting may be arranged, will those interested kindly forward their names and addresses to The Adjutant, 52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals, T.A., 21, Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

123, ENSBURY PARK ROAD,
WINTON,
BOURNEMOUTH, HANTS.
January, 1938.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR,

BOURNEMOUTH AND DISTRICT BRANCH,
SIGNALS' ASSOCIATION.

Readers of the Corps Magazine will no doubt wonder where we have sprung from. We could not possibly sit quiet and watch Branches of the Association growing all around us without doing something about it, so decided to start one of our own in Bournemouth.

With the kind permission of the Central Committee in London, we obtained the necessary authority to go ahead, and on Monday, 10th January, 1938, the new Branch held its inaugural meeting, when approximately 30 ex-members of the Corps, including a number of "Old Telegraph Battalion, R.E.," "Indian Signal Service," and "Territorial and Supplementary Reserve" members attended. The following is a resumé of the business transacted :

Major J. C. Bray, O.B.E., took the chair, and opened the proceedings by asking those present to rise and stand in silence in remembrance of our Old Comrades who had "passed over." He then gave a short address of welcome to his listeners and welcomed Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command, who had come from Salisbury to explain the functions of local Branches, and other matters connected with Association activities.

Colonel Bradley thanked Major Bray for his welcome, and expressed his pleasure at being present at their inaugural meeting. As President of all local Branches in the Southern Command Area, he explained the objects of the Association, the importance of local Branches, and the obligations of all members to the Corps, to the Association and to each other. He discussed the employment question, and reminded his audience that for many years the Corps had enlisted some very fine types of men who, during service in Royal Signals, had learnt the necessary lessons of self-reliance and responsibility and were eminently employable when they returned to civil life. It was, he added, of the utmost importance to keep such fellows together when they left the Service, and to ensure that they obtained situations worthy of their qualifications.

Local Branches, by wisdom and care in nominating their candidates, and by jealously guarding all good contacts, had built up a first-class reputation in their respective Areas, and had experienced little difficulty in placing well-qualified men in good employment.

Commenting upon the recruiting problem, Colonel Bradley remarked that the Corps was in serious need of recruits, and it was of the highest importance to ensure that the past high standard should be maintained, not only for the sake of the Corps, but for the Army as a whole, because an indifferent Signalman was always a potential source of danger. This, he suggested, was a matter in which all members could help. The studied indifference of young men to Army life, and their ignorance of its great possibilities, was colossal. It was up to "the old soldiers" to educate the youngsters and to make them realise that life in the Army to-day, and in Royal Signals particularly, was an education in itself, and offered exceptional prospects to any young fellow with push and initiative.

Colonel Bradley thanked his listeners for their kind attention. He was, he said, particularly interested in the local Branch movement at the moment, as he was just about to become an Old Comrade himself. He had not yet decided where to settle down, however, and the greater the number of local Branches in existence, the greater his chance of falling amongst friends. (Applause.)

Colonel Bradley was assured that he would always find a warm welcome awaiting him in Bournemouth.

Then followed the election of the Branch Committee, resulting as follows :

Chairman and Treasurer : Major J. C. Bray, O.B.E.
Vice-Chairman : Mr. C. Howarth (Lieutenant, T.A.).
Hon. Secretary : Mr. S. J. Rouse.
Assistant Hon. Secretary : Mr. R. Fox.
Executive Committee : Messrs. Cresswell, Pratt, White and Adams.
Auditors : Messrs. Stockley and Reaves.
Entertainment Committee : President, Mr. Cresswell ; Members : Messrs. Lewis, White and Stockley.

It was suggested and unanimously agreed that the Entertainment Committee should work in co-operation with the Post Office Sports Committee.

The question of a suitable meeting place was discussed, and it was unanimously decided to hold all future meetings at the Drill Hall, Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth, instead of at the Dolphin Hotel, also that the Committee should arrange for such meetings monthly, on the third Wednesday of each month,

and that they should be followed by a " Social Evening," when members could meet and talk over old times.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. F. Cole, Hon. Secretary of the Southern Command Branch, for the assistance he had given them in putting their house in order.

It was decided that the next Annual General Meeting should take place on the third Wednesday in January, 1939, of which members would have due notice, and when a financial report would be submitted.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

Will any potential member residing in the Bournemouth Area kindly communicate direct with Mr. S. J. Rouse, Hon. Branch Secretary, 123, Ensbury Park Road, Winton, Bournemouth, when full particulars will be supplied by return of post.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) S. J. ROUSE.

" CHARNWOOD,"
CHARNWOOD ROAD, SALISBURY.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR,

SALISBURY AND DISTRICT BRANCH,
SIGNALS ASSOCIATION.

I should like to write to each individual who so kindly contributed towards the very handsome radio set which was presented to me by Colonel Bradley at our Sixth Annual Dinner, as described in the January WIRE. As this is not possible, however, may I adopt this method of conveying my grateful thanks, and to assure them all that I shall continue to do my best for the O.C.A. in the Southern Command Area, but with the added incentive of knowing that my past efforts have been so much appreciated.

Moves.—On relinquishing his office as Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command, and President of local Branches of the O.C.A. in the Command Area, I am directed to convey a vote of thanks to Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., for all he has done to advance and encourage the Old Comrades' Branch Movement during his period of office. We shall always be indebted to him for his ever ready help and advice on all occasions, and particularly for his sponsorship in the formation of Sub-Branches at Portsmouth, Southampton, Exeter, Birmingham and Bournemouth. He can be assured of an affectionate welcome at Salisbury whenever it may be possible for him to visit us.

We also wish to convey an expression of appreciation to Major G. R. Halliday for his past services as Hon. Treasurer of the Salisbury Branch, and in wishing him every success in his new sphere of operations, trust that he will be able to continue his Association activities in India.

Welcome.— By the time this appears in print, it is understood that Colonel A. C. Sykes, D.S.O., O.B.E., will have taken over the Presidential duties of all Southern Command Branches. He is assured of a cordial welcome from the Old Comrades, and also of their loyal support in all his undertakings for the advancement of Association activities.

We also extend a welcome to Major C. T. Hughes, M.C., as Hon. Branch Treasurer. His past interest in the Salisbury Branch has already brought him into close contact with our members, and we express the hope that his stay with us will be a long and happy one.

Change of Address.—It is notified for general information that our future business address will be as follows : " Signals Branch," H.Q., Southern Command, Evelyn House, Wilton Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) F. COLE,
Hon. Secretary.

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, Taunton	Labourer
2	Ex-Signalman, Reading	Postman
3	Ex-Signalman, Chester	Postman
4	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Fitter
5	Ex-Signalman, Cardiff	Postman
6	Ex-N.C.O., Stoke-on-Trent	Postman
7	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Postman
8	Ex-N.C.O., Newcastle-on-Tyne	P.O. Engineering Dept.
9	Ex-Signalman, Preston	Postman
10	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Postman
11	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Postman
12	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
13	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
14	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
15	Ex-N.C.O., London	Electrician
16	Ex-Signalman, London	Fitter
17	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
18	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
19	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
20	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Postman
21	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Postman
22	Ex-Signalman, Reading	Postman
23	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Labourer
24	Ex-N.C.O., Chatham	Postman
25	Ex-N.C.O., Chatham	Labourer
26	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Labourer
27	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Caretaker
28	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Postman
29	Ex-Signalman, Belfast	Labourer
30	Ex-Signalman, Belfast	Labourer
31	Ex-Signalman, Reading	Labourer
32	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Postman
33	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Postman
34	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Postman
35	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Postman
36	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Postman
37	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Labourer
38	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Labourer
39	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Labourer
40	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Labourer
41	Ex-N.C.O., Yorkshire	Porter
42	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Porter
43	Ex-N.C.O., Yorkshire	Postman
44	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Postman
45	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Postman
46	Ex-N.C.O., Yorkshire	Postman
47	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Postman
48	Ex-Signalman, Newcastle-on-Tyne	Postman
49	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Post Office Sorter
50	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer
51	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer
52	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer
53	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Postman
54	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer
55	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer
56	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer
57	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer
*58	Ex-N.C.O., Salisbury	Clerk
*59	Ex-N.C.O., Salisbury	P.O. Engineering Dept.
*60	Ex-N.C.O., Devonport	Telephone Switchboard Operator

* 58, 59 and 60. Salisbury and District Branch Signals Association.

GENERAL SECRETARY AND EDITOR.

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Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following :

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from :

Peshawar District Signals.
C.S.O., Southern Command (Grant from 1937 Tidworth Tattoo funds).

GIFT OF CLOTHING from :

Colonel J. P. G. Worlledge, O.B.E.

APPEALS dealt with :

1	Ex-Signalman, Watford	Loan	£2	0	0
2	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Grant	£2	0	0
3	Ex-Signalman, Dublin	Grant	£1	10	0
4	Ex-Signalman, Paisley	Grant	£2	0	0
5	Signalman, Aldershot	Loan	£4	5	0
6	Ex-Signalman, Colchester	Grant	£3	0	0
6	Ex-Signalman, Colchester	Grant	£3	0	0
7	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Grant	£2	0	0
8	Ex-Signalman, Suffolk	Grant	£2	0	0
9	Widow of Ex-N.C.O., Colchester	Grant	£2	0	0
10	Signalman, Catterick	Grant	£2	0	0
11	Ex-Driver, Bournemouth	Grant	£2	0	0
12	Signalman, Aldershot	Loan	£6	10	0
13	N.C.O., Blackdown	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 January.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR,—The following is notified for publication in the February, 1938, WIRE, please.

Dates on which top individuals were registered on the Waiting List for the Married Quarters Roll :

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 14/10/1932.
(b) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 28/12/1931.

Yours faithfully,
E. N. F. HITCHINS, Colonel,
i/c Royal Signals Records.

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Lieutenant-Colonel R. Elsdale from Aldershot to London (R.E. and Signals Board).
Major R. T. Williams from Aldershot to Jubbulpore (S.T.C.).
Major E. Levett from Scarborough to Hong Kong Signal Company.
Major F. T. Pope from Canterbury to Singapore (Malaya Signal Company).
Captain F. P. L. Gray from Catterick to Aldershot ("D" Troop, Mobile Divisional Signals).
Captain W. J. S. Gray from Blackdown to Karachi ("B" Corps Signals).
Lieutenant G. A. Dutton from Aldershot to Rawalpindi ("A" Corps Signals).
Lieutenant P. A. Watts from Aldershot to Rawalpindi (1st Divisional Signals).
2nd Lieutenant N. D. Shaw from Aldershot to Rawalpindi (1st Divisional Signals).
Lieutenant E. W. Townsend from Catterick to Blackdown (1st A.A. Group Signals).

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

[War Office, 17/12/37]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Lieutenant F. T. Britton resigns his commission, 18/12/37.
R. J. G. Blackett to be 2nd Lieutenant, 18/12/37.
F. J. Behets to be 2nd Lieutenant, 18/12/37.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

The London Corps Signals. C. H. Spens to be 2nd Lieutenant, 18/12/37.

48th (S.M.) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant D. G. Collins to be Captain, 30/10/37.

55th (W.L.) Divisional Signals. 2nd Lieutenant N. B. Wright to be Lieutenant, 14/11/37.

[War Office, 21/12/37]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. C. Penney, O.B.E., M.C., rewarded the D.S.O. for distinguished services rendered in the field in connection with the Operations in Waziristan during the period 17th January to 15th September, 1937.

Lieutenant J. P. North to be Member of the Military Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire for valuable services rendered in the field in connection with the Operations in Waziristan during the period 17th January to 15th September, 1937.

The undermentioned Captains to be Majors, 21/12/37 : W. O. Bowen, O.B.E., T. C. Thompson, M.C., C. L. Morgan, R. N. Higgs.

The undermentioned Captains are restored to establishment, 22/12/37 : C. A. H. Chadwick, C. G. Moore.

The undermentioned Lieutenants to be Captains : A. J. H. Masters, 21/12/37, D. N. Van Der Goot, 22/12/37.

[War Office, 28/12/37]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

North Midland Corps Signals. P. L. Yorke to be 2nd Lieutenant, 29/12/37, with seniority 29/6/36.

[War Office, 31/12/37]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

42nd (E.L.) Divisional Signals. 2nd Lieutenant R. H. Clegg to be Lieutenant, 14/11/37.

48th (S.M.) Divisional Signals. J. W. Swinnerton to be 2nd Lieutenant, 1/1/38.

[War Office, 4/1/38]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Major F. K. Wilson is seconded for service on the Staff in India, 3/1/38.

Captain D. M. Smyth to be Adjutant, 1/12/37.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

The undermentioned Brevet promotions are made with effect from 1/1/38 :

2nd Cavalry (Middlesex Yeomanry) Divisional Signals. Major G. S. Sale, M.C., T.D., to be Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel.

48th (S.M.) Divisional Signals. Captain F. E. B. Jones to be Brevet Major.

51st (H.) Divisional Signals. Capt. A. H. Lennie to be Brevet Major.

1st A.A. Divisional Signals. Captain A. H. Croucher to be Brevet Major.

[War Office, 7/1/38]

REGULAR ARMY.

Colonel (temp. Brigadier) E. A. Osborne, D.S.O., to be Major-General, 17/12/37.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.

D. C. W. Sabine (late Captain, T.A.) to be Lieutenant, 8/1/38.

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 Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant.

2306530	W.O.II (C.S.M.) Strange F.	1/9/37	.. 6

Promoted Warrant Officer, Class II (Company Sergeant-Major).

4680127	C.Q.M.S. Beverley E.	11/8/37	.. 15
2308550	C.Q.M.S. Holmes W.	2/9/37	.. 14
2306766	C.Q.M.S. Minion R.	21/9/37	.. 16

Promoted Company Quartermaster-Sergeant.

2313903	Sergeant Jackson J.	2/9/37	.. 17
2309827	Sergeant Storr P.	2/9/37	.. 17
3435078	Sergeant Greenall J.	14/9/37	.. 17
2311036	Sergeant Anthony J.	21/9/37	.. 17

Promoted Sergeant.

2312100	L/Sergeant Dowie W.	25/8/37	.. 34
2312630	L/Sergeant Rawson W.	2/9/37	.. 34
2306823	L/Sergeant Robson I.	21/9/37	.. 34
2316689	L/Sergeant Cosstick F.	21/9/37	.. 34
2309046	L/Sergeant Eisele S.	21/9/37	.. 34
2306650	L/Sergeant Dawson S.	30/9/37	.. 34

Appointed Lance Sergeant.

2316215	Corporal Lowes R.	14/7/37	.. 42
2316122	Corporal Ray G.	2/9/37	.. 41
†2309554	Corporal Walsh W.	21/9/37	..
25365	Corporal Davenport P.	24/9/37	.. 42
2313623	Corporal Fairclough R.	26/9/37	.. 42
2316950	Corporal Allen W.	27/9/37	.. 43
2318651	Corporal Bennet E.	30/9/37	.. 43
7109684	Corporal Reilly A.	11/10/37	.. 43
2311391	Corporal Geere W.	23/10/37	.. 43
2314002	Corporal Connolly J.	31/10/37	.. 40

Promoted Corporal.

2311348	Signalman McNab W. J.	11/10/37	
2318349	L/Corporal Barton F.	26/8/37	.. 63
2318491	L/Corporal Drake R.	2/9/37	.. 57
2321303	L/Corporal Kime W.	2/9/37	.. 63
2317970	L/Corporal Nash R.	20/9/37	.. 60
2307098	L/Corporal Emblen C.	29/9/37	.. 62
2317169	L/Corporal Ogden J.	21/9/37	.. 62
2320730	L/Corporal Spence C.	30/9/37	..
2321930	L/Corporal Ditchfield O.	30/9/37	.. 63
2561916	L/Corporal O'Malley B.	14/10/37	.. 58
5722407	L/Corporal Taylor H.	15/10/37	.. 63
2319602	L/Corporal Halstead B.	23/10/37	.. 63

† Corrected Date.

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2320930	L/Corporal Boffy J.	23/10/37	.. 63
2319969	L/Corporal Pyne L.	27/10/37	.. 63
2320982	L/Corporal Cunningham M.	28/10/37	.. 63
2320583	L/Corporal Davidson F.	31/10/37	.. 57

Appointed Lance Corporal.

2316735	Signalman Hurley T.	15/5/37
4340083	Signalman McClarron R.	21/5/37
2318515	Signalman Marsh E.	21/5/37
5883252	Signalman Lewin R.	23/5/37
2321835	Signalman Cameron D.	24/5/37
2323368	Signalman Ward B.	25/5/37
2565704	Signalman Ingram R.	29/5/37
2319799	Signalman Summers G.	29/5/37
2323066	Signalman Holder W.	29/5/37
2322162	Signalman Molony G.	29/5/37
2323410	Signalman Butler F.	29/5/37
2322204	Signalman McDonald P.	29/5/37
2323314	Signalman Reen A.	1/6/37
5613994	Signalman Kingdom W.	2/6/37
2322310	Signalman Alexander D.	6/6/37
2320196	Signalman Graham J.	7/6/37
2321293	Signalman Green J.	8/6/37
2319369	Signalman Grattage S.	14/6/37
2323665	Signalman Bell E.	17/6/37
2320642	Signalman Mires H.	19/6/37
2569727	Signalman Gibson J.	21/6/37
2318953	Signalman Thomas R.	23/6/37
45164	Signalman Fairclough E.	24/6/37
2319066	Signalman Finch C.	24/6/37
2315563	Signalman Burke C.	25/6/37
2323083	Signalman Shillito G.	30/6/37
2323475	Signalman Driscoll D.	30/6/37
4074893	Signalman Evans F.	30/6/37
2318812	Signalman Blount W.	30/6/37

Deceased.

2315520	L/Sergeant Ferrier F.	10/12/37	.. 43

Discharged.

*3179748	C.Q.M.S. Wall W.	26/11/37	.. 73
2306919	C.Q.M.S. Mears L.	30/12/37	.. 14
2310994	C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Stather R.	12/12/37	.. 10
*1850361	Sergeant Stevens S.	14/11/37	.. 73
2315280	Sergeant Millen S.	7/12/37	.. 31
2309050	Sergeant Talling R.	9/12/37	.. 22
2309056	Sergeant Newmarch A.	9/12/37	.. 22
*2922680	Sergeant Murphy J.	28/12/37	.. 74
2310872	L/Sergeant Coton W.	26/11/37	.. 39
6393532	Corporal Cooke W.	6/12/37	.. 55
6392819	Corporal McDonald P.	31/12/37	.. 47
2317334	Corporal Gibson C.	31/12/37	.. 45
2310667	Corporal Gattrell F.	17/12/37	..
2317488	Corporal Cole S.	19/12/37	..

Army Reserve.

2317168	Corporal Richardson W.	16/12/37	.. 53
2320367	Corporal Holland S.	22/12/37	.. 64
2320342	L/Corporal Bassford A.	5/1/38	

* Special Roster.

Corps Golf.

The Royal Signals Annual Golf Meeting will be held at the Berkshire Club, Ascot, on 20th and 21st April, 1938.

First Day: Royal Signals Championship and Royal Signals Handicap.

Second Day: Royal Signals Bogey Singles and Royal Signals Bogey Foursomes.

All events, except the Championship, are open to serving and retired Royal Signals officers of the Regular and Territorial Armies and the Supplementary Reserve.

Post entries will be accepted, but it would be of great assistance if intending competitors would notify Major H. S. Lewis-Barclay, 4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury, stating whether they require caddies.

(Signed) H. S. LEWIS-BARCLAY, Major, Royal Signals,
Captain of Royal Signals Golf.

Plain Tales

Society Gossip.—It is possible that you have never met Robin Malcolm Lacey, because I am informed by no less an authority than his parents that he was born on 2nd November, 1937. With a hearty resounding name like that he should go far, and goodness knows he is far enough already, on the North-West Frontier of India. Congratulations, children. Bring him along sometime.

I see Sergeant Tom (Loud Pedal) Sayers is still in H.M. Service. If I knew his address I could send him a Christmas card that I have saved since 1935. Sergeant Harry Ring, last heard of in Chester, failed to send me a card for 25th December, but as I always forget to send him one, this is perhaps not surprising.

Chas. C. Cronin, a civilian these many years, has been given a rise in his job, and will be leaving Dover in the near future. His charming daughter has done much to break down my prejudice against little girls between the ages of twelve and fifteen years.

With no surprise whatever, I received a card from Frank Shakespeare of Catterick, bearing also the greetings of the complete Fred Ticehurst family. That it was a penny one from Woolworths I know for certain, because I sent it to him myself early in the month. It's the poor what 'elps the poor.

They tell me that R.Q.M.S. Jim Adcock is going to India again. Well, it's a fine country, and with Jim's command of Hindustani, he may do big things. Example: Yeh chiz saf karo and er—fill the—up karo. How those ink wells used to dry up.

Professor Nokes, the eminent authority on Mud, called on me during the evening of the day on which I left Birmingham for the south-east coast. The sort of thing he would do after all these years.

Sergeant Winter W. left the 48th Signals, Birmingham, for Bulford, and is replaced by Sergeant Walker H. It is hoped that both will feel satisfied with this arrangement. Sergeant Walker brought me congratulations for no reason at all. I like to think that it was a genuine error, for nothing would give me greater satisfaction than to earn those particular plaudits. Let us hark back to paragraph 1, and reflect on the good fortune of our friends.

Advertisement.—They are making an effort to sell the WIRE to the T.A. in Birmingham. A number of Sergeants' Mess members have stated that they will buy the WIRE if Mess notes appear. Perhaps they would like to see their names in print. Fred Bromhall says if he has his name in print at all, he would like it to be on the centre page of some Littlewood literature. That *means* something. Writing notes for the T.A. is a delicate business, and seems to demand a special technique. I am not, at the moment, prepared to tackle it. However, it certainly would be a good thing for the magazine if we could persuade the whole T.A. to sport 7d. a month. What can we do to attract more correspondents or to inspire present contributors to even greater efforts? After considerable thought and negotiation I have myself decided to offer ten empty oil drums to the writer of the best T.A. contribution published in April. The winner will only be required to send me the railway charges for this magnificent prize. Even notes about despatch riders will be considered.

By the way, did you observe? No notes from 3rd Divisional Signals in January. Tut, tut! Not to say Tck, tck!

From the Papers.—Found in the miscellaneous column of a Birmingham paper. "For sale. One large second-hand cesspool." It has been truly said that one may buy almost anything in Birmingham, though what a buyer would do with a cesspool, except try to give it away, is a little beyond me. Perhaps the present type of English pool differs in many ways from the war-time variety that one encountered from time to time in France. Remind me to tell you how I fell in one, on a dark and stormy night in 1917.

It is reported in a London paper that a new type of R.S.M. gets results by studying psychology. He goes into each case individually and secures the lad's confidence. I can imagine that the old-time drivers of 3rd Divisional Signals would have fallen for this in a big way. " Ee, Ee, sergeant-major, I'll clean your saddle." The only R.S.M. I ever knew who gave psychology a second thought, spent a whole afternoon searching through the " S " pages of a standard dictionary to see how it was spelt. Then he went out, and with one shout split the concrete parade ground in four places.

What else was it I had from a London paper ? Oh, I know. Chips ! The vinegar went right through and damaged my overcoat, and the inside of the car reeked for days. Let's forget it.

Uplift Dept.—Continuing our campaign for the intelligent soldier. Time limit of one minute allowed for the following :

A " seven plus three " is :	(a) A Jubbulpore golfer.
	(b) A cocktail.
	(c) A confounded nuisance.
2nd Divisional Signals is (or are) :	(a) Split notes on buzzers.
	(b) Obscure sections in China.
	(c) A magnificent body of men.
A Lance Corporal is :	(a) A piece of decaying vegetation.
	(b) An old Act of Parliament.
	(c) A useful member of society.
Pokey drill is :	(a) A complicated card game.
	(b) A tool for decarbonising.
	(c) A pleasant afternoon.

Ukann Larfe.—Inspector Faceache and Hermione worked with infinite patience and eventually placed the last piece of paper on the board. " There's the complete letter," said the Inspector, straightening his back painfully.

" Read it, Facey," whispered Hermione fearfully.

At that moment, a terrific gust of wind swept across the lagoon, and the flimsy pieces of paper went sailing away over the trees, in the water and under the bushes.

" Well, that seems to be that," observed the Inspector, wearily. " Let's eat."

* * *

Ukann Larfe settled himself in a corner of a first class compartment on the 10.53 p.m. Dover to London train, and lit a cigarette. " I'll learn 'em," he muttered.

* * *

Look out for our next thrilling instalment.

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Royal Signals, Trimulgherry.

Miniature Tattoo.

The Royal Signals, Trimulgherry, comprising 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop and 4th Indian Divisional Signals, endeavoured to emulate the feats of their better-known compatriots, " Olympia Signals," by staging a Miniature Tattoo at Trimulgherry on 18th November, 1937.

There was a large attendance, and the officers were "At Home " to the Station. Amongst the guests who watched the display were the Resident of Hyderabad State, the District Commander and the two Brigade Commanders. To say that the show was a success is to put it mildly, and to quote the words of one of the guests, " It is the best show I have seen for a long time."

The display was held on the Divisional Signals Sports Ground and commenced at 5.15 p.m. The first three items on the programme was carried through before dark, and the remainder looked the more spectacular because of the dusk and lighting effects. The surrounding trees were gaily decorated with coloured lights ; flood lights, erected on lorries and controlled by telephone, illuminated the performers. The Officers' Enclosure resembled " Shepheards " of Cairo at its best. Small but important items, such as the car park, music, seating accommodation, refreshments, etc., were excellently arranged, and the general idea appeared to be that when Signals give a display it *is* a display.

The Pipe Band of the Indian Signal Corps came down from Jubbulpore specially for the occasion, and this was its first appearance in Trimulgherry. The Band beat " Retreat " and " Tattoo," the latter by torchlight, giving selections on both occasions. Great admiration was expressed by the guests at their excellent turn-out and skill, and there is no doubt that the Band is one of the best in the Indian Army. Their attendance at the display went a long way to enhancing the reputation of the Corps and to making the display such a success.

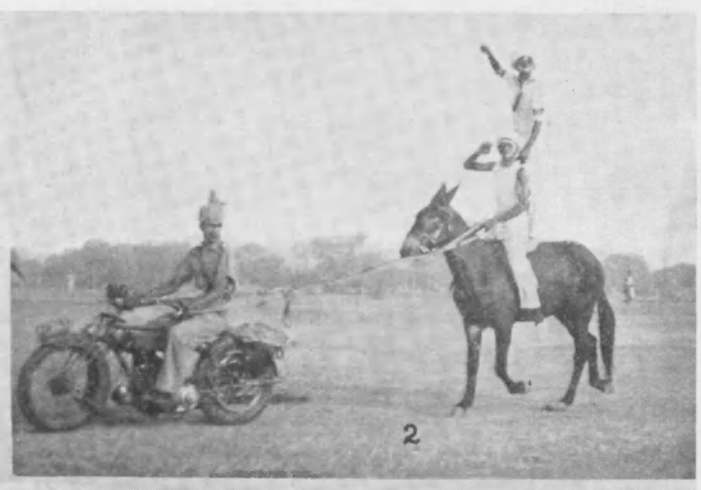
The programme was as follows :

5.15 p.m.	Horse and Motor-cycle Ride. W/T side-car. Tandem ride. A mule.
5.50 p.m.	Interval.
6.10 p.m.	" Retreat." The Pipe Band.
6.25 p.m.	P.T. display.
6.35 p.m.	D.R. ride.
6.45 p.m.	A horse.
6.50 p.m.	Interval.
7.10 p.m.	" Indianisation " by the D.R.s.
7.15 p.m.	" Tattoo." The Pipe Band. Madrassi Village Dance.
7.40 p.m.	God Save the King.

Each performance received hearty applause, but the funniest show of the evening was undoubtedly the " Comic Horse," represented by Corporal Brennan (fore) and Lance Corporal Snowball (hind). These B.O.R.s should go west to Hollywood, as they definitely possess unique acting ability, combined with that delicate flavour of bright ideas, which can make or mar an actor's career. Their show was an imitation of a " barbary " horse, complete with bucks, sidesteps and the latest dance steps. After attempting to ride a " scooter," they mounted a motor-cycle and did some dirt-track riding. It is just as well the Unit dogs were chained up, especially the albino Great Dane of

ROYAL SIGNALS, TRIMULGHERRY, MINIATURE TATTOO.

1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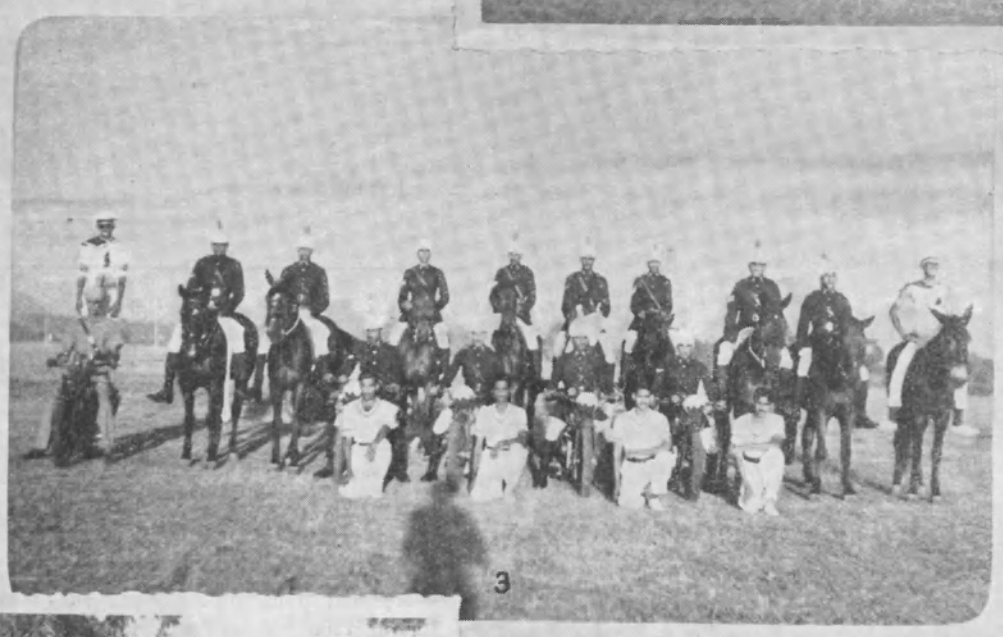
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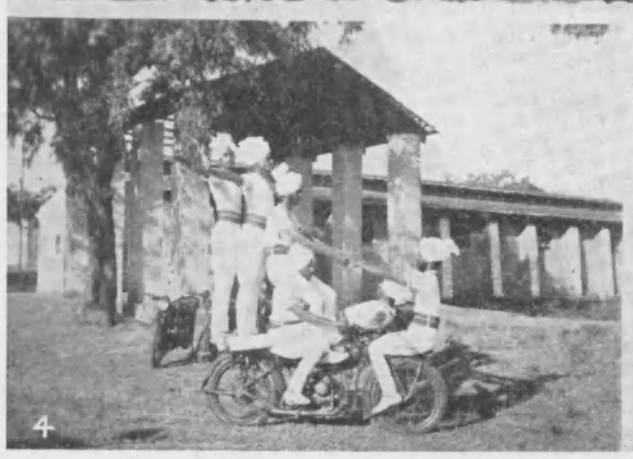
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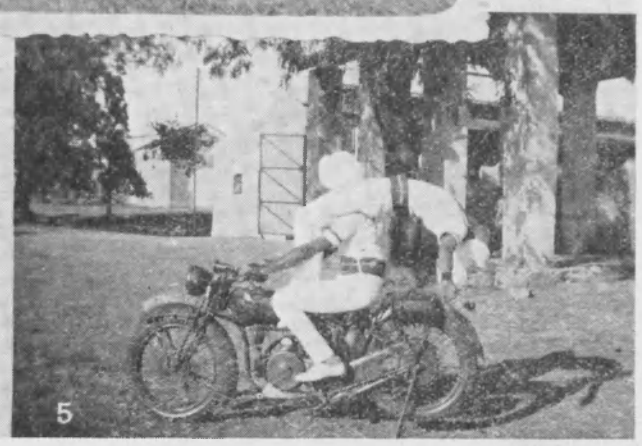
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1. Horse and Motor Cycle Ride—A Pair.
2. A Mule.
3. The Troop Display Team.
4. The Divisional Signals D.R. Display Team.
5. Some Trick Riding.

Lieutenant Whistler. A brief description of each event is given below.

Horse and Motor-cycle Ride.—Eight Indian ranks of the Troop, four mounted on motor-cycles and four on horses, gave an exhibition of riding and jumping. The harmony with which the display was carried out showed great skill and patience on the part of the performers. This event culminated in all four horses jumping together a bar placed on the motor-cycles.

W/T Side-car.—This show was a huge success and gave the spectators something to think about before the secret was divulged. The idea was to control a motor-cycle and side-car by wireless, a dummy set of an unwanted soapbox, spare parts, aerial, etc., being the camouflage. Prior to this event, Captain Hoblyn addressed the crowd on the inventive minds of our modern generation, referring to the wireless-controlled aeroplane, and stating that Signals had invented a wireless-controlled motor-cycle and side-car.

After tuning up, the sidecar started on a jig-saw tour of the ground, eventually apparently getting out of control, when it crashed and turned completely over. The finish was intended to be the " conking-out " of the cycle, but this unexpected spectacular finale certainly thrilled the crowd. Lance Corporal Taylor S., who was the phantom in the side-car, deserves a pat on the back for such a thrilling finish. This event definitely had the crowd wondering until he popped his head out of the side-car.

Tandem Ride.—Another event by the Troop which showed that horses and motor-cycles can be the best of friends. Similar to a musical ride, the horses and cycles performed the unusual sight of a horse controlled by an Indian rank on the back of a motor-cycle in perfect harmony. It is understood that an offer was made by a circus proprietor to purchase the horses ; they certainly were well trained.

Comic Mule.—You have all heard the saying, " Don't be mulish." Well, this performance had to be seen to be believed, and shows that a mule can be as gentle and patient as a lamb. A funny feature was the opening and closing of the mule's mouth throughout the show ; this underworld sound was accentuated by the loud speaker. By the way, the loud speaker was brought out specially from England by Colonel Pocock, and this was the first occasion it had been used in the Station. It was undoubtedly a very great asset, and enabled the spectators to keep in close touch with the programme.

P.T. Display.—An excellent display of physical fitness by the Indian ranks of the Divisional Signals. This event received great praise from the spectators and was considered to be one of the best events of the evening.

D.R. Ride.—The Indian D.R.s of the Divisional Signals gave an exhibition of skill and daring, and proved that they are just as good as their white brothers. The motor-cycles were lit up with small coloured lights fixed to the machines, giving them quite a phantom appearance in the darkness.

Madrassi Stick Dance.—The Madrassis of the Divisional Signals showed the guests how they celebrate special occasions in their villages. This show reminded one of African films depicting natives on the warpath.

Motor-cycle Torch Hand-Over.—This event was intended to symbolise the gradual Indianisation of the Corps. Four British ranks, mounted on motor-cycles numbered " 1934," paraded in front of the Stand, one of them (Corporal Rhodes) holding a lighted torch. Four Indian ranks on motor-cycles numbered " 1937 " then entered the arena, and the torch was duly handed over.

The display ended with a " Grand March Past " of all performers, Band and torch-bearers, led by Lieutenant Whistler, and, needless to say, the " Comic Horse " captured the laurels by wheeling a pram containing its offspring, though no one knows where this offspring sprang from. Was it really No. 74 ? The hind of the horse had a sore back after passing some of the Indian spectators, and they must have obtained some satisfaction from the fact that it was too tired even to retaliate.

The success of the programme was due largely to the fact that it was so selective and varied, and there was little chance of the spectators becoming bored with items of a similar nature.

It is now hoped to give an Annual Display, and our motto is to be " Bigger and Better Every Year." The success of the evening was undoubtedly due to the energetic work of the organisers, and congratulations are due to Major Bushby, Captain Anderson, Captain Hoblyn, Lieutenant Whistler, and all the performers, both dumb and otherwise, for combining to make the show one of the best ever seen in Trimulgherry.

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The Soldier Prepares for "Civvy Street."

By R. J. T. HILLS.

Aldershot had had a hectic morning. The Foot had slogged, the Horse was groomed, Gunners, Sappers and the rest had lived and moved and had their joyous being. Bugles and trumpets blared " Cook-house " in grateful ears.

Up Thornhill way a hooter sounded strangely. In a score of workshops, tools were downed. Dusty hands, paint-flecked hands and frankly filthy hands stripped off disguising overalls and donned the badged caps of a hundred Corps. The Army Vocational Training Centre had " knocked off."

Part of the system, this civlian atmosphere. These men are shortly leaving the world of " wait for it " for the wider sphere where " get on with it " is the order of the day. They are five hundred wise soldiers, who, of good character and reasonable aptitude, have applied for a Vocational Course, and are spending their last six months' Colour Service in learning, or developing, a trade. The soldier leaves his Unit encompassed about with his familiar cloud of Army forms. From the day on which his Course commences he works civilian hours in a civilian way, " checks in and out," fills in his time sheet, and generally tunes himself in to the bewildering theory and practice of " Civvy Street."

The training is not a wearying six months " by numbers." After a few weeks of " how to do it," the " voco " man is treated as a workman and finds himself gaining experience in actually " doing it "—welding cooking stands for the R.A.S.C., machining

gun-carriers for the R.A.O.C., erecting quarters, offices and stores for the Royal Engineers, decarbonising cars for officers, upholstering chairs for sergeant-majors and mending boots for privates—although rumour has it that it will soon be cars for privates and boots for officers!

Although the training is practical, the necessary theory is not overlooked, and a lecture room, equipped with a sound film projector and epidiascope, is used daily; films and experts on the various trades being borrowed from civilian firms.

The Aldershot Centre grew from a block of offices and a couple of Army huts. With these exceptions, the entire Centre has been the labour of student hands. Workshops, married quarters, machinery, heating systems, sundials, weather-vanes—their construction and installation have all made good practical training.

The Centre classes reflect in some degree the labour situation. In 1928 one welder was trained. Last year, in the most up-to-date welders' shop in the country, 208 men received instruction in welding, 132 in sheet metal work and 98 as fitters and machinists.

Most students leave with their own kit of tools. They are encouraged to buy them through the Centre on what the Army knows as the "now or never" system.

Results? The Centre, of course, runs its own Employment Bureau, and in 1936-37, 87.3 per cent. of the students discharged were found employment, and in the six months ending 31st October, 1937, 90.3 per cent. The wages earned by ex-students naturally vary, but I saw numbers of letters from "old boys" earning £4 to £6 a week. To such an extent are employers realising the worth of the men that it is often necessary to grant premature discharges to fill vacancies.

It is not claimed that students are fully trained craftsmen. Six months is not long in which to become one, but keenness is the keynote of vocational training, and the Centre, by organised method and expert civilian instructors, turn out well trained men, who have the ability to use their tools, and can do the work as well as the average mechanic. They ask only a "fair field and no favour." They are grown men of excellent character, well grounded in a trade they have chosen for themselves.

One generation advertises the next. "My boss asked me," writes one, "if I could get another like myself, so I told him about Corporal L." Another writes, "I have had a rise, and my pay each week is now well over £4 5s. od. The foreman asked me if there were any more about to finish. I informed him there are, so he is 'phoning you."

Up to the minute in method, the Centre brings the modern slogan to its aid. "Think" slogans point a cheerful moral from every workshop wall and give a cheery tone to "Links," the periodical published by the Centre. "A hen doesn't quit scratching because the worms are scarce," or "There are splinters in the ladder of success, but you don't notice them going up." Machinists are warned, "The most important nut is the loose one." "The only thing that comes to him who waits is whiskers."

Students go out to meet criticism. In the slightly foreign atmosphere of the Aldershot Show, the Centre's exhibits are the awe of all beholders. At the last Trades' Exhibition at Olympia, the soldier apprentices in competition with the London Technical Trade Schools carried off first prizes for the best stand in hammered ironwork; a silver medal for turned woodwork; a bronze medal for cast lead work, and two prizes and three diplomas for brickwork.

All students, when they leave, automatically become members of an "Old Students' Association" with its "old school tie" and, if they need it, receive assistance with their trade, and their pocket.

There is practical philosophy and common sense in the theme of the Army Vocational Training Centre:

"Sittin' still and wishin'
Don't make anyone great;
The Lord provides the fishin'
But you've got to dig the bait."

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Royal Canadian Signals.

There are dogs—

and dogs!

We have frequently indulged our readers with extracts and anecdotes culled from *The Royal Canadian Signals Monthly Bulletin*, and the following episode, dated from Dawson City, Yukon Territory, March, 1937, is thoguht to be of sufficient interest to warrant repetition. It aptly illustrates "Dogs and their divers uses," or "Pleasant Sunday afternoons with our Canadian brethren in the Yukon."

DAWSON CITY, Y.T. (64° 5′ NORTH, 139° 25′ WEST)
March, 1937.

Nothing really startling this month except my little dog-mushing experience on Sunday afternoon, but perhaps that doesn't come under the heading of sports; in fact, as far as

I'm concerned, 'tis no sport — it's downright mayhem.

A neighbour of mine had to make a hurried trip to hospital; operation for appendicitis or a leg off, or something, and he begged me—with tears in his eyes—to look after his little dogs while he was away—six of the biggest, meanest, hungriest, men-eating malemutes that ever howled. To recount *all* my grief and experiences while simply preparing food and feeding those straight intestined hyenas would take too long; and besides, only fellow dog-punchers would believe me, I'm afraid. So I'll confine my remarks, devoid of all outrageously colourful and typically doggy ones, to the bare essentials and more or less interesting and harrowing details of the doggiest event of a lifetime. Luckily I took along a friend to share the honours and glory of battle or the outcome of the doggy debacle might have been disastrous.

'Twas a gorgeous day; however. The lure of the wide open faces and spaces had its way with us, and, in a moment of weakness, we decided to take the dogs for a run. Pause here while you old-timers snicker up your vests! That's right. The DOGS took US for a run—and how! They had been tied up for weeks and were absolutely 95 per cent. dynamite for a couple of greenhorns to handle if we'd only stopped to consider. BUT, our blood was up, too, so we bravely barged in where angels and Indians often fear to tread.

The harnessing muddle was the first test of will-power and wild animal training. The minute we lugged out the harness the uproar that broke out resembled nothing less than the second battle of Ypres, and it was more than our lives were worth to go within three feet of those wildly prancing pups until we overcame our humane scruples and waded in right and left with a bull whip and a convenient length of two-by-four. Of course, what appeared like a general canine riot was nothing more or less than good clean fun and frolic at the prospect of—er, taking US for a ride.

Hitching those turbulent tikes to the sled almost had us licked. Of all the doggy feuds that came to life! Time and time again they bunched up in a grand "free-for-all," which took some time to quell by dint of much bull whipping, shouting and cussing—then the harness would be all cock-eyed and time-out must be taken to straighten, patch and re-arrange it; to say nothing of allowing our frazzled tempers to cool off a bit, too.

Finally, we were ready to hitch up, and, after wiggling the sled into position, I was all set to snap the traces fast, while my partner struggled manfully to control the madly contorting column of canine cussedness, when, believe it or not—one of Dawson's six and only cats had to stomp recklessly into view not more than 50 feet from potential annihilation. The stampede that ensued beggars description. With one convulsive leap, and joyous yelps of great glee, those six crazy curs headed for that dumb kitty like a bat out of hades—with yours truly grimly hanging full length to the rear trace spreader or whiffle tree, and my 210-pound partner draped over half the Yukon, cussing and hollering a blue streak while clutching the collar of the second dog. We were dragged downhill a good half block or more before the not so goofy feline lured the whole cataclysmic cavalcade off the trail and we bogged down in deep snow and a young forest of "rabbit" willows. And I'll swear those damn dogs squatted on their haunches and actually laughed at us—come to think of it, we must have been funny-looking objects; smothered in snow, tangled harness and murderous mortification.

By this time we had quite an audience from far and near, attracted no doubt by the unusual stir and uproar, and, despite the ribald comments and criticism of the numerous onlookers we welcomed their aid in getting us sorted out and more or less ship or dog-shape again. Of course, by now, too, every unattached harness-chewing cur and rabbit hound in town had flocked to the scene of combat and complicated things considerably. It was a veritable Donnybrook Fair and lion tamers' nightmare at times, but eventually we collected our scattered wits and ensemble, had all the harness and spare parts thereof once more where they belonged and, following what seemed good advice, commenced hitching the frisky pups—average weight about 80 lbs., by the way—to the sled one at a time, while the sled was securely snubbed to a convenient telephone pole and facing up the hill. This seemed like a very wise precaution; those hounds were simply rarin' and raging to go places, and we had to literally hang on to 'em every second, or they would have been away to the races like a flash.

Everything went fine till difficulties and doubts arose as to which was the leader and which the wheel dog. Such fine distinction had not occurred to us till now. More fiddling and fuming! Finally we followed the good old Yukon custom of placing the smallest animal in the lead, and the biggest brute in the wheel position next the sled—this we later found was the regular line-up. At last we were ready to take off. The plan was to head up the long steep A.C. trail and give the dogs a chance to blow off steam while we retained—er—more or less control of the sled up-grade. BUT, the best laid plans don't mean a hooraw in hades to a string of animated dynamite. We should have been prepared for what followed. Two husky lads held the leaders, while other willing hands helped keep the rest of the line-up more or less in order, and another little playmate stood by to cast off the drag rope. And were those moose-maulers clamouring and yearning to step out? Six weeks they had been tied up. Oh, well, we should have known better.

My partner jumped into the sled, and I hung on to the handle bars in the best dog-mushing style; with a yip to the crowd to stand clear, and a lusty yahoo to the dogs, we were off—DOWN hill instead of up. Was my face red? With a left-about face executed in one mad bound, we were on our way—willy-nilly, helter-skelter or what have you. The sled toppled over on its side; my pard was thrown out, but he managed to hang on to the raw-hide lashings of the upper side of the sled; and with the sudden twist and overthrow I was darn near left behind completely, but I grabbed hold of the drag rope as it whizzed by, and almost lost a couple of arms with the sudden jerk.

What a ride that turned out to be! Straight down King Street at a mile-a-minute clip, flat on my tummy and losing parts of my clothing and anatomy every second; and my partner was equally as uncomfortable and, if anything, doubly profane as he clung precariously to the bouncing cariol. We continued this undignified and bullet-like progress a distance of three blocks until we dived over the river bank on to the trail heading up river for Whitehorse. En route we narrowly missed side-swiping a truck which barged into our path from a side street; and came within an ace of causing sudden death or disaster to two little girls in charge of a wee baby in a hand-drawn sled. By this time both of us were perspiring gore from every pore while striving by all possible means to come up for air—long ago we'd quit yelling "Whoa" in every known language and lurid variation thereof.

All this hullabaloo and uproar was occasioned in not more than three minutes, flat, but seemed like three hours to us. However, luck was with us at last. As we volplaned off the main road and over the river bank, we made a sharp and rather unexpected recovery to normal procedure. The break from the main road, not more than four feet wide at most, was hard packed from frequent use and steeply rounded or banked in the form of a "U," and the angle at which we struck the "U" flung the sled upright, once more on to an even keel. Meantime, I'd been pulling myself hand over hand up the ten-foot drag rope (most sleds hereabouts are so equipped for just such emergencies) and the momentary pause at the crest of the drop on to the river trail (some ten or fifteen feet of steep slope at this point) enabled me to climb aboard and clamp down hard on the brake and slow up the mad rush so that my battered partner could crawl into the sleigh.

Once aboard the lugger the world was ours! And with scores of miles of splendid trail ahead of us we let the dogs take the bit in their teeth and run themselves to a standstill while we relaxed a bit. It was worth all the grief and galloping jitters after all. It was the thrill of a lifetime and a sight for sore eyes to see those hounds lay down into the collars and simply fly, yipping and yapping as they strained every muscle in one wild outburst of pent up pep and energy. Get along lil doggies, get along! This wild dash lasted a good two miles or so, then commenced to ease up—then stopped completely every few minutes until all the panting pups had washed their hands, or sumpin! They were not in shape for any lengthy speed trials or even for any distance. The first hectic hustling was merely due to high spirits at the prospect of being loose for a change, so we soon turned about and headed for home again.

Our arrival home was somewhat pathetic and a sorry sight compared with the dashing and devilish departure some three hours previously. There was no doggy serenade that night; and as we nursed our numerous bruises and scratches, we were firmly of the opinion that this dog-mushing racket is no kindergarten pastime to be indulged in lightly without much thought and consideration.

F. C. H.

HOME STATIONS

3RD DIVISIONAL SIGNALS. BULFORD CAMP

Panoramic Photograph Co. Manchester

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

School of Signals.

The last of the stragglers have been roped in from Christmas leave, and with six Courses all going strong, we are now back to normal. Roll on next Christmas, and let's make ourselves ill again.

Seriously, we are really looking forward to next Christmas very much. It appears that sometime before that date hot water will be available in the School of Signals lines, and, frankly, there is nothing that we want more. Instead of breaking off a few pints of water in the morning, a couple of turns of the tap and—presto! clouds of steam (we hope). We must confess to a little surprise at all this solicitude; we thought that such things only occurred with recruits and the like.

If it is not too late, may we offer our congratulations to all those members of the School who so ably assisted the Depot Battalion to win the Cobb Nicholls Cup.

Quite a few Schoolites have left us this month. Sergeant Finney and his family embarked for India on 6th January; Corporal Pearson embarked for China and the wars on 21st December, 1937; both C.S.M. Farley and Signalman Paddy Semple have left us pending discharge; and, finally, Signalman Herbert has gone to Aldershot to learn all about the Pay Corps.

Congratulations to Signalman "John" Rousseau, who was married to Miss Lena Thompson, at Hyde, on Christmas Day. What is the Q.M. like for week-ends, John?

Corporal (T/Sergeant) Clark has arrived to take up the duties of Assistant Instructor, and Signalman Robinson comes from China to abate the flood in the Orderly Room. Greetings!

S.O.S.

Sergeants' Mess.

Christmas Draw and Dance.—During the month of December our activities, naturally, have been of a festive nature, and, of these, our Christmas Draw and Dance was an outstanding event. It was held in the Mess on 16th December, 1937.

We were honoured during the evening by the presence of Brigadier F. A. Heyman, Colonel R. A. C. and Mrs. Henderson. and a goodly gathering of officers of the S.T.C. and their ladies, The prizes, plentiful and varied, were presented by Mrs. Henderson.

We do hope that the R.S.M. enjoyed his box of chocolates. The Draw was followed by a dance, which (said he, blushing) enjoyed the usual success of School of Signals dances. A sincere vote of thanks is due to the Christmas Draw and Dance Committee for producing a really enjoyable evening. To those who didn't click, better luck next time; to those who did, don't forget the empties!

Departures.—C.S.M. Farley to civilian life and the W.D. Police. Our best wishes go with Mrs. Farley and Jim. They both will be missed in the Mess, and we shall have to find a new lady champion snooker player. Sergeant Finney and family have gone to the shiny East, per H.M.T. *Lancashire*. Cheerio, Ernie, you might have left the car to the Mess. Now we've got to walk home.

Old Soldiers.—It is a matter of general interest, I think, to record that ex-Sergeant P. Dunn, Royal Signals, who has cast his aristocratic shadow in so many outposts of our far-flung Empire has, finally (we hope), settled with us as Caterer to the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess. Peter was discharged to pension on 2nd February, and, after touring Merrie England as he says, seeing life with a capital "L," decided that the call of a Sergeants' Mess was too strong for him, and so here he is. He now dispenses McEwan Youngers with a skill that must have taken years of practice. He informs me that he has invented a special tipple which is being reserved for all old friends who may care to call.

Christmas Party.—We held a merry little party in the Mess on 3rd January, complete with Christmas Tree, Santa Claus, presents for all and sundry, and plenty of children. Tea was followed by numerous games, the favourite being the old dodge of picking pennies from a tub of water. In spite of technical discouragement in the form of hidden live circuits, it was noticed that several electrically-minded youths scooped the pool by judiciously avoiding the "wet standings" and selecting the dry ones. C.Q.M.S. Lawrenson, in the role of Santa Claus, did his stuff truly and well. We do hope that his nice hot-water bottle is a comfort on these cold nights. After the departure of our young guests, loaded with their presents and—er—cake and things, we held a small dance, which made a very enjoyable finish to a really happy day.

Our thanks are due to R.S.M. Freemantle, C.Q.M.S. Mitson and his committee for arranging and producing a function which we hope will become a yearly event.

Congratulations.—To Sergeants (Duggy) Hague F., Glaze W. and Finn V. on being awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. (Who said undetected crime?)

Troopships.—We learn that our R.S.M. (R.S.M. Freemantle J. B. W.) will board one of these vessels during the early part of March and take up a certain amount of deck space until Karachi is reached. We are not going to say good-bye yet as it isn't time, but at the same time we welcome to the fold R.S.M. Price G., who has been posted to us from Karachi, and is at present enjoying his Blighty leave.

Tailpiece.—Someone recently described the procedure of the one and only way of producing WIRE notes worthy of cold print. Firstly, write your notes in pencil, then carefully hide them away for twenty-four hours. Find them again, read them, make the necessary facial expression—and tear them up. Write them again in ink, leave for two days to settle, blow off the covering of dust, and read. Fold them carefully, and place on a hot fire. When well browned (off), borrow a typewriter, making sure that no time remains for the notes to be left again, and you will find that WIRE notes will write themselves. (N.B.—If this doesn't work, buy a Planchette Board.)

"D" Company, Training Battalion.

General.—The Christmas leave has ended, and everyone is settling down again to normal routine. As usual, the mail has increased (for a few weeks), and the general topic is about "The glamour girl I left on leave."

Arrivals.—We welcome Lance Corporal Bunting from 3rd Divisional Signals, and hope that it will not be long before he is acclimatised to this snowy weather.

Departures.—The following have left our happy band : Lance Corporal Russell, Signalmen Gritton and Padbury (black-coaters) to 3rd Divisional Signals ; Signalmen Pennington, Liley and Parker (still more black-coaters) to other Field Units. Many recruits have left us for other Units.

Births.—The stork has been working overtime lately, and we congratulate the following on the arrival of a new-comer : Sergeant and Mrs. Jones, a son (David Roland), on 29th December, 1937 ; Sergeant and Mrs. Offord, a son (David Michael), on 23rd December, 1937, at the Military Families Hospital, Catterick Camp ; Signalman and Mrs. Aylett, a son.

Promotions and Appointments.—We congratulate the following on entering the senior Mess : Lance Sergeants Harbury and Wood J., also Lance Corporal Locke H. on discarding the " L."

Agony.—Heard on parade when the C.O. was inspecting the new recruits for the Training Battalion.

C.O. (to recruit) : "Are you going on Christmas leave ? Have you any money ?"

Recruit (brightly) : " Yes, sir ; but I've no money on me now." (Evidently he thought he was being " touched " for a loan.)

Roll on That Boat.—As a consolation to those in India, who are depending on this " trooper," may I mention that another draft leaves here on 8th March. It won't be long now !

H. E. S.

"E" Company, Training Battalion.

General.—We have got over the Christmas period, which, judging by the appearance of the faces about us, appears to have been an extremely successful one. Well, well ! Life is grand, and who cares, anyway ? All we want now is another excuse.

There has been quite a lot of activity in the Q.M.s and Regimental Tailors lately. I believe it is due to the Indian draft, which is being fitted out with coal scuttle hats and greenish canvas. Here is your chance, you fellows who went out last year. Some of them are brand new. Remember, it is the first four and a half that " grips " you ! You need the last six months for packing.

Sergeant (Mick) Lewis was warned rather suddenly. Is he downhearted ? At least he isn't showing it, but he will very likely write a very stiff essay-like letter to no-one in particular and sort the lot out. " Mick," will you tell them just how it is on your arrival ? I am sure you will do us proud.

Overheard on the last bus from Darlington : " Eddy Company ! Oh ! that is where all the Instructors are puggled." (There may be something in this.)

Queries.—" D " Wing : Re " Foxie " the constable. Are recent rumours true ?

Why did a certain " Jock " come to our Company ? Look out, 'Pindi ! This is a fair warning.

Is the conversation at the Junior N.C.O.s' Mess table still interesting ?

What was the Wampus Charbi Club ?

Where is Carnoustie ? Has it a football team ?

Sheer Spite.—Hullo, needle nose ! You never could ride or cuss. So what ? Bhoosa Bonce.

Arrivals.—Captain E. S. Cole, Royal Signals, from " F " Company ; Corporal Melmore L. from 2nd Divisional Signals ; Signalman Evers-Swindell F. from 1st Divisional Signals.

Departures.—Major A. J. Harris, O.B.E., Royal Signals, to the Senior Officers' School, Sheerness ; Lieutenant T. E. Dobson, Royal Signals, to School of Signals ; Lance Sergeant Smith A. T. to School of Signals (F-of-S Course) ; Signalman Heward W. to 1st Divisional Signals ; Signalman Marshall C. to Army Reserve ; Lance Sergeant Davey R. to " D " Company (pending draft) ; Sergeants Lewis F., Hart R. and Daw R. to " F " Company (pending draft).

The following left for India on 7th January : Sergeant Clarke C., Lance Sergeant Jones H., Corporal Lynam W., Lance Corporals Rylatt G., Axson G. and Lockey B., Signalmen Sheppard C., Etherington R., Watson J., Violet E., Calder J., Sweeney W., Dean T., Longhurst A., Taylor B. and Spillett R.

Promotions.—Congratulations to the following on attaining the ranks shown : Lance Sergeant Clarke C. W., to Sergeant, 13th November, 1937 ; Lance Sergeant Daw R., to Sergeant, 16th November, 1937 ; Lance Corporal Skinner W., to Corporal, 13th November, 1937 , Lance Corporal Ebbage F., to Corporal, 17th November, 1937.

"F" Company, Training Battalion.

General.—Well, Christmas is over, and everyone has settled down to normal routine, although it was not too easy for the first few days. We have a very good bill of health : there are only two cases in hospital, and one whilst on leave. It was grand to see Catterick without snow. The weather at present is indifferent, fine spells coming between wintry squalls (at least that is what I believe they are called). We have started to use the dining hall again—all hampers brought from home have run out.

On Wednesday, 15th December, we had our Annual Concert, Dinner and Dance. The Commanding Officer, Major Hart and Captain Boileau attended the concert. 2nd Lieutenant Galloway kindly lent his services at the piano. The whole show was a huge success and was enjoyed by all. Many thanks are due to the committee, so ably managed by Lance Corporal Blades. Prizes were awarded as follows : Hut Turns, 1st, No. 9 ; 2nd, No. 2. Individual Acts, 1st, Lance Corporal Boy Finnigan T. ; 2nd, Lance Corporal Boy Sadd. An extra prize was awarded to Boys Finnigan E. and Thompson for their turn.

Arrivals.—During January in each year we receive a squad of Recruit Boys. This week we had twenty-three arrivals, and three more are still due. A hearty welcome is extended to them, and we hope that they have a pleasant tour of service.

Further arrivals next week will include a draft of twenty-nine senior N.C.O.s, junior N.C.O.s and men to be prepared for drafting to India on 8th March. Readers may probably be interested to learn their names : Sergeants Andrews E., Hart R., Lewis F. and Pronger ; Lance Sergeant Daw ; Corporals Dick, Rose and Wood ; Signalmen Oates W., Smith R., Tavener S., Cunningham D., Hamnett W., Holmes F., Rolleston J., Wilson M., Fuentes K., McCormick J., Collins G., Harris G., Cunningham J., Taylor B., Downie A., Hurrell J., Jacques F., Duyer L. and White H.

Departures.—Firstly, we must say farewell to our O.C., Major H. P. Hart, M.C. He left us to-day for leave, preparatory to sailing for India on 28th January. His destination is Quetta. Our best wishes go with you, sir, and may you soon settle down in your new Unit. The following ex-Boys have been posted to Field Units. Our best wishes go with them. May they soon be Generals : Signalman Harding, 4th Divisional Signals ; Signalman Lisseter, 5th Divisional Signals ; Signalmen Rowe and Hibling, " D " Troop, Mobile Divisional Signals.

Congratulations.—To Signalman Hocking of 3rd Divisional Signals on being chosen to represent the Corps at rugby. He left this Company during the last year.

Sport.—Owing to snow before Christmas there is nothing to report, but we are looking forward to plenty now. The North-

Eastern Cross-country Run is being held next month. We have held the Youths' Shield for the past two seasons, and intend to retain it this year for the third time.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess

Training Battalion.

Arrivals.—The hand of welcome is extended to Sergeant Thorne G., who has joined us from India, and we hope that he and his family will enjoy this breezy climate.

Congratulations to Lance Sergeants Harbury and Wood on their appointment. May they enjoy our company. Congratulations also to Sergeants Clarke and Daw on their uplift.

Departures.—We wished *bon voyage* to Sergeant Clarke, Lance Sergeants Jones H. and Bowie (ex-Ireland) on their departure for India on 8th January.

Marriages.—Congratulations to Lance Sergeant C. Jackman on the occasion of his marriage to Miss Edna Mary Bean, at Richmond, Yorkshire, on 23rd December, 1937. He leaves us next month for a tour in Malaya.

Births.—Congratulations to Sergeant "Don" and Mrs. Jones on the arrival of another young "Don"; also to Sergeant "Pop" Offord and Mrs. Offord on the birth of a son.

Children's Christmas Party.—This function was held in the Newbiggin Hall on 14th December, 1937. Santa Claus was undertaken again by C.Q.M.S. Edmunds, who also appeared in the same role this year for the Depot Battalion and School of Signals parties. He finished up nearly speechless. I don't mean what you mean. He had practically lost his speech during the course of his duties in this capacity, and anyone knowing out "Daddy Christmas" will realise what that handicap meant.

The party proved a great success, and thanks are due to Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Cary, the officers and their ladies, also the officers who took the part of "Nippys" at tea. Brigadier and Mrs. Heymann joined us at tea. I should say that the promoters were justly pleased with the results of their efforts.

Christmas Draw and Dance.—This was also held at the Newbiggin Hall on 20th December. The bar was in the hands of C.Q.M.S. Lawrie and Sergeant Kelly (both Egyptians). Between 600 and 700 tickets were sold for the Draw, and a great show of presents was made; indeed a voice was heard querying whether the N.A.A.F.I. had been shifted for that evening to Newbiggin Hall. Among those present we were very pleased to see Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., who did rather well in the way of prizes.

After the Draw had been completed, dancing commenced. This side of the function was ably supported by the Corps Dance Band, which everyone enjoyed. The evening was voted a great success. (Some of the members are still wondering if they had been there.)

Christmas Day.—The usual custom was observed, and Lieutenant-Colonel R. T. O. Cary (our C.O.), Major E. H. Du Cros (C.I.), Captain P. R. Hyde (Adjutant) and officers, together with the members of the Mess, gathered together prior to the men's dinner.

After toasts and "musical" honours, we adjourned to the Vimy Institute to see that all was well with the troops. There the Sergeants collected the jugs of beer—a few discovered the minerals—and the glasses of the men were charged and the food placed before the diners. The groaning heard must surely have been caused by the load upon the tables.

Driver Broadhead then made a speech, thanking the C.O., P.R.I., and everyone concerned for such a glorious spread. He commenced by saying: "Ahem! In all my seventeen years' service in the Corps I have never seen such a wonderful 'outlay,' shorry, gentlemen, I mean 'layout,' and on behalf of myself, 'Popeye,' and the troops, I thank you very much."

The C.O. suitably replied. Musical honours then followed, and so we left the jolly company to carry on.

Boxing Day in the Mess.—While everyone else was overcoming the Christmas hangovers, the dining members remaining behind held their "Do" on this day. To help the conviviality, C.Q.M.S. Molyneux (Molly) of the Depot and Taff Kelly (caterer) sat down at about 2.30 p.m. for dinner. The tables had been nicely decorated, under the supervision of "Jock" Lawrie, and the splendid menu, provided by Stan Dunningham of Scarborough fame, was thoroughly enjoyed. We managed to keep the Depot House member till about 9 p.m., when he began to think about his "fans" in his own Mess, and eventually tore himself away. Thanks, "Molly," for your very enjoyable company. Dodger says you can't play "Bowls" though.

Late News.—A party numbering twenty-six, including the ladies, set out for Leeds at 12.15 p.m. on Tuesday, 11th January. The object in view was a game of football with "A" Division, Leeds City Police, and to attend the Annual Police Ball in Leeds Town Hall at night. The weather looked pretty black and threatening about halfway to Leeds, but cleared before we reached our destination. Football, which commenced at 2.30 p.m., was very fast and furious. Each side had scored within five minutes. From now to the end the score see-sawed, first the Police scoring and Signals equalising. A good, hard game concluded with the Police as the worthy winners with the score at 6—5.

After a hot bath we proceeded to the Mansion House in Roundhay Park for tea. We left at 7 p.m. for the Town Hall. At 2 a.m. a thoroughly tired, but happy party, set out for Catterick Camp. "Taff" Kelly and Pilky led the community singing on the way home. Not many of the male members went to bed that night. It was too near parade time to risk it.

We are very thankful to the Police for their hospitality, and hope to entertain them here later in the soccer season.

For the information of their many friends in other Commands, the following is a nominal roll of Warrant Officers and Senior N.C.O.s of the Training Battalion, Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorkshire:

"D" COMPANY.

W.O.1 (S.C.) Mitchell J. S.; R.S.M. Sherman B. T.; W.O.1 (F-of-S) King V.; C.S.M.s Pearson C. M. and Holmes W.; C.Q.M.S.s Harvey C., Nicolson N. and Storr P.; Sergeants Bigg

E., Brewer A., Dunningham S., Fishwick R., Goodison N., Green W., Jones D., Lloyd L., Morris W., Thorne G., Newman F., Offord E., Parsons L. and Hutcheon J.; Lance Sergeants Alexander A., Ashford W., Field L., Fletcher E., Frey N., Harries T., Le Cocq A., Stevenson L., Whalley J., Harbury W. and Wood J.

"E" COMPANY.

C.S.M. Harrison B.; C.Q.M.S. Edmunds D.; Sergeants Cornish W., Hopkins W., Onyett F., Saunders A., Waight T. and Jervis J.; Lance Sergeants Lee A., Robinson R., Smith A. T., Robinson A., Jones J., Fraser A. and Reilly A.

"F" COMPANY.

C.S.M. Johnson G.; C.Q.M.S. Laurie J.; Sergeants Kelly J., Murphy C., Pack E., Sullivan R. and Rigden W.; Lance Sergeants Barlow R., Hancock E., Hawkes W. and Kirby E.

ATTACHED MEMBERS.

W.O.I Instructor Wingrove, W.O.II Instructor Griffiths, Sergeant Instructor Hood and A/Sergeant Instructor Housden (Prob.), Army Educational Corps; Lance Sergeant Pilkington, Royal Army Pay Corps.

The following are still serving with the Training Battalion, but will shortly be leaving us for the Stations stated: Lance Sergeant Davey R., Egypt, 28th January; Lance Sergeant Jackman C., Malaya, 12th February; Sergeants Andrews E., Hart R., Lewis F. and Daw R., India, 8th March.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.—The Unit is now settling down to the more serious problems which the Commanding Officer has to solve for the ensuing training season.

Amendments to the Unit Directory.—By the time that these notes appear in print, Major B. H. House, Royal Signals, will have left us. He is retiring from the Service on 1st February. Congratulations to Major W. O. Bowen, O.B.E., and Major T. C. Thompson, M.C., on their promotion to that rank.

We published a list of the W.O.s and Sergeants in the January issue. Here are the names of the Lance Sergeants and Corporals: Lance Sergeants Hardy, Trew, Geere and Page (recently promoted); Corporals Malvern, Cook F. J. (*en route* to Malaya soon), Swinson, Kent, Missen, Verney, Humby, Pettit, Hickman, Edwards, Robertson, Burdes, Thompson G. E., Emblen ("Jimmie" of Corps boxing fame), Wattle, Norton and Parker W. We will follow up with the names of Lance Corporals in the next issue of the WIRE.

Drafting.—Men may go, men (?) come, but our Units go on for ever.

Annual Christmas Tree Party.—The Unit, combined with "D" Troop, were guests at this annual event on Wednesday, 5th January. All those who endorsed our pro-formas to the effect that they would attend, did so. There was not a solitary exception. Something like 100 adults and 100 children sat down to a really enjoyable tea. After tea, the party adjourned to the concert room. Firstly, Captain Ponsonby entertained us with a clever conjuring display. We liked most of all (this was borne out by the applause) the "safety razor-blade feat." The question of what to do with old safety razor-blades is now partly settled. The children, keyed up with excitement, were waiting for the arrival of Father Christmas. He arrived in the same old-fashioned style. Great credit must be given here to Father Christmas. He immediately got down to business, and the children, without exception, received exactly the present they had prayed for. The party broke up, with the children making their mental calculations for Christmas, 1938.

The thanks of all members of the Unit are extended to the committee, and others who helped, for the great amount of hard work put in by them to produce this excellent entertainment. All of us agree that our sincere thanks are due to them all, and especially to the Commanding Officer (Lieutenant-Colonel A. L. Harris, M.C.), Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Bowen and other ladies, and also to Sergeants Andrews, Cooke and Cotterell, who, during the holidays, when most folk are normally attending to their own affairs, devoted time, worry and work to the social welfare of the Unit.

No. 1 Company.

December, 1937.

The prevailing cloud of exalted gloom which is in great evidence in the Unit can only mean that we have finished our furlough. From the remarks heard in various places, I gather that all ranks had a very merry Christmas (see "Marriages"). Now, re-action in the form of that discouraging recurring reply, "None for you to-day," is taking its toll. The sweepstake in No. 3 Barrack Block on the "first letter received" turned out to be a "milled-edged" security.

Christmas in barracks was the usual jolly affair. The turkey and pork, roasted "spuds," green peas, etc., provided by a thoughtful P.R.I. and the cookhouse staff, were wonderfully well trained—they did an astonishing disappearing act. Lieutenant-Colonel Harris, our Commanding Officer, acting for the Chief Signal Officer, and accompanied by the Acting Adjutant and Major Thompson, visited the mess-room during dinner. Thanks for an excellent dinner, and for the admirable arrangements, are due to Sergeant Smith of "A" Corps Signals and all his helpers.

Our corpulent pay clerk, who is an "indeed-to-goodness" follower of rugger—look you, Yess!—has bought himself two tickets for the annual classic. We are glad to see him turning honest at last. Hitherto, he has strenuously denied the fact that he was liable to pay for the two seats he (ab)normally occupies. Sorry, "Taff," but we are working on that old saw about your good humour.

Salutations and congratulations to Lance Sergeant Page on having to pay Mess subscriptions; Corporals Holland, Ferguson and Parker W., Lance Corporals Peacock, Dewdney and Coppenger on "pulling it." To the Unit on receiving an excellent report on the year's work. To Corporal Burdes on a "Distinguished" graduation from Shorncliffe University. How are the bumps, Dickie? To Corporal Robertson on being selected to attend an R.S.I. Course at Catterick. Don't forget to keep your arms up! To Lance Corporal Parker G. on passing his "prelims." and thus vaulting his way to the "muscle factory" for an Instructor's Course. To Signalman "Jock" Barbour on attaining 76 per cent. and a very good report on his "rissole making powers" at the School of Cookery. The Hollywood make-up artists have nothing on you, "Jock," when it comes to glamourising the raw article. To Lance Sergeant Trew, Corporal "Jock" Gray and Lance Corporal Taylor G. on getting the pice for the "Rooty Gong."

Farewells were said to the following who have left for various foreign climes: To India on 15th December, 1937: Signalmen Brader, Emblow, Hindley, Jones, Hodgson, Jobling, Lyons, McGuinness, McKenna, Morris, Shields and Philson. To Hong Kong on 22nd December, 1937: Signalman Gordon. To India on 8th January: Lance Sergeant Houghton, Corporal Ferguson, Lance Corporals Jordan, Marjoram, Stead and Piddington, Signalmen Moore, Cooper T., Boddington, Deas, Thompson L., Bridges, Ledger, Hall, Roberts A., Sherriff and Hepworth. To the Training Battalion: Signalmen Evers-Swindell, Heath and Hamilton. To 5th Divisional Signals: Signalman Allen. To Egypt, via Blackdown: Signalmen Roberts T. and Driver (I.C.) Slight. Corporal "Dutchy" Holland left us for "Civvy Street" on 21st December, 1937. Good luck, Dutchy, old boy; the Arsenal has gained another big shot.

We welcome the following with open arms and a place on the Duty Roll: C.S.M. Shilton, Corporal Norton, Lance Corporals Dollimore and Coppinger, and Signalman Barry, from Palforce; Sergeants Starling and Lowrie, Farrier Sergeant Long, Corporal Wattle, Signalmen Trotter and Downs, from India. They have now returned from a well-earned leave, and will soon be joining in our "Fitness Wins" campaign. Does it, we wonder—or is it that our forwards have not the knack? From the Training Battalion we greet Signalmen Kelly, Smith, Taylor, Heward, Pennington, Booth, Drummond, Hensher, Sewell and Stratham.

Knells have been rung for the following, who were " tolled " about it, but seem quite satisfied with their " belles " : Lance Corporal Jarvis is in double harness with Miss Mary Seager, of Aslacton, Norfolk. As foretold months ago, Corporal " Bob " Edwards has entered into the happy state with Miss Mary Alice Rigby, of Slough. (Indian papers, please copy.) Signalman Treloar said " I will " to Miss Joyce Gibson, of Scarborough. Miss Florence Dorothy Chater, of Chichester, captivated Driver Philmore, whose sole topic of conversation is now " the benefits of marriage."

Proving that Army life beacons ; sorry—becons ; no—beckons ; much traffic has been done in re-engagements. Lance Corporal Mansfield is to complete his " pontoon." It wasn't really necessary, Arthur, as troopships are issued for the journey to Malaya. Lance Corporal Marjoram is to complete twelve, and Signalman Salter is qualifying for a pension.

Agonies.—Lance Corporal Knox would like to hear from his brother, Corporal Knox, who was last heard of in 1935, when he was attached to the South Staffordshire Regiment in Bangalore.

Did Lance Corporal Piddington decipher his telegram ? Flossie will help you. Jack.

Heard in the call box the other day : " No, P—P—P for—er—Phœbe ! "

To Wazirdist, per H.T. *Lancashire*, Lance Corporal Piddington : " Please help him to keep straight until I come out. Flossie."

Excelsior.—Aided by a perspiring but game member of the A.E.C.—Staff-Sergeant Copley, to wit—all ranks are reaching out for their " Firsts." (Self-conscious sniggers from the " School of Higher Thought.") See spelling above.

Now, George ; perhaps you'll learn that a centimetre does not possess a hundred legs.

May the stars read well for all of you.

TOMMIE.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess, Mons Barracks, Aldershot.

Having suddenly awakened to the fact that we ought to be " on the map," it was also discovered that we had not sent out the old, old wish. We hasten to rectify this omission, and wish all our brethren in all parts of the world a very happy and prosperous New Year.

The month of December has been a momentous one for the Mess, and the amount of entertainment has been truly wonderful. Whist drives, dances, and actually a cabaret show in the Mess, have all been greatly appreciated by the members, their families and friends.

On 8th December, a very successful whist drive was held, at which the attendance broke all existing records. On 22nd December, the annual Christmas Draw was held, and a splendid show it was. The Mess was crowded to capacity. The Committee, under Sergeant F. S. Andrews, worked extremely hard (as they always do), and this was a particularly successful show. The Draw concluded rather early (I drew a bar of chocolate), and the " fun of the fair " started. I have never seen so many prizes. Darts were very popular, some of the ladies being quite experts, hitting the apple every time. I did not see the billiards, but, judging by the amount of noise proceeding from the billiard-room, there must have been plenty of fun.

On Christmas Day, a goodly sprinkling of W.O.s and N.C.O.s were in the Mess to greet the deputy for the Chief Signal Officer (Colonel A. L. Harris, M.C.), and the usual greetings took place.

On 31st December, all members residing in Aldershot on that day were entertained in the Mess to a dinner, under the auspices of C.S.M. Bradbury—and a splendid dinner it was. The N.A.A.F.I. undertook the catering, and made a fine job of it. Everything was piping hot, irrespective of the diner's position at table, and the wine flowed freely. The guests of the Mess on this occasion were Messrs. Price Evans, Smith and Rose. The toast of " The King " was proposed by the P.M.C. (C.S.M. Callegari). C.S.M. Smith proposed " Our Colonel-in-Chief," and

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C.S.M. Bradbury " Our Guests and Absent Friends." Mr. Price (ex-R.S.M., R.A.S.C.) replied for the guests.

After dinner the Entertainments Committee got going, and we had a fine time. The ladies again thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The real piece of fun was "Arry ARTY." First bout : Sergeant Nokes v. Sergeant MacMillen—a splendid draw. In the second fight, David (C.S.M. Hamlin) knocked out Goliath (C.S.M. Callegari) in the first round, with a " beeser " behind the left ear. Several good artistes then followed. Miss Holness and Miss Wilkinson with their piano accordions, and Miss Rene Lovell entertained us with some splendid acrobatic dancing. Sergeants Jones and Bartley followed with monologues. On the whole a splendid evening was enjoyed by all. And so ended the year 1937. The New Year started off in the traditional manner (Mrs. Cotterell as 1937 and Miss Rene Lovell as 1938).

On 8th January, we had a cabaret show in the Mess. Old Calley jumped into the breach when Andy was stuck for someone to cast off the general feeling of—shall I call it—self-consciousness and gave us a couple of old favourites. I did not know that he had such a good " drawing-room " voice. Miss Lovell, Miss Holness, Sergeant Jones, Miss Cotterell, Gripper Cooke, Abdul Aziz (Sergeant Pattenden) and his (I think it was) camel (hind-legs : Gus Fleet, complete with feather-duster tail ; and fore-legs : Sergeant Watterton, complete with soda syphon !).

Gripper Cooke has gripped some " grippers." He has actually prowled around with his usual unassailable cheek and asked some of the ladies to assist with the preparation of refreshments for the various functions held in the Mess. Mrs. Cooke was the first victim, and, later, the following nobly stepped in with offers of help, which were very gratefully accepted : Mrs. Hamlin, Mrs. Cotterell, Mrs. Dendy and Mrs. Millen. Thank you, ladies ! I have heard it whispered that this will constitute the nucleus of a " Scandal Club." You are right ; it will. We hope, therefore, that more ladies will be forthcoming when the present volunteers develop corns on their—er—hands from cutting sandwiches.

I am afraid that the Editor will have to increase the size of the WIRE if I say much more ; and so I will conclude for this month with a hearty vote of thanks to the Entertainments Committee—Sergeants Andrews and Cooke and C.Q.M.S. Fleet—for the splendid entertainments we have had, and, according to programme, will have in the future.

GOLIATH.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

VIRTUS IN ARDUIS.

General.—You lucky chaps abroad, pity us ! We are in the throes of what appears to be a second flood ; I do not think that it has stopped raining for a fortnight. You, no doubt, are basking on Lidos as far apart as Mersa Matruh and D.I.K. However, all these things are sent to try us, and we did manage to see Aldershot lose.

Christmas was spent in many and divers ways by members of the Company. So far, there is no increase in the number of

cycles in the shed. Perhaps the weather prevented anyone getting down to serious business. It isn't long to Easter!

Our Stable.—Owing to the numerous changes which have affected the thoroughbreds of this Unit, a list of the probables for the next few months is appended, so that you can write if you have lost trace: Sergeant Wigzell by NEVER out of ANYTHING; Sergeant Jones by SORTING out of STAMPS; Lance Sergeant Greig by NEVER out of BREATH; Lance Sergeant Dymond by CYCLING out of MYTCHETT; Corporal Abbott by GENERALLY out of SORTS; Lance Corporal Macken by EVENINGS out of ALDERSHOT; Lance Corporal Williams by BUILDING out of JUNK; Lance Corporal Hurley by RECOUPING out of POOLS; Signalman Cragg by NOT LONG out of BOY'S SERVICE; Signalman Calow by SINGING out of TUNE; Signalman Carver by LETTERS out of NEWCASTLE; Signalman Goldsby by GENERALLY out of MONEY; Signalman McLennan by SOMETIMES out of TRUE.

We have, in addition, two untrained colts. When they have been put through their paces, we shall be able to furnish further information.

Old Soldiers, etc.—The R.S.M., having decided that the Army will suit him, has signed on for yet another year. How many more Jubilees, sir?

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—Sergeant Cox from 2nd Divisional Signals, Corporal Henning from India, and Signalman Liley from the Training Battalion. May you fit your niches.

Postings.—We lose our "Bill" on 8th March to India. His Unit is not yet known. Sergeant Cole sailed for Palestine on 4th January.

Condolences.—The Company sympathise with "Bill" in his recent bereavement.

Oak, Yahoudi Pattern.—Skim (918). "What about a line? Calow."
Austin. "Still N from you? Frank."

Tailpiece.—I am afraid that these notes are somewhat short, but may I make the rather novel excuse that we have no Frontier wars to write about, or tales of hardship to spin.

Till next month, *Adios, Salaam aleikum.*

FRANKIE.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—We must apologise for failing to contribute an account of our activities for two months.

Our first period of Individual Training finished on 9th December, and from 29th November to 5th December a fourteen-days' Course was held for Territorial Army personnel in the usual subjects plus some Anti-Gas training. We are always pleased to have our Territorial friends with us, and hope that they enjoyed their short stay in Bulford.

From October to December, a detachment of personnel and vehicles, under the command of Sergeant Jones, proceeded on a tour round the "constituency" of the 43rd Division, giving lectures and demonstrations on the No. 1 Set. This party, which is known as the "Circus," will set out again on 4th February for a tour in the 48th Divisional Area.

The sports results will be found elsewhere. Football is now exciting the greatest interest, as the Southern Command Signals team, which has got through three rounds of the Army Cup, is to meet the R.A.M.C. in the fourth round at Aldershot on 29th January.

Winter is a most unsatisfactory time for a Field Unit at home, owing to the various drafts departing for service overseas, and this winter is no exception. Perhaps we feel it more than ever, owing to the Unit being so much below establishment; it is like a jig-saw puzzle in which some of the pieces will not fit. This is not meant in any derogatory sense concerning those individuals who make up this Unit, since everyone is doing his very best, and work is performed under great difficulties. However, we must not be pessimistic about the future, but we do hope that Mr. Hore-Belisha will produce some more men soon.

From 9th December, 1937, to 8th January was a "close period," during which nothing of great activity took place, and all who could be spared went on a well-earned leave. The bare minimum required for administrative work remained behind.

This inevitably brings back our thoughts, or should we say memories, to the horse. Alas, only nine remain, and they are all chargers. In the old days, when we had our full complement of horses, the working out of leave for the Unit was indeed complicated, and sending a large proportion of the Unit on leave at one time was out of the question; but now it is very much simpler. Many of our old friends, who have left the Unit, would be horrified if they returned and saw rows of empty stables, with garages springing up all round.

All hunting in the vicinity has, unfortunately, been stopped, owing to foot and mouth disease. At one time, the exercising of horses was confined to the limits of the camp (or should we say barracks?). Even now it is difficult to talk of Bulford Barracks, and to many the new title will seem incongruous.

We are now performing a week of "digging," which, to the uninitiated, means removing loads of chalk in order to make a sports ground. To those who are already acquainted, and are now serving elsewhere, it will no doubt bring back happy memories of Bulford!

Arrivals.—Sergeant McAdie from 52nd Divisional Signals (T.A.), Glasgow; Sergeant Winter from 48th Divisional Signals (T.A.), Birmingham; Sergeant Stockton and Lance Sergeant Cooley from India; Lance Corporal Mosley from Depot Battalion; Lance Corporal Russell, Signalmen Norwood, Morgan, Pescud, Vineyard, Walker, Waller, Gritten and Padbury, Drivers (I.C.) Halls and Hayday from Training Battalion; Signalmen Harrison, Shannon and Throup from China; Signalmen Sayer, Adcock, Barnes, Gregson, Millett, Parry and Shepherd from Palestine.

Departures.—Sergeant Walker to 48th Divisional Signals (T.A.), Birmingham; Corporal Cleveland and Lance Corporal Horsman transferred to Army Reserve; Lance Corporal Butler, Signalman Rennie, Drivers Smeaton and Shaw to Depot Battalion; Lance Corporal Bunting to Training Battalion; Signalman Hill to 4th Divisional Signals; Signalmen Sims, Keating, Harcus, Mills, McLeod, Peters, Smith A., Spencer, Thomas, and Wright J. to India; Signalman Guidera to Ceylon Signal Section; Lance Corporal Gibson to Shanghai Signal Section; Signalman Harrison, Hunt, Lester, McEneaney, Potter, Paris and Truscott to Hong Kong Signal Section; Signalman Flooks to No. 2 W/T Company, Sarafand; Farrier Staff Sergeant Garnett, Corporals Boffy and Edwards, Signalmen Barber, Brady, Cadman, Fewster, Kay, MacDonald, Mosley, McLean, Rutland, Stewart, Shackleton, Telford and MacKenzie to India.

Marriages.—Signalman Keating to Annie McDonald, at Chorlton-cum-Hardy. Signalman Roberts to Catherine Davies, at Reigate. Signalman Sutherland to Florence Kay, at Middlesbrough.

Birth.—To Corporal and Mrs. Jenner, a daughter.

Promotions and Appointments.—Corporal Teal appointed Lance Sergeant; Lance Corporal Grant promoted Corporal; Signalmen White J., Light and Davison, and Driver Birtles appointed U/Lance Corporals.

Agony.—Moans from "K" Section.

Danny from the Ritz. "Do you still chew nails?"

Axam and Simp. "Chief sends his salaams, and says summat about 'Weeny,' 'Weeny,' through. Sort that our for yourselves."

Dick. "If you still want to join the Green Pork Pie Club, scrounge the 'Winkle Pickers' and canary-coloured waistcoat. We'll buy the rest out of the Section funds."

"Glynn," "X" Troop, Cairo. "Sorry, pal, for lack of 'coppage.' (Trouble being rectified.) Stan."

Sergeant Garroni. "How about a swim? Plymouth."

Corporal Hubbard (K.I.D.). "Please excuse lapse. Stamp collector sails 8th March, destination unknown."

Rumour states that "Badgy," of Cairo fame, and "Darktage" are signing on.

Dave. "Don't get captured out there. Indeed to goodness!"

Is it true that " Chota " has grown to the amazing height of five feet, and can now turn off the wireless without the aid of " J.B." ? "Crash."

We must not take up any more valuable space, otherwise the Editor will not be pleased, but, if it is not too late, we wish everyone a happy New Year.

Sergeants' Mess.

Entertainment.—One peaceful day in November, the scene was set in the Educational Room. The class patiently waiting the arrival of the G.O.C., 3rd Division, during his tour of inspection. Two men excitedly jumped up from their seats. " Sit down," roared the Instructor. " Haven't you seen a General before ? "

" But—er—Sergeant," cried the excited ones, " we are on Fire Piquet."

" Well, what the h——" ; but the Instructor came to his senses as he heard the Fire Alarm frantically calling all and sundry to assist in quelling the outbreak.

The grim realisation dawned on me that I was R.O.S. and also i/c Fire Piquet, and I thereupon ordered the class to "fall in" outside the School.

Being an intelligent sort of individual, and full of so-called initiative, I gave the order, " Double to the scene of the fire " —but nobody knew the scene of the fire. I doubled off to collect my Fire Piquet, and then proceeded to find the fire. Imagine my surprise when I found my dutiful class following me wherever I went. They found the scene of the fire all right. Education is a wonderful asset !

Having discovered the hydrant, we proceeded to do " our stuff," which, in actual practice, appeared to be a difficult problem, as everybody was doing the wrong thing, first attempting to fix the stand-pipe to a stop-cock, and then endeavouring to connect the wrong end of the hose, by which time the length of hose had 101 twists. After employing about twenty men in unravelling the hose, we finally made contact.

All this happened under the critical eye of the General and his Staff, and the minutes seemed to drag, when, lo and behold, up dashed the local mechanised Fire Brigade, complete with their fire-fighters, looking like Roman gladiators in mourning, and dressed in their full-kilted frocks. Now that the fire engine was at the secne, the General wanted to see how much more height of water could be obtained by using the engine pump. Our hose was duly transferred to the engine, while the Staff gathered round, taking a keen interest in everything.

Alas ! Our hose, which consisted of four lengths connected, could not withstand the 160-lbs. pressure to the square inch, and BANG !—the hose burst, and what a drenching everybody got. The General's dog caught the full force of the water and almost completed three somersaults. But did this contingency damp anyone's feelings ? Never in your life ! Smiles were to be seen everywhere.

All this began because the General wanted to see how efficiently we sounded the Fire Alarm, and whether it was a sound system. But, as some famous person once remarked, " Where you see a blue and white armband, you may be sure that they can put it across." So, once again, we live up to our name, and I am sure that the G.O.C., 3rd Division, will remember his annual inspection of this Unit in 1937.

The same evening, we were entertained by professionals of the N.A.A.F.I. But they didn't raise a bigger laugh than " Harry Tate's Fire Fighters." After their show, they adjourned to this Mess, where they thought that they could play " pokey die," until they checked up later !

Departures.—Two well-known characters have left this Mess. " Our Albert, or " the man with the thousand faces, said good-bye to us on 15th November for civilian life. C.Q.M.S. Albert Hawley could always produce a good " tick," but we had him ! The Mess presented him with a " gold hunter," guaranteed to " tick " for life. We will miss his numerous facial expressions in our programme of future social events. Sergeant John Garroni has left us for the Plains of India. Before leaving us he succeeded in passing in " English," and so completed his examination for the 1st Class Certificate of Education. We congratulate him on passing the examination, as this now makes him eligible for the addition of a " crown " to his present stripes. The same gentleman narrowly escaped with his life on his way to the boat-train. The lorry skidded on the ice-like surface of the road, throwing dear John into the middle of the road, where he sat blessing all and sundry. We all join in wishing them both the very best of success in their new spheres.

Arrivals.—Our Mess strength has been increased at last. Sergeant " Bill " Prior and Lance Sergeant " Banger " King have arrived from " Punki " to join this Unit. We hope that they will find their stay in Bulford pleasant and to their liking.

Billiards.—It looks very much as though our fatigue men will have to continue cleaning the Garrison Billiards and Snooker Cups in the Mess. In the League, so far, we have played three matches, winning two (6—0 and 5—1) ; in the third we drew (3—3). In the finals of the Mess Annual Handicap Billiards and Snooker Tournament, we saw an exciting and " football form " result. Sergeant Sprunt beat R.S.M. Herbert at snocker. (But what could one expect with " Ronnie " as the caterer for the month !) Lance Sergeant Woodbury beat Sergeant Luck at billiards.

Agony.—" Niku." " Where are you ? Let me know soon."

XERXES, ALIAS ERGIE.

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HEAD OFFICE : LONDON, E.C.3

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

The Unit is now preparing for the second half of the individual training season, and Technical Courses are now commencing for those who were not fortunate enough to take the first Courses. The results of the first Courses are now to hand and the following have now qualified as shown : Sergeant Mansfield, Lance Corporal Brown P. and Signalman Clavering to Operator Signals, Class 1 ; Signalmen Kelly and Hughes to Operator Signals, Class 2 ; Signalman Nightingale to Lineman, Class 2 ; Driver Hurley to Lineman, Class 3 ; Signalman Wallace to Lineman, Group " E " ; Signalman Blakeney to Clerk, Class 3 (b).

Signalman Wallace celebrated the occasion in good style, and took unto himself a wife at Scarborough on Christmas Day. Just to keep the married percentage of the Unit at its usual high figure, Lance Corporal Nurse and Signalman Hawker also took the fatal plunge. Congratulations to them all!

Signalmen Haughton and Widdowson have decided to rob the taxpayer of a little more money, and, having attained the dizzy age of twenty-six years, have been placed on the Marriage Allowance Roll.

The business of seeing drafts off at Scarborough railway station is becoming quite a social event with the local population. It was noticeable on the occasion of the departure of Sergeant Challen and his merry gang on 8th January that many of the fair sex residing in the district were present. After the Commanding Officer (Colonel H. G. Henderson) had shaken hands with each individual, the concerted rush of wives, sweethearts and friends, reminded one of the renowned bargain sales rush. Perhaps there were a few bargains to be picked up—who knows? Throughout this trooping season, Signalman Wallace has been a persistent visitor at the station when drafts were departing, complete with refreshments and a retinue. Mr. Records is putting a stop to his little gallop, and the next draft will see the departure of the inimitable "Nellie" to Egypt.

The congratulations of the Unit are added to those of the G.O.C.-in-C., Northern Command, to our Adjutant (Lieutenant A. Hill, Royal Signals) on obtaining "Distinguished" on a Course held at the Anti-Gas Wing of the Small Arms School.

We have recently suffered losses in the most important departments of the Unit. Our pay clerk (Corporal Webb) and the Unit butcher (Signalman Tandy) have both left us for civilian life. As both have found jobs, they have indeed made a good start on their venture into the cold, hard world. We have every confidence in Corporal Webb's successor—Lance Sergeant Perkins—coming up to scratch when the question of having a "bit extra" comes up. The departure of Signalman Tandy from the Butcher's Shop leaves a "huge vacant space" there, but perhaps Driver Macdonald will be able to remedy that. Lance Corporal Gatrell has left us to grace the Birmingham Corporation buses with his presence. Another departure is that of Sergeant Cowan, who has also gone out into the unknown civilian world. As he is now a worthy townsman of Scarborough, we expect to see quite a lot of him. He joins a rapidly enlarging colony of ex-Signals personnel in this town. To mention a few of them: ex-Sergeants Lindsay, Dodds and Rose, Lance Sergeant Bolshaw, Corporal Morris F., Driver Picton and others.

Just by way of a change, we have a few arrivals to welcome: Signalman Allen F. J. from Kohat District Signals, via 1st Divisional Signals; Signalman Lissetter from the Training Battalion; and C.Q.M.S. Atkinson and family from China. A hearty welcome is extended to all of them, and we hope that they remain in Scarborough long enough to appreciate the place.

Owing to an outbreak of whooping cough in Married Quarters, it was found impossible to hold the Annual Children's Christmas Tree Party this year, so the children will have to accept their presents without the usual "bun fight."

Our soccer team is doing quite well in the Scarborough and District League, as a glance at the table further on will show. We have suffered several losses just recently: Signalman Adcock A. G. posted to the Depot Battalion, Signalmen Adcock A. V. and Appleton to India, Signalman Garfield to Hong Kong, and Driver (I.C.) Fox to Sarafand. We have yet to fill these vacancies, but I have an idea that our Officer i/c Football (Lieutenant (Q.M.) P. A. Harding) has a rod in pickle (how's that, Paddy Walsh?) for the local teams.

SCARBOROUGH AND DISTRICT LEAGUE, DIVISION I.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals. F.	A.	Pts.
Scalby	9	6	3	0	29	16	12
Scarborough Juniors	5	4	0	1	28	6	9
5th Divisional Signals	4	3	0	1	18	7	7
Y.M.C.A.	6	3	2	1	16	16	7
Junior Imps	6	2	2	2	18	17	6
Filey Town	6	3	3	0	21	18	6
Pickering	8	3	5	0	18	23	6
Heslerton	6	3	2	1	11	21	5
Kirbymoorside	5	2	3	0	11	19	4
Working Men's Club	7	1	4	2	14	23	4
Forge Valley	5	1	4	0	5	19	2

The Unit Rifle Club has been performing remarkably well in the Scarborough and District League, and at present occupy second place in the table. Although suffering from the loss of two excellent shots in Major Levett and Sergeant Miles, the Club continues to show good form. Results to date are as follows:

v. N.P.G.	Won	461	313
v. Green Howards	Lost	426	437
v. Police	Won	420	316
v. Inland Revenue	Won	483	376
v. O.C.A.	Won 472—468 and Lost	433	473
v. Corporation	Won	458	426
v. British Legion	Won	460	434
v. United Buses	Won	473	238
v. Gas Company	Won	448	428
v. Brewery	Won	455	363
v. N.A.L.G.O.	Lost	417	422

No. 3 Company.

The Company—what is left of it—is trying to get back to normal. Everyone has just returned from furlough and, having celebrated Christmas and the New Year rather well, the after-effects are very apparent on every face. All the Scotsmen, especially, have that hogmanay hang-over appearance. Yes, they are all groping around in a dazed condition, muttering "What'll you have?" This state of affairs will not last long, and with a desperate struggle thoughts go from plum duffs and whisky and soda to individual training. Spots before the eyes!

Departures.—It would be much simpler to give a list of the people still here than to publish a list of the departures. Anyway, there cannot be many more leaving us, so here goes. INDIA: Sergeant Mansfield, Corporal Dillon, Signalmen Alexander Potton, Rogerson, Hearne, Trotter, Barton, Begbie, Whitworth and Canham. ADEN: Signalman Allen. SARAFAND: Driver (I.C.) Fox. We have it on good authority that Freddy got engaged just before his departure. Just doing his bit to keep up our reputation. And what a reputation! HONG KONG: Signalmen Garfield, McDonald and "Snowy" Whitehead. We hope that they all have a pleasant voyage, and wish them the best of luck in their new surroundings.

Arrivals.—Unfortunately the arrivals are small in number compared with the departures. We welcome C.S.M. Fleming, Signalmen Nugent and Elliot from India. Without a doubt they will all enjoy themselves here. As a matter of fact, the two Signalmen (both single) have got into our routine already.

Marriages.—It is a true saying that one half of the world does not know what the other half is up to. Who would have thought that Signalman "Nellie" Wallace and Driver (I.C.) "Yank" Newton would have fallen prey to the gentler sex. The only way to escape seems to be permanently confined to barracks. Heartiest congratulations!

Congratulations.—To Lance Sergeant Furze on attaining that appointment.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

General.—Rumour whispers that the Unit will shortly be proceeding to Catterick; hence the numerous groans from the single members. Perhaps Mr. Littlewood or Mr. Vernon will help the bells to ring sooner.

Promotions and Appointments.—We welcome to the fold Lance Sergeants Barnicott and Furze. Both are wondering who will be next for Caterer.

Arrivals.—C.Q.M.S. Atkinson F. and family are due to arrive from India on 13th January. We extend a hearty welcome to them.

Departures.—Sergeants (Pompey) Challen and (Baffler) Mansfield to India, per H.T. *Lancashire*, on 8th January. Five years is a bit longer than five days, isn't it, Frank? Lance Sergeant Davenport is due to embark for Egypt on 28th January. We wish them all the best of luck at their new Stations. Sergeant Blower has proceeded to Winterbourne Gunner on an Anti-Gas Course.

Special.—It is inadvisable to settle in Scarborough now as ex-Sergeant Cowan (Lank) is working as a Bailiff.

CUMO.

Eastern Command Signal Company.

Horse Guards, Whitehall, S.W.1.

HEADQUARTERS.

We take this rather belated opportunity of wishing all members of the Corps a very happy and prosperous New Year. Thanks are tendered to all those who sent Christmas and New Year cards, and we regret that we are unable to reply personally to all those who wrote to us. The personnel of the Headquarters Staff still remains unchanged, and, for the benefit of those who may have forgotten, they are: C.Q.M.S. Tolley C. H., Lance Corporal Reen A., ex-C.Q.M.S. Pennicott A., and ex-Sergeant Buhlmann F.

Lance Corporal Reen would like to take advantage of the Jews' Mail to ask for news of any members of No. 44 Squad of 1933.

THAMES AND MEDWAY DETACHMENT.

To ex-members and others, news from this little-known but highly-important community may be of interest. At the moment of writing, the detachment comprises the following: Q.M.S. Aslett, Sergeant Davis, Lance Sergeant Baker, Lance Corporal Megilley and Signalmen Harris, Carter, Ball, Walsh, Snelling, Pope, Beedon and Bolton, with Mr. Nabarro (ex-1st Divisional Signals) as Civilian Instrument Mechanic and four civilian S.B.O.s. Time and space will not permit of my going into details regarding the work of the Section, except to say that a certain Station in the Far East (lat. 22) has not much on us where quantity is concerned.

Congratulations to Q.M.S. and Mrs. Aslett and Signalman and Mrs. Harris on the birth of a son to each family. We trust that baby's gain (in weight) will not be father's loss (on Night Schemes).

C.W.M.S. Sutcliffe left us for Rawalpindi on 6th January, and Signalman Carter sails for Malta on 2nd March. Signalman Ball is "waiting man" for the same draft. (At the moment he is bearing up well under the suspense.) News has also reached us that Signalman Walsh is deferring departure to Gibraltar pending further information on the subject of C.R.A. (Do we hear bells in them there hills?)

New Year greetings are extended to the Corps in general, and to the following in particular: C.Q.M.S. Nix, Mr. "Bill" Wicketts, Corporals Chambers (thanks for card) and "Jock" Routledge.

DOVER DETACHMENT.

News appears to be missing from this sunny seaside resort, but this, no doubt, is due to the personnel taking that annual well-earned respite. The personnel of the Section are: C.Q.M.S. Emsley, Sergeants Wilmot, Salmon and Abraham, Corporal Spence and Signalman Johns. Sergeant Salmon is due to leave us very soon for Egypt, while Sergeant Abraham is going farther east to Singapore. Corporal Spence has decided that Gibraltar was hardly far enough, and is, therefore, extending his cruise to a very popular rendezvous in the East called India.

WHITEHALL.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Belfast,

14th January.

General.—Christmas and the New Year celebrations are all over for another year, but the laughs raised during that period will take a lot of living down. For instance, there were the Signalmen who went out to get a foundation for the Company Smoker on Christmas Eve. Their idea of a foundation was double whiskies, and they completed their efforts by arriving at the Smoker in a jaunting car! Needless to say, they didn't see very much of that Smoker.

We used to say that this was a good "over-seas" Company spoilt by a few "rookies." Unreservedly, we take that back, and just say that this is a good Company. The youngsters carried out their duties, and saw to it that they had their share of the beer as efficiently as the oldest hands, and that is going some.

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Christmas Tree Party.—The families started the festivities with their Christmas Tree Party, and they set us a very good example. The whole affair went with a swing, and everybody enjoyed themselves from the start. When Father Christmas arrived in his plane—Corporal Thomson nearly revved the engine out of the Austin—the C.S.M.'s daughter seemed to recognise his voice. However, no one recognised the voice of Madame Lee, the gipsy fortune-teller. Not a secret from the past was hidden from her, and her prophesies were astounding. The fact that Lance Sergeant Oliver was missing during the session didn't seem to strike anyone as fishy. If the ladies knew the source of the information, wouldn't there be fun in the old home to-night.

The pay clerk seemed to be the right person for the fishing booth, and his assistant—the I.M. boss—was another happy choice. Sergeant Double and Lance Sergeant Worsley were kept busy for quite a spell, and they need no tuition at "spielling."

Since the entertainment was alleged to be primarily for the children's benefit, I think Father Christmas was the life of the party. The fortune hunters may have different ideas, of course. The evening finished with a cinema show, and then the guests went, homeward bound, with their presents from the tree.

Christmas Eve.—All ranks of the Company got together and had a Smoking Concert on Christmas Eve. With the acting C.O. (Captain Orr) in the chair, and the C.S.M. at the piano, the evening's entertainment could not help being good. Local talent quickly came to the fore, giving us a few surprises. The man who has no voice for speaking purposes, got up and sang so well that he wasn't allowed to sit down again till he was exhausted. Others contributed in various ways, even if it was only to swell the choruses. The catering arrangements were in good and experienced hands, and no hitches occurred in spite of the unexpected amount of beer that was consumed by the "tee-totallers."

If Mr. Carroll Levis reads the WIRE, he may be interested to know that we have the following here. One of the "Western Brothers," complete with "near" stories; another "Turner Layton," whose favourite song appears to be "Landlord, fill the flowing bowl"; one imitator, guaranteed to amuse the dullest audience; at least two crooners, and a perfect strip-tease artiste. The male voice choir left much to be desired in the way of harmony, in spite of their evident enthusiasm. Surprisingly enough, everybody walked home.

Christmas Day.—What a day! The C.S.M., the Orderly Corporal and the Duty Cook started the day by bringing in the gun-fire—coffee and rum. A much more pleasant way of being awakened than the usual "Reveille's gone." After a splendid breakfast and general clean-up, the single men started to call on the families to wish them "A Merry Christmas." The visit was expected, and the receptions left nothing to be desired. Thank you, families.

At the Christmas dinner, the C.O. wished the Company a "Merry Christmas," and expressed his appreciation of the Company, both wishes and appreciation being heartily and sincerely reciprocated by all. The C.S.M., senior N.C.O.s and married personnel acted as mess orderlies, and a well-prepared dinner was so well enjoyed that the cooks' healths were toasted with

musical honours and full ceremony. Then began the afternoon's session. Only one man went under. His beatific smile as he serenely murdered " Annie Laurie " had to be seen to be appreciated.

New Year.—Belfast Tower clock saw a few strange faces on Hogmanay for nearly all the Signals representatives were there for the first time. The whole period passed fairly quietly as the Christmas hang-over was still in evidence, but a few of the more hardened members celebrated in traditional style. We now have two men without voices.

Departures.—On 27th December, we said good-bye to Signalmen Atkinson and Tassinari, when they left us for Catterick. The former is on his way to Egypt ; the latter to join the Indian draft. We wish them both the best of luck.

Arrivals.—Lance Corporal Melley arrived from Aldershot on the 22nd, and left for Lough Swilly on the 29th. There is no doubt about the enjoyment of his stay with the Company ; we certainly are glad to have had him with us. The first day of the New Year brought with it Signalmen Biggs, Balnis, Couch and Hobson from India. They have already proved themselves to be useful on the sports field and on the sets. Pity they are already discussing " Vocs."

Births.—This ought to be in the " Stop Press " column. To Lance Sergeant and Mrs. Barron, in Belfast, on 12 or 13th January (I haven't had time to ascertain the exact date), a daughter. Congratulations, Snug !

Blue Book.—On 23rd December, Corporal Oliver was removed from the Orderly Corporals' Roll, and became first on the roll for Orderly Sergeant's duty. He was back-dated to 13th November, 1937, and the back pay came in very handy for the initiation ceremony. Congratulations, Jack, but how we miss you off that Orderly Corporals' Roll.

Things We Would Like to Know.—Which D.R. was looking forward to an easy day because Company Orders stated he was not for duty (N.F.D.) ?

Why was Henry so surprised to find that he was sharing a sack of potatoes as a bed with Ernie on Christmas morning ?

Which Duty D.R. left his teeth with the Duty W/T Operator for safe custody ?

On being informed of the new arrival, did Sergeant Barron really volunteer for duty on C.W. ?

Do Bryant and May's Advertising Department know that their matches have been used for retaining buttons, collar-dogs, and shoulder titles in Jackets S.D. ?

Does eating " crab " really make people faint, or was it the shock at hearing himself refusing a bottle of Guinness ?

Finale.—Hong Kong, cancel that bed ! India, reserve one corner bed ! For further information, see next issue.

SPUD-CAN.

FORT DUNREE DETACHMENT.

Arrivals.—To Lance Corporal Melley we extend the hand of welcome and trust that his stay, however reminiscent of his days in India the landscape may be, will be a very pleasant one. His arrival marked the departure of " Our Sid," who has left us, to quote his own words, for a well-earned furlough. I regret to have to remark that even now, with such keen support and advice shattering the pleasant solitude of a Saturday afternoon, Stoke could only draw on Saturday. Can it be possible, Sid, that you didn't attend ?

Signalman Garton, Lance Corporal Swetnam and your 'umble scribe were very lucky to escape with their lives when a bus conveying the Battery football team to Carndonough crashed and overturned. Lance Corporal Swetnam's head injuries and a damaged shin were our only casualties. I escaped without a scratch. " Mugs for luck."

Hitherto unknown American history is being revealed daily to us by our ginger-headed comrade, who covers acres of ground every night to gather the afore-mentioned information. Go to it, Ginger, every politician in the country is calling for a closer alliance with America.

Senior Wrangler.—Tomo, 1st Div. " Writing pechi. Tich."

Christmas.—I will say nothing about the festivities, but will read other reports with envy.

ASPEN-LIEF.

BALLYKINLER DETACHMENT.

General.—Having got Christmas and the after-effects over, we are back to our old routine. Jock was rather disappointed because his Christmas was not celebrated over here, but he eventually found somebody outside the detachment and had a private celebration. We hope that our visitor suffered no ill effects after the dinner he enjoyed here. Perhaps the efforts of Ernie and Henry are more appreciated now.

We once had a lad in Derry, who tried to grow shamrock in a tin. Paddy suggests that he should try again, and use the bowler he left behind.

Moves.—Optimistic of one in the offing. Signalman Doyle took a spot of leave to get us some first-hand news of the Cup ties.

Information Wanted.—Where can Jock get his chewing gum re-flavoured ?

Jews' Mail.—Conboy would like a few lines from " Mex."

SAND 'ILLS.

South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.

Headquarters, Spike Island.

General.—We are glad to be able to record that our cheerful optimism about Christmas festivities appearing in our last notes was fully justified. The O.C. tried the unusual experiment of persuading married men to fill essential duties on Christmas Day in order to free the bachelors for full participation in the Regimental entertainments. The " pads " were compensated with the two following days. All agreed that the scheme worked as well as any could at a time when to be " off " is everyone's ambition. Very mild weather favoured the day, and all went well. Since then, and concluding the season, the Families Party, under the guidance of the Officer Commanding Station and a strong Committee of Officers, W.O.s and N.C.O.s, has been held and declared a great success. We move on now to the commencement of yet another training season.

Strength.—The Section strength has suffered a number of ups and downs. The most disturbing—the loss of Lieutenant R. C. B. Stuart, who has at last realised a dream and found his way back to India. We trust that his relief, Lieutenant R. Webb, will find us, our Station and work entirely to his liking. By the grace of " Jimmy," he is a hockey player. Does anyone know why " gamesters " go but never come ? The effectiveness of prayer mats (*see* Bere Notes, December) has been proved, and both Corporal Brown R. and Signalman MacDonald A. have left us for Vocational Training at Hounslow and Waddon respectively. Lance Corporal Morgan D. has replaced the i/c at Bere Island, and made one more hole in the barrack-room. Sergeant Pronger W. leaves for India, via Catterick, on the 21st, and hopes to find as easy and useful a Section waiting for him there.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Corporal Brown R., A/Lance Corporals Morgan D. and Horder C. on their elevations. Up, an' up, an' up, is the motto.

Domestic.—Congratulations to Signalman O'Sullivan D. on the addition of a son (Patrick Denis) to his family on 16th December, 1937.

Arrivals.—Welcome to A/Lance Corporal Horder C. from Rawalpindi. His A.1 qualifications as an " I.M." are going to do some overtime for us during the training season, but he seems to enjoy investigating interiors and should be happy. Signalman Hughes S. has brought very welcome first-class qualifications from Coast Defences, China, and soon hopes to be used to the feel of a waterproof coat and gum boots.

Bere Island.—Owing to local upheavals following the departures to the " Voc." mentioned above, the Detachment is missing its notes for February, but assures the Corps that short hands have long fingers, which still get through. Their comments on this will appear next month.

SPIKE.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

G

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

31st December, 1937.

With the tinkling of bells, bottles, and a myriad of other noises connected with Christmas still ringing in our ears, we come to the end of 1937. To-day we review the past and realise that we have accounted for another year of our allotted span. To-morrow we commence our good resolutions for the future, helped by the knowledge that the next pay day is a week hence, and a shaking of our trousers merely produces an ominous silence. Tradesmen have forgotten their good wishes of a week ago, and now beg to remind us that the trifling amount we are in their debt would be greatly appreciated. Not that they want the money really, but just to assist them to balance their accounts.

Christmas produced the usual festivities, chief amongst them, of course, being the dinner. As is customary on Christmas Day, the seniors assembled to serve out the Christmas fare, and as everyone's appetite was more or less well wetted—sorry, I mean whetted—the procession from kitchen to table appeared to be never-ending. All good things must, however, come to an end, and dinner concluded with the toasts, and a few words by the Commanding Officer.

A little community singing followed, the principal item being "On Ilka Moor baht 'at," or words to that effect, ably conducted by Lance Sergeant Collett, until the table he was standing on mysteriously moved from under him. Before passing on to other festivities, we take the opportunity of recording our appreciation of the efforts of all those who helped to make Christmas Day a success.

The annual outing to Happy Valley was held on 27th December. The day was very enjoyable.

Our Christmas festivities wound up with a Coster Ball on 29th December, as a sort of a grand finale. Costumes there were in plenty, and must have presented the judges with a pretty problem. Mrs. Woolhouse, with her hot-chestnut barrow, received a well-merited award. Another prize was carried off by Mrs. Newbury (flower girl). Mrs. Wilson as, I believe, a charlady, also received a prize. With the exception of Signalman Whatton, who received a prize for his very clever make-up as "1940" (the prefect tramp), all awards for gents' costumes were taken by guests. The whole of the show, thanks again to the organisers, was a great success. We must not forget the usual fish and chips which were served up in pieces of newspaper in order to add the finishing touches.

Congratulations to Lance Sergeant Connolly, who has now moved from the Commons to the House of Representatives, and to U/Lance Corporal Davies B. on his rise to fame.

Congratulations also to Sergeant and Mrs. Mills on the arrival of a son and heir—Keith William.

Our first reliefs from U.K. have now arrived and settled down. Their names, just in case you owe them anything and would like to send it, are Corporals McDonald and Mitchell and Signalman Farry.

The shikaris have now returned from the jungle, bringing with them a varied collection of heads and tales. Personally, from the reports of the various snakes and types of animals seen sitting around the bungalow during the hours of darkness at Christmas, I think they would have had greater sport nearer home. And such rare specimens, too. Yellow panthers with feathered backs, snakes with beards, and lovely blue and green tigers.

And now, for the benefit of those of our readers languishing in those awful Stations in the North of England, may I state that we hope to see a few more of you during 1938.

W.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

"A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

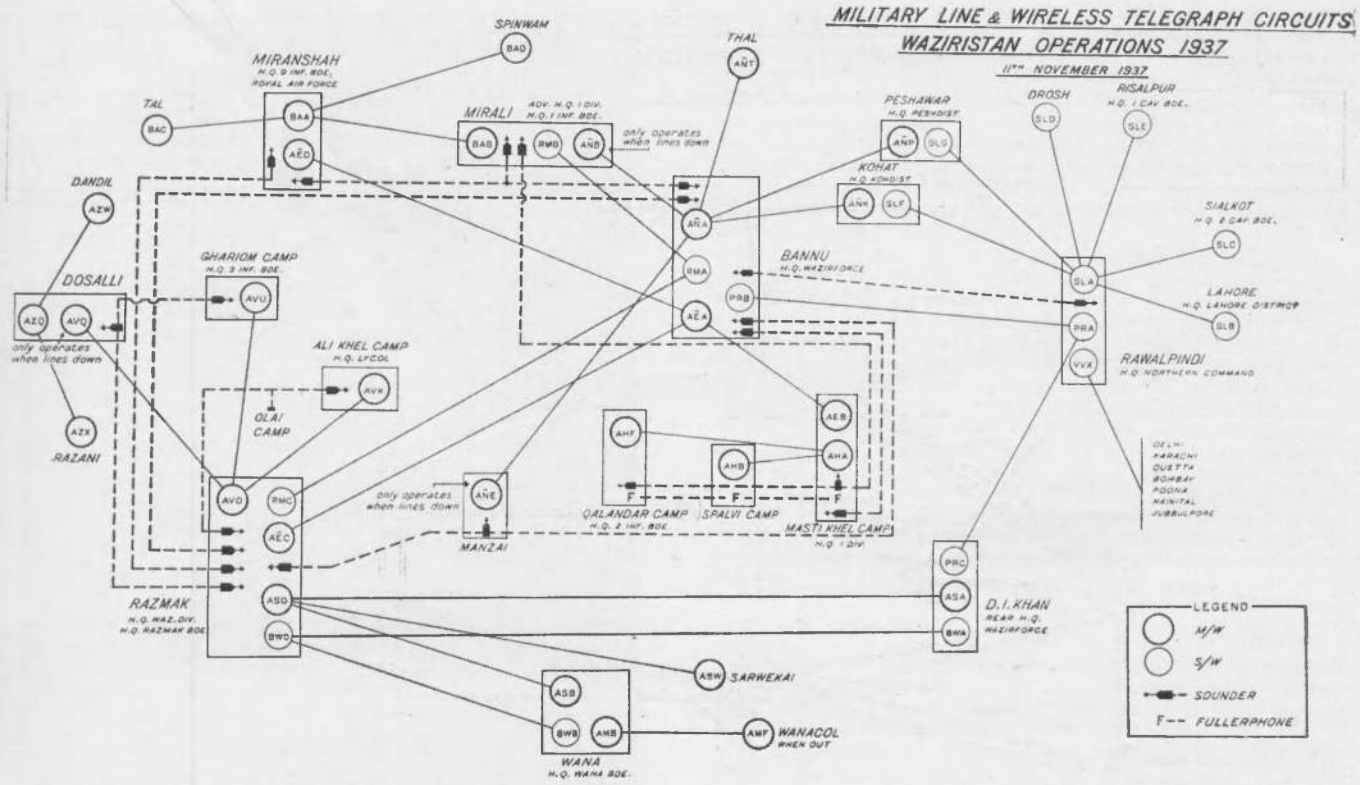
Waziristan Operations, 1937.—On 30th January last, the Unit got back from the Khaisora Operations. Everyone was glad. It had been cold and wet in Bannu, and just very cold in Mirali. We settled down to our Board of Survey, and began to prepare ourselves for the hot weather in 'Pindi. What a hope! Rumours soon began to spread that Waziristan was not to be as quiet and peaceful as we had supposed; people were talking of the return of the 1st Division to Waziristan. The rumours were not unfounded.

The 1st Brigade went back at the end of February, the 3rd Brigade during the first week in March. The 2nd Brigade, which had been ordered to stand by, eventually left 'Pindi half way during April. Their arrival brought the number of troops in Waziristan up to six Brigades; but it was insufficient, and later, at the beginning of May, the 9th Brigade, part of the 3rd Division, arrived from Jansi, and a little later still, two Battalions of the 7th Brigade from Dehra Dun. This brought the total up to thirty-two Battalions.

It proved no ordinary matter, producing the required communication, as, in addition to ourselves, 1st Divisional Signals and Waziristan District Signals were out in full force. All leave was cancelled, and only those officers and troops who had managed to creep out of the country between the two Operations were lucky. Our first party to return to Waziristan consisted of a Cable Section, an Operating Sub-Section, a Line Maintenance Section and one detachment of a 120-watt Section. They left Rawalpindi, under 2nd Lieutenant McGill, on 22nd February, to help Waziristan District Signals in the Signal Office at Bannu. They arrived the next day, having made the first part of their journey in torrential rain; a good start! The Cable Section went on to D.I. Khan on 2nd March, to work directly under "Wazdiv." (Waziristan District) Signals and we didn't see them again till the beginning of May. Unit Head quarters and No. 2 Company went to Bannu on 8th March, with further detachments, and took over the Signal Office there. Sounder circuits from there to Rawalpindi, Mirali and D.I. Khan were opened, and personnel to work Divisional ends of these lines (1st Div. at Mirali and "Wazdiv." at D.I. Khan) were sent out, as well as W/T detachments to work back to Bannu and 'Pindi. Force H.Q. (that is, Northern Command H.Q.) were still in Rawalpindi. This completed the first phase of the war. 1st Div. were operating around Mirali with "Tocol" (Bannu Brigade Column) to help them, while "Razcol" and "Wanacol" were cut off in their respective Stations (Razmak and Wana), at that time "somewhere out in the blue."

During April, Force H.Q. divided themselves from Northern Command H.Q., and, calling themselves Wazirforce H.Q., moved to Bannu. This decreased the number of operational messages to 'Pindi, which to some extent was a blessing. On the other hand, on the 28th, Northern Command H.Q. moved to Murree—an annual move—and another Signal Office was opened there, making for us three major offices; these, together with the detachments at each of the Divisional H.Q.s, were beginning to strain our capabilities, and there was talk of a general advance towards Razmak.

This began at the beginning of May. "Wazdiv." H.Q. moved from D.I. Khan to Mirali, prior to moving up the Central Waziristan Road for some twenty-five miles to Dosalli. In Mirali, two of our W/T detachments (a "C" Set and a S/W Det.) joined "Wazdiv." Signals, and on the 5th they all moved forward. 1st Brigade, which had been at Damdil for some time previously, were piquetting most of the road. It was an interesting drive, especially for those of us who had not been along the Razmak Road before, and there were many signs that the countryside had been in enemy hands. The telegraph route was in a very



sorry state, and of the twenty-five odd miles along which we travelled, only some fifteen were still standing and could be expected to be repaired reasonably quickly; the remainder had been completely pulled down, poles were lying on the ground buckled, insulators and stalks (spindles) were for the most part completely missing. Other damage included the pulling up of milestones and sign posts, and, in places, attempts to blow up culverts and bridges. We were very interested at first to know how the tribesmen, with their limited supplies, were able to blow things up. But the story, apparently true, soon got round. Their procedure is to get hold of one or more dud shells, place them at critical points beneath the bridge or culvert, light a fire beneath them, and then run like hell. The result, as no doubt the Sappers will confirm, was apt to be quite effective.

Dosalli wasn't at all a bad place. " Tocol," which had also arrived there that day, established a camp, and " Wazdiv." H.Q. went into the Fort normally occupied by a Company of the Tochi Scouts. It was a bit cramped, especially when it came to siting seven wireless sets, as the Fort was only some 150 yards by 75 yards, but being more comfortable than the camp outside, we were in no position to grumble. The Divisional Signal Office was established, and all the W/T sets got through without too much mutual interference.

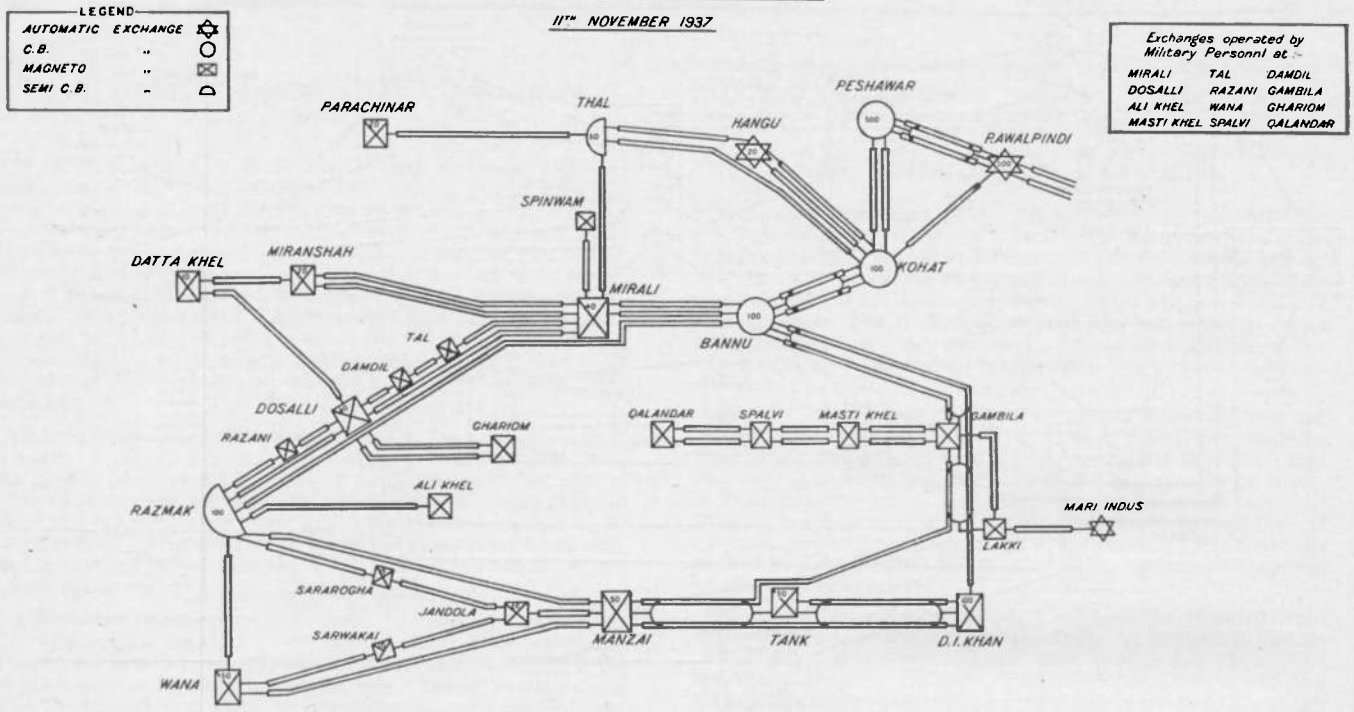
The establishment of line communications was soon put in hand. A cable detachment arrived in Dosalli to work back towards Damdil, a detachment of " M " Section went to Damdil, and other cable detachments, working under 1st Div. Signals, pushed the line forward from Mirali. Where the permanent line was good, it was used ; where it was down, cable was laid. We soon had the communication we required, and some men arrived from Bannu to man the Corps sounder terminals. It wasn't long before the Construction Section, under Lieutenant Hay, arrived in Mirali, and began to reconstruct the whole line. They had to work hard, especially as they were only allowed to be out on the road during " road open " hours, which was about five hours a day. About once a week, there were " road closed " days, when no one was allowed out of the perimeter camp, and the road protection troops got a rest. The task was not made any easier by the fact that the tribesmen seemed to take quite a persistent delight in pulling down during the night the route that had been put up during the day. Also, the G.T.D. transposition, which we now suspect was originally a matter of trial and error, had us guessing from time to time. However, by the end of the month, the job was completed, and maintenance detachments were placed along the route at L.-of-C. Camps. The Construction Section then moved to Dosalli to prepare for their next task, the putting through of the permanent lines to Razmak.

Meanwhile, back in Bannu, the Signal Office personnel were having the time of their lives trying to compete with between some 700 and 800 messages a day, and doing it very successfully, too. There was a little trouble over figures, which resulted in a special procedure being ordered, which had a successful result, and we hope that it may be incorporated in Vol. V. The numbers of delays, on the whole, were kept very low. A " Black List " was made out daily, and on it was entered every ordinary message that was delayed over an hour in the office, and every prefixed message which had been delayed for over thirty minutes. At times, when the lines had been down, it was a little difficult to keep the " black list " up to date, but, normally, the number of messages entered on the " black list " was only three or four per cent. of the total.

During May, the weather began to get warmer and warmer in all the lower-lying places, namely, Bannu, Mirali and Manzai (where we had a detachment), until the shade temperature was well over 110 degrees daily. Wazirforce H.Q. then decided that as soon as Razmak was " relieved," they would move up there. Razmak is a good 6,000 feet up, and the hot weather there is probably as good as that of any hill station in Northern India. This meant that another major Signal Office would have to be opened. This was too much for us to manage alone, and, in anticipation of the move, two Sub-Sections of " B " Corps Operating Section were asked for from Karachi. They arrived on 25th May, under Lieutenant Prince, and were given the unenviable task of taking over the Bannu Signal Office, and looking after it during the hot weather. Under the best of conditions Bannu is not a pleasant Station during the hot weather ; living in tents, although they were chappered (thatched) was perfect . . . The fact that the temperature inside the tents one afternoon (a fairly normal afternoon, too) was 124 degrees F., speaks for itself !

The " B " Corps detachment were given a rest to acclimatize

TELEPHONE · TRUNK · LINES
WAZIRISTAN · OPERATIONS · 1937
11TH NOVEMBER 1937



themselves, and in order to have a look round before moving into the office. It was just about this time that we had a record day of 940 messages; this was not too encouraging for them. Even on their Quetta Staff College Exercises they admit they did not have such numbers to deal with. However, the change was completed, and on 6th June No. 2 Company, H.Q., and a largish party moved to Razmak, to which place the road had now been opened and the telegraph route put through. This party was to make all arrangements for opening the Signal Office and, with the help of No. 1 Company, to get all the local telephones for Waziristan H.Q. installed. On 23rd June, Wazirforce H.Q. moved to Razmak, and on the same day our office opened there. This office never had the amount of work to do that the Bannu office had, since Bannu was still railhead and the main Supply Units remained there; and, in addition, all messages to and from the Battalions of the 1st Division and their respective depots had to pass through this Signal Office.

For us, the next two months of the war were fairly stable months, as far as movements were concerned; and the various offices settled down to a fixed routine. Orders were issued that ten days' leave would be allotted, and as many as possible were given the opportunity of taking advantage of this order. Some of the more homesick individuals of "B" Corps even went the whole 1,400 odd miles by rail to Karachi and back.

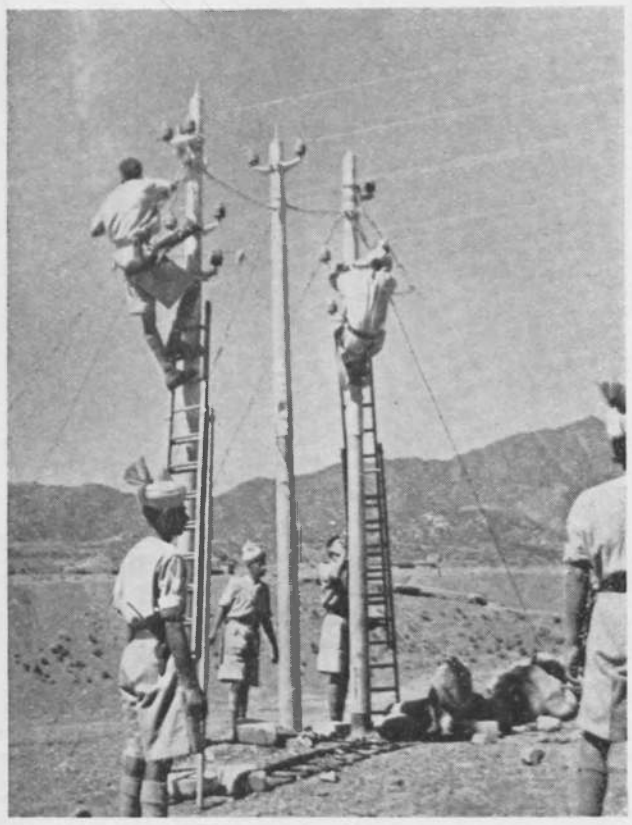
On 6th July, Major Lunt joined the Unit, and took over the whole of the L.-of-C. Area from Bannu to Dossalli, which enabled Unit H.Q. to follow No. 2 Company up to Razmak. At this point, it is convenient to say something of the many small detachments we had along the L.-of-C. At Mirali, we had a fairly large office, because at this place was situated the H.Q. of 9th Infantry Brigade, who were mainly responsible for the protection of the L.-of-C. to Razmak. In Mirali there was also a large M.T. Unit Workshop. The office has kept up a fairly steady average of 250 to 300 messages a day ever since 1st Division H.Q. left there in May. At Miranshah there was a wireless detachment, which has had a monotonous job since they had little work to do, but what they did have was important, because the H.Q. of the R.A.F. are there. At Tal, Damdil and Razani, there were small detachments, manning exchanges and wireless sets, having, on the whole, little work to do, but filling in important positions so far as the L.-of-C. communications were concerned. Whenever possible and desirable, the personnel doing these jobs were swopped with those in main offices, so that they could have a change.

During the time from July to October, whilst Wazirforce H.Q. were in Razmak, our communications were at their longest, and No. 2 Company and the attached troops were spread out from Razmak to Murree, a distance of some 300 miles. The lines and wireless sets were busy the whole time.

The D.R.L.S. was a lengthy affair, and alone we did not have sufficient D.R.s to run it. Between Murree and 'Pindi a D.R. ran daily, but between 'Pindi and Kohat a Signalman travelled every day by train, taking the D.R.L.S. with him. At Kohat, Kohat District Signals took the service over and ran a daily D.R. to Bannu, whilst Peshawar District Signals ran one from Peshawar to Kohat to take traffic chiefly for the H.Q., No. 1 Group, R.A.F. At Bannu we again took over the service, and ran D.R.s to all the main camps on the L.-of-C.

The amount of D.R.L.S. traffic was proportionally as high as the ordinary traffic, and sorting became very difficult, especially as there was not always much time available. To alleviate this, a system of "Mail Bags" was introduced. Cloth bags were made and labelled for all the more important places. These bags were filled by the clerk at the office of origin, the docket was signed by him and also put inside the bag; then the bag was tied up and sealed, and the D.R. on a separate docket merely signed for one or more sealed bags. This system eliminated an enormous amount of work, as for through traffic the sealed bags were merely handed over and the entire contents did not have to be checked.

Our old Douglas motor cycles have had a hard time, and have done an enormous mileage. They are rather on their last legs now, but we have been promised Nortons in the near future. For local delivery and "Station-running," the old type Triumphs, which are normally part of our mobilisation equipment, were resurrected. However, they were no use for the normal D.R.L.S. runs, as with the amount of traffic which had to be carried, there was little room for the two-gallon tin of petrol, which would be necessary owing to the smallness of their tanks. At Murree and 'Pindi, conditions were very similar to peace time, except that the offices were working twenty-four hours each



day. Troops were living in barracks, and were able to take advantage of peace-time entertainments. In Bannu, as I have already said, the climate was unpleasant, but there were games to be had, mostly hockey and a little soccer, and, thanks to the Secretary of the Bannu Club, we were allowed to use the Club swimming bath and golf course.

With the exception of Murree, Razmak was probably the pleasantest Station during the hot weather. The climate could hardly have been better, except that perhaps at times there was a tendency for it to rain just when we wanted to play games. There was plenty of hockey and soccer to be had, and a cinema to go to in the evening.

By October, Razmak was beginning to get cool, if not cold, and there was talk of a move back to Bannu. The 1st Division had more or less completed the many roads they were to make, "Razcol" had made a successful march around the country enclosed in the Razmak-Wana-Manzai triangle, and "Tocol," amongst other moves, had made two attempts to mend the Razmak pipe lines.

At the beginning of October, the 2nd Brigade moved eastwards to a position in the Nangar Tangi, not far from Bannu, and were met there by 1st Division H.Q., who had moved from Dosalli and taken our Corps terminals with them. "Wazdiv." took over Dosalli, so we had to find more men to man the Corps terminals there. Fortunately, by this time the Murree Signal Office had closed down, Northern Command H.Q. having moved back to 'Pindi, and so the personnel was quite easily made available. No. 1 Company, H.Q., and the Construction Section had moved from Razmak to prepare the new lines for 1st Div. towards the end of September, and had left small detachments up and down the Bannu-Razmak route to carry out any maintenance that might be necessary.

Fortunately, from about mid-July onwards, the damage done to the permanent line had been very little, and was limited to one or two isolated cases; the fact that we had put power on the line from Razmak (440 v. off the mains) may have had some effect towards this.

On 18th October, Wazirforce H.Q. moved back to Bannu, our Signal Office in Razmak closed down, and "Wazdiv." Signals took the Corps terminals into their office. No. 2 Company H.Q. remained in Razmak to clear up the camp, and followed Unit Headquarters down to Bannu on the 20th.

There were now definite rumours in circulation that the war would soon be over. 2nd Brigade had got on well with the road they were making in the Nangar Tangi, which was to be the last road construction to be carried out. Traffic in the Bannu office again began to rise, and the daily average was between 700 and 800 messages.

On 24th October, the Force in Waziristan was re-organised into four areas: Bannu, Mirali, Razmak, and 1st Div. Areas. This necessitated a certain amount of changing around of communications, and the diagram published with these notes shows the circuit diagram after these changes had been completed. The office at Miranshah had to be increased to provide for the 9th Brigade, which moved there, as did the office at Mirali, when 1st Divisional H.Q. and 1st Brigade moved to that place. At the time of writing, these two Brigades are about to go out on "columns," the former ending up in Mirali, and the latter with 2nd Brigade in the Nangar Tangi. The reason for the "columns" is to show the flag in districts where troops have not yet been seen. On the reception which these two Brigades will receive appears to depend the date of our home-going. So for other than charitable reasons, we wish them an unmolested journey.

REBALK.

6th January.

General.—On 16th, 17th and 18th December, 1937, we recorded the return of seven officers and approximately seventy British other ranks from the Waziristan Operations, and normal barrack life is being attained within the Unit once again.

Detachments of the Unit were left at Bannu, Miranshah, Tal, Mirali, Damdil and D.I. Khan. It is hoped that they will return to the Unit very shortly.

The Christmas holiday period, quite a long one this year—from 24th December, 1937, to 1st January, 1938—was appreciated by all, enabling those who had been absent from Rawalpindi since March, 1937, to settle down once again in barracks at their leisure.

Entertainments over the holiday period included the usual Children's Party, which was held in the Sergeants' Mess. This function was enjoyed by all. An excellent cinema show, given at the New Lansdowns Cinema, was followed afterwards by a tea given by the W.O.s and Sergeants.

The notable event on 1st January was the Proclamation Parade. This was not held in Rawalpindi this year, although elaborate arrangements had been made. Many would-be spectators were disappointed, more so because Rawalpindi had not produced any spectacular parades during the year, owing to the absence of troops on the Waziristan Operations. Rain, which had fallen the previous day, made the parade ground impossible for use, and the parade was cancelled.

Sport.—Several outstanding sporting fixtures were played during the holiday period. The customary matches with the 1st Indian Divisional Signals produced some good games. The results were:

FOOTBALL: "A" Corps Signals v. 1st Indian Div. Signals.. 3—2
HOCKEY: "A" Corps Signals v. 1st Indian Div. Signals.. 1—3

Boxing and cross-country running are again in the air. It is hoped that we shall be able to produce some good accounts of the performances of the Unit during the remaining months of this winter.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the Unit the following, who have arrived from the U.K., and hope that their stay with us will be a pleasant one: Sergeant Marchant M. and family; Sergeant May C. and family; Corporals Clarke G., Skiffins A., Chaffey E.; Lance Corporals Wragg F., Cox J., Lord J., Harris A., Stevens H.; Signalmen Hewick J., Bunn A., Carpenter C., Mason R., Pugh A., Richardson N., Bennett P., Chapman H.; Signalmen Jardine W., Baker J., Moth J., Nicholas N., Morris E., Touzel R., Miller J. B., Sayer A., Hudson B., Lloyd W., Magee D., Miller J. A., Roberts R., Lancashire A., Pratt I. V. and Pratt H. T.

Sergeant McCormack M. has returned from furlough in the United Kingdom ; the family of Lance Sergeant West C. arrived from the U.K., and Signalman Bowkett T. has been posted from Waziristan District Signals (he has not yet arrived). Lieutenant S. J. Dagg, Royal Signals, rejoined the Unit from leave in Australia, and faded away again, with his customary speed, this time permanently to A.H.Q.

Departures.—We said good-bye to Signalmen Osgood, Trotter G. and Westoby A., who left us for the United Kingdom, per H.T. *Lancashire*, on 6th December, 1937 ; Corporal Henning H., Signalmen Byrne H., Abbiss J., Cook T., Crouch J., Harvey H., Pitchford H. and Russell J., who also left us for the United Kingdom, per H.T. *Nevassa*, on 18th December, 1937 ; and Sergeant Brown A., Lance Sergeant Pink R. and Corporal Hodge C. with their families, who left us for the United Kingdom, per H.T. *Dilwara*, on 22nd December, 1937. Our best wishes go with them to their new Stations.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations are extended to Lance Sergeant Eason A. on his appointment to that rank. Also to Lance Corporals Cook A., Copestake F. and Clarke P. on their appointments to Paid Lance Corporals.

Education.—Congratulations this month to Signalman Phillips R. on obtaining the Army First Class Certificate of Education, and to Corporal Fry H. on having passed part of the examination towards the same certificate.

Service.—Signalman Ramsden H. extended his service to complete twelve years with the Colours.

CAVE CANEM.

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

Here we are again, still attempting to improve our efforts as scribes after the rigours of the annual Brigade Training Camp, and not forgetting the after-effects of a festive Christmas holiday.

We must commence with a brief description of the wild and woolly days that we spent out in the cold, cold " maidan " during our visit to Lahore from 4th to 16th December. Lahore village lies on the Mairasar branch of the Upper Swat Canal, about twelve miles from Swabi village. Needless to say, Swabi was used as a base for many of our Schemes. After Schemes, we usually returned a little jaded and dejected to our tents, which were pitched around the Inspection Bungalow, giving the place the appearance of an olden day castle beseiged by savage hordes that crept away at dawn, returning to stalk their prey at night. Brigade H.Q. might be described as the " prey " but, unfortunately, there were no fair damsels in distress for us to rescue.

We must mention the cold experienced, because it made the water so nippy that the operation of washing was quite a painful one. A few well-known noses were like red lamps shining at night.

Two Night Schemes were carried out in the blue—with a couple of blankets as our only shelter. Experiences throughout the night were rather varied. One N.C.O. nearly died from exposure, but, fortunately, one of the piquet—none other than the alert Jonah—helped to revive him.

Evenings in camp were passed away pleasantly enough, aided and abetted by the well-known cries of " dinky-doo," " clickety-click " and " top-o-the-shop," and fortunes were won and lost. Poor old Jack, who collected plenty of rubbish for his efforts at " calling," complains that none of it was serviceable. Remember that next time, you chaps !

On the whole, we enjoyed the experience, and returned with a good report on our merits. We were considerably under strength, having to turn out a very cosmopolitan Unit ; there were B.O.R.s attached from the 13th/18th Royal Hussars, " F " Battery, R.H.A., and Peshawar District Signals, for whose helping hand we were thankful. Signalmen Dewhurst and Young, of Peshdist Signals, had great difficulty in adapting their Mule Pack No. 1 Set to our horses, but their zeal overcame the difficulties. The good old drop-kick test from the back of the horse once or twice put the Set into a working condition, which it maintained in spite of the rather flimsy nature of the carrier. No bills will be accepted from Peshdist Signals for renewals.

As a point of interest, our future Commanding Officer, Lieutenant P. B. G. Gambier, was with us from the 9th until the end of the camp, in order to see how Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop carried out its duties on manœuvres, and we rather wonder what his first impressions were. We hope they are favourable.

Major V. C. Holland, prior to his departure for the School of Signals, Poona, provided a most enjoyable social evening in the Canteen for all ranks. He gave the Entertainments Committee *carte blanche* in regard to refreshments during the games, which were run as a knock-out tournament. Later, some fine impromptu singing ensured the success that always attends untrammelled use of the larynx with that little something to smooth away the harshness. Major Holland's " Widdecombe Fair " tankard provided the chief attraction, and I don't suppose that so many varieties of the old song have ever been sung before in one night. During a lull between the games and the singing, T.S.M. Taylor made a short speech on behalf of the Troop. The Commanding Officer replied, and everyone joined in giving him that vocal send-off, " For he's a jolly good fellow." As an evening, it must have been rather expensive, but we are sure that it was a happy time for him, as well as enabling us to show our true appreciation of his work for the Unit during his command at Risalpur.

Before his departure, Major Holland had a few words for each man. His future command is a more important one, but we know that he would have liked to stay here a little longer, in order to maintain that close personal contact with all members of the Unit, which has been a happy one during his short stay with us.

We welcome back to the ranch Lance Sergeant Manning, Signalmen Featherstone, Cochrane and Butler, who have been holding them back in Waziristan. A little " clutching " was to be expected, but they do not come up to the standard maintained by our horsey members around the fires on a winter's evening. Lance Sergeant Manning and Signalman Featherstone have certainly earned their repatriations, where " holding 'em back " becomes that delightful pastime of " knocking 'em back." We also welcome Signalman Cardew from Tidworth. He has already established himself as a mouth organist of repute, and we are sure that his stay with us will be a pleasant one.

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With nine days to go between our return from camp and Christmas, the various committees appear haggard and worn; some with pencil and paper mumbling to themselves about forgotten items, and totting up lists of figures relative to ham and eggs, ducks, Christmas pudding, etc. Others, with reams of various coloured papers, looking very technical in their attempts to calculate the areas of truncated cones and parallelagrams on the mess-room roof. The artistic effects were in the hands of Lance Corporal Gully and Signalman Goodall, and the lighting effects were tackled by Lance Corporal White and Signalman Lester; they transformed the Canteen into a veritable palace. The " duck maintenance " by Corporals Bull and Bale combined with Lance Sergeant (Jim) Manning's tender supervision during the cooking ensured that the Christmas dinner would be one to be remembered. Even now, one hears such remarks as, " My, those ducks were good ! " The Entertainments Committee provided us with a treasure hunt, pagal gymkhana and a mounted paper-chase. On Monday morning, those members who were still on their feet, turned out for the mounted paper-chase, which was over a course of nine or ten miles. We had several good runs, and the scent (provided by the Murree Brewery) was excellent over the whole course. Our hare, who was old and sly, led us to a mobile bar, where the scent was so strong that we were compelled to give him best.

Things quietened down for a little while on our return to work, and we are happy to know that these festivities only occur once a year. We celebrated the advent of the New Year in an appropriate manner. After dancing around a neighbouring lamp standard to the refrain of "Auld Lang Syne," Jack Hargreaves became a little excited, and on his bended knees salaamed to the post under the impression that it was a Blighty bus stop. Baba, please note.

Recent rain has prevented sporting activities on a large scale, and so our notes on this subject are rather sketchy. A Unit " Tin and Bottle " tennis tournament, which was held during November, provided some shining lights with an opportunity to walk away with miniature wet canteens and grocery bars. The lucky recipients of the prizes were Sergeants Howell, R.E., and Longhurst, Corporal Strong and Lance Corporal Wood. The " Farrier-Staff " tied with Corporal Strong, but cut an ace low and dropped out of the running. Winter tournaments will soon be in progress, and the Unit is toning itself up after the Christmas revelries with a little light exercise and " Ovaltine " at night. We do not suffer from " night starvation."

Still more members of the Unit are now entitled to adopt the Oxford accent; Sergeants Jeffers and Way, Corporal Bull and Lance Corporal Bolam have successfully convinced the authorities that they are educated, and they will shortly be presented with their First Class Certificates. Johnny Bull will not be spending his leave " punching up " for the " Special," although we are led to believe that Marks and Spencers will claim a fair amount of his time. He may possibly practise his faultless grammar there in an attempt to convince the bright young things behind the counter that an ex-India man is quite nice to know.

CHIKKABLANKA.

Sergeants' Mess.

Here's wishing all readers a very happy and prosperous New Year.

Having just completed the Christmas programme, we feel that we really must add a few notes to this Unit's monthly quota so that ex-Messites may know just what we have been doing.

We returned from camp on 16th December, and, on 17th December, the Mess gave a dinner to Major V. C. Holland, who was leaving us the following day for the Army Signal School, Poona. It was some hustle, but that almost permanent Entertainments Committee of ours, Sergeants Ted Longhurst, Where-there's-a-will-there's-a-Johnny Way, and Tich Wright, rose to the occasion and arranged an excellent dinner.

After the duty toasts, T.S.M. Taylor voiced the sentiments of all present when he said how deeply we regretted the departure of our Commanding Officer, and how happy and contented we all had been under his command. He then wished him, on our behalf, all the success he deserves in his future command. After dinner, we settled down to a most enjoyable social. The tit-bit of the evening was " Widdecombe Fair," in which we all joined with great gusto. Major Holland shook hands and had a few words to say to everyone present. He left us all feeling rather despondent at his departure, in spite of the excellent evening we had spent.

We commenced Christmas with a Tea and Christmas Tree Party on the afternoon of the 24th. The sideshows afforded great fun for the ladies and children, particularly " Aunt Sally," who was our old friend Sergeant Jim Manning in his opera hat. We are all grateful to Commander Shackleton for again officiating as Father Christmas.

Having put the children to bed, everyone returned in the evening for the Christmas Draw. Again, this event was most successful. The whole Troop had participated, and approximately Rs. 350 was disbursed in kind to the lucky ticket holders. A dance, with the band of the Dorsetshire Regiment in attendance, then carried the revellers on into the early hours of Christmas morning.

Christmas Day commenced with Lieutenant and Mrs. R. C. Yule visiting all the families, and distributing presents to the children. Later, we all did our best to serve up the Christmas dinner to the Junior N.C.O.s and Signalmen. After dinner, everyone wandered round to visit everyone else, and the wandering continued until some fell asleep, some fell down irrigation channels, and some fell over barbed wire.

Boxing Day was also a strenuous time, with a treasure hunt in the morning, a pagal gymkhana in the afternoon, and the Mess Dinner at night. Again, this dinner was a most successful affair, and the uproarous fun which the after-dinner social provided found us all exhausted after midnight.

The mounted paper-chase held on the following morning was intended as a " liver-shaker " and, more or less, drew a curtain over another very enjoyable Christmas.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Committee we have already mentioned for the wonderful success they made of everything. We are also very grateful to Lieutenant and Mrs. R. C. Yule for attending all our functions.

A recent novel function held in the Mess was a " Tin and Bottle " dart tournament, in which all the N.C.O.s of the Unit participated, and which had been arranged as a farewell party to Sergeants Jeffers and Manning. From the " Bottle " side of the tournament we drank their health and wished them *bon voyage* and all the best in their new Units.

AUDAX.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

5th January.

General.—December, which has been a month of great activity here, has seen many changes, during which we have distinguished ourselves in different ways.

Early during the month, we assumed more Unit-like proportions, when our detachments returned from Waziristan. There were several exceptions, but they were returned to us in time for the holiday. One only (Signalman " Jock " Campbell) had to return to TOCOL on the 28th; this was bad luck, but he should be back early in the New Year.

This timely swelling of ranks greatly added to the brilliance of Major J. E. F. Paton's Farewell Dance before he relinquished his command to Major G. C. Winckley, M.C. The dance had a dual role—whilst enabling us to bid good-bye to our old C.O., it served as an introduction and welcome to the new, whose stay in Kohat, we sincerely hope, will be a happy one. As Major Paton predicted, we hope that the new Commanding Officer will find this an excellent Unit that will always prove its worth as it has done in the recent Operations. Meanwhile, best wishes to Major Paton, now with " B " Corps Signals, Karachi.

The Unit sustained a further loss when Lance Sergeant Birkett and Lance Corporal Price J. H. departed. The former is to attend the next Foreman-of-Signals' Course, assembling at Catterick, and the latter to repatriation and, maybe, the Police Force. Both were distinguished and quite irreplaceable in his own sphere, and will be greatly missed by their respective circle of friends.

Then came the new draft from home: Signalmen Daniel, Brookes and Matthews. It was unfortunate that they should have been posted at this time of the year, plunging them amidst a strange crowd for Christmas. Nevertheless, they quickly found themselves at home, and are wishing, as we do, that the remainder of their tour will be as happy.

Sporting. What ?—Signalman " Elmer " Hobden, the goalie and much else besides, was sent to Peshawar to undergo a trial for the combined Army and R.A.F. team to play the Islington Corinthians on the 19th. Lance Sergeant Robins was wholly responsible for this selection, and, doubtless, as a tribute to the keen judgment of both, " Hobby " was selected to play. He played a truly wonderful game; the score, 2—1 for the Corinthians, is eloquent.

Signalman Jones E. H., who was also finally selected as first outside-right reserve. These selections, it should be borne in mind, were made from representatives of the Services throughout Northern India. Also eloquent !

Yet Distinguished.—Continuing in this magnanimous vein, we mention Signalman Brown R. A. B., who has been selected to undergo a Regimental Instructors' Course, with a view to a transfer to the A.E.C. He has our best wishes for success. And still more; because Corporal " Sane " Page in one attempt passed in three subjects towards the First Class Certificate of Education, with a distinguished mathematics paper.

Christmas, 1937.—All of which fades to insignificance compared with the efforts of the Christmas Messing and Entertainment Committees, led by Lance Corporals " Boomer " Barrett and Bevan respectively. Each, naturally, had their assistants, yet nothing could have equalled the " Boomer's " own efforts when " wiv' 'is own bare 'ands " he acted as waiter and bearer to us throughout the holidays. His tireless efforts to organise impromptu concerts and sing-songs often bore fruit, and vastly entertained us.

The dinner itself was a huge success. The whole of the Unit was there, and Major Brown (the Adjutant) made a short speech, in which he told us again how good a Unit we were—an oft repeated phrase this month. We shall soon have swelled heads. He, too, drew attention to his prophecy of last year, when he said that we would maintain our good reputation and answer any call. Waziristan Operations, 1937, has well proved his words.

Christmas night ended very quietly; the revelry was reserved for Boxing night. The Band nobly co-operated, and a glorious night was the result. It will be remembered for a long time.

Reciprocation.—We have to thank Messrs. Pitman, Pickering and Cass, all now at Sialkot, for their very kind Christmas cards. We hope that your Christmas was a merry one, and that the New Year will hold much for you. " 'Ows the 'osses and—er—seats ? "

Note for the R.S.P.C.C.—We cannot, however we try, keep Signalman " Drover " Bateman out of the news. For several weeks he has been acting as the Garrison school children's escort—that is, collecting the puir wee lambs in his big lorry and delivering them safely to school, where they are handed over to the tender mercies of their P.T. Instructor—Corporal " Butch " Talbot.

The Glass of Fashion.—We would like to know which worthy member of the band, prior to attending an engagement, " blancoed " his shirt-front before proceeding ? He may be able to give us tips.

Bureau.—There is the sad case of Signalman (late Gunner, R.A.) Giles, now of this Unit, who seeks news of his friend Signalman Newman S., who transferred from the 12th Light Battery to this Corps in 1933. Would he, or anybody aware of his whereabouts please communicate with Signalman Giles.

And Finally.—We had almost forgotten to mention Lance Corporal " Dinty " Moore, who left us to undergo an A.I.'s Course at the Army Signal School, Poona. We gather that this Course isn't all tripe and onions. Best of luck, " Dint."

ROBANSON.

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Greetings.—We extend our heartiest greetings, and sincerely wish all past and present members of the Corps the very best for 1938.

General.—News ? After all, this is Quetta, not London, as one would imagine by the road excavations. Naturally, we, too, have our own private excavations, which are a legacy from the 'Quake, and which are affectionately known to all concerned as the " big dig." Everyone is thinking of writing to Mr. Broome showing what our " big dig " training can or cannot do—as the case may be—in seven days. We are pleased to note that the bricks, which we spent busy weeks in removing from the aforementioned " big dig," have been returned by M.E.S. (not spelt as yet S.I.M.M.S.), and have been carefully stacked in heaps on our parade ground.

This indiscrimate piling of our unwanted bricks, wrenched from the earth by our enthusiastic labours, has completely spoilt the appearance of our beautifully-marked-out parade ground. However, with time and a modicum of labour by ourselves and M.E.S., we hope to see rows of modern " Bungalows S.D., Soldiers for the use of," fit for heroes to live in.

Promotions.—Corporal Fairclough has now left us for the enlightened sphere of the Sergeants' Mess. Lance Corporal Drake now has his second tape, and U/Lance Corporal Robinson has ordered the little blue book. We also extend our congratulations to Signalmen Hayes, Cooke G. and Smith F., all of whom can now write their names preceded by two oblique strokes.

Comings and Goings.—We extend a welcome hand to R.S.M. Noonan and family, and hope that their stay in the Unit will be a pleasant one.

Our second list of " repats." departed for a better land on 31st October, 1937. The party comprised: C.Q.M.S. Wall and family, Corporal West (who may be returning after completing a F-of-S Course), Signalmen Costin, Coombs and Smith S. After the boat train had left, there was a sudden stir and upheaval throughout the Unit, and, lo and behold, C.S.M. Hebberd had gone before even he realised the fact. We wish them the best of luck wherever they may be.

The Unit has been enriched by the arrival of Lance Corporal Pearce from the " Zhob," and the " Fighting Farrier " (Signalman Crellin H.) from Jubbulpore.

Entertainments.—On 30th November, the Unit Concert Party gave their last show of the year in the Rink. The programme, which was greatly appreciated, kept the audience in laughter for two hours. A large amount of the kudos must go to " Gert Green " (Signalman Green L.) and to Corporal Atkins for his work with the Harmonica Band. The " Chota Band " proved to be a great success, and was one of the high lights of the evening. I must not forget the following ladies who helped to put the show over, and who were greatly appreciated: Mrs. C. H. Barker, Mrs. G. B. Stevenson, Misses P. Tayleur, J. Tayleur and J. Jones.

The year's entertainment closed with the Annual Ball, held in the Masonic Hall on 23rd December. The attendance was well up to expectations. With the Unit Dance Band and the Harmonica Band on duty, a very enjoyable night was spent by all. There were a few sideshows, the most popular one, of course, was the Bar. (Very popular, according to the balance sheet.) A fish and chip stall, run by " Gert Green," Rastus Hickmore, Haggis McEwen and the well-known Indian cook, " Gobadan," was well patronised.

Before concluding, I should like to mention that we were represented in the Q.A.D.C. Christmas Pantomime, " Cinderella Reconstructed," by the following: Mrs. Barker as Prince Charming; Sergeant Storey and Signalman Green as the Ugly Sisters; Mrs. Stevenson and Miss P. Tayleur in the Chorus.

Christmas Messing and Entertainments.—The Christmas Messing and Entertainments Committee, under the very able direction of Corporal Oliver, worked very hard in endeavouring to provide the Christmas fare that enabled us to spend a very good Christmas. Thanks are due to Corporals Webber and Boniface,

Lance Corporal Harris, Signalmen Fry R., Moir and Heaton and the cookhouse staff for their untiring efforts.

The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel G. Tayleur, congratulated the Unit on the work done during the past year, and, at the conclusion of his speech, three very hearty cheers were given for him. Then we sat down to the more serious business of eating the dinner. The Sergeants, as usual, waited on us, and performed the task quite efficiently.

The Corporals' Room Draw was held on 23rd December, and, taking into consideration the number of tickets sold (approximately 800), was a very popular event. The prizes were very well distributed, and, judging by the sparsely populated breakfast tables, were very much appreciated. The cookhouse barrow appeared to be in great use as transport after the social, which followed the Draw.

The polo match, played on mules with hockey sticks and a football, was very humorous. One difficulty appeared to be a lack of similarity of thought between mount and rider, and even our " Rough " seemed to find the mules intractable. However, after a few struggles, the officers and sergeants managed to win, and became the proud possessors of a huge " nearly silver " Cup (made in our own workshops), and presented to the captain by Mrs. E. V. F. MacSwiney. The losers thereupon filled the Cup with beer and both sides drank each others' healths. Mention must be made of Sergeant Lynham, whose play was so conspicuous that he was presented with a special prize.

The fancy dress football match was another feature of amusement. The weird, wise, and wonderful garb of the players called for many varied and appropriate remarks by the spectators. Every time a goal was scored, the players made a dash for the side of the pitch, where free " shandies " were distributed to them. Our mighty atom in goal (Farrier Staff Sergeant Bellwood) found a ladder very handy in reaching the crossbars of his goal, but his voluminous garments rather hampered his movements towards the free shandies.

On Christmas Day there was another Social in the Corporals' Room, when the spirit of the season once again was very much in evidence. Everyone seemed to be thoroughly enjoying themselves. The Christmas period was brought to a close by a Dinner in the mess-room on New Year's Eve. Corporals Webber and Boniface are to be congratulated on the very fine display, not forgetting those who assisted in the preparation of the dinner.

The Sergeants' Mess Draw, held on 22nd December, was also attended by the Junior N.C.O.s. Some of the mystery prizes were very gingerly received. As an example, there was the hair oil for Corporal Drake, the Epsom salts for Corporal Coles, the Keatings for Sergeant Lynham, and the jar of vaseline and other peculiar prizes.

A Social followed the Draw, and all those present had a very good time. On 24th December the Sergeants' Mess gave a Christmas Tree Party and Social to the families of the Unit. An invitation was extended to the officers and Junior N.C.O.s, and there was a very good attendance. The Mickey Mouse films, which were shown primarily for the children, were very amusing, and were appreciated by the grown-ups as much as by the children. The games and dancing which followed the Christmas tree and tea (during which Sergeant Huggins ably impersonated Father Christmas) were highly diverting and amusing. As the song says, " It ended too soon."

RONKAY.

EASTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Unit Headquarters.

General.—These notes represent one of the few appearances of this Company in this Journal.

We have a departure of note this month. Our Orderly Room Sergeant, Sergeant Waldron, has convinced the authorities that India is no place for him, and leaves for the U.K. on 28th December, 1937.

Recruiting for the Royal Corps of Signals in India has started again. Lance Corporal Greaves has adopted a distinct " let me be your father " complex whilst performing the duties of Recruiting N.C.O. We welcome the new arrivals, and hope that they will like the Corps. They will not have to suffer the pangs of being warned for draft, after having so nicely settled down in some cosy spot at home. Shades of the girl I left behind me.

This month also saw the departure for the promised land of three more of our stalwarts, Signalmen Benson, Cathmoir and Downs. We hope that the last-named had a good trip, the other two we know were well accommodated, as they travelled on S.S. *Tuscania*. Cards received from the boat told of cabins, spring beds and a general good time. Lucky dogs! We wish them all the very best in their new Units.

8th Field Brigade R.A. Signal Section, Lucknow.

October, 1937.

General.—After the summer heat, the present coolness is quite a welcome change in more ways than one. It is possible to work without losing gallons of perspiration, and, as a result, winter routine has started. This involves Section and Brigade Schemes, general overhauling of stores, and brushing up of manipulation. This year's manœuvres has given rise to a few disturbing rumours. One of them was to the effect that the place of manœuvres would be in the Delhi area. When this was made known, it was astonishing to find the number of fellows who stated that they needed a bath!

Being different to other people, we have just recently fired our Annual Musketry Course. This year, the 6th Infantry Brigade Signal Section assisted us in upholding the Signals' reputation on the range, and, as one person with noted tactlessness remarked, it only needed the ladies with the collection boxes to make the day complete. But he belonged to the Infantry, and was probably jealous. Nevertheless, the final result was quite satisfactory.

Arrivals and Departures.—The relief of the Section is now completed with the postings of the following: Sergeant Jones and Lance Corporal Vickers to Meerut; Sergeant Luck and Corporal Rhead to Lucknow. We are extremely sorry to lose the former, and at the same time welcome the latter with open arms.

Tit-Bits.—With the arrival of new blood at Lucknow, the places of amusement are doing a great trade, and quite a few of the fair maidens find their hearts fluttering already. The other day, a certain individual with two whole years' service in an R.A. Section, asked how one would lay cable from the lead horse.

Marriages.—Two of the Section are walking about showing the symptoms, so I suppose that we shall be able to make the usual announcements very soon. " Remember, Jock, he who hesitates is lost." We wish Ramsay the best of *Joy*.

Entertainments.—Headquarters of the Brigade gave a farewell social on 20th October, to which the Signal Section was invited. In keeping with the previous function, it was a huge success, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. In the whist drive, the Section Sergeant won the first lady's prize. Was his face red?

Things We Want to Know.—Which N.C.O. gave the exercise party " Eyes right " to a streak of lightning?

What is the difference between the " important " and the " unimportant "?

Sport.—Unfortunately, since two of our football team have been posted, we have not been able to arrange any matches. So there will not be any notes on sport this month.

Ode to Jimmy.—

A life on the ocean wave,
A home on the rolling deep;
Where a fellow can't get a shave,
And never a wink of sleep.
Oh, this life on the open sea,
This home on the heaving brine;
I wasn't made for the sea,
And the sea wasn't made for mine.

Still, I expect he can put up with it for three weeks.

KISMET.

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

24th December, 1937.

General.—Happy days are here again. The Troop has completed the annual Brigade Training, and the B.O.R.s are gradually becoming accustomed to the extra issue of " refreshments " which are issued, offered, and duly accepted at this time of the year.

Brigade training was a success, and all ranks enjoyed the three weeks under canvas at Farrukhnagar, fifty miles from Trimulgherry. Of course, we had to put up with white ants, black ants, snakes, and we even ran out of bacon, but, nevertheless, there were no tribesmen's bullets flying around. Talking of the Frontier, we have again renewed acquaintance with the warriors who left this Station for service with the Frontier Units, and the stories related in the mess-room are so tall that an American tourist would hide his head in disgrace. It will be an extremely difficult task this month for the committee to decide who has won the " Fairy Tale " medal, and it looks as if the Frontier holidayites will be presented with this much-sought-after trophy.

Technical.—According to expectations, our wireless detachments came forth from Brigade training with flying colours. The ex-boys are a well-educated lot, and excellent operators. Communication was maintained at a high standard on all Schemes, and it was quite a novelty for the Staff Officers to use wireless instead of visual, as this was the first time that wireless had been used in this Brigade for Brigade training. Our old " C " Mk. II Sets behaved extraordinarily well, although one mad horse tried its d——est to smash one up. We hope to receive our No. 1 Sets in the very near future, and then the Brigadier can tell his Staff what he thinks there and then, instead of transferring his vocabulary to message pads.

Forthcoming Events.—The Troop move out to Camp again on 10th January to take part in the District Exercise.

On 1st January, the usual Proclamation Parade, the largest parade held annually in this country, takes place, and the Troop will have their usual position immediately after the Cavalry Regiments.

Christmas Festivities.—An excellent programme has been arranged by the Entertainments Committee, and full details will be given in next month's notes. The Troop have arranged three competitions : a Young Soldiers' Competition, a Handy Hunter and an Open Jumping Contest. The last two competitions are open to Divisional Signals, who have forwarded an excellent number of entries. The Young Soldiers' event is a new idea, which has caught the enthusiasm of all ranks, and the B.O.R. Section will be represented by the scribe, who, with that optimistic feeling, intends to put up a good show. This competition consists of an endurance test of twenty miles in three hours, a jumping test, and a manege test. The condition of the horse will be a big factor towards success.

The other two competitions take place on 30th December, and on that day the Troop will be "At Home" to all British officers and other ranks and families of the Divisional Signals.

New Faces.—Lance Corporal Lavelle (our unseen B.O.R., who has been engaged on the Operations with 1st Divisional Signals) is due to arrive here about 6th January. The four-legged friend, that has been waiting for him for a year, will be glad to hear the news.

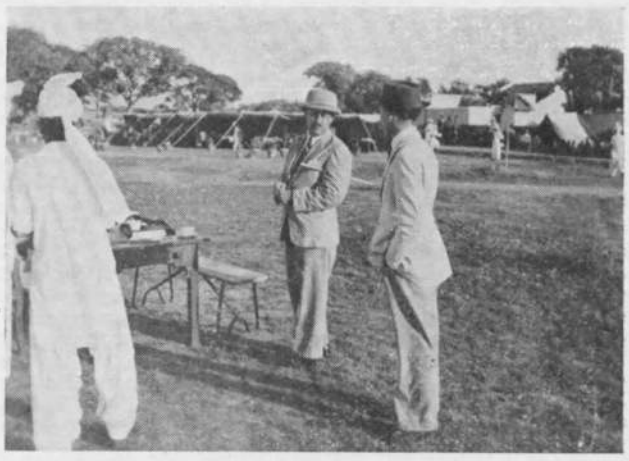
About the beginning of February, we expect to see Sergeant Dilworth and Signalman Hare, who have been posted to this Troop from Blighty. A warm welcome, with a horsey smell, awaits them.

Departures.—Our old friend Corporal (Ginger) Rhodes sails for the land of sleet and snow on 29th January. After two tours in this country, he deserves a long siesta in the home country.

The Troop will also lose Lance Corporal Snowball in the near future. May I quote that old saying—our loss is somebody else's gain.

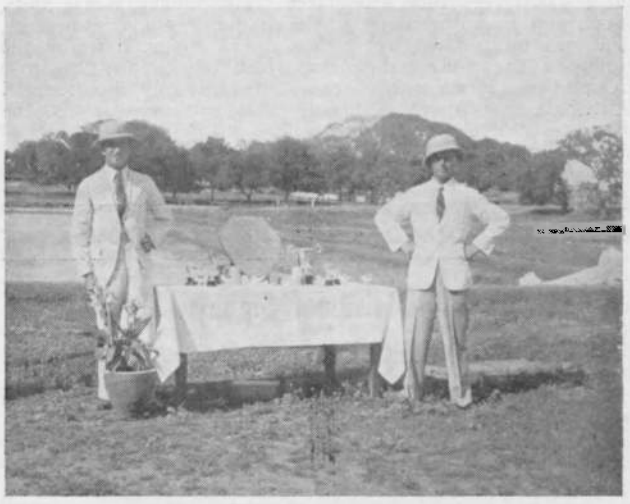
BONNIE DUNDEE.

[The three photographs published in this column were taken at the sports held in conjunction with the 4th Indian Divisional Signals some time back, but had to be omitted from the notes covering this event owing to pressure on space. We feel sure that they will still be of interest.—ED.]



The Chief Judge (Captain Barker) conversing with Lieut. Walker.

"Tea is served." This group includes (left to right) Miss Anderson, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Perry, Captain Anderson and Lieut. Walker.



Sergeants Fairman and Page with the Shield and prizes,

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Egypt Signals.

Variety Concert.—The Unit Concert Party presented their show to a packed house on the evening of 22nd December, 1937. Three sets of scenery, seventeen items and twenty-seven performers provided the necessary variety, and incidentally a good deal of work for the stage hands.

The " Mercury Rhythm Boys," our newly-formed Unit Dance Band, opened the concert, and their performance throughout enhanced the excellent reputation they have already gained.

In the concerted turns—" Out on G-Beer Ranch " and " Kendall's Koons "—the cowboys and darkies sang with great gusto and not a little skill. They were very well received.

The sketch " Noises Off " scored many laughs when Mr. Potter (Lieutenant P. A. Duke) attempted to provide the " noises " for a dramatic scene.

" Too Weak " certainly left us weak through laughing at C.Q.M.S. Kendall and Corporal Trivass as the King and Queen of Croabia.

Sergeant Couperthwaite gave a very funny performance as " Lady Diana," the beautiful and world-famous " high diver." " She " did her dive from a height of 300 feet into a 2ft. 6in. tank on the stage.

With regard to the other items, we must mention the excellent performances of Captain and Mrs. Wiseman (Hawaiian guitar and ukulele) ; Corporal Ransom (piano accordion) ; and Mr. George Wilson (tenor).

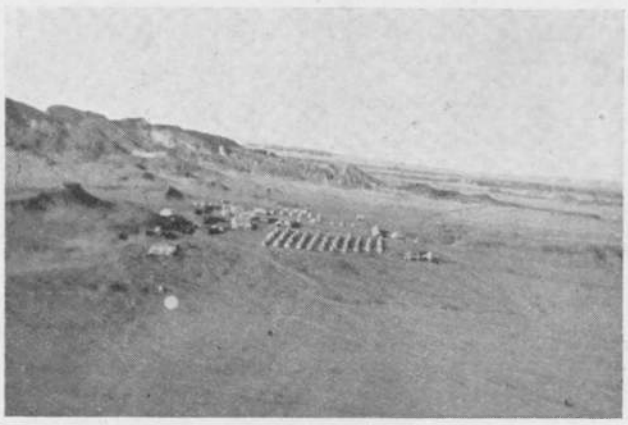
For the benefit of the Garrison, the Concert Party is giving a repeat performance at the Slade Club, Abbassia.

No. 1 Company.

The Company has not greatly distinguished itself in the world of sport during the last month or two. The football team were knocked out of the Church of England Cup by No. 3 Company, after a very good game ; and in the Small Units' Cup they were equally unsuccessful. Section football is flourishing, and next year, if the Company side can be gathered together earlier from its various places of employment, such as out-stations, Courses, etc., they should do well.

Work has proceeded much as usual. Detachments from "A" Section proceeded to the various training camps, from which they returned in time for Christmas. Two "A" Section photographs are published with these notes.

The Army Eat ?



Fayid Camp (1st Period), 1937

The most solid achievement which the Company has recently made was the re-erection of a barbed-wire fence round Polygon Wireless Station. This was intended to discourage burglars, who are periodically overcome with the desire to loot the station ; whether with the intention of removing the 4-k.w. Set as a curio, or for the more mundane purpose of securing such coin of the realm as may be lying about, has really never been established.

Christmas.—The Christmas dinner was a great success and the whole of the Christmas festivities were celebrated with a lavishness which was truly oriental.

Weddings.—Congratulations to Signalman Smith J. and Miss E. M. Bedale on their marriage at Wolverhampton last August.

No. 3 Company.

As the Section correspondents have not yet recovered from supporting McEwans, Ltd., during the festive season, it has been left to me to rack the small quantity of grey matter I am blessed with in order to describe our activities during the month of December.

General.—The new 8-cwt. trucks having been " run-in " and issued to Sections, they made their first appearance as No. 1 Set cars on a Scheme with the Irish Guards. This was followed by " K " Section proceeding to Moascar to demonstrate wireless telephony to the 1st Battalion, Manchester Regiment, and the Royal Sussex Regiment. The remainder of the month was devoted to small Schemes in the vicinity of barracks.

The tests of the " Whyndham " aerials proved entirely satisfactory. The Sets operated at a distance of sixty miles, which, so far, is the farthest distance attempted.

" B " Cable Section have dismantled the air-line erected by them some few weeks ago from Beni Yusef to Mena.

Naming of M.T.—Large names in three-inch letters now appear on the sides of all vehicles. Being rather inquisitive, I asked why such names as " Kaitbey," " Kafer," etc., had been chosen by one Section, and the following was the reply. " Oh, we have named them after the various Sultans and Sheikhs who have made Egypt a place fit only for heroes to live in." To which another voice from under the car replied, " It's not heroes, but millionaires you have to be in order to live comfortably out here."

Egypt Signals Concert Party.—On the evening of 20th December we had the pleasure of witnessing a performance of the Concert party in the Regimental Institute. The show was a complete success and the fine performances of all the artistes makes it difficult to select any particular individual for special mention.

The Skating Rink.

We must, however, make a record of the " wooing " of Corporal Trivass by Corporal Simpson. This act fetched the house down.

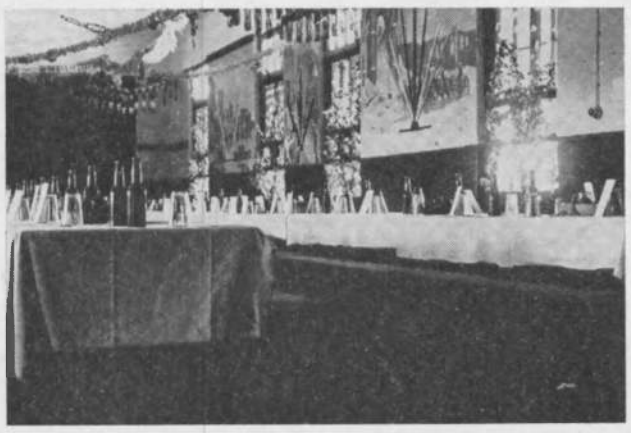
The show, which began with the " Rhythm Boys " singing " When Day is Done," and concluded with " Kendall's Koons," was full of good, clean humour throughout, and our thanks are due to those who produced the show, especially C.Q.M.S. Kendall, who for the past six months has been getting the talent together, and doing his utmost to make their performance one of the finest produced in these barracks. We must also thank Lance Corporal Walker, whose fertile brain and nimble fingers committed scenery to canvas in a way that deserved every praise.

We understand that another production of the show is being given at the Slade Club in the near future, and I think that one can safely say that it will again be the best ever.

Sports Clubs.—The skating rink has now been completed, and the club formed. The members can now be seen on any day performing upon the tiles. The " Little General " has mastered the art so well that his boast of being able to drive " owt " on wheels still remains good.

Our C.Q.M.S. has gathered the golfing fraternity around him, and each afternoon one can see them disturbing the soil upon the Rifle Range to the cry of " Fore ! "

Christmas Festivities.—On Monday, 21st December, the Children's Christmas Party was held. The entertainment followed the lines of its predecessors. On the 22nd the Corporals' Mess Dance and Draw took place, and on the 23rd the Sergeants' Mess Dance and Draw was held. At this function, several humorous presentations took place. One of them was a combined " Roundabout and Jazz Set " to Sergeant Wintermere in appreciation of his action in stepping into the breach and playing the drums for the Corporals' Dance. The other was an " Ear-Trumpet " to Corporal Henshaw, to enable him to hear the wireless programme without having it loud enough to entertain the Garrison.



No. 3 Company Mess Room on Christmas Day, 1937.

On the 24th the annual match, Officers v. Sergeants, was played. The result was a draw, 3—3, and we wonder who will hold the Cup this year.

Birth.—To Lance Sergeant and Mrs. Cowperthwaite, a son, William David Richard, at the Military Families Hospital, Abbassia.

Appointment.—Signalman Smith F. (U.H.Q., attached No. 3 Company) to be U/Lance Corporal.

Our Who's Who.—No. 3 : Signalman Mullen D.
No. 4 : Long black hair, blue eyes, medium height and build. A wizard on the drums, and a Corps cricketer. A D.R. by trade. The last description we heard of him was " entirely casual."

Gems of Wit.—" He's so light fingered, he could take the harness off a nightmare."

S.B.O. (in lorry) to Sergeant at terminal post : " I can hear your speech O.K., but not through the ear-piece."

Jews' Mail.—Ted. " Usbur hatta yaji, ya miskin. Bob."

The Boat Wallahs' Anthem.—

They are sending us to Blighty, we think for a test,
To see if a change and a few years of rest
Will bring back the brains (that the sun has sent west)
Of those soldiers who once served in Egypt.

TEE-NUH.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

Christmas Entertainment.—The 23rd December saw the commencement of the Mess Christmas festivities. On the evening of the 23rd, the Mess held their annual Christmas Draw and Dance, which proved a great success. The Mess was gaily decorated, giving the place a real Christmas atmosphere, and thanks are due to C.S.M. Hobbs, Sergeants Betty and Beale, and Signalmen Norman and Parker for their efforts. Dance music was provided by our own Corps Jazz Band—" The Mercury Rhythm Boys "—who are a real 100 per cent. Jazz Band, holding a name in the Garrison second to none. The function was arranged to suit the " grippers " style : dance—draw—dance—draw, and so on, and everyone was kept in a happy mood. The Corporals' Mess, who were honoured guests, thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment. At 1 a.m. the red light appeared, and at 1.15 a.m. "All Clear " was given, and everyone retired to their respective homes, after a really enjoyable evening.

The Mess v. Officers Football Match.—At 3 p.m. on Christmas Eve, uniforms were discarded for the battle royal. The Mess were escorted to the arena by the Corps Jazz Band, who, in turn, were preceded by the Unit Sheikh on his donkey. The Band played a few selections and then, at 3.10 p.m., Signalman Barker—the mighty atom who was in charge—gave a blast on his trumpet, and, like magic, twenty-two masterful gladiators arrived to give battle !

The sand and lime flew in all directions for twenty minutes when Signalman Ward came to the rescue with his mop and cleared the atmosphere. It was then discovered that both sides had joined the Fishing Fleet Service twice !

Corporal Morrison then assumed his naval guise, and out to sea the respective sides sailed. At 3.35 p.m. there was a terrific battle, and at 3.55 p.m. the Armistice was declared for twelve months. Both sides had three holes apiece in their net.

The officers then gallantly conveyed their opponents in force to the Officers' Mess, where many tactical errors were pointed out. Time went on, and at 4.30 p.m. there appeared to be 500 footballers present ! " They are jolly good fellows " was eventually sung to terminate a very enjoyable afternoon. Wait till next Christmas Eve ; I will show you how Dixie Dean and Bastin used to do it !

Mess Dinner.—Boxing Night was devoted to the annual Mess Dinner and a social evening. The dinner was attended by all Mess members and their ladies ; the social was open to the Garrison. Thanks are tendered to Sergeants Fee F., M.M., Lynch J. and Stone G. for the excellent dinner which was served ;

THE FOOTBALL MATCH—WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS' MESS versus THE OFFICERS ON CHRISTMAS EVE, 1937

it was thoroughly enjoyed. Toasts were given to " Our King," " Our Colonel-in-Chief," and " Our Officers." The Corps Band was in attendance for the evening's social, at which our officers and their ladies were present.

Tennis.—We finished a very successful season with the first Annual Tournament, in which almost seventy-five per cent. of the Mess members participated. On the day of the finals, we saw some excellent tennis. There was a very keen struggle in the Singles Final, and the Invitation Doubles match versus the officers. We take this opportunity of thanking all those who took part for an excellent afternoon's tennis. Here are the results : The "Chani" Challenge Cup (Level Singles) : Lance Sergeant Stone beat Lance Sergeant Gibbs, 6—4, 8—6. The " McEwen-Younger " Challenge Cup (Level Doubles) : C.Q.M.S. Bremner and Sergeant Warren beat Sergeant Ivison and Lance Sergeant Stone, 7—5, 6—3. Mixed Doubles (Level) : Lance Sergeant Stone and Mrs. Boon beat Sergeant Warren and Mrs. Richardson, 6—3, 6—1. Handicaps—Singles : Sergeant Ivison beat Lance Sergeant Gibbs, 3—6, 7—5, 6—0. Doubles : Lance Sergeant Stone and Sergeant Ivison beat Sergeant Richardson and Lance Sergeant Bett 7—5, 6—1. Mixed : Sergeant Ivison and Mrs. Ivison beat Lance Sergeant Gibbs and Mrs. Betty, 7—5, 6—3.

SENIOR RANKS LEAGUE.—We greatly improved our performance of last season, finishing seventh with nine points, having played twenty, won nine and lost eleven.

Corporals' Mess.

General.—Since our last notes we have had three new members added to our fold : U/Lance Corporals Smith F. Z., Roberts W. F. and Howard L., to whom we extend hearty congratulations on their rapid promotion.

Now that the cold weather is here, the Mess fire is in great demand. Those N.C.O.s coming out from Blighty this " trooper " should not feel homesick.

Christmas Festivities.—We held our first Draw this year on 21st December, and, from the opinions heard, it was an outstanding success. In fact, we are making preparations for another one next year. The senior N.C.O.s and their wives were our guests on this occasion, and we understand that they thought it was a good show. At least, so the winners of the flypapers say. With the Unit Band in attendance, we had a real Christmassy night.

Annual Dinner.—This was held on 28th December, and proved a great success. R.S.M. Harris F. C. V. and R.Q.M.S. Smart attended to make the function complete. After the dinner was over and toasts proposed, we all adjourned to the Corporals' Mess to stand and gaze at the heavily-laden Christmas Tree. All were wondering for whom the presents were destined, and by whom they had been given. Strangely, even now certain folk dare not say, " Well, I bought so and so for you." All the presents were purchased appropriately for each guest—and were some of them surprised ? (Who said a Snake ?)

The scheme had been well thought out by some bright things with a sense of humour, and it really added to the festive occasion. Each recipient had to display his present for all assembled to see, and was also requested to demonstrate its usefulness. " Well done, Freda ! " " Wind it up, Swede ! "

New Year.—On 31st December we held an impromptu party just to drink (sorry—see) the Old Year out and the New Year in. The Year was well and truly seen in, and some members seen out.

The Senior N.C.O.s are sincerely thanked for their hospitality in inviting us to their Mess. This was heartily appreciated by all those members who made use of the invitation. Our thanks are also extended to the Band for their valued services throughout the festive season.

" Grip."—Having allowed the seniors to hold our " Medal " for a short period, it duly found its way back to Uncle Freddie, the rightful owner, a title to which we and the higher authorities fully concurred. It was presented at the men's Christmas Dinner by the Chief Signal Officer.

Our sympathies are divided between the runner-up (hard luck, somebody !) and the next recipient. I didn't say anything about " Pay " !

CHOTAS (2).

"X" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Cairo.

General.—" General " notes are usually both technical and heavy reading, and statistics go to show that they are skipped by most readers. Why are they written ?

The training season has started—is in full swing—is flourishing—has burst forth and is now blooming. Is the effect as invigorating as Kruschens ? Who wants to know that somebody's car went to some place and established communication. Now if a fish and chip lorry went to Mena or " kilo fifty " and " got through " we could safely dispense with the salts. But wireless cars ! They invariably get through, even in England.

Genius.—During his short but chequered career he has given us many great works. Born in Poona, '98, he became interested

in writing at an early age. Studied under Bennet and Palman; his early works cannot be traced, and are believed to be lost to posterity. The following was inspired during a Scheme in the worst rainstorm since 1872 (27th and 28th October, 1937).

WITH APOLOGIES TO THE GALLANT 600.

All through the night we sat—
Bed! not a thought of that;
Operators just sat tight,
Sets open all night;
What if an order came?
Would a man be to blame
For just missing one code name
Out of six hundred?

"Pip's" speech is not too good,
He can't be understood;
Time after time we say—
"Word after" WADI BEY!
Other words my ears strike,
But not breathed into the mike
(The Army can't go on strike),
There's more than six hundred!

Sometimes the fitters say,
"Will you require M.A.?"
The engines refuse to start,
Dropping us in the cart,
But if "No" we say,
His mood becomes quite gay
And engines start right away—
One in six hundred?

Drivers their gears will crash,
Gearboxes appear to smash;
Up to the "diff" in sand,
Won't someone lend a hand?
Channels are pushed 'neath wheels,
Somebody close at hand squeals,
"One chance alone we stake"—
One in six hundred!

At map reading we're all dud,
Don't think we ever should
Know why a contour's made
Other than to make the grade
Too steep for us by far
In this old wireless car—
Made in "Six Hundred."

Back into barracks crept
Men who had never slept;
Cars spattered up with mud,
Batteries all flat and dud;
But with the fitters' aid,
Oh, what a "charge" we made;
This Scheme was just one "played"—
One in six hundred.

BLACKIE.

Heard on Scheme.—Two wireless cars on the move at six yards distance.

"Hello, Barham! 'Pip' calling. Can you hear me? Over!"

"Hear you! I can smell your breath. Off!"

Song Titles.—To ex-"G" Troopites: "How changed is the old place now." "There's a lull in my life." "Oh, Bill!" "Where are you": Graymaker and Slay. "This is a fine romance": Angus. "Someday": Draft. "Sweep! You are needed to-day": Manley. "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you": K. T. R.

A Spot of Drama.—"I'm afraid I don't play phat," I said.

"But you must," they said in chorus.

"Let's teach him," said Sammy, kindly.

A pack of cards was produced, and I took my place at the table. "Now the first thing you've got to remember," said Sam, "is never 'pitch' a suit unless you have all the court cards, or the nine and five with plenty of rags."

"But if you have a crab mitt, pitch out on the off-chance of hitting your partner," chimed in Mac.

"Try to load your short suit, and then trump with the nine banger," advised Hookey. "And now it's your pitch." Two minutes' silence, broken only by an occasional groan.

"Why did you lead the Queen when you had the Ace?" Sammy questioned softly. "You lost us the nine and five, old chap; you really must be careful."

"Don't lead a club when you see they were trumped first round; even so, never the five," advised Mac. "You should have given Sammy a heart back, the last four tricks were virtually yours."

"Don't pitch off ace double when you have nine, five, four times in your hand," remonstrated Sammy. "Really, old man, it's not good enough."

"Can you blokes play Casino?" I snarled.

Free Post-bag.—4123250, C.S. "What is your address now? Dalton."

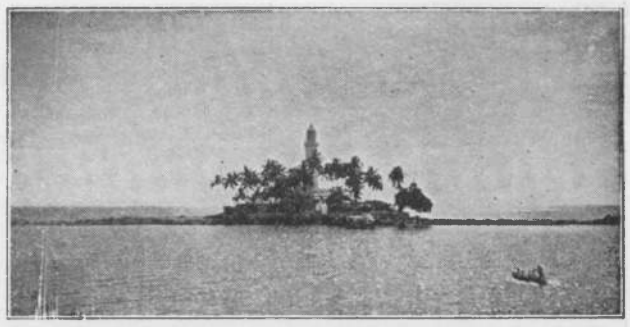
23482 from 23481. "What about a line?"

Agony Column.—For "A.M.'s" benefit. "Gwen writing. All's well."

To Do in Egypt.—Lieutenant A. B. De Lisle: "two kits! Shush!"; Sergeant Adams: "divers whistles"; Corporal Weeks: "sixty check parades"; Signalman Barnes: "twelve race meetings"; Signalman Burns: "ninety (?) Pilseners"; Signalman Manley: "twelve news-reviews"; Signalman Myers: "four 'chicken and chips' at Dimitre's, three soldering jobs (if possible)"; Signalman Tacey: "ninety shaves"; Signalman Samworth: "two tubes of tooth paste, 'some' adjectives, and an adverb or two"; Signalman Gray: "who knows? Perhaps just Vodka and 'Mish, Mish' at the Club. (Native sweetmeat.)"

Technical.—We publish the two photographs of a W/T Leyland, two W/T armoured cars, and some chaps, in the hope that they may be of interest.

CHASMAN.



Malta Signal Section.

Command Signal Office, Valletta, Malta.

7th January.

Officers.—We welcome Lieutenant E. L. Ellis, No. 1 (East Lancashire) Corps, Medium Artillery Signal Section, Supplementary Reserve, who has arrived in Malta to take over the post of Manager of the Rediffusion Company. We hope to see a good deal of him in the future.

General.—The holiday spirit dies hard, and there are still indications that Christmas is not far behind. Belated cards and battered cakes still turn up, and cigars (presentation pattern) caused agonised looks to appear around the home fireside.

This year, festivities in barracks were short and snappy, after which the lads proceeded to make the bright lights still brighter. Repercussions were evident, and the number of late appearances at breakfast told their own story. A short spell of work and festivities broke out again—one and all claiming Scottish descent and doing fine justice to the New Year's entertainment. So far no resolutions have been declared, and we presume everybody concerned to be non-repentant.

Christmas Gifts.—It is not often that we are able to acknowledge seasonable gifts from Mr. Records. This year we were favoured with promotions for the following N.C.O.s: Corporals Welbourne, Burrows and Crouch, who are to be congratulated on losing their "Lances." Coming during the festive season, we feel that a fine excuse for making a spot of "whoopee" has gone astray, but we took it all in our stride with a hearty smack of the lips.

Casualties.—Corporal Burrows and Signalman Freeman decided that hospital was a fine place in which to recuperate—both were recently admitted. The elder of the two recovered quickly, and is with us again. We trust that Signalman Freeman will be out soon, and will avoid those nasty hockey sticks in future.

A familiar voice drew our attention to the return of Sergeant Cutler E. Deciding that Christmas in the United Kingdom sounded pretty good, he sailed away, but has now returned to winter in the Mediterranean. He assures us that he had an enjoyable time, and from the way he rolled up his sleeves and took a couple of deep breaths, we know he returns much refreshed and "rarin to go."

Met. Office.—Winter, slow to arrive, has been showing us a few fancy tricks these last few days, when we were presented with a performance by a wind known as the "gregale." This resulted in unusually high seas, and Malta itself seemed very insecure. Though hardly comparable with some winds that blow, we certainly had a rough spell; at least one capital ship was torn from her moorings. A few years ago, this would have seriously affected our communications, but, fortunately, modern arrangements finds our system much more weather proof.

SKIP.

Malaya Signal Company.

Alexandra Detachment.

9th December, 1937.

Kechil Berchakap.—Now that the first trooper has come and gone, the immediate bright spot in the offing is Christmas. Preparations for the celebration of the festival are already far advanced, and we are promised many treats (?). Dear Sailor (Parsons) assures us that the song he is rehearsing is full of glee and sweetness. This will be proved in due course. Our I.M. (Willie) can be heard at regular intervals going over his one and only piece on the piano and Brother Cook (the molar merchant) has some very interesting songs. We hope that he will render the nice versions. More anon.

Hon. Cork Club.—One of these clubs is now in full swing. Ticky Toogood is our hon. secretary, and all the lads are looking forward to the big night when the last court meeting will be held. The committee has arranged a very nice tea, with cakes and biscuits, or was it beer, pea-nuts and potato crisps? My memory has gone to the dogs lately.

A Tragedy—Nearly.—Our "Slim," whom we mentioned last month as having gone to Pulau Brani for a rest cure, nearly became sharks' food when he was caught by the current during one of his health trips. Many thanks are due to the hefty Gunner, who went to his assistance and towed him to the shore.

Extracts from Part IIs.—Signalman Goldfinch paid us a three-day visit in order to fight in the Command championships at Tanglin. He was unlucky to lose on points to a stalwart of the Inniskillings. Ireland every time!

Tubby McDonald can now write Lance Corporal in front of his name, having been paid for his stripe.

Lance Corporal Copping has been very fortunate in having a hammock number issued to him for the home-going H.T. *Dilwara*, leaving here on 14th December. Christmas at sea, Ted! Write and tell us all about it. "Our loss is your gain" is the Company's message to the Unit that receives him and can get him to recite "Our Albert" as he did from station XYZ.

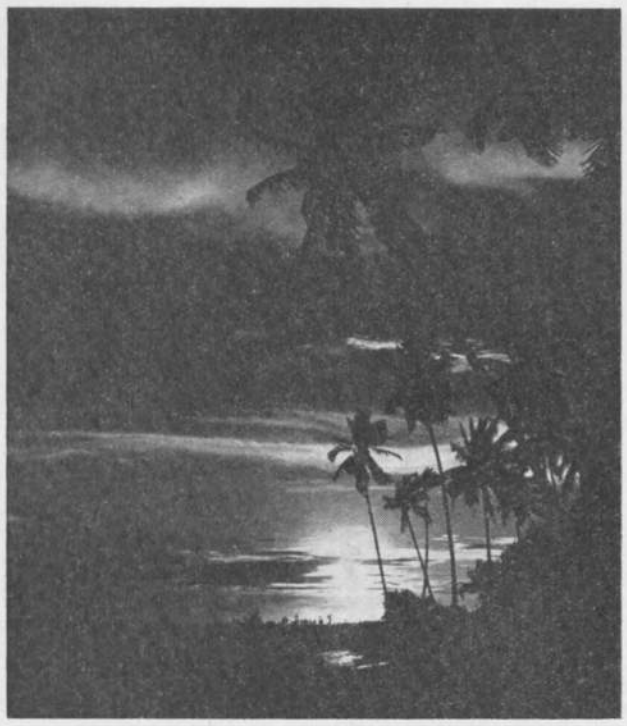
Monthly Dance.—The usual monthly dance was quite successful. All arrangements were in the very capable hands of Corporal Dean, assisted by Corporal Smith, R.A.O.C., and Corporal Powell, R.A.S.C. Everybody was pleased with the show, and wish the committee much success in their future ventures to entertain us.

Queries.—Our curiosity gets the better of us at times, and now we want to know:

Why a certain N.C.O. has gone on milk?

How did Harry (Tich) Cook, R.A.O.C., wangle Belfast? Keep away from Cromac Square, Harry.

OULD IRELAND '17.



Changi Detachment.

Opening Announcement.—At the sound of the gong, it will be exactly one o'clock. Gong ! (The personnel of Changi Detachment can be seen throwing down their tools and hastening in the direction of the barrack block.) We are now taking you over to Changi to hear the loud trumpet blasts emanating from Changi Signal Office. Listeners, you are through !

We have just finished perusing Alexandra's contribution to WIRE notes for the month of November. Tut, tut, Alex. ! Why don't you allow Changi to write your notes for you ? We feel highly honoured to realise that you are using our notes as an inspiration for your own. Nuff said !

New Draft.—The Royal Engineers recently welcomed their new draft from England. The usual Rag-time Band escorted the " pale skins " through North Cantonment, and an impromptu concert was held in the Canteen during the evening. Many ex-Malayans will probably sigh when they remember the grand old times experienced by them in Malaya way back in '34, etc. Dry your eyes, boys, those days have gone for ever. The increasing strength of the Garrison has caused the old order to change. The procedure now adopted at new draft functions is to grab a glass of beer (if you can) and howl, howl, howl the singer down.

Calling All Pals.—To Signalmen Hopcraft and Godwin (ex-Malayans), North China : Short-wave is still the main topic of conversation, but now we are definitely on the air. Hiram K. is at present engaged as chief clerk at Alexandra, where his speed on the typewriter is vastly different to his speed on the key. He phoned through recently and wanted to know where the letter B was (B for Hiram ?). Incidentally, how about some news of the war ? If only I was in your position. What a scoop ! What a scoop covering the war for the WIRE !

Relating to Our Work.—It would be useless to waste time writing a detailed description of the work performed by this detachment. The censor would use the blue pencil too frequently, so I will just mention that it is of a very secretive nature, and we are pushing on with it. (Get the blow lamp going, Reaney !) We are having so much work to do that C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Nix decided that he would like to keep a check of it. He therefore conceived the brilliant idea of every man in the detachment keeping a time sheet and works diary. At first it nearly caused a mutiny. The old lags were furious when they discovered that they might be caught out at last. One individual was content to tell the truth, and the result speaks for itself. Here is an extract from the works diary of Samuel Pepys Goldfinch :

Monday.—Making brass tags for keys.
Tuesday.— ,, ,, ,, ,,
Wednesday.—,, ,, ,, ,,
Thursday.— ,, ,, ,, ,,
Friday.— ,, ,, ,, ,,

Saturday.—Brass tags for keys finished. Discovered that they would not fit the keys. Started all over again.

Monday.—Making brass tags for keys, etc., etc.
(Note.—Work of a very secretive nature.)

Colonel Blimp in Changi.—By gad, the C.S.O. was right ! If it wasn't for the Changi Detachment, there wouldn't be a Malaya Signal Company hockey team.

Pictorial News from an Outpost of the Empire.—Owing to adverse criticism from local snip stations regarding the statements appearing in the WIRE relating to swaying palms, hissing cobras and man-crushing pythons, the personnel stationed at Changi regretfully announce that, to uphold their prestige, they must allow the readers of the WIRE to see for themselves the dangers they are exposed to during the course of a normal day's work. We normally refrain from alluding to these unsightly horrors, but our critics must receive a suitable, although reluctant, answer from the brave pioneers north of Singapore.

Photograph No. 1 shows the now famous hissing cobra. These are extremely common near Changi, are deadly poisonous, and can travel at over thirty miles an hour. Sometimes they attack men on sight. This particular specimen attacked our photographer, without even giving a warning " hiss." He was lucky to escape with his life.

Photograph No. 2 shows another danger we are continually up against. Pythons are extremely common in Malaya, especially at Changi. They are not really dangerous unless angered, and quite a few of the detachment keep them as pets. Percy, as we have named the one in the photograph, has grown quite tame, and follows C.Q.M.S. Nix about wherever he goes. Corporal Walker, another keen collector of snakes, will, no doubt, have a few words to say about them when he eventually returns to England.

Photograph No. 3 shows a typical Malayan scene near Changi. Note the swaying palms, so often alluded to in the WIRE notes from Malaya. (They are, of course, stationary in the photograph.)

Nos. 4 and 5 are views taken from our barrack-room verandah. Across the shark-infested water—another danger—can be see the jungles of Pulau Ubin and the distant unexplored game preserves of Johore, one of the wildest states in the world.

Conclusion.—We end these notes with the usual accompaniment of unwanted fruit from Canning, snorts from Alex., and hisses from the oft-mentioned hissing black cobras.

Cheerio, everybody !

TANDO (T.B.C.).

Fort Canning Detachment.

16th December, 1937.

To George Stowers, Bill Brooks and other old Fort Canning personnel, the following is for your information and genial smiles : Rugger—Fort Canning, 3 pts. ; R.A.M.C., 0.

Hope you are all enjoying life and the bleak, bleak blizzards. We wish you a pleasant New Year and plenty of " Tiger Balm."

George, you ought to see the Straits Bar Cabaret. The poor little " hula-hula " girl is well in the shade, but " Pip " still blushes when he walks in.

Cheerio !

BERT.

PICTORIAL NEWS FROM CHANGI.

THE TERRITORIALS AND SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

The London Corps Signals, T.A. and Affiliated Supplementary Reserve Units.

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

13th January.

General.—First of all we must offer our sincere apologies for not sending Christmas and New Year greetings to all ranks of the Royal Signals. We hope that everyone had a jolly time in as far as the former was concerned, and that the latter will prove a very happy and prosperous one for all.

Regarding our own affairs, there is little to report. The Trade Boards held in connection with the pre-Christmas Individual Training have shown how valuable that training has been; quite a goodly number of N.C.O.s and Signalmen have increased their rate of pay in consequence. We have now commenced the pre-Easter period of similar training, and it is hoped that even better results will be forthcoming when the next Trade Boards are held.

Congratulations to " Q " Section on winning the Inter-Section Efficiency Cup Competition, and to " B " Section on being runners-up.

Christmas Party.—At 3.45 p.m. on Saturday, 18th December, 1937, " Cook-house " sounded, and nearly 500 children and their parents entered the Drill Hall, where a monster Christmas Tree stood, scintillating with fairy lights and decorations, and the total floor space was almost covered with tables displaying a wonderfully appetising appearance with their rows of china and good things to eat. The officers and W.O.s, with their wives and lady friends, assisted in waiting at table, and they had a very busy time filling the seemingly ever-empty cups. Half an hour later, the " peace " was shattered by the entry of Blanco White and his crazy gang, who distributed crackers and cut their capers to the intense amusement of all. After the excitement of cracker-pulling had somewhat subsided, the tables were cleared away, chairs re-arranged, and we were entertained by a very good marionette show. This was followed by an accordion and drums item, during which time there appeared upon the stage a very fine specimen of a beautiful roan circus " horse." Sergeant Jessop filled the head end and C.S.M. Davis (both members of our P.S.) bulged out at the—er—other part. While Sergeant Jessop pulled the strings which operated the eyes, lower jaws and ears, C.S.M. Davis appeared to be doing his best to put his hind legs through the drum.

Father Christmas, looking all his 1937 years, arrived in a lovely motor sleigh covered in glistening snow and frost. His top boots bore ample evidence of the depth of snow through which he had travelled. Ably assisted by two of the crazy gang, he proceeded to present a gift to each child—from wee mites in arms to those ranging between 13 and 14 years of age. Many thanks are due to Captain R. F. Knight and his Social Committee for all their hard work in making the evening so successful.

Sergeants' Mess.—On Saturday, 8th January, a very jolly " Smoker " was held. The artistes were all " volunteers," but everyone present was " forced " to do, say or sing something. Some of the performers were very amusing, at least one of them was at first rather alarming. We must have some more of these evenings.

Social.—We had a wonderful attendance at a New Year's Eve Ball, when everyone enjoyed a real rollicking time.

EFFEMMA.

The London Corps Signals Cadet Company.

Winter is the period for consolidation in Cadet circles, and the London Corps Signals Cadet Company, after a very successful year, is now building up its strength once more. It is planned to make Camp in 1938 the best ever. The boxing team is settling down to hard training under the able tuition of Mr. J. Toney, an old West London Cadet, and an old soldier. The Band is doing well, with Drum-Major Pymbert G. in charge. The technical lectures are going well, and are much appreciated by all ranks. We are now short of both officers and funds. Once these are forthcoming, greater extension and more ambitious training programmes will be possible.

The 1st West London Cadet Corps has been successful in raising another Signal Cadet Company, affiliated to the 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals, T.A. They will be dressed in Scottish kit-diced glengarry, cut-away tunic, tartan trews, black boots, and web belts. The complete kit costs only 9s. a head. We shall hope to speak more of this in due course. This kit, while distinctive and attractive, is probably the cheapest worn by any Cadet Unit in the United Kingdom. As " lack of funds " is a nasty recurrent disease from which all Cadet formations suffer, this point was not overlooked in the choice of kit. In raising this new formation, the 1st West London Cadet Corps has received every courtesy and kindness from the 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals, T.A., to whom it owes a debt of gratitude. The badges and buttons worn by this new formation are those worn by all Cadet Units in Scotland during the non-recognition period. There is likely to be great rivalry between the London Corps Signals Cadet Company and the 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals Cadet Company. Such things make for *esprit de corps*.

Cadet Captain R. S. Pitt-Kethley, Adjutant, 1st West London Cadet Corps, will command the 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals Cadet Company, and the B.S.M., Lloyd Price, will do duty with it as Company Sergeant-Major. It is hoped to enrol many local lads in the new formation during the New Year, and to make it the best-run and happiest Cadet Unit in the whole of London.

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

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

We extend hearty congratulations to Captain A. H. Croucher on attaining the rank of Brevet-Major, and to Corporal Casley on his promotion to Lance Sergeant.

On New Year's Day we held a Carnival Dance, on which occasion the Hall was specially decorated. The work in connection with the decorations was mainly due to the efforts of Signalman Gillard, Secretary of the Social Committee. The Families and Children's Party took place at Headquarters on Saturday, 8th January. There was a record attendance of about 360, and the event was an unqualified success. The organisation showed evidence of hours of work, and our thanks are due to the Social Committee, under Major A. Hemsley, T.D., and the many voluntary helpers.

The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel (Brevet-Colonel) G. C. Wickins, T.D., welcomed the children and parents, and after tea there was a distribution of gifts by Father Christmas, who was ably impersonated by C.Q.M.S. Powell G.

An excellent concert party followed with songs, impersonations and short sketches. We welcomed in the party Mr. and Mrs. Moore, who have assisted on previous similar occasions, and they, with Corporal Burchall and others, spared no effort to amuse the large audience. Games and an informal dance brought a very happy social event to a close.

Our sphere of activity has been widened by organising a series of technical telephone classes for members of other Anti-Aircraft Units in the Division. Development is taking place in new apparatus for Anti-Aircraft signalling, and there is much interesting work ahead. Meanwhile, technical instruction is going on steadily, and the recruits continue to arrive. The new Cadet Company is growing and has now advanced to the separate notice shown below.

CENTIGRADE.

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals Cadet Company.

"D" Company, 1st West London Cadet Corps.

With the co-operation and active support of its parent T.A. Unit, the 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals Cadet Company is now fully into its stride. The numbers, as yet, are not high, but recruits of the right type as regards age, residence, locality, and physical fitness are now presenting themselves for enrolment. Many of these are the sons or nephews of the Territorials. It is hoped that there will always be a strong leaven of such lads in order that a good Territorial tradition may be established and preserved in the months that lie ahead. There are vacancies in the Company for lads between the ages of 12—18. Later on, if circumstances warrant it and the numbers justify it, a Pipe Band will be started. But this is an ambition for the future.

In order to adopt the most distinctive and attractive kit of any Cadet Unit, the new Company has dressed the lads like a Lowland Scottish Regiment—diced glengarry, khaki tunic, web belt, tartan trews and black boots.

The Cadet Company has started its technical training, and this is being assisted by the parent Unit. Such friendly and helpful aid is much appreciated by the Cadet Company and augurs well for the future.

Cadet Captain R. S. Pitt-Kethley will be pleased to enrol cadets on Tuesday evenings at 56, Regency Street, London, S.W.1, from 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. He is very pleased to welcome Sergeant Pitz of the Anti-Aircraft Signals, as the Cadet C.S.M. to the Company.

A.A. CADET.

2nd Cavalry Signals (Middlesex Yeomanry).

Chelsea, S.W.3.

General.—Having read the remarks by a certain P.S.I. in last month's WIRE regarding "Nuptials," etc., I have decided to make an attempt at this month's notes, too. I remember on one occasion, when that well-known WIRE correspondent, "Barleux," commenced his article as follows: "I have been ordered to apologize . . ." I feel something like that, too, at the moment, as I have learned that one must be very careful when mentioning names in Unit notes, in case unintentional offence is given. I feel very sad about it all, as this robs me of the only chance of passing rude remarks to fellows bigger than myself, and letting them know who I mean. However, I am consoling myself with the knowledge that my personal safety is being safeguarded.

Training.—This is going along very smoothly. Week-end training has just commenced, and is a most useful and educational way of spending our spare time. The operating speed has definitely improved, which is something to be appreciated, as this is probably a "Terrier's" weakest point. Of course, with speed-merchants like myself about, our operators will all soon need air-cooled pencils.

"A" Squadron is now concentrating on "C" Mk. II Sets, and "B" Squadron on the No. 1 Sets. So far this plan is very effective. Naturally, specialising on one particular Set does make for more efficiency as far as that instrument is concerned.

Equitation.—The Riding School at Knightsbridge is very well attended, and is as popular as ever. Riding at Hounslow, too, with the Scots Greys, is a much-sought-after pastime. Incidentally and unfortunately, we have had to say good-bye to a very old and much appreciated friend and Riding Instructor, Sergeant "Archie" Thomas of the Scots Greys. Before his transfer to the "Greys," he was with the 16/5th Lancers at Hounslow, and has given us some very enjoyable rides. He has now been transferred again, this time to "Civvy Street." He takes with him the very good wishes for the best of luck from all his acquaintances in the Regiment, who are all sorry to see him go—even those who, like the "Redskins" in the poem, have "bitten the dust." He may be certain of a right royal welcome whenever he may chance to drop in at Headquarters.

Things We Want to Know.—Which Signalman complained during the rides at Knightsbridge that the saddle he was using didn't "fit him"?

Which Signalman was seen in his car the morning after the Hogmanay dance at the Scots Greys, attired in a blue pyjama jacket and dress trousers? And would he still like some aspirins?

Agony.—Corporal "Tubby" Lawrence of this Unit would like to hear from "Chib" of No. 3 Section, Palestine Force Signals.

ROBBEAUX.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Manchester.

Training has now begun and will proceed in full swing until Unit Camp. This year a definite step has been taken to improve our technical knowledge all round, and, with this idea in view, special classes have been formed for each Company night. Owing to the influx of recruits prior to camp last year, these classes will also enable us to have an increase in trade-rated men.

Monday and Wednesday Classes have been formed for the junior officers. Friday night is given over to the Band. We have noticed that the numbers turning up each night have definitely shown a marked improvement at this time of the year.

Dinner.—A Ladies' Dinner was held by the officers of the Unit at Headquarters on 18th December. Seventy-five officers and ladies sat down to dinner. Later, Colonel Ashley (our former C.O.) showed his film of the Coronation and last year's Camp. These films were enjoyed by everybody. In the meanwhile, the room had been cleared for dancing.

This was a most enjoyable evening, and was voted as one of the best held for years. Our Commanding Officer (Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Delaney), in a short speech, welcomed the ladies and thanked them for their support of the Unit. A presentation was then made to Miss Ashley, on behalf of the ladies, for her interest in the Unit during Colonel Ashley's five years in command.

Promotion.—Congratulations to Lieutenant R. H. Clegg on receiving his second "pip."

Divisional Boxing.—This event takes place next month, and we are hoping to retain the Cup, which we were successful in winning for the first time last year. Good luck to the team and may the other fellows' arms never reach you! A full report will be published in next month's notes.

Secret.—Shush! Shush! We have received six motor-cycles. What next? It is understood that we may be going to camp at Whitby, but the other day someone said Holyhead. Personally, we think it will be "Soonere," but my friend thinks "Sumfun." "Old Faithful" said, "Too blooming true"; so now you know where we are going. Stop Press: Whitby it is.

Crazy News.—To Eric. "They are building a fine barracks at Urmston. What about it?"

A conversation overheard at H.Q.:
Puff: "Say, Huff, we have an extra Major on the strength."
Huff: "By gad, sir, is that true?"

PUFF AND HUFF.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

The Priory, Exeter.
January.

Editorial.—The past month has witnessed the usual seasonal round of festivities, and an account of No. 2 Company's Annual Dinner appears with this issue.

The training programme has again been resumed, and great keenness is observed among the recruits.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

York Street Drill Hall, Devonport.
January.

Christmas has come upon us and gone with all its usual suddenness since the last issue of notes, causing the usual short break

in our training during the holiday period. It is good to note, as the Company Commander remarked when he wished the Company the season's greetings, that this year almost every man is employed, many of them having been taken on in the dockyard during the last year. On the other hand, the amount of overtime in the latter establishment has prevented many men from putting in drills.

During the Christmas leave period, several former members of the Company have visited us, including Private Spear B. W. J., now at Plymouth with the Gloucestershire Regiment, Boy Bettinson R. R., D.C.L.I., from Blackdown, and Mr. Curtis R. J. J., who has recently returned from Singapore after a two-years' commission. We are sorry to lose two members of the Company this month to other Units: Signalman Lowe R. G. has transferred to the 35th A.A. Brigade, R.E. (T.A.), and is now definitely remaining in London; also our D.R., Petherick A. C., has joined the Stoker branch of the Royal Navy. We hope to see the latter occasionally, as he is stationed at the Royal Naval Barracks, Devonport, during his training.

ONECOY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company.

Hamilton House, Southampton.

January.

A Happy and Prosperous New Year to All.

General.—Since our last notes, our quarters at Hamilton House have been thoroughly renovated and completely transformed. The transformation has met a long-felt want, consequent upon our ten per cent. above establishment.

Having commenced the New Year well, we are naturally in very high spirits. Although we are still reciprocating wishes for the New Year, we are down once again to our training schedule. The writer can say with confidence that the benefit derived from the instruction received since the commencement of the training season has been somewhat exceptional. The instructors experience considerable pleasure in imparting the requisite knowledge. It has been found necessary to introduce a voluntary drill night on Monday, in order that the keener men may become proficient in the art of sending and receiving. Intense interest is displayed in the Wireless Sets. Excellent progress has been made in the training programme, the members having responded well. We sincerely hope that all concerned will maintain the present effort until the arrival of the Trade Board, and so reap the full reward they deserve.

Sergeants' Mess.—We are greatly indebted to Lieutenant-Colonel H. J. Humphreys, Secretary, T.A. Association of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, for the facilities afforded which have enabled us to inaugurate a Sergeants' Mess for our Company. The Mess possesses the characteristics of a first-rate club, and should prove a great asset in furthering the interests of the Territorial Army, especially to visitors.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of Corporal "Bob" Nicholas, who met with a fatal accident when returning home from his work at Portsmouth Dockyard. "Bob" was a very popular N.C.O., and well known to all. Although unable to rejoin us, he never failed to visit us at camp.

Company Annual Dinners.—Our representatives thoroughly enjoyed themselves at No. 3 Company's Annual Dinner, despite the long journey and unforeseen circumstances.

Marked success attended our eighth Annual Dinner at the Masonic Hall, Southampton (a change of venue), on Saturday, 11th December. We had a very enjoyable time, especially in the company of former members and old comrades. We were delighted to have our Devonian friends with us. Our Company Commander, Captain A. F. S. Fane, presided over a very large gathering. Apart from all officers of the Company, the Chairman was supported by a representative company of officers and men.

The toasts and speeches, which were limited, were very well received, and in the responses, particular stress was given to the importance of the Territorial Army in general, the co-operation of employers, and the general public responsibilities. The *Southern Daily Echo* gave us an excellent "double-column," but space prevents more than an extract being re-published here. The Press quoted our C.O.'s words in their head-lines; the quotation—"JOIN UP NOW AND HELP TO PREVENT WAR"—made an excellent slogan. Following the loyal toast, the company drank the health of H.R.H. The Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Corps of Signals. The toast "Our Guests" was sponsored by the Chairman (Captain Fane), who reiterated his remarks made at the last Annual Dinner, "that men of any Unit were the best Recruiting Sergeants"; and he hoped they would not relax their efforts. Captain Fane publicly thanked the employers for the generosity they displayed in releasing men for camp. Regret was expressed by Captain Fane that the time had come to say farewell to R.S.M. Stone and R.Q.M.S. Boulger, M.C. "This is a most unpleasant job, and I hate having to do it," he said. He added that he had never served with anybody more liked or more respected by all ranks. He thanked them very much for what they had done for the Unit, and wished them all success in the future. The health of R.S.M. Stone and R.Q.M.S. Boulger were also drunk, and musical honours accorded. In reply, R.S.M. Stone provided a unique analogy of the position of a R.S.M., relative to the members of the Unit, which was very much appreciated. As usual, "Bert" was very brief, but thanked everyone very kindly in a few words, which were well known to all members.

Alderman T. H. Sanders observed that, in the past, the T.A. had been considered the Cinderella of the Services, but, undoubtedly, it was now coming into its own. The majority of people realised that it was one of the big factors in the defence of the country.

2nd/Lieutenant R. W. Day as Father Christmas.

Lieutenant-Colonel Walsh, in responding to the health of "Our C.O.," said: "Naturally every year there must be a wastage in the strength of the Unit, owing to different circumstances. Some men joined the Regular Forces. That was as it should be, and was to be encouraged, much as they disliked losing good men. There were also the men who took their discharge after four year's service, and his suggestion to those men was to go on and complete their twelve. With the world in its present condition, with not only rumours of wars, but wars, it seemed rather ignominious for people to creep away from their public responsibilities. Yet a tremendous number of young men in the country to-day said they would enlist if, and when, war broke out. In his opinion that was entirely the wrong spirit. *They should join up now, and so help to prevent war breaking out.* By so doing, added Lieutenant-Colonel Walsh, they show the world at large that, although a peace-loving nation, we are prepared and ready to stand by our word, and to have the courage of our convictions.

"That can only be done by having all the Forces of the Crown not only up to strength, but up to strength with trained men That again can only be done by the practical work of men joining up, and not by the theoretical work of men making promises to join up in times of national need."

The muster was excellent; the attendance numbering about 120. We were particularly pleased to have with us Major G. H. Plummer, M.C., 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Families Make "Whoopee."—Members and their families once again made "whoopee" and thoroughly enjoyed themselves

Some of the guests at No. 2 Company's Annual New Year's Party.

at the annual New Year's Party, held in the Langley Hall, Southampton, on Saturday, 8th January. Captain and Mrs. Fane welcomed the company. The children were thrilled by the hall, which was gaily decorated, and the huge Christmas tree, exquisitely adorned by Mrs. E. Lepard, and brilliantly illuminated by nearly a hundred coloured lamps. Daddies were present in their blue patrols, which added to the colourful spectacle. The programme included a cinema show, community singing, games, etc., and a distribution of toys and presents. 2nd Lieutenant R. W. Day, who distributed the presents, assumed the role of Father Christmas, his arrival being announced by a trumpet call. The members were greatly indebted to Mr. E. Lepard and the staff of the Empire Theatre, Southampton, for the assistance rendered, and for the provision of the Christmas tree, etc. When the homeward journey started, every little guest took away a surprise packet, and the happiest of memories.

TWOCOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Stamford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, London, W.6.

General.—1st January saw the introduction of one of the best training programmes we have had yet. The parade times have been altered to two hours on Monday, and one hour on Wednesday, Thursday being left free for recreation. The syllabus and detail is so arranged as to give the maximum spread-over in instruction and the maximum instruction on each particular subject to the various classes. Both the training periods are divided, and the " students " break up, parade, and re-form on the sounding of something akin to a factory hooter. The Thursday period covers P.T., shooting, badminton, committee meetings and any other contingency not of a strictly military nature. We eventually hope to build it up into a pukka social evening.

Promotions and Appointments.—Lieutenant J. S. Hann, promoted Captain, 1st November, 1937; Lance Sergeant Powning S., promoted Sergeant, 1st December, 1937; Corporal Thomas C. H., appointed Lance Sergeant, 1st December, 1937; Lance Corporals Merritt A. J. and Sheperd D. A., promoted Corporals, 1st December, 1937.

Lieutenant S. Rowe is now O.C. of an R.E. Searchlight Company.

Unit Children's Party.—This was held on 8th January, and was an enormous success. Captain List and his henchmen deserve high praise. A troop of juvenile dancers and a marionette show provided novel and enjoyable entertainment. The scientists among us were interested in calculating the number of phons a small child of three or so can produce for no reason at all, other than because it seems the correct thing to do when happy, and, believe me, all those kids were happy.

Unit Dinner.—On 15th January we had our usual Annual Dinner. This time there was a large increase in the attendance. The C.O., making the only speech of the evening, commented on the loss to the Unit of many old hands, including the death of our Honorary Colonel in November. He summarised the Unit's work in the past year and thanked the Permanent Staff for their marked co-operation and assistance. He brought to the notice of the Unit the fact that we had been invited again to provide inter-communication on a Staff Exercise this summer, and for this reason the Annual Camp would start a week earlier than usual. He also said that this year a new system of messing would be brought into operation, which, he hoped, would show a considerable improvement on past years. He concluded by asking present members of the Unit to fill the few remaining vacancies in the Unit by bringing their friends as recruits.

At the close of the Dinner, members of the Unit gave an extremely good show in which humour naturally predominated, and in which a very snappy display of card tricks took place. Captain List and his committee are to be congratulated again on their efforts.

Officers' Mess.—The Chief Signal Officer attended the monthly supper on 5th January, and gave a much appreciated lecture on organisation to the officers.

Sergeants' Mess.—The Sergeants' Children's Party was held on 18th December, and was as excellent as usual. It produced the same uproarious crowd of little dears that these affairs always do, not the least of these being the " mummies and daddies."

C.S.M. Webb will take over the Presidency of the Mess next month. Long life and more power to his elbow. (Get the bones, boy !)

The retiring President, C.S.M. Gardiner, M.C., is finishing on 1st February, after many years with the Unit. It is hard luck being a civilian, Bert, but when King's Regulations take on the guise of " Old Man Time," it is all U.P.

Rifle Club.—The New Year has started with a host of competitions, with something suitable for every class of shot. Prizes for handicap shoots are now pint and half-pint tankards.

Badminton.—Interest is increasing once more, and to such an extent that more racquets will have to be obtained, especially in view of the following little note for Jerry, somewhere near the Pyramids, and who is now reclining on his back all day drinking gin slings. " Public Menace No. 1 is still smashing racquets."

JOSIE JUN.

No. 2 Company.

Gloucester Road, Brighton.

General.—To all members of the Corps we send the heartiest New Year greetings. Having surmounted the Christmas holidays, we must now settle down to business.

Training.—We are now compiling the monthly training schedule, which we feel sure will be of great interest to all. Variation in lectures and Sunday Schemes are the tit-bits of the month. N.C.O.s' Classes are to be arranged, and those who would like to be included in these classes should hand in their names to C.S.M. Church or myself. Now, my lads, don't forget Mr. Hore-Belisha's words " that merit is the key-note of success to promotion, not seniority."

The first non-paying Sunday Scheme is to take place on Sunday, 16th January, when we hope to see a good muster present. Let us hope that the weather will be kind to those participating.

Trophies.—During this training year there are various Cups to be won. THE SECTION CUP: For the best attendance (both at the Drill Hall and at Camp). THE RECRUITS' CUP (ATTENDANCE): This is for presentation to the recruit who returns the highest number of drills during the year. THE RECRUITS' CUP (PROGRESS): For the recruit showing the most progress during the year. THE TELEPHONE WAGON CUP: To be decided later. There are also several Cups to be won at shooting.

I would like to say a word to the recruits. Your O.C. does not want you merely to help to win Cups and the various trophies competed for at Camp and at the Drill Hall for efficiency and the other attributes which go towards making a good soldier.

Win the Cups by all means, but do not let the honour of your Company be the sole object. You are members of the 44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals, a Unit with a high standard to maintain and to be proud of. I sincerely hope that all recruits who read these notes will put into practice what I have written and prove themselves by showing an example to others.

Officers' Exercise.—On 18th December, 1937, three officers of this Company braved the wintry conditions and journeyed forth to Bury St. Edmunds to take part in a Tactical Exercise without Troops. From what I gather, the Scheme was a great success. The Exercise was carefully planned to give those concerned an excellent opportunity of becoming acquainted with difficult problems affecting signal communications.

Shooting.—Our activities in this respect have not yet commenced, owing to the difficulty of obtaining a Range. But we hope to commence practice at the R.A. Drill Hall, Church Street, in the near future.

Boxing.—Training is still in full swing. Our two Instructors—Sergeant Williams and Lance Corporal Pearson—are putting the lads to some hard training in readiness for the Championships on the 29th of the month. We hope to provide a competitor at each weight. In our next notes it is hoped that we shall be able to say that we have won the Warren Cup.

NIMROD.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Birmingham.

The opening of 1938 has shown considerable increase in activities in various directions.

Training.—A well-attended Drill and Weapon Training Course for Junior N.C.O.s is at present in progress.

A Week-end Exercise for W.O.s and Sergeants has been arranged for 5th-6th February, to take place at Litchfield, where those taking part will be accommodated in an hotel over night. They will carry out Schemes during Sunday. This is a novel departure from the usual form of week-end training, and should prove very interesting. A similar plan was made last year, but, unfortunately, had to be cancelled at the last minute.

A Sunday training for D.R.s will take place on 16th January, under Lieutenant R. W. Danielsen.

From Part II Orders.—Congratulations to C.S.M. Robins and C.Q.M.S. Fellows J. upon their well-deserved promotions.

A cordial welcome to our new P.S. Instructor, Sergeant Walker, from the 3rd Divisional Signals, and congratulations also on his attendant step up to T/C.S.M.

Departure.—With great regret we had to bid *au revoir* to our popular Instructor, Sergeant Winter. We say *au revoir* advisedly, as we hope to see him again at Bulford in August. His cheerful personality and ever-ready Cockney wit will be missed, not only in the Sergeants' Mess, but by the officers and rank and file of the Unit. We wish Sergeant and Mrs. Winter every success and happiness on their return to the Regular Service.

Congratulations.—To Brevet-Major F. E. B. Jones and Captain D. G. Collins on their recent promotions to those ranks.

Boxing.—The Commanding Officer has for a long time been very keen to encourage the art of boxing in the Unit. Now his wishes are taking a concrete form, as a committee has been formed, under the chairmanship of Captain R. M. Chatterley, to get things going. With the material available in the Unit, there is no doubt that plenty of talent will be forthcoming once a lead has been given.

Sergeants' Mess.—The Children's Party was held on 18th December. Mr. Ted Mulgrue again assumed the role of Santa Claus. We were very pleased to receive a visit from the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel P. H. Jones, M.C., and Mrs. Jones, and also the Adjutant, Major H. Bartlett, during the evening.

The committee responsible for the arrangements are to be congratulated on their efforts, and can rest assured that they were appreciated. Thanks are also due to Sergeant Moorcroft, who arranged for the appearance of a troupe of child artistes for the entertainment of the parents and children after tea.

Another dance will be held in the Drill Hall on 22nd January, and this will be followed by the officers' Invitation Supper on the 29th. This is an annual event which is always looked forward to by everyone concerned.

D.R.s' Club.—A display was given at the Stadium at Hall Green on 27th December, in connection with a Speedway Meeting which was held there. Right up to the last moment, the weather gave considerable anxiety, and, owing to the sodden state of the ground and the fear of more rain, it was thought at one time that it would have to be cancelled. However, the day turned out to be fine.

The performance proved to be a great attraction, and demonstrated the great advance in skill which has been made since last summer. Although the going was rather heavy, owing to recent frosts, it was even possible to include jumping. One can do no better than quote the account which appeared in the *Birmingham Mail*:

"A feature of the afternoon's entertainment was the display of motor-cycle trick riding by the 48th Division Despatch Riders. Many clever stunts were performed by these young Territorials, who used their own machines, and executed their efforts not only with accuracy but a true sense of grace combined with daring. The turf in the centre of the track was soggy, but conditions did not deter the riders from carrying out the most daring of their feats, leaping over a group of comrades, and through a wall of fire and explosives."

The D.R.s' Club is holding a dance in the Drill Hall on 28th January, and the first annual dinner will take place some time in February, when the awards won in the Autumn Trial will be distributed. Congratulations to Signalman Fairclough D., who has at last taken a plunge into matrimony. He has not yet decided whether "twins" or "16 up" is going to be his theme song, but we all join in wishing him and Mrs. "F." the best in fortune's lucky bag. Yet another breach in the ranks of the Bachelors' Club. Motto for 1938: A "Singleman" is no "Signalman."

Strange to Relate.—A Signalman, who rang up the Adjutant on Christmas Eve to ask the address of some of his "mates" to whom he wanted to send Christmas cards.

What were the feelings of Lieutenant Timings, who suddenly found himself asked to speak into the microphone after the D.R.s' show; and did he know that he was announced as "the Commanding Officer"? Nice work, sir!

GETCHER.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals, T.A. and Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Leeds.

General.—Gibraltar Barracks is again a hive of industry, and Training Classes covering every trade commenced on Tuesday, 11th January. The attendance that night was about 160, and the introductory speech by the Commanding Officer was most interesting. In it he stressed the importance of being really efficient tradesmen, continuity of attendance, the sporting spirit, smartness and recruiting. He also congratulated the Unit on the splendid report received last year from the G.O.C., 49th (West Riding) Division, and expressed his hopes that we would get as good a report this year.

Sport.—This Unit is gradually building up a good reputation in the realm of sport, and on Wednesday, 5th January, we sent ten boxers to Halifax to compete in the 49th (West Riding) Divisional Inter-Group Boxing Tournament. Unfortunately, some of our men were drawn against each other, but, even so, four of our representatives will appear in the finals, which will be held at Halifax on 3rd February.

Training is also going ahead with the cross-country team. The Divisional finals will be held at Leeds on Saturday, 29th January. We hope to do well in this.

Physical training is going strong, and we hope to repeat our success of last year, when we won the Divisional Championships.

Birth.—Congratulations to Captain and Mrs. Danby on the birth of a daughter, at Leeds, on Tuesday, 4th January.

Social Events.—The Children's Christmas Tree and Party was held in the Drill Hall on Saturday, 8th January, and some 170 children assembled.

The party was a huge success and all did justice to a very nice tea. After tea was over the children were entertained by a Juvenile Concert Party, and at about 7 p.m. Father Christmas arrived in state with a present for every child.

C.S.M. V. Chadney, as Father Christmas, is to be congratulated for the very able way in which he carried out his duties. Thank you, Catterick, for providing such an able person. We hope that he will again officiate as Father Christmas next year.

The annual All Ranks Ball was held on Friday, 14th January, and again this was an excellent show. Over 600 friends and members of the Unit attended, and everyone enjoyed themselves very much indeed. Dancing commenced at 8 p.m. and finished at 1 a.m., and there were genuine expressions of regret when the end came. Our next dance will be held on Friday, 21st January, and this will be the W.O.s and Sergeants' Ball.

M. S. R.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

General.—Winter training has now reached the three-quarter stage, and attendances have been very satisfactory. Training is being carried out by the Operator, Linemen and D.R. Squads, and some excellent work has been performed. We are glad to welcome the following recruits to the Company, and hope that their stay with us will be very enjoyable: Signalmen Joyce, Buckley and Glancy.

Christmas Festivities.—Christmas functions began with the Children's Treat, which was held in the Drill Hall on Monday, 20th December, 1937, when 125 children sat down to an excellent repast, supplied by a local firm, followed by games, such as musical chairs, etc., for the young and old. A concert party, composed of six local children, then entertained the party. They gave us a clever performance. The role of Father Christmas this year was in the capable hands of our Cook, Signalman Hind T. W., who carried out his duties excellently; each child received a toy and a bag of fruit. Our usual Christmas morning ceremony of cutting the cake was held in the Mons Club. We were honoured by the presence of our C.O., Lieutenant-Colonel T. T. J. Sheffield, who was given the task of cutting the cake.

The holiday functions concluded with our Annual Ball, which was held in the Drill Hall, and was a huge success. Again, we were honoured with the presence of our C.O. and the following guests: Colonel and Mrs. A. MacLeod, Captain J. W. Middleton, M.C., and Councillor Crosthwaite. Officers from the Unit included the following: Major R. Steventon-Wight (second-in-command), Captain Glover and Lieutenants Lee and Crosthwaite. Our Adjutant, Captain G. B. Bell, was on leave and, therefore, could not attend. The duties of M.C. were, as usual, carried out by C.Q.M.S. Gibson J., and the music was supplied by Mr. Joe Hurst and his band.

Sport.—On Wednesday, 12th January, we had a visit from the Northern Command Physical Training Circus. They gave us an excellent exhibition, assisted by a Squad supplied by the Company. About 100 N.C.O.s and men attended from the local Units and were quite thrilled by the entertainment given.

Our next sporting event is the Competition for the Dent Boxing Cup, which takes place at Darlington Headquarters on 29th January. I hope to report a very satisfactory finish from our Company point of view in next month's notes.

MIDBRO.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

January.

General.—By the time these notes appear, February will be with us, and plans for the forthcoming year's training will be taking definite shape. Already a rumour as to our destination for annual training has caused many expressions, not entirely indicative of delight; but more anon. Although reference is made to the next training season, the Drill Hall this winter seems to have been more occupied than for many years past. Many useful Courses have been held, and the good "chits" obtained augur well for the future of the Company for some years to come.

P.S.I. Musketry Shield.—This was won by "J" Section by a comfortable margin, and congratulations are offered to 2nd Lieutenant F. E. Harvey on his excellent score of 96/100.

Sergeants' Mess.—The recently-elected committee has got down to business, and already two very enjoyable functions have been held. These events are described in the following paragraphs.

Children's Party.—Although some of the "children" (T.E. medals complete) received no present from Santa Claus, their enjoyment was as complete as that of all the little folk who did. To cater for 120 children and as many adults in our palatial Hall presented a problem not easily solved. Our Darlington and Middlesbrough friends know, however, what clever lads we are, and all were fed. All were happy and, as Santa Claus, C.S.M. Woodcock was stupendous.

Sergeants' Ball.—Attended by Colonel G. H. Walton, C.B.E., Lieutenant-Colonel T. T. J. Sheffield, T.D., and numerous other officers, together with local civic dignitaries, a gathering of 400 guests voted the Ball the best ever held. The Drill Hall was transformed into a cosy, tastefully decorated Ball Room, and many were the expressions of surprise on entering. When so many worked so wholeheartedly towards the success of the evening, it may seem invidious to mention individuals, but one simply could not refrain from giving a sincere word of thanks to C.S.M. Woodcock, for his invaluable voluntary assistance, Mrs. Woodcock, for the finishing touches to the floral and greenery decorations (the kind of thing the mere male is not so good at !), and Sergeants Snook and Trotter.

It is with a feeling of regret that we now realise the social side of our activities are over for the year. Arising from them, however, is the spirit of camaraderie which they have produced, and with which we now face up to the sterner things of the coming year. Yes! even though they say we are to go back to those icy mountains again. Anyhow, what does it matter, when we know that:

In the oddest parts of Gateshead,
There's a rumour going round,
That a most palatial structure—
A delight to one and all,
Is going to be, without one doubt,
The Signals' new Drill Hall.

THREECOY.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters.

Aberdeen.

The officers, warrant officers, N.C.O.s and men of the Unit desire to express their deep sympathy with the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel E. Birnie Reid, and Mrs. Reid in their recent bereavement.

Heartiest congratulations are extended to Major A. H. Lennie, M.M., on his well-deserved promotion to a Brevet-Majority in the recent New Year brevets. Every one in the Unit appreciates the long and excellent service which this experienced officer has given to the Territorial Army in general, and this Unit in particular. This experience ranges from a minute and extensive knowledge of all branches of Signals to a unique ability in regard to general organisation. He possesses a peculiar personal gift of humour both in pen and tongue, and the ability to really enjoy his work.

T.A. and Air Force Officers' Annual Ball.—On Friday, 8th January, the officers of the Air Force and the Territorial Army in Aberdeen held their Annual Ball in the Town and County Hall, Aberdeen. Prior to the Ball, over twenty officers of Headquarters and No. 1 Company dined with their guests in the Mess. Colonel R. J. Nicol, O.B.E., presided at dinner. It was with great pleasure that we were able to entertain Captain J. Cochran, No. 2 Company (Stirling).

The Ball was more enjoyable than ever, if this were possible; over 300 officers and their guests were present. Major A. Lyon,

Chairman of the City of Aberdeen T.A. and A.F. Association, and Mrs. Lyon received the guests. This year a very pleasant innovation was the music by the string band of the 1st Battalion, Gordon Highlanders, from Edinburgh, kindly lent by permission of Colonel Hamilton, the Commanding Officer.

No. 1 Company.

With the holidays only a pleasant memory (this applies to the New Year resolutions, too), we are once more settling down to training. The 90-hour Operator Signals Course was completed on 23rd December, and nine candidates passed the Trade Board. We are concentrating on exceeding this effort at the conclusion of the present 60-hour Course. If the standard of keenness which was observed on the first Course is maintained, we have no doubt that there will be some really good results to report in March.

On 18th January, the recruits who joined as a result of our recent "At Home" will start their training. The idea is to get the "forming fours" part finished so that they may participate in the Section training of the Company, which is due to commence at the beginning of April. We are obtaining the assistance of a Drill N.C.O. from the Depot, Gordon Highlanders, and there is no doubt that his experience in dealing with recruits will be used to advantage.

The Company monthly dances still continue to be held with success. It is hoped that we shall have a really good attendance for our Annual Dance, to be held on 11th February, to wind up the winter social season. Members from other Companies will find a real warm welcome awaiting them in Aberdeen for this function.

ONECOY.

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

21, Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

The First.—The W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess celebrated the advent of 1938 by holding the "Ne'erday" gathering in the Mess on the night of 1st January. Who but the redoubtable Houston could be in the chair? Houston was at the top of his form. New Year's night with that worthy in command has long since become a recognised institution. The "Auld Lichts" turned up in force. There were drams, handshakes and songs. Long be it ere the Sergeants' Mess forgets "Ne'erday Nicht."

The Late Mrs. Macdonald.—We have to record with deep regret the passing on 1st January of Mrs. Macdonald, mother of Sergeant Macdonald J., T.A. Sergeant Macdonald is best known for his long and excellent work as Secretary of the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess. We offer "Mac." the full sympathy of each one of his comrades. We are with him in the passing of his best friend.

Regimental Gathering.—One of the biggest events of the year—the Regimental Gathering—took place on 28th and 29th December. Two nights had to be allocated to this celebration. The Territorial event took place on 28th December, and the S.R. forgathered on the following night. There were about 280 present when the pipers played in the officers to the Territorial banquet. There was an almost full strength parade of officers, headed by Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Robertson, D.C.M. This Territorial gathering will go down as one of the best of recent years. Much time and money had been spent on decorations and fittings. The entertainment and menu left nothing to be desired. Yet there was something amiss. There was no speech from the Chief. The Regimental gathering is usually Colonel Robertson's Field Night. On that night praise and blame is apportioned for the past year. The old-time drivers' shout "Good old Jimmy!" Some hang their heads. Others puff out their chests. Silent this year was the voice of the inquisition. A pity, too, for our well-beloved "Old Jimmy" has a kindly pawky style of his own. However, here's to the next time.

The S.R. gathering on 29th December took the form of a dance. There was an attendance of 250. The officers turned out in full force. There were wives, sweethearts, and lady friends. Everything was planned on an ambitious scale. Music and menu were excellent. An annual dance for the S.R. is a new departure. Nevertheless this was a very successful experiment. For one thing it enabled the S.R. Units' lady friends to meet Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. Cumming, T.D. The Colonel was very gracious to the ladies. He thanked them for their ever-loyal support as the powers behind the Units. "After all," said Colonel Cumming, "the ladies take a big hand in keeping us fit and well and in turning us out for annual camp and other engagements." The Colonel was mightily pleased. So were the ladies. So were the signalmen and the sergeants. No wonder this was one of the biggest nights the S.R. ever had. They danced till 2 a.m.

It is only right that we should be thankful to those who worked so well and long in order to ensure the success of the T.A. and S.R. gatherings. So, gladly, we remember Adjutants Paterson and Shawcross, R.S.M. Murphy, and each one of the Permanent Staff. Bless 'em all!

Nutty Notes.—There wasn't a single Sassenach P.S. man at the Sergeants' Mess on New Year's night. Our new P.S. men, good lads that they are, do not appear to be partial to the national beverage. Unworthy shades of Larkhill, Aldershot and Troon! The times are changing. We may yet learn of Spud celebrating Christmas in a milk bar.

We ran across Wilson Maxwell on 1st January. Wilson carried high the banner for the T.A. at Jardine Street for over thirty years. Our old comrade looked spruce and fit, and wished to be remembered to his many friends.

Jack Gray is another of the Old Brigade to come within our ken recently. Jack was at one time the very efficient Territorial R.Q.M.S. The fates have not been too kind to old comrade Gray. Indifferent health and unemployment have dogged Jack's footsteps. Things are now looking a little brighter for him. We trust that 1938 will bring him both health and prosperity.

Major Victor Warren is to lecture to the Scientific Society at the Royal Technical College, Glasgow. The Major's lecture is to be on traffic problems. He will support his case by some very interesting films.

Victor Jones is still to the fore. You surely remember Victor! Be-spatted and turned out *a la Bond Street*, the Jones fellow has lost all count of his years of Army service. One wag has even gone so far as to say that Vic. carried a pennant at the Battle of Hastings.

Ex-C.S.M. Jock Haggart was recently unearthed. He now earns a living as a civilian Anti-Gas instructor—a new line for "Old Hags." We imagine that Jock would be more at home laying down the law for cable wagon drill.

Nothing succeeds like success! So thinks Staff Sergeant Roberts W. R. of the R.A.O.C., Woolwich. Staff Sergeant Roberts was our one-time teleprinter magnate. He trained with our S.R. at Colchester as a signalman as recently as last September. They do not throw stripes about in the Ordnance, but Staff Sergeant Roberts is an outstanding man. He gained considerable experience in delicate instrument work with Barr and Strouds of Glasgow. Later he entered the Post Office, where he developed a mania for the teleprinter and its possibilities. The R.A.O.C. should provide our young friend with full scope for his technical capabilities. His almost phenomenal rise is a matter of great satisfaction to us. We will follow his career with interest.

Coming and Going.—It was with a pang that we said good-bye to Gentleman Baldwin, or, to give him his correct designation, C.S.M. Baldwin D. We once heard C.S.M. Baldwin described as "the P.S. man *par excellence*"—a very apt description. It will be difficult to replace this doyen of instructors. His work in training and modelling the young Territorial mind was something at which to marvel. By precept and example, C.S.M. Baldwin set a high standard. He leaves Jardine Street for Scarborough, having earned the respect of all good men, which is finer than much fine gold.

Another good old comrade, Sergeant McAdie J., has recently departed for Bulford. We could say many good things of old Mac. His Company thought the world of him. At all times painstaking and courteous, Sergeant McAdie's departure constitutes a distinct loss to Glasgow.

We wish to welcome with open arms our two new P.S. men, Sergeant Copp D. and Sergeant Andrews W., both from India. May their sojourn with us be long and happy.

Glesca' Chinese.—Here's a little story of the Glasgow S.R. at Colchester. It is the tale of an English Orderly Sergeant rousing out a working party early one morning in the Jocks' camp with the following exchanges :

" Hi, you ! "—" Wha ? Me ? "
" Ay, you ! "—" No' me ? "
" Ay, you ! "—" Ho hum ! "

" Lumme ! " exclaimed the Sassenach, " I've struck the Chinese Labour Corps."

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Cardiff.
14th January.

The end of another year and a month eagerly awaited by the wives and children of members of the Unit. That great occasion —the Children's Christmas Party—was held on 18th December, 1937. The W.O.s and N.C.O.s really surpassed themselves, first of all with the organisation, with its thousand and oue details, and then the handling of the party itself on the great day. A tea was given at the Carlton Hotel at 3 p.m., short work being made of the lots of good things to eat. The youngsters certainly appreciated the buses, which were kindly loaned for the occasion by C.Q.M.S. Forse. The children were transported after tea to the Drill Hall, and, judging by the way they staggered from the tables and fell into the conveyances, my remarks about the children's appreciation were not under-estimated.

The sight of the Drill Hall brilliantly decorated with a huge Christmas Tree, and, in addition, a large fireplace, was enough to make these youngsters go pop-eyed with excitement. They were just in the mood to enjoy a concert, given by a party of juveniles, not forgetting the comic conjuring pair whose antics brought the house down.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Trice, Commanding Officer, speaking to the party, hoped that they would thoroughly enjoy their evening, and wished them a very happy Christmas.

About this time there were distinct indications that Father Christmas was experiencing some difficulty in getting his bulk down the chimney. He arrived safely, to an accompaniment of shrieks of delight, and sighs of relief from the R.S.M. and C.S.M. Greenwood. Very quickly the bags were opened and the distribution of the toys began. An excellent arrangement was introduced this year by R.S.M. Field and C.S.M. Greenwood. It was decided to group the children according to their ages, and the toys were distributed accordingly. Under this arrangement the youngest children received their presents first, and were able to avoid the inevitable crowding around the platform. Sergeant Baxter H. P. made an admirable Father Christmas, but may we point out that it is really up to the R.S.M. to induce him to take more exercise before next Christmas. The organisers and members of the W.O.s and N.C.O.s' Mess may well feel gratified at the whole-hearted appreciation of their efforts in providing such a treat to the wives and children.

At the close of the evening, the children, tired but happy, trooped away, each receiving a bag of fruit and sweets before leaving the Hall. With few exceptions, all the officers of the Unit were present, and many were accompanied by their wives and children. They included Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Trice (C.O.), Major and Mrs. F. T. Arnold, Major and Mrs. W. S. Catleugh, Captain R. H. Copeland (Adjutant), Captain W. R. Hawkins, Captain A. E. Johnson, Captain and Mrs. A. W. Bartholomew, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Bale, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Lloyd and Mr. F. C. Moon. We were delighted to see Colonel R. C. Seel, O.B.E., M.C., T.D. (our D.C.S.O.) and Mrs. Seel, also Lieutenant-Commander Dickson, R.N.

The annual Christmas Draw took place on 23rd December, 1937. Credit is due to C.S.M. Greenwood for organising this event. Over 200 prizes were attractively displayed. The limit for the number of entries was raised this year from 1,000 to 1,500. Sergeant Brown, selling the cards, did a roaring trade ; " Who wants a turkey for tuppence ? " was his slogan..

The W.O.s and N.C.O.s' Annual Dance on New Year's Eve was as great a success as any in former years. Over 350 attended, and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Sergeant Hawkins, who was Master of Ceremonies, performed his duties very efficiently. A welcome guest was ex-R.S.M. McCormick R., who handed over to R.S.M. Field, on completion of his service a short time ago. C.Q.M.S. Williams, R.E., again proved the truth of the song that " old soldiers never die," for after a serious illness he was present at the dance looking and feeling—we hope—perfectly fit. This was the first function that C.S.M. Varley, P.S.I., No. 1 Company, had attended here, and he thus becomes " one of the family."

A few minutes before midnight the assembly stood in silence for two minutes in memory of the late Sergeant Kirk J. (Jim), No. 3 Company, who passed away two months ago, after a short illness.

At midnight everyone joined in the Grand March, which culminated in "Auld Lang Syne," sung with a will. A happier crowd would be difficult to imagine. R.Q.M.S. Greedy F. was observed giving something away without a chit. If it was advice—what of it ?

Colonel R. C. Seel, O.B.E., M.C., T.D. (D.C.S.O., Western Command) and Mrs. Seel, Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Trice, Major and Mrs. F. T. Arnold, Major and Mrs. Peel and other officers attended and contributed to a colourful and joyous occasion.

Within a few hours of its finale, the officers, W.O.s and N.C.O.s met at the 16th Annual W.O.s and N.C.O.s' Dinner at the Carlton Hotel, Cardiff (1st January, 1938). The Lord Mayor of Cardiff (Alderman O. C. Purnell, J.P.) kindly consented to be present, but, unfortunately, at the last moment he was prevented.

C.Q.M.S. Forse T. presided at the excellent dinner. The toast to the 53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals, T.A., was proposed, in the absence of the Lord Mayor of Cardiff, by Captain R. H. Copeland (Adjutant). When referring to tradition, he took us back to the first occasion in history when Signals functioned—the Abyssinian Campaign, conducted by Lord Napier, and during which one officer and some sixty men represented R.E. Signals. " Tradition," he said, " is made by members of a Unit in the course of the performance of their duty," and he illustrated his point with the humorous story of the Signals D.R. who, in obedience to the Signals' tradition of " getting the message through at all costs," utilised every vehicle on the road, and, after a series of breakdowns, eventually landed at his destination on a camel.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Trice (C.O.), responding to the toast to the 53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals, T.A., welcomed Colonel R. C. Seel, O.B.E., M.C., T.D. (D.C.S.O., Western Command), and Colonel R. G. Llewellyn, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., J.P., two past Commanding Officers of the Unit. He regretted the absence of the Lord Mayor, but appreciated his intention of being present, and also his brief visit before the dinner.

The Unit report, he said, was satisfactory, and he was satisfied. A little more enthusiasm, however, was needed if we were to maintain our high standard. Annual Training, 1938, at Tenby was doubtful. In fact, it was probable that we should take part in Exercises on Salisbury Plain in August. If such were the case, we should feel proud to be selected. More recruits were needed, preferably friends of members, in order to maintain the family spirit which exists in the Unit. The attractions in the Unit were many, and a special word was due to Mr. W. G. Bale in making the Canteen so attractive.

Musical items during the evening were provided by the Tricity Singers, who were really good.

" Our Officers and Guests " was proposed by R.S.M. Field. He expressed his appreciation of the help received from the officers of the Unit on taking over his present duties. The guests were accorded a very hearty welcome.

Colonel Seel, responding on behalf of the guests, wished all a happy and prosperous New Year and thanked the W.O.s and N.C.O.s for their hospitality. He was impressed by the extraordinary atmosphere of friendliness prevailing, and the D.C.S.O. was happy to state that his relations with the Unit were still friendly. The Unit certainly had a good " chit." Operating, however, needed polishing up. Other Divisional Signals were out to wrest our laurels from us, but with such close liaison between officers and N.C.O.s, the Unit should go far.

Major F. T. Arnold (second-in-command) also responded, observing that this was the sixteenth occasion of its kind. He recalled ex-Sergeant Bealey's efforts in earlier years. Many of his anecdotes would not be printed, anyway, so we shall save the censor the trouble. To friends at home and abroad we must point out that Major Arnold believes that the officers won the prize, after a considerable number of years, for singing in harmony at the annual contest. Don't take this to heart, Tom Gelston, your throat was intended for better things.

Colonel R. G. Llewellyn, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., J.P., a past Commanding Officer of the Unit, said he was glad to be with us. He stressed the excellent feeling existing between officers and N.C.O.s, and stated that the Unit must go all out to maintain its fine reputation. He wished us all good luck for 1938.

The Dinner ended with community singing, led by the Tricity Singers.

That popular President of the W.O.s and N.C.O.s' Mess, C.Q.M.S. Forse T., deserves the heartiest congratulations on the success of the Mess functions during his year of office.

On 10th January Lieutenant-Colonel D. A. Brown, M.C. (C.S.O., Western Command), visited Cardiff and treated us to one of his instructive Schemes, which dealt with the handling of Divisional Signals in the Approach March and Attack. The C.S.O.'s habit of firing off questions in unexpected directions kept everyone very much on the alert.

As we go to press, we hear of the success of 2nd Lieutenant P. S. Banbury in the Army Entrance Examination. Many congratulations, Phillip ; we shall watch your future career with interest.

THE LEEK.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

General.—The chief item of interest in the Unit is the impending move to the new Drill Hall. Time is getting short, and in six weeks we expect to be saying *au revoir* to our Mason Street friends. An interesting point to note is the fact that the present Drill Hall was erected in 1902—the Coronation year of his late Majesty King Edward VII, and work on our new Headquarters was commenced in the Coronation year of His Majesty King George VI.

Headquarters, Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, 55th (W.L.) Divisional Signals, T.A., have occupied Mason Street Drill Hall since 1921. We shall not leave the old familiar surroundings without feelings of regret and no doubt it will take most of us some time before the strangeness of Broadgreen begins to disappear.

Congratulations.—To Major F. J. Behn on winning the Rooker Cup, 1937-38. This makes the third occasion on which his name has been inscribed on the Cup.

To No. 2 Company also on winning the Inter-Company Miniature Rifle Competition.

Social.—An enjoyable time was held by all on Thursday, 13th January, when the officers played the Junior N.C.O.s and men in the latter's Recreation Room. If one can judge from the results, it may be taken for granted that these functions will be fairly frequent at the new Headquarters.

Training.—Our system of holding monthly Signal Exercises during the whole year is having a beneficial result. The Drill Hall is a hive of activity on drill nights, and we are confident that, by July, the efficiency of the Unit as a whole will be greatly improved. The most notable feature is the recent introduction of a Procedure Class, in which each man has his own key and buzzer ; the class is arranged in two groups. By this means, not only will procedure be taught in a practical way, but the operators will adopt a uniform style of sending, and faults can easily be corrected in the earliest stages.

Greetings.—Although somewhat belated, we take this opportunity of wishing everybody the best of everything during the forthcoming year.

FIVE-FIVE.

The London Divisional Signals.
(City of London Signals.)

Changes in Permanent Staff.—This month we have to note two changes in the Regular Army personnel of the Unit. A/R.S.M. Strange F. G. has returned to the Regular Army, having been promoted R.Q.M.S. While congratulating him on his promotion, we deplore his departure. Although his tour with us has been a short one, it has been most successful and has included the very large amount of extra work occasioned by Coronation year. His tour has seen the raising of the strength of the Unit from 287 to 404 other ranks, and the monumental files on the Embodiment Scheme and kindred subjects bear witness to his industry. Extremely popular with all ranks, he has earned the gratitude of the Sergeants' Mess in particular for his work. Together with Mrs. Strange he has "managed" the annual Children's Party, which he has seen grow in popularity year by year until the largest and most successful one of 1937, which is reported later in these notes.

Sergeant P. Hammond has been a member of the Permanent Staff of the Unit for six years, and though nominally P.S.I. of No. 2 Company, he is perhaps the best-known figure in the whole Unit. The only surviving member of the Permanent Staff who was with the Unit in the old days at Calthorpe Street, he has borne much of the labour of the move to the new Headquarters, the strenuous years of building up the strength of the Unit from 145 other ranks, and the parades for the three great occasions—the Jubilee and Funeral of King George V, and the Coronation of King George VI. So far as the writer is aware, he seldom, if ever, took any leave, and a tradition grew up, "if you want to know, ask Hammond." Always to the fore in work and play, he remained for some years the squash rackets champion of the Unit, challenged only by Major Welsford. No. 2 Company, too, under his guidance carried off the majority of the trophies at each successive prize-giving. To Sergeant and Mrs. Hammond the Unit offers its grateful thanks and best wishes for their future.

Sergeants' Mess Smoking Concert.—A smoking concert was held on 16th December to bid farewell to A/R.S.M. Strange and Sergeant Hammond, and to welcome their successors, A/R.S.M. Bawden and Sergeant Gover. The attendance of Mess members and officers bore witness to the popularity of those departing. In a short speech the Commanding Officer paid a striking tribute to the work of the Unit of both R.S.M. Strange and Sergeant Hammond, and wished their successors welcome.

Annual Children's Party.—The third occasion of the holding of this party was in itself a tribute to the management of the Permanent Staff, led by R.S.M. Strange. From small beginnings in 1935, with an attendance of just over 100, it has grown to the present figure of 600 for tea, cinema and Father Christmas on 18th December. The sideshows and purchase of presents were arranged by C.S.M. Angell E. J., who also acted as Father Christmas's "Barker." Colonel The Lord Pender and Lady Pender very kindly attended.

The business of presenting the toys to the children was undertaken by Father Christmas, Lady Pender and Mrs. Willway, and lasted two hours. C.S.M. Tyrrell successfully doubled the roles of community singing leader and Father Christmas. Sergeant and Mrs. Buttle were responsible for the catering.

New Year's Eve Dance.—A most successful dance, held on New Year's Eve, was attended by a very large number of officers and other ranks of the Unit and their friends.

C.O.L.S.

1st Cadet Signal Company.
(Haberdashers School Cadet Corps.)

On the occasion of the Old Boys' Reunion at the School two years ago, Signal Headquarters were thrown open in response to numerous requests, and proved a popular rendezvous for ex-signallers, some of whom even devoted part of the evening to re-conditioning their morse.

At the 1937 Reunion, on 15th December last, this was again done, and various recently-acquired instruments were displayed, including one of the Field W/T Sets, constructed by Cadet Coporal Bayliss of the Unit. These proved interesting to the large number of Old Boys, who came in during the interval. In the course of the evening, those members of the Unit who were on duty were inspected at Headquarters by Colonel J. K. Dunlop, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., after he had addressed the Old Boys on the subject of anti-aircraft activities in the T.A.

On 17th December, by the kindness of the Headmaster, the members of the Unit, together with those of the School O.T.C., were entertained to tea at the School, followed by a conjuring entertainment by that gifted magician, Coll Ling Soo, which everybody very much enjoyed.

News that E. J. Reid (January, 1936-August, 1937) has joined the Artillery of the London University O.T.C. reached us too late for publication in last month's notes.

SPORTS NOTES

Headquarters, Training Battalion.

Sport played by teams representing the Training Battalion has been confined to rugby, hockey and billiards. A Battalion association football team has not yet been formed, although matches have been arranged for the near future. A brief summary of outstanding events during the first part of the season is given below.

Rugby.—The team this season has played five matches, and, although rather light, the results have been very favourable. Our best games were with the Harrogate Old Boys "A" team and, in the Cobb-Nicholls Cup, the Depot Battalion. The match at Harrogate was hardly fought, and, on the run of play, the sides were about even. The game with the Depot Battalion was a real "Local Derby" affair, and was played hard and fast. After extra time, the Depot Battalion were the winners of a particularly good game, which was enjoyed by both the players and spectators. Both these games were rather marred by bad weather, which did not allow the back division to get really working. A list of the results of the games played by the Training Battalion is published below :

		Points.
v. R.A.S.C., Catterick	Won	41—0
v. Harrogate Old Boys "A" team	Won	6—3
v. Depot Battalion	Lost	3—6
v. Darlington R.A. 2	Won	13—3
v. Northallerton	Won	3—0

All games arranged for December had to be cancelled owing to snow making the grounds unplayable.

Hockey.—So far this season the Training Battalion team has done very well. In fact, we have not yet lost a match. We must, however, in all fairness point out that, owing to the change over of Battalions at Catterick, teams have been left rather weak. But we have played Scarborough Club (who play the Garrison) and Redcar, and have won both matches easily. On 8th January we played the 2nd Battalion, West Yorkshire Regiment, and drew for the first time, 1—1, but we are not worried about this as the state of the ground prevented any constructive play.

In the first round of the Army Cup we beat the 1st Battalion, York and Lancaster Regiment from York by 3—1. We play our next round on 19th January, against the 2nd Battalion, Cameronians. As they have only just arrived, we do not yet know their strength.

We have also run a 2nd XI side, which has been consistently winning its matches, except on one occasion, when our opponents turned out their 1st XI by mistake.

Billiards.—In the Garrison Billiards League the team has just won through to the third round, and is hoping to reach the final. Practice games are played every Thursday evening in the Institute, and a good deal of talent has come to light from all Companies. Results of the two games are :

v. R.A.M.C.	Won 5 games to 3.
v. Details, Border Regiment ..	Won 6 games to 2.

L. B.

1st Divisional Signals.

Apart from the training of our hockey team, in readiness for the second round of the fixtures, we have nothing to report.

Army Sport in the Command.—To give one an idea as to the swing of the pendulum in the Rugger and Football Tournaments, here are the outstanding coming events which we may be privileged to see :

FOOTBALL : 4TH ROUND OF THE ARMY CUP (to be played off by 27th January).—R.A.M.C. (Aldershot) v. 3rd Divisional Signals ; 1st Battalion, Welch Fusiliers, v. 1st Battalion, Welsh Guards ; 4th Battalion, Royal Tank Corps, v. 24th Field Brigade, R.A. ; 2nd Battalion, North Staffordshire Regiment, v. Depot, R.A.O.C. ; 2nd Battalion, Manchester Regiment, v. 1st Battalion, The Loyals ; 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards, v. 2nd Battalion, Beds. and Herts. Regiment ; R.A. (Shoeburyness) v. T.B., Royal Military College of Science ; 1st Battalion, Yorkshire Regiment, v. 2nd Battalion, Suffolk Regiment.

RUGBY (Thursday, 27th January).—Final, Aldershot Command (1st Battalion, Welsh Guards, v. 1st Battalion, Royal Tank Corps). The winners of this match enter the semi-final of the Army Cup.

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3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Soccer.—The soccer season started badly, but that was hardly our fault. Owing to the War Office Exercise, we finished collective training rather later than most Units in the Command ; and as very few of our old players were left, we were faced with the prospect of unearthing our new talent, training a team, and playing our first league matches all at the same time. A Selection Committee was formed, and, after heated discussions on the merits and/or reputation of every player in the Unit, a team of sorts was produced to play our first match, which we lost.

The following week an entirely different team turned out ; we lost again. By this time the Selection Committee had got some data to work on ; and although our team was rarely the same for two consecutive matches, it became stronger after every game. So much so, that by the end of October, when we came to play the 2nd Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, in the first round of the Army Cup, we won by the convincing margin of 6—1.

In the next Cup round, we drew the 7th Field Brigade, R.A., and were rather lucky to win 2—1. For some reason or other, the team never found their form in this match, and their scrappy play was a great disappointment after the very good show they made against the Warwicks. On the whole, it was a little too exciting for the Signals' spectators. Luckily they came back to form in time for our next Cup match, which was against No. 2 Section, R.A.O.C., and which turned out to be the best match so far this season.

The Ordnance team was undoubtedly the best side we had met, but, to balance that, our team was on the top of its form. The game was very open, but the Ordnance goal was more often in danger than our own, and it was only some magnificent saves by their goalkeeper that kept the final score down to 1—0 for us.

The team for the last match (probably the strongest side we have put in the field so far) was : Goal : Lance Corporal Hall ;

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backs: Lance Corporal Bundy ("E" Troop) and Signalman Leburn; halves: Driver Stewart (Tank Brigade Signals), Corporal Henwood (capt.) and Lance Corporal Terry (Tank Brigade Signals); forwards: Signalmen Stevens, Phimister, Lance Corporals Grant, Beard and Matthews. Reserves: Signalmen Valinder and Pethwick (Tank Brigade Signals).

As for the future! Our next Army Cup match is against the R.A.M.C. at Aldershot, and by the time these notes are in print that will be past history. Nearer home, we are steadily improving our position in our local league, and anxiously awaiting the result of the draw for the S.P.A. Challenge Cup.

The greatest question of the moment is, "Will we win at Aldershot on 29th January?"

Hockey.—Due to the fact that several of our "star" players have left us, and the requirements of individual training, there has been some difficulty in raising teams to fulfil our fixtures. Here are the results of games played to date:

v. R.A.F. (Netheravon)	Away.	Drawn	0—0
v. 26th Field Brigade, R.A.	Away.	Lost	1—7
v. R.A.F. (Old Sarum)	Home.	Lost	0—4
v. 54th Company, R.E...	Away.	Lost	0—2
v. 7th Field Brigade, R.A.	Home.	Won	2—1
v. 3rd Div. H.Q. and R.A.S.C. Companies	Away.	Lost	3—4

With a view to selecting a S.P.A. combined Signals XI, a trial was held at Bulford, and some really good talent was brought to light. This team has played two games, first against the Bournemouth Hockey Club, and secondly against R.A.F. (Old Sarum), winning 7—0 and 9—0 respectively.

Having been given a bye into the second round of the Army Cup, we were due to oppose the 1st (Light) Battalion, Royal Tank Corps, on 11th December. The heavy snowfall necessitated this game being postponed until after the Christmas leave period, when we hope that all our players will return feeling very fit and ready for the game that should see us through to the next stage.

Before closing, it would be interesting to note that in our game against R.A.F. (Netheravon), we discovered that the R.A.F.'s centre-half was none other than Mr. Richardson (ex-Corporal Ritchie), who was one of our "star" players last season. Also present was Mr. Taylor (formerly of 3rd Division) in the role of umpire. Mr. Taylor has very kindly consented to umpire any games for us should we need him.

Malaya Signal Company,

Alexandra Detachment.

As a farewell to the Details of the 1st Battalion, Middlesex Regiment, a fancy-dress football match was staged on their ground. The Signals marched from Alexandra to the tunes of "Tipperary" and "Pack up your troubles." The biggest attraction was Dixie as a Geisha Girl, but he was very bashful and wouldn't play on the wing near the ladies; and those blushes of his when he went up to receive his medal and our shield!

Since our last notes were written, we cannot boast of many wins, but we have not disgraced ourselves. Here is a list of matches we have played:

			Scorers.
v. "A" Coy., Inniskillings ..	Drawn	2—2	Maddison, Peck.
v. Y.M.C.A.	Drawn	2—2	Dean, Smart.
v. R.A.F. (1st)	Drawn	0—0	
v. P.W.D.	Lost	0—2	
v. Indian Association ..	Lost	1—3	Dean.
v. R.A.O.C.	Drawn	1—1	Maddison.
v. R.A.F. (1st)	Lost	1—2	Mottershead.

Changi Detachment.

Lift up thy trumpet and blow; Alexandra will not blow it for thee!

Recently, Changi Detachment made their debut into local hockey circles, and the results up to the time of going to press are most favourable. Previous to our match with the 30th Company, R.E., we were the undefeated champions of this area. Banzai! Banzai! The team comprises the following members of this detachment: Lieutenant Stirling Wilkinson (our O.C.), Parkin, Lambert, Goldfinch (if not employed on making brass tags for keys), Reaney, Mottershead, Cunningham, Carlson, Farley, Chatfield, Buck and Strong (when he is not required for rugger).

Here are results of the matches played with local "crack" teams:

v. 41st Company, R.E.	Won	2—0
v. 34th Company, R.E.	Won	1—0
v. 11th A.A. Brigade, R.A.	Drawn	3—3
v. 22nd Heavy Battery, R.A.	Drawn	1—1
v. 7th Heavy Battery, R.A...	Drawn	0—0

The match with the 30th Company, R.E., caused a considerable amount of local interest and controversy, as it was popularly surmised that we were going to suffer a severe defeat. We surprised our critics—especially the "Three-O" Company, because we only suffered defeat by the narrow margin of one goal, which was inadvertently scored by one of our own players. The *Malayan Tribune* did us great justice; allowing us a whole column for the report of the match. (This may account for the fact that everybody orders a copy of the *Tribune* these days.)

Whilst on the subject of sport, we would like to mention that Signalman Strong recently had a trial for the Army Rugby XV of Malaya. Well done, Strong!

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

SECRETARY AND EDITOR :
Mr. W. BUTLER, 95 BELGRAVE ROAD, LONDON, S.W.1
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VOL. XIX.—No. 217 MARCH 1938 PRICE—SIXPENCE

Editorial Notes.

Levee—St. James's Palace.—The Representative Colonel-Commandant (Brigadier R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C.) has intimated that he will attend the Second Levee to be held at St. James's Palace, on Thursday, 17th March, 1938, and present Royal Signals officers. Applications should be submitted as laid down in Appendix VII, King's Regulations, 1935, and should state that officers desire to be presented by the Colonel-Commandant.

Instructions will be issued later regarding the time officers will be required to report to the Marshalling Officer at St. James's Palace.

The Signals Experimental Establishment, Woolwich.—The Signals Experimental Establishment will be " At Home " to all Regular Officers of the Corps (including those on leave from abroad) on 27th May, 1938. Officers will be able to see all experimental apparatus in the process of being designed, or due to go to field trials.

Officers should arrive not later than 11 a.m. The nearest Station is **Woolwich Arsenal.** A convenient train from London leaves Charing Cross at 10.28 a.m., arriving at Woolwich Arsenal at 10.54 a.m., and, if required, transport will be sent to meet this train. Return trains to London run at very frequent intervals throughout the day.

Those wishing to see all the demonstrations and apparatus should be prepared to spend the day at the S.E.E. up to 4 p.m., when tea will be served. Luncheon can be obtained locally at 2s. per head (exclusive of wines).

Any officer desirous of attending should notify the Superintendent, Signals Experimental Establishment, Woolwich Common, London, S.E.18, at least one week beforehand, either by letter or by telephone (WOOLWICH 0181), stating whether they are coming by train, and whether they require luncheon.

Mufti should be worn.

Attendance is voluntary, so no travelling expenses can be claimed. No direct personal invitations will be issued, and it is hoped that all Regular officers will take this as a personal invitation.

Competitive Examinations for Established Situations of Departmental Clerks (Grade IV) in War Department, Outstation Offices.—A Competitive Examination will be held under the subjoined Regulations on 26th April, 1938. The following is a provisional list of the centres at which the examination may be held : Aberdeen, Belfast, Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Chester, Darlington, Edinburgh, Exeter, Glasgow, Hull, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Norwich, Nottingham, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Preston, Salisbury, Sheffield, Stoke-on-Trent, Swansea and York.

The final list of centres will be decided when the number of Candidates desiring examination at each centre is known : all Candidates desiring to be examined at a centre other than London should name two alternative choices on their Application Form in case the examination should not be held at the centres of their first and second choice.

No person will be admitted to Examination from whom the Secretary, Civil Service Commission, has not received, on or before 10th March, 1938, an application in the Candidate's own handwriting on a prescribed form. No allegation that an Application Form or a letter respecting such Form has been lost or delayed in the post will be considered by the Commissioners unless the person making such allegation produces a Post Office Certificate of Posting. Candidates who delay their applications until the last days will do so at their own risk. Candidates who are still serving with the Colours on the date of application but will have been discharged from the Service before the first day of the month in which the examination is held (see Clause 3 of the Regulations) are not debarred from making application to

sit; such applications should be forwarded through their Commanding Officers.

Acknowledgments of such Application Forms are sent, and any Candidate who has filled up and returned the printed Application Form but has not received an acknowledgment of it within four complete days should at once write to the Secretary, Civil Service Commission, Burlington Gardens, London, W.1. Failure to comply with this provision will deprive the Candidate of any claim to consideration.

The Order for Admission to the Examination will be posted not later than 19th April, 1938, to the Address given on the Form of Application. It will contain instructions as to the time and place at which Candidates will be required to attend, and as to the manner in which the prescribed fee is to be paid. In no circumstances should the fee be sent with the Form of Application.

The attention of Candidates is particularly drawn to Clause 9 of the Regulations.

Any Candidate who declines to accept the situation to which he may be appointed, will have no claim to be appointed to another.

The following Regulations are liable to alteration from time to time:

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. For the examination to be held on 26th April, 1938, and for that examination only, temporary or casual Grade IV Clerks employed as such in War Department Outstations on 30th September, 1937, will be eligible notwithstanding that they do not fulfil the conditions laid down in Clause 3.

5. Candidates will be required to satisfy the Civil Service Commissioners that they are duly qualified in respect of health and character.

6. 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 naturalization 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.

7. 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.

8. The Examination will be in the following subjects, viz.—English, Arithmetic, General Knowledge. Candidates will be required to obtain such an aggregate of marks in the examination as a whole as to satisfy the Civil Service Commissioners.

9. Of the vacancies to be filled from any examination a number may be reserved for competition among candidates with Army service in particular Corps (e.g., Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers, Royal Tank Corps, Royal Army Service Corps, Royal Army Service Corps (M.T.), Royal Army Ordnance Corps, Royal Army Pay 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.

10. 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.

11. A fee of £1 will be required from every candidate attending an Examination.

SYLLABUS.

ENGLISH.—The tests will include letter-writing or other simple form of composition and the summarizing of a passage. The summary will be valued for its accuracy and for the understanding and use of English which it shows; a limit may be set for the number of words which the summary should contain: to use more than the stated number will cause loss of marks. Other questions may be set to test the candidates' understanding of the language and power to use it. Command of the English language, and handwriting and spelling are taken into account in all subjects.

ARITHMETIC.—First four rules. Imperial and metric measures. Decimal and other fractions. Percentages, proportion, averages.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE.—This paper is intended to test both intelligence and knowledge; it will consist mainly of questions on subjects of interest and importance at the present day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

MADE BY THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSIONERS WITH THE AUTHORITY OF THE ARMY COUNCIL.

Departmental Clerks (Grade IV) will be employed in War Department Outstation Offices at Home Stations. They will not be employed in the War Office, Whitehall, S.W.1.

The scale of pay of Departmental Clerks, Grade IV, appointed from the examination will be as follows:

	London.	* Special Towns.	Provinces.
On entry ..	62s. a week.	60s. a week.	58s. a week.
After 1 year	62s. ,,	60s. ,,	58s. ,,
2 years	62s. ,,	60s. ,,	58s. ,,
3 years	62s. ,,	60s. ,,	58s. ,,
4 years	63s. ,,	60s. ,,	58s. ,,
5 years	65s. ,,	62s. 5d. ,,	59s. 3d. ,,
	67s. 6d. ,,	64s. 5d. ,,	61s. 9d. ,,
	70s. ,,	66s. 11d. ,,	63s. 9d. ,,
	72s. 6d. ,,	69s. 5d. ,,	66s. 2d. ,,
	75s. ,,	71s. 11d. ,,	68s. 9d. ,,
	77s. 6d. ,,	74s. 5d. ,,	71s. 3d. ,,

* Barnet, Belfast, Birkenhead, Birmingham, Bootle, Bristol, Cardiff, Croydon (Borough of), Edinburgh, Gateshead, Glasgow, Harrow, Hounslow, Ickenham, Ilford, Kingston (Surrey, Leeds,) Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Richmond (Surrey), Salford, Sheffield and Twickenham.

The normal hours of attendance are 44 a week (inclusive of the mid-day meal interval) with a half holiday on Saturday, overtime, when approved, being payable for additional attendance. The annual leave allowance is 18 working days during the first five years of established service, and 21 working days thereafter. Departmental Clerks Grade IV will be eligible for promotion to Grade III (maximum salary £320 per annum) and subsequently in certain cases to higher posts. Candidates will not be entitled to re-imbursement in respect of any expenses which they may incur on taking up their appointment.

The Civil Service Educational Council announce that a Course has been prepared—of both Evening and Correspondence Classes—in connection with the forthcoming examination in April. Further particulars can be obtained from the Secretary, Civil Service Educational Council, Parliament Mansions, Westminster, London, S.W.1.

Gill Memorial Scholarships at Brighton College for Sons of Army Officers.—It is officially announced that about six GILL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND EXHIBITIONS are offered for competition among sons of Army officers.

Candidates will take the ordinary June common entrance examination at their own preparatory schools. Admission to compete for the Scholarships and Exhibitions is by nomination, and candidates must be :

1. Under the age of 14 years on 1st June, 1938, and
2. The sons of officers, who held or have held a commission in the Regular Army or, failing such candidates, the sons of officers, who held or have held a commission in the Reserve or Auxiliary Military Forces.

The annual value of the Gill Memorial Scholarships and Exhibitions ranges from £75 to £30, thus reducing the amount payable by a parent or guardian to between £75 and £120 respectively, inclusive of necessary extras. Scholarships and Exhibitions are tenable for three years, but the period may, on the recommendation of the Headmaster, be extended to four years. Successful candidates will enter Brighton College at the end of the summer holidays.

Applications for nomination by the War Office (accompanied by birth certificate and certificates of conduct covering the previous two years) should reach the Under Secretary of State (C.1.), The War Office, London, S.W.1, not later than 30th April, 1938.

Royal Signals Officers' Dinner Club.—The Annual Dinner of the Royal Signals Officers' Dinner Club will be held on 27th May, 1938, 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.

ALDERSHOT BRANCH.

It is the aim of the Hon. Secretary to increase the social activities of the local Branch of the Signals Association, and with this object in view, the co-operation of all members is requested.

The Branch held the first of a series of monthly whist drives in the N.A.A.F.I. Reading Room on Monday, 31st January. A very pleasant evening, too. The next Whist Drive will be held on Monday, 28th February, commencing at 8 p.m.

It is hoped to hold a Signals Association annual dance in the Marlborough Lines Gymnasium at the end of March or early in April. All members are cordially invited.

The thanks of the local Branch, Aldershot, are passed to Mr. F. Cole, of the Salisbury and District Branch for his most valuable co-operation. I should like to advise the large number of senior W.O.s and N.C.O.s, who are due for discharge to pension within the next three years, to take every opportunity to secure a Vocational Training Course. Much has already been written about this subject. Those N.C.O.s who are seeking clerical occupations under the War Office, are reminded that an Army First Class Certificate of Education is essential.

The thanks of the Branch is extended to the General Secretary, London, for obtaining civil employment for two of our serving members.

BIRMINGHAM BRANCH.

Saturday, 12th February, will long be remembered by this Branch, for on that evening no fewer than 140 members of the R.E. and Royal Signals Old Comrades' Association assembled for a Re-union Dinner in the Crown Hotel, Corporation Street, Birmingham. The room was decorated in blue and white, and a miniature cenotaph stood on the centre table. All concerned with the organization of this very successful gathering are to be heartily congratulated.

It was a re-union in every sense of the word ; many members were discovered renewing friendships after a breach of twenty years or more.

I am sorry I cannot report the various speeches in full, but those made by Colonel J. W. Danielsen, D.S.O., T.D., and Colonel W. Martineau, M.C., T.D., were both informative and amusing. Other officers present were Colonel M. E. Holdsworth (D.C.S.O., Southern Command), Lieutenant-Colonel P. H. Jones, M.C. (Commanding, 48th Divisional Signals, T.A.), Major H. Bartlett (Hon. Secretary), Major J. E. Mitten and Lieutenant Jarrett, R.E. Signals, Lieutenant R. W. Danielsen and Lieutenant B. J. Rowe, 48th Divisional Signals.

The " loyal " toast was proposed by Colonel Martineau, and the toast of " The Princess Royal " by Major Bartlett. A silent toast to the memory of Old Comrades who have passed over, was proposed by Mr. A. E. Wilby.

After an excellent dinner—the principal item of which was roast turkey—the room was rearranged for a concert. In addition to the professional artistes engaged, we were entertained by members of the Association.

A very enjoyable evening and the more remarkable as it was the first occasion on which such a large re-union had been organised by this Branch. It is due to the untiring work of Major H. Bartlett that the membership has been more than doubled in the past twelve months. In appreciation of his efforts on their behalf, the members presented a gold wrist watch to Major Bartlett, much to his surprise but undoubted pleasure.

During the evening, Colonel Martineau imparted the sad news of the death of Mr. J. F. May, an old member. The funeral took place on 14th February ; a wreath was sent by the Hon. Secretary on behalf of the Branch.

Members of the Association are asked to note that a St. Patrick's Dance will be held in the Drill Hall, Stratford Road, Hall Green, on 18th March. Tickets may be had on application to the Hon. Secretary, Cateswell House, Hall Green. Single 3s., double 5s.

The next General Meeting will take place at Cateswell House on Friday evening, 8th April. Those interested are invited to attend.

EMPLOYMENTS.

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

1	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Postman
2	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer
3	Ex-Signalman, Reading	Labourer
4	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Postman
5	Ex-Signalman, Coventry	Postman
6	Ex-Signalman, Coventry	P.O. Engineering Dept.
7	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Labourer
8	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Postman
9	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Postman
10	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Postman
11	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Postman
12	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Metal Turner
13	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Plumber's Mate
14	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Carpenter
15	Ex-N.C.O., Chatham	Labourer
16	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Labourer
17	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Postman
18	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Postman
19	Ex-N.C.O., Chatham	Postman
20	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Postman
21	Ex-Driver, Chatham	Postman
22	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Postman
23	Ex-N.C.O., Chatham	Postman
24	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Postman
25	Ex-Driver, Chatham	Postman
26	Ex-N.C.O., Chatham	Postman
27	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Labourer
28	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Labourer
29	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Labourer
30	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Painter
31	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Postman
32	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Postman
33	Ex-Signalman, London	Lorry Driver
34	Ex-Signalman, London	Cleaner
35	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
36	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
37	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
38	Ex-N.C.O., London	Messenger
39	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
40	Ex-Signalman, Preston	Postman
41	Ex-Signalman, Halifax	Labourer
42	Ex-Signalman, Halifax	Labourer
43	Ex-Signalman, Essex	Wireless Operator
44	Ex-Signalman, Chester	Sorter
45	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Salesman
46	Ex-N.C.O., Porton	Clerk

47 Ex-Signalman, Larkhill ..... Waiter
48 Ex-Signalman, Boscombe ..... Wireless Operator
49 Ex-N.C.O., Boscombe ..... Wireless Operator
50 Ex-Signalman, Salisbury ..... Wireless Operator
51 Ex-N.C.O., Woolwich ..... Clerk

46, 49 and 50. Salisbury and District Branch Signals Association.

GENERAL SECRETARY AND EDITOR.

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Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following :

BANKERS ORDER INSTRUCTIONS from :
Captain R. H. Copeland.
Lieutenant F. G. G. Davey.
Lieutenant-Colonel F. Booth.
Major R. C. Nixon.
Lieutenant-Colonel W. Keith Rollo, M.C.

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from :
Mr. W. Moffat.
5th Divisional Signals.
Officers' Mess, S.T.C., Catterick.
3rd Indian Divisional Signals.
Captain P. Jennings, M.C.

GIFT OF CLOTHING from :
Colonel G. E. Sampson, D.S.O.

APPEALS dealt with :

1	Ex-Signalman, Devon			Grant	£3	0	0
2	Ex-N.C.O., Essex			Loan	£7	10	0
3	Ex-Signalman, Kent			Grant	£2	0	0
4	Ex-N.C.O., London	Loan	£2 10 0	Grant	£2	10	0
5	Ex-N.C.O., Yorks			Loan	£4	0	0
6	Ex-N.C.O., Lancs.			Grant	£5	0	0
7	Ex-Signalman, Hants			Grant	£2	0	0
8	Ex-N.C.O., Kent			Grant	£3	0	0
9	Signalman, Aldershot			Loan	£5	0	0
10	Ex-Signalman, London			Grant	£1	15	0
11	Driver, Aldershot			Grant	£2	0	0
12	Ex-Signalman, Devon			Loan	£5	0	0
13	Ex-Signalman, Kent			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.
16th February.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR,—The following is notified for publication in the March, 1938, WIRE.

Dates on which top individuals were registered on the Waiting List for the Married Quarters Roll :

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 14/10/1932.

(b) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 18/1/1932.

Yours faithfully, G. E. SAMPSON, Colonel,
i/c Royal Signals Records.

AN OPEN LETTER TO ALL ROYAL SIGNALS OTHER RANKS PERSONNEL ON DISCHARGE OR TRANSFER TO THE ARMY RESERVE.

95, Belgrave Road,
London, S.W.1.
(Telephone : Victoria 2081).

DEAR SIR,—On your discharge to civil life, the Central Committee of the Signals Association earnestly solicit your continued support of Association activities.

It is with a view to keeping in close and constant touch with all, and particularly the *younger members* of our organisation that we make this appeal in the hope that you will maintain your interest in the Corps through its Association, and so keep alive those friendships you have cultivated during your period of Service in Royal Signals.

Should your return to civil life take you to any district in which we have a Branch already in operation, we invite you to make yourself known to the Association representative of that area, on your arrival. He will accord you a hearty welcome, and do all in his power to assist you.

Should you, however, take up residence in an area in which no Branch movement of the Association exists, will you communicate with me at this office and say whether you consider there are sufficient numbers of ex-Royal Signals N.C.O.s and men living in the locality to warrant a Branch being organized for that district.

Full particulars of our existing Branches are published hereunder, and I once again express the hope that you will continue to support an organization which is doing such good and useful work among its Members.

We should particularly like to see you at all Royal Signals Old Comrades' annual re-union functions, details of which are invariably advertised in the press, and are also communicated to members through their respective Branches.

If you have ever been present on one of those occasions, you will appreciate the welcome Old Comrades receive. If not, make it your business to attend the next one and you will undoubtedly come to the conclusion that it is the one function of the year you will never miss in future.

Yours faithfully,
W. BUTLER,
General Secretary Signals Association.

BRANCHES IN ACTIVE OPERATION.

Aidershot : The Hon. Secretary, Signals Association (Aldershot Branch), Mons Barracks, Aldershot, Hampshire.

Birmingham : The Hon. Secretary, Signals Association, 48th (S.M.) Divisional Signals, T.A., Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham.

Bournemouth : Mr. S. J. Rouse, Hon. Secretary, Signals Association, 123, Ensbury Park Road, Winton, Bournemouth.

Chester : The Hon. Secretary, Signals Association, Command Headquarters, 1, Stanley Place, Chester.

Exeter : The Hon. Secretary, Signals Association, 43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals, T.A., The Priory, The Friars, Exeter.

Glasgow : The Hon. Secretary, Signals Association, 52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals, T.A., 21, Jardine Street, Glasgow.

Portsmouth : The Hon. Secretary, Signals Association, Army Signals Office, Government House, Portsmouth.

Salisbury : Mr. F. Cole, Hon. Secretary, Signals Association, "Charnwood," 10, Charnwood Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire.

Southampton : Mr. H. Dickinson, Hon. Secretary, Signals Association, 145, Shirley Road, Southampton.

Westminster, London : Mr. H. Green, Hon. Secretary, Signals Association, 25, Rita Road, London, S.W.8.

York and Northern Counties : The Hon. Secretary, Signals Association, c/o Chief Signal Officer, Headquarters, Northern Command, York.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.
2nd February.

The Editor, THE WIRE,
95, Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

DEAR SIR,—With reference to Lieutenant Hay's letter from Bannu, dated 25th November, and published in the WIRE of December, 1937. There was, of course, no intention of accusing

" A " Corps Signals Detachment of bad work, or of shifting any responsibility from our own shoulders.

We are sorry that Lieutenant Hay read our notes as he did, and we, too, would very quickly like to rectify any wrong impression gained by other readers. The wording was unfortunate.

Our correspondent was trying to record facts so that others might, perhaps, read, mark and learn. As Lieutenant Hay points out, the route concerned was entirely a 1st Indian Divisional Signals affair, and we put it up—using our attached " A " Corps Signals detachments—with much too great a strain. However, difficult Lieutenant Hay finds it to understand, joints *did* pull out. Unlike No. 1 Company " A " Corps Signals, this was the first route of its kind that we had constructed, and we learnt a lot!

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) W. R. C. PENNEY, Lieutenant-Colonel.

Royal Signals Mess, Catterick Camp,
Yorkshire.
9th February.

The Editor, THE WIRE,
95, Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

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Yours faithfully,
(Signed) C. A. OLIVER, Major, R.Signals.

[See advertisement on page 102—ED.]

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Major R. R. A. Darling from Canterbury to Palestine Force Signals.
Major B. D. Willoughby from Egypt to 1st Indian Divisional Signals.
Major G. R. Halliday from Salisbury to 3rd Indian Divisional Signals.
Major H. P. Hart from Catterick to 2nd Indian Divisional Signals.
Major J. W. Bailey from Catterick to Egypt Signals.
Major T. C. Thompson from 2nd Divisional Signals to Aldershot (1st Divisional Signals).
Major E. L. Farnall from " A " Corps Signals to Aldershot, (1st Divisional Signals).
Captain L. R. C. Watson from Aldershot to H.Q., B.T. in Egypt (G.S.O. 3).
Captain F. R. B. Moore from Palestine to Bulford (3rd Divisional Signals).
Captain L. C. C. Harrison from Palestine to " A " Corps Signals, Aldershot.
Captain L. A. E. Tozer from Catterick to Perham Down (Mobile Divisional Signals).
Lieutenant H. N. Crawford from Catterick to Egypt Signals.
Lieutenant A. J. Hamilton from Blackdown to Karachi (" B " Corps Signals).
Lieutenant G. Walton from Aldershot to 3rd Indian Divisional Signals.
Lieutenant R. G. Miller from half pay to Aldershot (1st Divisional Signals).
Lieutenant A. Hill from Scarborough to Perham Down (Mobile Divisional Signals).
Lieutenant M. H. N. Travers from 2nd Divisional Signals to Aldershot (" A " Corps Signals).
Lieutenant D. Mansel from 2nd Divisional Signals to Aldershot (" A " Corps Signals).
2nd Lieutenant F. K. Milward from Aldershot to Rawalpindi (" A " Corps Signals).

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

[War Office, 14/1/38]

REGULAR ARMY.
Colonel J. P. G. Worlledge, O.B.E., relinquishes the appointment of Member, R.E. and Signals Board, 13/1/38.
Colonel J. P. G. Worlledge retires on retired pay, 13/1/38.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS.
Lieutenant G. T. Evans, from S.R. of O. to be Captain, 31/12/37.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.
2nd Lieutenant J. D. Parker to be Lieutenant, 12/1/38.
J. A. C. Knott to be 2nd Lieutenant, 15/1/38.

[War Office, 18/1/38]

REGULAR ARMY.
Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C., relinquishes the appointment of A.A.G., War Office, 18/1/38.

ROYAL SIGNALS.
Captain J. E. S. Walford is restored to establishment, 17/1/38.
Captain H. D. Mountford is restored to establishment, 18/1/38.
Captain J. E. S. Walford relinquishes the appointment of Instructor R.M.A., 17/1/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.
52nd (L.) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Robertson, D.C.M., is supernumerary on vacating command, 16/1/38. Major T. M. Niven, to be Lieutenant-Colonel, 16/1/38.

[War Office, 21/1/38]

REGULAR ARMY.
Colonel A. C. Fuller, O.B.E., from C.I., E. & S. Stores, to be D.D. of E. & Signals, War Office, and granted the temporary rank of Brigadier whilst so employed, 1/1/38.

ROYAL SIGNALS.
Major M. V. Smelt to be Lieutenant-Colonel, 13/1/38.
Captain H. V. Ewbank remains seconded whilst a student at the Staff College, 21/1/38.

ESTABLISHMENTS.
School of Signals. Captain H. D. Mountford relinquishes the appointment of Instructor, 18/1/38.
R.E. & Signals Board. Lieutenant-Colonel R. Elsdale, O.B.E., M.C., to be Member and is placed on h.p. list (employed), 13/1/38.

MEMORANDA.
Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C., is graded for pay at Class X rates whilst a Military Student, Imperial Defence College, 18/1/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.
54th (E.A.) Divisional Signals. L. H. Caldicott to be 2nd Lieutenant, 22/1/38.

[War Office, 25/1/38]

REGULAR ARMY.
Lieutenant-Colonel R. Elsdale, O.B.E., M.C., to be Brevet-Colonel under the provisions of Article 182A Pay Warrant, 13/1/38.

ROYAL SIGNALS.
The undermentioned Captains to be Majors, 25/1/38:
N. H. Edes, T. A. R. Scott, L. D. Goddard, L. V. Younie.
Captain H. E. F. Middleton is granted the local rank of Captain, whilst employed with the Trans-Jordan Frontier Force, 29/10/37.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.
51st (H) Divisional Signals. J. D. T. Hillman to be Lieutenant (Quartermaster), 23/1/38.

[War Office, 28/1/38]

REGULAR ARMY.
Colonel E. N. F. Hitchins, D.S.O., M.C., relinquishes the appointment as O. i/c Record and Pay Office, Royal Signals, 18/1/38.

ROYAL SIGNALS.
The undermentioned Lieutenants to be Captains, 29/1/38:
R. G. Muir, J. S. Usher, D. L. Hyde, W. G. Tucker, E. J. F. Heap, L. T. Shawcross, L. C. C. Harrison, M.C., C. P. S. Denholm-Young, R. C. B. Stuart.
The undermentioned University Candidates to be 2nd Lieutenants, 29/1/38, with seniority 27/8/36:
2nd Lieutenant W. E. Jelf, from Gen. List T.A.
2nd Lieutenant E. N. L. Brown, from Gen. List T.A.

The undermentioned Gentlemen Cadets from the R.M.A. to be 2nd Lieutenants, 27/1/38 :

M. A. Philp, R. White, D. P. K. Rennick, G. H. Wotton, H. L. H. Tayler, J. K. V. Lee, G. H. Blackburne, B. E. Sykes.

2nd Lieutenant P. S. Banbury, from 53rd (W) Divisional Signals, T.A., to be 2nd Lieutenant, 29/1/38.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.

2nd Lieutenant W. Manners to be Lieutenant, 26/1/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

49th (W.R.) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant A. C. A. Stedman, from 50th (N) Divisional Signals, T.A., to be Lieutenant, 10/1/38.

50th (N) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant K. A. Waugh, from 72nd (N) Fd. Bde., R.A., to be Lieutenant, 10/1/38.

[War Office, 1/2/38]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Major B. H. House retires on retired pay, 1/2/38.

The undermentioned 2nd Lieutenants to be Lieutenants, 31/1/38 :

B. H. P. Barnes, J. D. Elliott, H. B. de M. Hunter, P. D. Gracey, C. W. M. Young, M. D. Price, C. A. Henn-Collins, G. D. K. Woolrych, P. G. Curry, D. Mansel, S. F. M. Howe.

SCHOOL OF SIGNALS.

Lieutenant W. R. Smijth-Windham to be Instructor (Cl. GG), 18/1/38.

[War Office, 4/2/38]

REGULAR ARMY.

The undermentioned appointments are made :

Colonel G. E. Sampson, D.S.O., from C.S.O. Aldershot Command, to be O. i/c Record & Pay Office, Royal Signals, 28/1/38.

Colonel C. W. Fladgate, h.p. to be C.S.O., Aldershot Command, 28/1/38.

Captain L. R. C. Watson, Royal Signals, to be Air Liaison Officer, (G.S.O. 3), Egypt, 27/1/38.

ROYAL SIGNALS.

Lieutenant W. R. Smijth-Windham is seconded whilst employed as Instructor School of Signals, 18/1/38.

Lieutenant (now Captain) W. G. Tucker, is seconded whilst employed as Instructor, R.M.A., 27/1/38.

R.M.A. Captain W. G. Tucker to be Instructor, 27/1/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

The London Divisional Signals. Major (Quartermaster) F. Snape, O.B.E., retired pay, late S. Staffs Regiment, to be Major (Quartermaster), 15/1/38.

48th (S.M.) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant A. R. Gardner, from 54th (E.A.) Divisional Signals to be Lieutenant, 11/1/38.

[War Office, 8/2/38]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Lieutenant S. J. Dagg is seconded for service on the Staff in India, 3/1/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

52nd (L) Divisional Signals. Captain and Brevet-Major V. D. Warren, to be Major, 16/1/38 ; J. G. Young to be 2nd Lieutenant, 9/2/38.

[War Office, 11/2/38]

REGULAR ARMY.

Colonel F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., retires on retired pay, 11/2/38, and is granted the hon. rank of Brigadier.

Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., on ceasing to be employed, is placed on the h.p. list, 11/2/38.

Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., relinquishes the appointment of S.S.O. Southern Command, 11/2/38.

Colonel (temporary Brigadier) F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., relinquishes the appointment of Commandant S.T.C., and the temporary rank of Brigadier, 11/2/38.

Captain H. V. Ewbank, Royal Signals, relinquishes the appointment of Instructor School of Signals, 21/1/38.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.

2nd Lieutenant A. S. W. Mitchell to be Lieutenant, 6/2/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

The London Corps Signals. A. R. D. Mount to be 2nd Lieutenant, 12/2/38.

42nd (E.L.) Divisional Signals. 2nd Lieutenant C. F. Kerr to be Lieutenant, 2/1/38.

51st (H) Divisional Signals. J. R. Carry to be 2nd Lieutenant, 12/2/38.

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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 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 Company Quartermaster-Sergeant.

2310307	Sergeant Ratcliffe R.	13/11/37	16

To be Sergeant.

2309894	L/Sergeant Phillips A.	13/11/37	30
2312548	L/Sergeant Andrews N.	13/11/37	33
5998833	L/Sergeant Clarke C.	13/11/37	34
2313013	L/Sergeant Tompkins A.	13/11/37	34
6393956	L/Sergeant Cooley, T.	13/11/37	34
3949468	L/Sergeant Rees, T.	13/11/37	34
1037909	L/Sergeant Neal G.	13/11/37	34
2308535	L/Sergeant Couperthwaite A.	13/11/37	34
2316573	L/Sergeant Daw R.	16/11/37	34
2310920	L/Sergeant Mowatt A.	17/11/37	34
2867012	L/Sergeant McGregor W.	17/11/37	34

Appointed Lance Sergeant.

2317185	Corporal Crow L.	21/9/37	38
1025395	Corporal Swift A.	30/9/37	43
2313711	Corporal Eason A.	30/9/37	43
2313665	Corporal Hatton T.	5/11/37	43
2317908	Corporal Ellis F.	13/11/37	43
6134549	Corporal Barnicott A.	13/11/37	43
2311306	Corporal Furze W.	13/11/37	43
2319141	Corporal Oliver J.	13/11/37	43
2313683	Corporal Harbury W.	13/11/37	43
2316934	Corporal Page C.	13/11/37	43
2315227	Corporal Wood J.	13/11/37	43
2310857	Corporal Shove J.	13/11/37	43
2309584	Corporal Feltham A.	13/11/37	43
2315520	Corporal Ferrier F.	16/11/37	43
2316212	Corporal Kelly J.	16/11/37	43
2316223	Corporal Teal L.	17/11/37	43
725518	Corporal Hunt J.	27/11/37	44

To be Corporal.

2316134	L/Corporal Lancaster F.	14/9/37	57
2321974	L/Corporal Hood R.	26/9/37	62
2320528	L/Corporal Somerville G.	2/10/37	63
2315150	L/Corporal Moxon J.	31/10/37	54
2216394	L/Corporal Perree E.	5/11/37	63
2318977	L/Corporal Donovan S.	13/11/37	63
2318512	L/Corporal Davies E.	13/11/37	63
1422635	L/Corporal Sharpe J.	13/11/37	63
2320565	L/Corporal Grant A.	13/11/37	64
811942	L/Corporal Jenkins W.	13/11/37	64
2313380	L/Corporal Locke H.	13/11/37	64
2319641	L/Corporal Jamieson H.	13/11/37	64
2321070	L/Corporal Welbourne D.	13/11/37	64
2312978	L/Corporal Burrows A.	13/11/37	
2321239	L/Corporal Hughes A.	13/11/37	64
2320367	L/Corporal Holland S.	13/11/37	64
1850231	L/Corporal O'Donnell L.	13/11/37	64
2320088	L/Corporal Brown R.	13/11/37	64
2320310	L/Corporal Evans D.	13/11/37	64
2320326	L/Corporal Middleton A.	13/11/37	64
5722979	L/Corporal Crouch L.	13/11/37	64
2321069	L/Corporal Mills J.	13/11/37	64
2716118	L/Corporal Ferguson H.	13/11/37	64
769108	L/Corporal Bennett W.	13/11/37	
2320097	L/Corporal Banks J.	13/11/37	
1409862	L/Corporal Skinner W.	13/11/37	
2320714	L/Corporal Schofield H.	16/11/37	
2320660	L/Corporal Parker W.	16/11/37	
5769250	L/Corporal Ebbage F.	17/11/37	
2317322	L/Corporal Thom J.	20/11/37	
2320315	L/Corporal Williams G.	26/11/37	
2316849	L/Corporal Stowers G.	27/11/37	

Appointed Lance Corporal.

4534949	Signalman Knight C.	30/6/37
2324107	Signalman Gulliford H.	2/7/37
2323389	Signalman Harris W.	4/7/37
2323231	Signalman MacTavish A.	5/7/37
2323589	Signalman Keighley F.	8/7/37
2321421	Signalman Knight A.	14/7/37
2323093	Signalman Bliss P.	16/7/37
4031837	Signalman White C.	16/7/37
2323147	Signalman Hall W.	16/7/37
2322350	Signalman Thomas W.	18/7/37
2322000	Signalman Allaway F.	20/7/37
2323000	Signalman Last C.	24/7/37
2319212	Signalman Hooper M.	26/7/37
2323657	Signalman Dowell F.	26/7/37

Discharges.

2308371	C.S.M. Farley J.	29/1/38	15
2309261	Sergeant Cowan N.	6/1/38	17
2307321	Sergeant O'Flannigan M.	11/1/38	32
1407601	*Sergeant Hodge C.	13/1/38	74
2306507	Sergeant Warren C.	21/1/38	17
1850383	L/Sergeant Cooper W.	8/1/38	38
2317364	L/Sergeant Wilkins W.	10/1/38	41
4335911	L/Sergeant Simpson S.	14/1/38	41
2317455	Corporal Webb H.	26/1/38	45

Transferred to Army Reserve.

2318224	Corporal Cleveland W.	1/1/38
2320615	L/Corporal Large A.	31/12/37
2320316	L/Corporal Barker E.	2/1/38
2320353	L/Corporal Frettingham A.	6/1/38
2320389	L/Corporal Horsman H.	22/1/38

* Special Roster.

OFFICERS

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Plain Tales

March Winds.—The astounding reception accorded my remarkable book, *Poverty and Pips*, emboldens me to pursue the subject. The book, of course, was banned; the film cut to pieces, and the broadcast forbidden; such revelations could never be tolerated. The Territorial Army must go forward. It is, in fact, going forward by leaps and, to use an original expression, bounds. We must not forget that already Adjutants and

R.S.M.s have been given a financial rise. Let no one annoy me by pointing out that these gentlemen are Regular soldiers. The next step is almost certain to be a careful consideration of the Quartermaster's unhappy lot. Or isn't it ? I wouldn't know, anyway.

Educational Dept.—One of the following statements is incorrect :

St. Leger is the patron saint of Army auditors.
The top of a wheel travels faster than the bottom.
The " List of Changes " shows the state of the laundry.
A Swinger is : (a) A C.Q.M.S. who has never served in India.
(h) A hanging insulator.
(ii) A bloke who can't take it.

Problem Corner.—Answer to next month's puzzle. No ! P.S.I.s wouldn't know how to do it in any case, and the alternating current will not run up and down a broken pipe. No one will give all the results correctly, but the second prize of two left-handed " Gloves, hedging " will be won by Uncle Alfred and Inspector Faceache.

Look out for last month's questions !

Ukann Larfe.—The celebrated detective dozed fitfully in his corner as the train thundered on through the night. Some sixth sense—or, maybe, it was only a fifth—told him that he was not alone in the compartment. He opened one eye slowly and shut it very quickly. No. It couldn't be. Quite impossible. He would try again. This time he opened both eyes, and his sleepy gaze encountered that of a singularly beautiful woman, who stood smiling at him with a sort of quiet satisfaction. Or perhaps she was just dumb.

" Eet is zat you 'ave not ze plaisir to see me isn't it ? " asked the glorious apparition with the tiniest suspicion of foreign accent.

Ukann Larfe could not make up his mind on that point and merely gulped, " Mademoiselle Colette ! "

" That is correct, mon ami. You 'ave not forget, eh ? "

The detective wriggled uneasily in his corner.

"All tickets, please ! " The official pushed his way into the compartment and glanced sharply at the two occupants. Not a sound was heard save the rhythmic click of the wheels passing over the rails, the screech of the whistle, a baby yelling in the next compartment, and a heated argument between seven drunken men in the corridor. Slowly the ticket inspector slid his hand into his pocket and just as slowly withdrew it, grasping a revolver. With a lightning movement he discarded a false nose, a beard and a wig.

" So we meet again, hem—I mean n'est ce pas ? "

Ukann Larfe's face turned the hue of ashes. He looked at Colette. Her face was the hue of ashes, too. He looked again at the new-comer, but his face only made him feel sick.

Do you think you could guess who it is ? Send no money. We trust you.

Tradition.—A clever play in one act. Scene : An ice rink in the Sind desert. Time : Wednesday, 1939.

Enter a tall, bronzed Major of the 55th Sandfly Lancers, dressed in tropical mufti, and fingering his old Porterhouse tie. He glances round, and, finding that he is alone, scoops a little pile of sand together. A quick look round to ensure that he is still alone, and he plants a little Union Jack in the top of the sand heap. He straightens his back, and steps back two paces into a ten-foot deep nullah.

" By gad, sir," he says, in a well-modulated voice, " this doesn't seem to be marked on my map."

Muffled footsteps are heard in the sand, and a cheery but provincial voice floats across the ice.

" Either your map is wrong, or you're not in that hole at all."

" How dare you call this a hole," roars the Major, " this is a nullah. Who are you, anyway ? "

" I'm a retired Birmingham Corporation gas inspector on holiday. Want a lift out ? "

" Hurrumph. Yes. Give me a hand, will you ? "

Once more safely on the surface, the Major gazes at his rescuer with his steady grey eyes. A well-bred smile passes over his face, to be followed at once by a well-bred sneer flitting across the finely-chiselled lips as he observes the gas inspector's badly cut clothes.

" You saved my life. Hurrumph ! Thanks. What's your name ? "

" Harvey Slitherditch."

" Not one of the Leicestershire Slitherditches, I take it," asked the Major with a superior smile.

" No. Acocks Green, but I have a sister at Aston."

" Never heard of it. Hallo ! Who's this ? "

A Lance Corporal arrives on the scene, dressed in breeches, puttees, spurs, bandolier and carrying a whip. He salutes smartly, and seats himself on the ice. The gas inspector views the new arrival with interest.

" I see you're in a Mounted Unit," he said.

" Yes," says the Lance Corporal, " you mean because I wear spurs ? "

" That's right. How many horses have you got ? "

" None. We're mechanised."

" Oh, I see. Just recently ? "

" No. Three years ago."

The gas inspector looked puzzled. " But why don't they —— "

" Hurrumph ! " interrupts the Major. " The old Cavalry Regiments and Mounted Units like to keep these things, you know."

The Lance Corporal burst into shrill laughter. " Yeah. We love 'em," he gasped.

The Major's face turns purple and he roared, "Attention, " All three turn smartly towards the little flag, and take one pace backwards into the hole—sorry, nullah.

A voice from the distant minaret calls the faithful, and a faint breeze ruffles the surface of the desert. A hidden orchestra plays Gishberg's famous " Mayonnaise " in three flats with exquisite feeling, and night falls with a soft squelch.

Where Angels Fear to Tread.—A painfully true story. February, 1938. The Crown Hotel, Birmingham. A little group in the corner of the lounge conversing with some animation and a fair amount of laughter. The occasion is a reunion dinner, and everyone is wearing ordinary day clothes. A certain newly-arrived P.S.I., who shall be nameless, until he blows a trumpet, recognises several T.A. friends in the party.

" What ho ! " he says heartily. "A —— crowd of ——," thereby conveying the impression that he doubted the veracity of each and everyone.

There was an awkward silence until the gentleman who had been speaking before the interruption came forward smiling.

" Good evening," he said. " Who are you ? "

" Oh, good evening," replied our hero. " I'm ——, a P.S.I."

" Well, shake hands. It is refreshing to hear a P.S.I. speak the truth. I'm Colonel —— ! "

Talking about blood rushing to the face, reminds me of old —— ; well, perhaps we'll leave it like that. Eh ?

BARLEUX.

Corps Golf.

The Royal Signals Annual Golf Meeting will be held at the Berkshire Club, Ascot, on 20th and 21st April, 1938.

First Day : Royal Signals Championship and Royal Signals Handicap.

Second Day : Royal Signals Bogey Singles and Royal Signals Bogey Foursomes.

All events, except the Championship, are open to serving and retired Royal Signals officers of the Regular and Territorial Armies and the Supplementary Reserve.

Post entries will be accepted, but it would be of great assistance if intending competitors would notify Major H. S. Lewis-Barclay, 4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury, stating whether they require caddies.

(Signed) H. S. LEWIS-BARCLAY, Major, Royal Signals,
Captain of Royal Signals Golf.

HOME STATIONS

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

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Headquarters, Signal Training Centre.

General.—By the time that these notes appear, we shall have said good-bye to Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E. We are all very sorry that his tenure of office has come to an end, and we know that the whole of Catterick Garrison will miss his active interest in its various activities. Similarly, the interest which Mrs. Heymann has devoted to social activities in the camp will be sadly missed. The Yorkshire climate apparently holds no terrors for them, for they have settled down within riding distance of the camp, and if we do not see the Brigadier with a horse between his knees on the camp roads now and again we shall be very disappointed. We take this opportunity of wishing them both a long happiness in their retirement.

We extend a welcome to Brigadier R. Chenevix-Trench, O.B.E., M.C., who is no stranger to the Signal Training Centre, and hope that he will find it a pleasure to be back with the Corps again after his sojourn at the War Office.

Births.—Our congratulations to Major and Mrs. R. C. Woodbridge on the birth of a son (Anthony Lloyd) on 30th January.

Social.—Our Annual Arts and Crafts Exhibition, which has been run under the able direction of Mrs. Heymann, was held on Wednesday, 2nd February. With so many newcomers to the Signal Training Centre, we were fortunate in again having Mrs. Heymann to supervise this year's arrangements. The inevitable jumble sale was the biggest financial success to date, due, undoubtedly, to the simultaneous vacation of Druggon House. The surplus funds carried forward may not excite enthusiasm now, but will certainly be appreciated next year.

The exhibition itself was very similar to that of last year in regard to the number of entries. There was a noticeable shortage of bulbs, due, no doubt, to the recent changes over in our personnel, and the early date of the show. We are still awaiting a questionnaire from the Minister of Health as to why the "Baby's Vest" section was a blank. Entries were up in some cases but in the rug-making section an easier tendency prevailed. A glance at the prize list will give our readers an idea of the popular sections. If they don't follow they're probably in the indoor sports section.

Mrs. Williams (wife of our G.O.C.) very kindly consented to present the prizes. An orchestra from the Regimental Band played selections during the afternoon.

Now that newcomers have learned the art, we ought to be able to steer this craft into busier waters next year. Fortunately for the Glasgow Exhibition, our dates won't clash.

Arts and Crafts Exhibition, Signal Training Centre.—

PRIZE WINNERS.

BULBS.—Best single, Mrs. Fletcher, T/Bn.; Best Collection, Mrs. Pearson, T/Bn.

KNITTING, LADY'S JUMPER.—1, Mrs. Cockings, S/Sigs.; 2, Mrs. Burgess, D/Bn.; 3, Mrs. Mason, T/Bn.; highly commended, Mrs. Holmes.

KNITTING, GENTLEMAN'S PULLOVER.—1, Mrs. Gourlay, D/Bn.; 2, Mrs. Crummey, D/Bn.

KNITTING, CHILD'S JUMPER.—1, Mrs. Burgess, D/Bn.; 2, Mrs. Cockings, S/Sigs.; 3, Mrs. Green, T/Bn.; highly commended, Mrs. Inglis, S/Sigs.

KNITTING, BABY'S JACKET.—1, Mrs. Spearpoint, D/Bn.; 2, Mrs. Cockings, S/Sigs.; 3, Mrs. Small, D/Bn.; highly commended, Mrs. Harvey, T/Bn.

KNITTING, STOCKINGS.—1, Mrs. Cockings, S/Sigs.; 2, Mrs. Green, T/Bn.; 3, Mrs. Crummey, D/Bn.

CROCHET.—1, Mrs. Hague, S/Sigs.

EMBROIDERY.—1, Mrs. Crummey, D/Bn.; 2, Mrs. Taylor, T/Bn.; 3, Mrs. Gavins, D/Bn.; 4, Mrs. Gavins, D/Bn.

RUG MAKING.—1, Mrs. Fletcher, T/Bn.; 2, Mrs. Cockings, S/Sigs.; highly commended, Corporal Ryan, T/Bn.

SOMETHING NEW FROM "SOMETHING OLD."—1, R.S.M. Mitchell, T/Bn.; 2, Mrs. Hague, S/Sigs.; 3, Mrs. Taylor, T/Bn.

CAKES, PLAIN.—1, Mrs. Green, T/Bn.; 2, Mrs. Lee, T/Bn.; 3, Mrs. Lee, T/Bn.; highly commended, Mrs. Holtby, S/Sigs.

CAKES, FRUIT.—1, Mrs. Green, T/Bn.; 2, Mrs. Waight, T/Bn.; highly commended, Mrs. Pearson, T/Bn.

CAKES, ICED.—1, Mrs. Pearson, T/Bn.; highly commended, Mrs. Green, T/Bn.

JAM.—1, Mrs. Pack, T/Bn.; 2, Mrs. Waight, T/Bn.; 3, Mrs. Green, T/Bn.; 4, Mrs. Holmes, T/Bn.

Still Social.—It will certainly interest many to know that the Saturday night dances in the Newbiggin Hall are still going full swing and attracting close on 300 people every Saturday. These dances have been run by Headquarters, Signal Training Centre, as far back as it is politic to remember, and anyone who has memories of the pre-politic period would be genuinely surprised at their high tone. A long and continuous process of ruthless weeding has attracted a clientele, which seldom furrows the managerial brow or upsets the too adjacent families. The Corps dance orchestra, complete with amplifying equipment and crooner are a treat to listen to. A trial is solicited. (Advert.).

Tailpiece.—"Q" Lines will be empty, hockey grounds will have sprouted into Sandhurst Blocks, and Headquarters, Signal Training Centre won't be a couple of wooden huts in another few . . . on second thoughts I won't commit myself. It's turned out nice again!

JESSAMINE.

School of Signals.

Can you imagine it, we have actually had a spell (not too long) of fine weather at Catterick. It appears, however, that the weather prophet has realised his mistake and is going to make up for it; the normal cold, bleak atmosphere is back again.

What is there about WIRE notes that makes everyone so eager to write them? As soon as it became know that the usual correspondent was feeling "off colour" (nothing to do with me, mark you!) there was a general scramble in the direction of the Unit Office to borrow the one and only typewriter. Or was there?

The Commandant, Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., said good-bye to the S.T.C. on 10th February, and was given a rousing send-off. His car, surrounded by torch bearers and preceded by the Corps Band, was drawn by Sergeants of the

S.T.C. The procession made a fine spectacle as it wended its way through the cheering throng.

Captain H. D. Mountford and Captain H. V. Ewbank have both left the Unit and we all wish them the best of everything in their new Stations. We welcome Lieutenant W. R. Smijth-Windham and Lieutenant T. E. Dobson to the School, and express the hope that their stay will be a happy one.

Welcome to R.S.M. Price, who has arrived to take over from R.S.M. Freemantle, at present enjoying (we hope) a holiday pending a long sea voyage. We also welcome Sergeant Tobin, East Surrey Regiment, and Driver Powers.

Sergeant Fraser has left us to rejoin his Battalion; they can't do without him.

S. O. S.

Sergeants' Mess.

Brigadier F. A. Heymann, together with the officers of the School of Signals, paid us the honour of a visit on Monday, 7th February, in order to say good-bye. Although we had arranged a Games Tournament for the event, the good-bye part was not at all to our liking. I am expressing the sentiments of all members when I say that we were exceedingly sorry to know that you are going to leave the S.T.C., sir!

The Games Tourney produced some weird and wonderful dart throwing, some suspiciously large "cameroon" scores and some surprising talent on the table tennis court. The totals indicated a win by a very small margin for the members of the Mess; a result which definitely points to an early second round.

The finals of the table tennis Mess championship, played before a keen and critical audience, ended with C.Q.M.S. Mitson F. as the Mess champion and Lance Sergeant McKowen a close runner-up. Congratulations to both of them. Brigadier Heymann kindly presented prizes to both the winner and runner-up.

In his farewell speech, the Commandant congratulated the instructors of the School on producing such good results, and also stressed the importance of "personal contact." The singing of "For he's a jolly good fellow," and the three hearty cheers for the Commandant, brought the proceedings to an end, and the Brigadier left the Mess for the last time in his capacity as Commandant, S.T.C. May we also stress that "personal contact," sir, with the hope that you may find an occasion in the future to re-visit us.

An invasion of the Mess took place on Wednesday, 9th February, when the "Knights of the Golden Horn" rode in from Darlington and took the Mess by storm. With dart and dice, cue and domino, they fought us from 8 p.m. until 10 p.m., when, damping their parched throats with McEwan and Youngers, they regaled us with song and story until it was time for "night-night" Knights.

We feel sure that these Knights have lots in common with the Knights of old. They throw a pretty dart; they wield a cunning cue; they sing a snappy song, and they can spin a spicy story. We hope that you enjoyed your short visit, gentlemen, as much as we did. Perhaps we shall have the honour of a further visit from you in the near future.

Donning the old blue suit again on 10th February, we assisted in the torchlight procession on the occasion of the departure of Brigadier Heymann from the S.T.C. Though our part was very small, we appreciated the splendid show put up, and congratulate the Training Battalion on their display of home-made torches.

The heartiest congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Hague F. C. and C.Q.M.S. Farmer F. on their recent promotion. (Caterer, please note.) Mentioning the Caterer reminds me that ex-Sergeant Dunn P., Royal Signals, of whom I wrote last month, instead of making a permanent home at Catterick Camp, has decided that Bonnie Scotland holds many more attractions. He therefore leaves us on Saturday, 19th February; the whole Mess are very sorry to see him go. We hope that you will keep touch with us, Peter, and also give us a look-in when you travel this way again. Our loss, to use that poor old overworked phrase, is definitely someone's gain.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion

General.—The weather up here is living up to its usual reputation; the gales have been terrific.

Pass Offs.—No. 82 Squad passed off under Lance Corporal Driscoll on 22nd January. This Squad passed off a week under the time allowed. Congratulations to all concerned, and specially to Signalman McNarmara N. on securing the C.O.'s Whip as well as the P.T. Medal. Good work, Mac.; keep it up!

No. 81 Squad passed off under Corporal Trout on 29th January. Congratulations to Signalman Addis H. on securing the C.O.'s Whip and the P.T. Medal. Double, aye? Keep it up, old lad! Congratulations are due to Signalman Hanson G. on scoring 103 out of 105 on the Open Range. Also to Signalmen Addis H. and Jackson H. on securing shooting medals.

Congratulations.—To Captain D. Van der Goot, Lance Sergeant Allen, Corporals Partridge, Butler and Jenkins, and Lance Corporal Green on attaining the ranks and appointments shown.

Things We Should Like to Know.—Is it true that Ted Broadribb was watching the Inter-Squad Boxing?

Which Squad is known among the P.T. Instructors as "Our Dumb Friends"?

Seen and Heard.—Orderly Corporal: "What do you want, lad?"

Recruit: "To report sick."

Orderly Corporal: "At this time of the day?"

Recruit: "Yes."

Orderly Corporal: "Yes, what?"

Recruit: "Yes, I want to report sick!"

Orderly Officer (entering a barrack-room after "Lights Out" and accompanied by a Sergeant): "My word, what a lovely moon, Sergeant!"

Sergeant, rather in alarm: "That is no moon, sir, it is the Room Orderly's Disc."

Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—To begin with, I must apologise to all readers for the absence of notes in last month's issue. Our only excuse is the aftermath of Christmas, the New Year festivities, and a rush of accumulated work.

It may seem rather late to mention Christmas, but in order to bring our story up-to-date, a sketchy idea of events which have happened since then is set forth for the information of all concerned.

Horses.—The much discussed "mechanisation" is now approaching the Depot, and with this in view a reduction in the horse establishment has taken place. On 23rd December, 1937, we disposed of twenty-four horses for destruction, and on 27th January a further twenty-five were disposed of under the "axe" of the local auctioneer. The bidding, I believe, was very keen, and resulted in prices higher than those expected.

Our present strength of horses now is thirty-seven, and even this figure is likely to be further reduced in the near future.

This reduction in the number of our horses has already caused a change in training routine. We have seen the last of the Recruit Lineman's Riding Instruction Courses; the last class passed-off on 23rd January.

Departures and Arrivals.—There have been many since the beginning of the year. The following have left us for another tour in sunny climes, and we wish them all the best: Sergeant Dilworth and Corporal O'Donnel, together with their families. Captain F. P. L. Gray has left us on posting to "D" Troop, Mobile Divisional Signals, Aldershot. In him we lose a very popular officer, to whom all ranks desire to express their very best wishes and regrets on his departure.

Lieutenant H. N. Crawford, of Display Team fame, has also gone from Catterick's wintry surroundings, bound for sunny Egypt. Mr. Crawford, as Officer i/c Display, put in a tremendous amount of hard and patient work in training the D.R.s in order to

produce the shows that all England now look forward to and enjoy so much; and we of the Depot, in particular, are very proud of him, and take this opportunity of wishing him a very pleasant tour abroad.

For the information of all concerned, the Display Team has now been taken over by Lieutenant H. L. B. Kealy, and, no doubt, under his guidance we can still look forward to the very high standard which was set by Mr. Crawford being maintained by our renowned Display Team.

Many have left us for the wide open spaces and opportunities (?) of civilian life, and to those concerned we wish the very best of luck. The arrivals are too numerous to mention, but we wish them a happy tour with the Depot.

Football.—Very little can be said regarding our activities in the world of football. Few matches have been played, owing to the "break" period in fixtures, and, of course, the Catterick weather being responsible for placing grounds "out of bounds." Matches played this year have produced better results than those played towards the close of last year, and we are now getting away from the bottom of the league.

Hockey.—There is only the semi-final of the Mackworth Trophy to report. We played "F" Company, Training Battalion, and have to admit defeat by 4—2. "F" Company are to be congratulated on their victory; although in arrears twice during the game, they fought back strongly to win. Lack of practice is our only excuse for this defeat.

Children's Christmas Tree Party.—It would be unfair not to mention the children and their Christmas Tree Party—an annual treat which takes place in Newbiggin Hall. This year it took place on 16th December, and, as usual, a great deal of hard work had to be done by the Committee, who are to be congratulated on producing a first-class show, which pleased the grown-ups as much as the children. The toys were very carefully selected, and the delighted appreciation shown in each child's face indicated how pleased they were with their gift.

Sergeants' Mess, Depot Battalion.

On 22nd December the Mess was tastefully decorated and all ready for the "big drum" to be set in motion in connection with the Christmas Draw. This proved a very successful show indeed, and in spite of the fact that some were lucky and others not so lucky, each and everyone voted it one of the best ever. After the completion of the Draw, the deck was cleared and dancing followed. The merry musical accompaniment was provided by representative players of the Corps Band. The fun and good feeling of the season was kept up till the small hours of the morning, and, like the Draw, everyone voted the Dance a huge success.

The Committee responsible for these amusements must not be forgotten. A word of praise is certainly due to them; their activities entailed a lot of hard work and time, and the complete satisfaction of all who were present indicated how much those efforts were appreciated.

Farewell to Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E.—On 5th February we held a Farewell Smoker and a Games Tournament to which officers were invited. The chief guest was none other than our popular Brigadier, Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., and the occasion was the eve of his departure on retirement.

The usual round of indoor games took place, pride of place being held by "Tip-it." Our "A" team fancied their chance, but the officers, under the team leadership of our C.O., Colonel M. F. M. Parkes, M.C., surprisingly won by a "short head."

In bidding Brigadier Heymann farewell, R.S.M. Robertson, on behalf of all members, made an excellent speech. Brigadier Heymann, in his reply, mentioned how appreciative he was of everything that had been said and done on this occasion. His remarks of advice were much appreciated.

The official farewell and send-off to Brigadier Heymann by all ranks of the S.T.C. took place on the evening of 10th February; it was a grand affair. The full details of this event will be found elsewhere in these notes.

Welcome.—Our new Brigadier, Brigadier R. Chenevix-Trench, O.B.E., M.C., has taken over, and in welcoming him may we also take the opportunity to congratulate him on his appointment. No doubt, in the near future, we shall have the opportunity of welcoming him to the Mess, when our return match with the officers takes place. We may probably then be able to reverse the result of the games which were played on the occasion of Brigadier Heymann's departure. "A" team ("Tip-it"), get into training!

"D" Company, Training Battalion.

General.—Our Officer Commanding (Major R. Sutton-Pratt) has left us for a short time in order to undergo a Course of Ski-ing in Czechoslavakia; we wish him success in those snowy wastes. If the weather is similar to that of Catterick, sir, you will not have to be acclimatised.

Our former O.C. (Captain C. F. Newson) has taken over command of the Company once more, and we hope that his stay with us will be a pleasant one.

Marriages.—There are no additions to the happy band of ration bag carriers and rusty bike racketeers, but judging by the intimate whispers and the proposed auction sale of "bunk" furniture, it won't be long for someone we know.

Discharges.—During the month we bade farewell to Corporal Johns, who left the Service after completing twenty-two years. Although he had only been with us for a short time on his return from India, he was very popular in the Junior Mess. We wish him the best of luck in "Civvy Street."

Births.—Congratulations to Lance Sergeant and Mrs. Field on having a son, Robert Leonard, to carry on the family name. And to Signalman and Mrs. Stillyards, a daughter, Margaret Ann, born at Darlington on 5th January. In last month's notes we were unable to publish the name of Signalman and Mrs. Aylett's son. Our star "scoop" reporter has since discovered that he was christened Leslie.

Promotions and Appointments.—Attention is directed to the little Blue Book once again. Congratulations to Corporal Bennington on dropping the "L" (not a red one), and also to Lance Corporal Gibson on having started to draw the pay for his appointment. Also to Signalmen Illingworth, Rotherham, and French, and Drivers (I.C.) Archer and Smith on securing a foothold on the first rung of the ladder.

Departures.—During the past few weeks, several Drivers (I.C.) have departed to Field Units. We wish them luck at their new Stations. We also extend our good wishes to Signalmen Howgill, Meldrum, Paget, Darlow and Waterworth on the occasion of their posting to Field Units.

Arrivals.—We have had quite a number of recruits from the Depot Battalion, both from the Dismounted Wing and the Mounted Wing. Corporal Dick J. has re-joined the Company from "F" Company; he has now been taken off the Indian draft (lucky man). He will continue his good work of instructing recruits in the rules and regulations of the Honourable Society of Blackcoaters.

Boxing.—The Novices' Boxing Competition is due to take place in the very near future, and Lance Corporal Strype is training our would-be Jimmy Braddocks and Tommy Farrs. Best of luck to our pugilistic comrades.

Draft.—Lance Sergeant Jackman leaves us for Malaya on 11 February. Our good wishes go with him.

ACK PIP BEER.

"E" Company, Training Battalion.

General.—Let us gallop gaily into battle waving sheets of paper nonchalantly in the air. We are about to write some WIRE notes. One would think that we had been sentenced to death. It is the toughest job possible to find or create news about Catterick.

It is with great sorrow in our hearts that we have to say cheerio to Lance Sergeant Davey R. The recruits want to know about "them there stripped equipments." And the "coal tub" is definitely going backwards. (About time we had buffers to stop them.) Otherwise, life moves quietly on. We have no earthquakes here; only the artificial ones.

C

Arrivals.—Sergeant Jeffers and Lance Sergeant Pink from overseas; Corporal Melmore from 2nd Divisional Signals; Corporal Hunt from overseas; Driver Atkings A. from 2nd Divisional Signals; Lance Sergeant Stevenson from "D" Company (for draft purposes).

Departures.—Sergeants Hart R., Lewis F. and Daw R. to "F" Company pending draft; Lance Sergeant Whitefield C. to 3rd Divisional Signals; Corporals Wilson F. and Melmore L. to "D" Company.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to the following on attaining the ranks shown: Lance Sergeants Whitefield C., Brunton-Douglas J. and Hunt J., U/Lance Corporals Craig J. and Smale N.

Marriages.—Corporal Pearson R. to Miss Jane Robson at St. Barnabas Church, Gillingham, Kent, on 25th December, 1937.

Discharges.—Signalmen White H., Lannen R., Sampson E., Booth A., Pritchard E. and Todd D.

B.B.C.—It appears that a certain recruit under training is aspiring for the post of B.B.C. announcer. The deduction is easily reached after the following conversation with the instructor:

Q. "What is an ammeter?"

A. "A man who is not a professional, Sergeant."

"F" Company, Training Battalion.

General.—Until a few days ago, we have had one long gale—most depressing sort of weather. Last week-end, for a change, there were signs of Spring weather and even the birds were singing. We can do with a lot more of this.

The Recruit Boys are making steady progress under Sergeant Pack and Corporal Hoar. Corporal Hoar has recently returned from Aldershot, where he obtained a First in P.T.

Our former Company Commander (Major H. P. Hart, M.C.) now on the way to India on H.T. *Neuralia*. We hope that he will have a pleasant voyage and a safe landing.

Departures.—The following have departed to the Units stated: Signalmen Boyes and Brown to the Tank Brigade Signals; Signalmen Cleave and Malone to "D" Troop, Mobile Divisional Signals; Signalman Heath to "A" Corps Signals, Aldershot; Signalman Phillips to "E" Troop, Mobile Divisional Signals. We hope that they have settled down at their new Stations.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to Lance Corporal Green from "B" Corps Signals, India.

Drafts.—Last month we intimated that a large draft was being prepared for embarkation for India on 8th March. We now have to report that their embarkation has been postponed.

Sport.—We are entering a team in the North-Eastern Counties Cross-country Run on Saturday, 12th February, and are hoping to win this event for the third successive year.

At hockey, we defeated the Dismounted Wing, after a very close game, by 3—2. We meet Mounted Wing on 10th February.

Our teams in the Boys' Garrison Football League are doing very well, and our No. 1 Section team is still in the Army Cup. They play the Boys of the Royal Engineers, Chatham, in the fifth round of the Army Cup on Saturday, 19th February. The winners go into the semi-final. We are hoping it will be us.

Small Bore Shooting.—Hurray! At last we have won a match. During the past month we have beaten Dismounted Wing with a result within 13 points of "D" Company. We now average well over 92 as against 87 last season. We are backing ourselves to win at least one more match before the season ends. No one here can remember "F" having won a match before. Can any of our old members or readers?

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess Training Battalion.

Arrivals.—The welcome hand is extended to C.Q.M.S. Ratcliffe, Sergeant Jeffers and Lance Sergeant Hunt. May their stay be a happy one.

Departures.—Lance Sergeant Davey to Egypt. Lance Sergeant Jackman embarks on 12th February for Malaya. *Bon voyage*. Lance Sergeant Pilkington (R.A.P.C.) left us for Blackdown on 9th February.

Marriages.—Nil. Watch next month's notes!

Births.—Congratulations to Lance Sergeant and Mrs. Field on the arrival of a son, Ronald Leonard.

Promotions.—Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Ratcliffe and Lance Sergeant Hunt on their "uplift," and also to C.S.M. Nicolson N., Lance Sergeants Brunton-Douglas J. A. and Whitefield C. A., Corporals Robertson A. T. and Ryan J.J. on their promotion and appointments.

Mess Personalities.—Last month's photograph: Sergeant Waight T., Battalion Orderly-Room Sergeant.

[Owing to pressure on space, this month's personality photograph has had to be held over.—ED.]

Darts.—More congratulations! This time to Sergeant Brewer on winning the "Knock-out" by beating R.S.M. Sherman B. T. in the final. Hard luck, sir!

Photograph.—On Saturday, 29th January, the members of the Mess gathered at the Officers' Mess for a photograph, in company with Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E.; Lieutenant-Colonel R. T. O. Cary (C.O.); Major E. H. Du Cros (C.I.); the Adjutant; Company Commanders and the Quartermaster of the Training Battalion. This photograph will be published in a later isssue. The Catterick weather, as usual, lived up to its name—there was a snowstorm with a 70 m.p.h. gale blowing at the time.

Social.—On Friday, 4th February, we held a farewell function, which took the form of a Games Tournament against the officers of the Training Battalion. The guest of the evening was Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E. The usual hard tussle ensued, and after a re-count, the result was announced as a draw. The tit-bit of the games was the "Cork Scramble"; quite a number of scrums were formed, and scars are still in evidence.

The Brigadier played billiards and "propel-halfpenny," which he won. In partnership with Lieutenant-Colonel R. T. O. Cary he also won at darts and "cameroon"—a fact which must have gone a long way towards the draw.

Cessation of hostilities was then called, and refreshments—which included "hot-dogs"—were handed round.

After this welcome interlude, a presentation of an autographed photograph of the officers and Mess members was made to our distinguished guest. In a speech thanking everyone for an enjoyable evening and also for the photograph, he touched on some of the events during his tour at Catterick as Commandant, thanking the Instructors, Corps Band and everyone for their past support.

The evening closed after a few private challenges had taken place. A really wonderful evening which had been enjoyed by all.

ASH.

The Departure of the Brigadier.—On 10th February, another page in the history of the Corps was turned when Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., handed over the command of the Signal Training Centre to Brigadier R. Chenevix Trench, O.B.E., M.C.

During the last fortnight of Brigadier F. A. Heymann's service he attended a number of farewell functions, but it is doubtful whether any moved him so deeply as the farewell "send off" accorded to him by the other ranks of the Signal Training Centre when he left the Royal Signals Officers' Mess for the last time as a serving officer.

It had become known to certain warrant officers of the Signal Training Centre that Brigadier F. A. Heymann would be in the Officers' Mess during the evening of 10th February in order

Reproduced by courtesy of the "Northern Echo"

Reading from left to right : Mrs. Heymann, Miss Heymann, Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., Colonel R. A. C. Henderson, M.C., Brigadier R. Chenevix Trench, O.B.E., M.C., Lieutenant-Colonel R. T. O. Cary, M.B.E.

to bid good-bye to the officers of the S.T.C. and his many friends in the Garrison, and that he proposed to leave the Mess Building at approximately 8 p.m. on that date.

Arrangements were then made to pass him out to civilian life in a way which was perhaps the only one in which all other ranks could take part. The route from the Officers' Mess through the School of Signals' lines to the main Richmond-Scotton Road was lined with Royal Signals personnel. As he left the Mess he was greeted with a final fanfare by the trumpeters of "F" Company. His car was drawn up outside the Officers' Mess with an escort of members of the W.O.s and Sergeants' Messes of the Signal Training Centre. The Corps Band was in attendance.

On each side of the escort there were a number of torch bearers. When the press photographer had taken a couple of exposures of the Brigadier, Mrs. Heymann and Miss Heymann and other senior officers of the S.T.C. on the steps of the Officers' Mess, Brigadier Heymann then entered his car and began his journey which to a good many of us is described as "to the great unknown." His car, which was towed through the lines of cheering members of the Corps, and the procession, headed by the Royal Signals Band playing "Wings," made a very picturesque spectacle. When the main road was approached the Band played the Corps March. Personnel who lined the route fell in behind the procession.

Then came the time for parting, and whilst the tow ropes were being removed from the car, the troops surrounded it, and heartily sang "For he's a jolly good fellow," followed by calls for a speech. Brigadier Heymann left his car and spoke. It was apparent that he was deeply moved by the spontaneous efforts of all ranks to give him a memorable "send off."

The Band played "Auld Lang Syne," and with cheer after cheer, we bade our late Brigadier good-bye and best wishes for his future.

Reproduced by courtesy of the "Northern Echo"

Part of the Escort and Torch Bearers provided by members of the W.O.s and Sergeants' Messes, Signal Training Centre.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

"A" Corps Signals.

Headquarters.

Command.—Lieutenant-Colonel M. V. Smelt assumed command of the Unit *vice* Lieutenant-Colonel R. Elsdale, who is now a member of the R.E. and Signal Board. All ranks of "A" Corps Signals join in wishing the former and new Commanding Officers a happy time in their new appointments.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Lance Corporals Pyne and Schofield on attaining their new ranks.

Departures.—They are so numerous this trooping season that I will have to apologise to my ex-comrades in the Near and Far East, including our pioneers at Home stations for the omission of their names in this column. We wish them all a hearty tour and the best of luck at their new Stations.

Courses.—The following have all been allotted a Course at Ministry of Labour Centres before taking the bold step into civilian life: Lance Sergeant Relf, Lance Corporals Snaith, Greaves, Hoyle and Turner, Signalmen Pitt, Hazaltine, Slater and Dalton. Good luck to you all. Do take care that the cookhouse doesn't burn this time, Busty!

Points to Note.—Does anybody know the best remedy for failing hair? Ask the Quartermaster's Staff for a bottle of their patent "Paraffin Oil"; it has never failed.

Which N.C.O. now has prunes for breakfast? Is this another of our Quartermaster's Staff health cures?

BEWDLEY.

No. 1 Company.

It must be months and months since any news was printed in this Journal concerning the activities of this Company. Several have tried, but they have either fallen by the wayside or else have left us for sunnier and warmer climes.

At the moment, the annual furlough season has almost come to a close, and we are settling down once again to individual training and musketry. How these winds do blow early in the morning!

We hope that those who are struggling and studying so hard for the extra pice will come through successfully, and may they all qualify again as first class shots as was the case last year.

We welcome to the fold Sergeant Baxter, Lance Sergeant Hayden, Corporals Hodge and Dallimore, and others too numerous to mention in these columns, and hope that their stay will at least be a happy one.

Two of our Company stalwarts left us on 12th February, having embarked in the *Somersetshire* for Malaya: Lance Corporal Keeling, the best forward Cockram ever discovered, and Signalman Barron, the erstwhile weight-lifter and cross-country runner.

Congratulations to Signalman Westeby, who was Mentioned in Despatches whilst on the Khaisori Operations in 1936.

Things We Should Like to Know.—What is a Kent International?

Where is Lance Corporal Brookes W., who left this Company on 1st December, 1937, for Catterick? Nothing further has ever been heard of him, although the scouts were out in Loughborough during the Christmas leave. We are still members of the Ladies' Dart Club, Wilf.!

We welcome Captain C. G. Moore to the Company. May your stay be a long and happy one, sir.

F.E.C. and Experimental Trials have kept us busy for the past three or four months. Detachments have been sent to Longmoor, Ash, Stony Castle and Henley Ranges, and we have a party at work on the canal bank.

H. G. R.

No. 2 Company.

Owing to repeated complaints that the activities of No. 2 Company, "A" Corps Signals, never appear in print, an effort will now be made to rectify the matter.

I am unable at the moment to publish Part II Order casualties which appeared during November, December and January, and so, to all those who have departed during this period, we wish the best of luck at their new Stations.

We also offer a hearty welcome to those who have joined us.

May we also take this opportunity of congratulating all those who have been promoted.

More anon.

GRIPPER.

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

The end of the month of February should see the return of the last batch of our furlough men. With this slight increase in numbers, things "art noan so bad," as the Lancashire lad would say.

We were honoured on Tuesday, 15th February, with a visit from the gentlemen of the Press. The weather was just "arctic." Each Unit had an exhibit. The 1st Divisional Signals arranged a demonstration with two No. 1 R/T Sets—one in an 8-cwt. truck, and the other a ground set. Lieutenant D. R. Yearsley was in charge of this part of the demonstration. The visitors were given a brief outline of the sets. The station then opened and exchanged messages in morse and radio telephony; reception was relayed through loud-speakers. Considering the number of cameras present, and the photographs taken, the Press must have been well impressed. Never in its history has Mons Barracks been visited by so many photographers as on this occasion. By the time these notes appear in print, as a result of this demonstration, the Corps should be more widely known.

1st Division H.Q.—Lieutenant-General C. C. Armitage, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Commander of the 1st Division, handed over the command of the 1st Division to Major-General The Honourable H. R. L. G. Alexander, C.S.I., D.S.O., M.C., on 14th January.

General Armitage commanded the 1st Division during the recent Operations in Palestine. In consequence, many of 1st Divisional Signals had been in close personal touch with their Commander. The Commanding Officer, officers and other ranks join in wishing every success to Lieutenant-General C. C. Armitage in his new appointment in India. We also welcome the privilege of serving our new Commander, Major-General The Honourable H. R. L. G. Alexander.

Officers.—Lieutenant R. G. Miller, Royal Signals, joined us from the half pay list on 23rd February. Lieutenant D. R. Yearsley, Royal Signals, will, unfortunately, be leaving us for service in India on 24th March. He will be sadly missed by everyone, especially by the cross-country team.

N.C.O.s.—Here are the names of our Lance Corporals: Lance Corporals Lawes, Pescod, Jarvis, Gorman, Wilcocks, Husband, Knox D., White E., Clarke V., McClarron R., Thomas R., Gulliford (pay clerk), Boot A., Parker G., Spare, Peacock, Dewdney, Copinger, Napier (Paddy), Hill, Royall, Salter, and our latest recruit—Heward W.

Struck Off the Strength.—We have to say good-bye to three pre-war Regulars (ex-boys): C.Q.M.S. Dempsey, Sergeants Warren and Lowrie. Does it ever occur to many of us, I wonder, that there is still a small band of pre-war Regulars—officers and other ranks—still to be found in our ranks! Less than three years ago a statement was made in the Press putting the figure of those still serving as less than 1,500. The year will certainly see this band dwindle to a very much smaller number. One has only to look at the *Royal Signals Quarterly Gazette* to see how few pre-war officers still remain on the active list of the Corps.

We wish C.Q.M.S. Dempsey (now a store and book-keeper at the R.E. and Signal Stores Branch, Woolwich), Sergeant Warren (now a clerk with the Garrison Engineers at Porton, Wiltshire) and Sergeant Lowrie (who is at the Government Training Centre, Waddon) every success.

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No. 1 Company.

The newspaper headlines informing us that Valentines are back in favour has certainly been confirmed in this Unit. Local stationers' shops have been swamped with orders, and the Unit draughtsman is working overtime completing orders for our northern community.

Random Ramblings.—Early this month, one of our better-known motorists inaugurated the hiking season. On one Saturday morning—like young Lochinvar of old, his engine roaring, and full of elan—he dashed off on his mission. On Monday morning we saw our hero at reveille looming on the sky-line, footsore and weary, hopeless, sleepless and "carless." Thirty miles in eight hours! Not bad for an "ex-Hillman." Are you "dis-maid," Hubby?

We tender our congratulations to Corporal Dollimore on obtaining his present rank and a job in the R.Q.M.S.'s. To Lance Corporals Napier, Hill, Royall, Salter and Heward on helping to swell the Mess funds.

To the following on helping to push up the Army estimates by passing the trade tests shown: Lance Corporal Hill and Signalman Wright C. to Lineman, C.I; Lance Corporal Royall, Signalmen Eden, Heath, Ford, Treloar and Knight to Lineman, C.II; Corporal (Jimmy) Emblen and Signalman Williams to Lineman, C.III; Drivers Reeves, Jones, and Philmore, and Signalman Garrett to Lineman, Group "E"; Signalmen Howgill and Meldrum to Instrument Mechanic, A.III; Signalman Beck to Carpenter and Joiner, B.II.

To C.Q.M.S. Greenall on his award of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal with gratuity.

To Signalmen Kelly and Smith W. on being awarded their Second Class Certificate of Education.

The hand of welcome is extended to Sergeant Lowrie, Signalmen Crouch, Simpson, Talbot, Taylor R., Walsh, Dempsey and Mobberley from India; Lance Corporal Powell, Signalmen Carruthers, Edwards, Howell, Richards, Thompson and Woodhead from Palestine; Signalmen Howgill, Meldrum and Booth from the Training Battalion; Sergeant Spencer from 4th Divisional Signals. Most of them are at present on leave. The duty roster will indeed be a more cheerful sight when they return to duty. One of the things we are trying to find out is whether time really dragged in Palestine. It does not seem so long since they left us—or rather since we left them.

The following new "old comrades" are invited to Signals' Week this year: C.Q.M.S. Dempsey, who has gone to Woolwich ("Q" work must be fascinating, because he has taken up similar duties there); C.Q.M.S. Greenall; Corporal Verney, the ex-"Q" expert; Lance Corporal George Taylor, who has obtained employment with the G.P.O., Guildford; Sergeant "Hank" Warren, who left us to take up employment in the Salisbury District; Signalman Wilson, who, after a successful Course of Salesmanship, left us to carry on the good work; Signalman Nichols; Signalman Manning, who purchased his discharge and is now working with the R.A.O.C. at Hilsea; Signalman Tuttle, to the Army Reserve.

Our best wishes for the future go with them all.

By this time, Egypt Signals will have welcomed Signalmen Brown, Cox, Coxhill, Friend, Hart, Howard, Johnson, Lloyd, Searle, Smith and Stokes. The high spot of the draft was the "waiting man"—Signalman Neal--who was riding hard on them. Good luck to them all!

Sergeant "Bob" Chalmers just could not stay away from the Unit. He spent two weeks at the Vocational Centre, learning how to be a civilian; then, lo and behold, we saw him gracing No. 3 Company Stores again. He is soldiering on merrily.

Engagements and Re-engagements.—Believing that "Civvy Street" has many pitfalls for the unwary, Corporal Kent has signed on for his "pontoon." India next year, Kay! Signalman Sutherland also signed the dotted line for twenty-one years. It must be catching. Signalman Moase, much to the delight of the hockey committee, signed on to complete twelve years.

Will *The Times* please note the following: Heartiest congratulations to Lieutenant G. G. L. Hinde on his engagement to Miss Jean Cowen of Seale.

To Lance Corporal Spare D.; with the aid of Miss M. Killick, of Brighton, he will soon overcome his unfortunate initial. Good luck, Dermot!

To Lance Corporal Husband—the walking motorist—on obtaining in Miss Dorothy Galloway, of Ware, a companion for some of his forced marches.

Corporal Humby has been using a lot of petrol on the Manchester Road, and the outcome is that Miss Win Hall has promised to walk up the aisle with him in June.

Our champion wood spoiler—Corporal Pettit—has been busy making a bottom drawer in his spare time. He won't talk, but has lots to say about church parades.

The President of the Bachelors' Club views all this with the gravest concern. We must fight, Gilbert!

Before proceeding further, we have one S.O.S. It is for "Elliott" of Catterick, and reads: "Are you still dishing out buttons. A. E."

Births.—A daughter for Driver and Mrs. Melhuish. I understand that the baby is to be called Miss Patricia Melhuish. Congratulations!

Concert Party.—I should like to mention the Royal Signals Concert Party, which gave its first performance on Monday, 14th February. The party, which is comprised entirely of local talent, ran a show for two hours; it was voted a great success. The show was produced and directed by Sergeant Andrews, compered by Sergeant "Carrol" Pattendon; C.S.M. Shilton acted as call boy. The talent competition during the interval was worthy of "In Town To-night" at its best. The artists were: Mrs. Coulter, the manageress of the N.A.A.F.I.; Signalman Barry and Miss Hacker, from the Cove Club; Mr. Panton, N.A.A.F.I. manager; C.S.M. Newman, A.E.C.; Sergeant Cox; Sergeant Wiggins; Sergeant Bartlett and Lance Corporal White; Lance Corporals Green and Brackenbury and Signalman Curry; Corporal Mulcahy.

The band, which performed splendidly during the community singing, comprised the following: Corporal Thompson (leader), Sergeant Bartlett, Lance Corporal White, Signalmen Barry and Brooks. At the moment, our musicians are held up for the want of melody instruments. If a sax. is forthcoming, we have been promised a trumpet and a provisional bass pig. So come on, you "saxists"! Applications for auditions should be forwarded to Sergeant Andrews or Corporal Thompson.

TOMMIE.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters.

General.—Firstly, it is our duty to apologise for our absence of notes in the last edition. Owing to pressure of work, and half the staff on furlough, notes were very few.

There is an old saying, "Men may come, and men may go." We are apt to report that the latter part of that saying is being fulfilled, but the men in the former part of it have not turned up yet. Drafts have reduced our strength. Signalman Roberts, after a few months at Aldershot, decided that the warmer climate of Egypt was better, and therefore sailed on 28th January. If it was the weather at Aldershot that he disliked, then he did the right thing, because a blizzard has been raging in this corner of the world for the past few days. At the moment, it does not appear to be subsiding.

An enjoyable evening was spent in the N.A.A.F.I. last Monday, 14th February, when a concert was given by some of the home talent. A certain Austin 7 was pointedly described, but the joke was a little late as the owner had sold the car. A certain A.E.C. instructor must have felt his ears burn, although he was not in the vicinity of the Concert Hall.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the fold Sergeant Hammond, who decided that the "airs and graces" of a Field Unit would brace him up after a tour in the T.A. We wish him the best of luck at his new Station, and hope that his stay will be a long one. Lance Corporal Morris has been posted to Unit Headquarters, and has taken up his clerical duties.

Departures.—Signalman Reed, who has been with this Unit for the past few years, has gone to the Army Reserve. We must put up an advertisement, "Wanted a Ringer." Let's hope that he realises his wishes in "Civvy Street."

Births.—Congratulations to Lance Corporal and Mrs. Morris on the birth of a daughter, Doreen Sheila.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Perhaps it would be as well to apologise for the absence of notes in last month's issue of the WIRE. Our usual scribe and scandalmonger could not stand these cold and wintry months, and so betook himself—per H.T. *Neuralia*—to the sunny climes of Egypt. We wish him luck, but also wish that he had let us into the uncanny secret of collecting "items of useful information."

Arrivals and Departures.—We welcome to our happy fold Sergeant Rawson, Lance Corporals Hobbs and Vickers, and Signalmen Marvin and Dempsey. We hope that their stay with us will be a happy one. Arrivals are few. Mr. Records still seems to think that we are overladen with personnel, and in consequence we have suffered heavily. Amongst those who have left us is Sergeant Percy—the popular Sergeant of "B" Cable Section. At the moment he is undergoing a Course at the Post Office. Corporal Foreman has left us for civilian life, and many more have left us for India and Egypt. What is the attraction that these foreign Stations possess?

Promotions and Appointments.—Heartiest congratulations are extended to the following on attaining the rank and appoint-

ments shown: Lance Sergeant Mulcahy, Corporal Jamieson, Lance Corporal Tietjen, U/Lance Corporals Huggett, Wilson, and Morris. What about the new issue of the "Blue Book" now?

Births.—To Corporal and Mrs. Wright, a boy. To Lance Corporal and Mrs. Morris, a girl, Doreen Sheila. Congratulations to both families.

Marriages.—The ration queue (that long, long trail), has not increased in numbers, so we assume that there have been no marriages during the month as far as this Company is concerned.

Command.—We are very sorry to record the departure of our O.C., Lieutenant (now Captain) W. G. Tucker, who has left us to take up an appointment at the Royal Military Academy. Every happiness to you and Mrs. Tucker, sir, in your new sphere.

With the departure of Captain Tucker, the command of this Company has been assumed by Lieutenant M. G. Ridley-Martin, but it seems that we are soon to be deprived of him, too.

Other News.—The second period of individual training is in full swing now; the dreams of those undergoing training seem to be confined to the realms of higher trade ratings.

Aldershot Signals gave a demonstration of "Modern Signal Equipment" to press representatives. According to the wireless broadcast report the same evening, it was a great success.

All Inter-Unit and Inter-Company Cups and Trophies are now the objects of strenuous competition. It seems to be the usual thing to see scores and scores of fellows out for a run in the morning; sorry, that last bit was just a dream of mine, but dreams sometimes do come true!

No. 2 Company.

General.—The second period individual training is now nearing its end, and many of us are once again studying for the forthcoming Trade Board. Congratulations to the following on qualifying for higher trade ratings at the last Trade Board: Driver Westwell to Lineman C.II; Drivers Hunter and Ward to Linemen C.III; Drivers Taylor and Lewis to Linemen Group "E."

Our strength, which is still very low, has been further reduced by the transfer of No. 6 A.S.S. to "A" Corps Signals.

The Company was visited by Press representatives on 15th February, and various demonstrations were given.

Promotions.—We congratulate Sergeant Patheyjohns on attaining the rank of C.Q.M.S.

Arrivals.—We welcome Corporal Cuthbertson, Lance Corporals Carrison, and Buttery, Signalmen Head, Bergman, and Johnson from Palestine, and hope that their stay here will be pleasant.

Departures.—Driver Powers to School of Signals; Signalman Hunns to civilian life; No. 6 A.S.S. to "A" Corps Signals. We wish them all the best of luck.

Things We Should Like to Know.—What is a "Mechanical Jumper"? (Ask the B.B.C.).

Jews' Mail.—Lance Corporal Mosley, Bulford. "What about a line?" Maxxie.

Sport.—The Company is still in vigorous training for the Inter-Company Cross-country Run, which takes place on 21st February.

The Inter-Company Football League has started. No. 2 Company defeated No. 3 Company by 2 goals to 1. The match was played in a veritable gale, and it speaks well for the fitness of the players that there were no casualties. By the time that these few notes appear in print, the League will be finished. I hope to be able to give you the final positions shewing the Company at the top.

DARKY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—It will be of interest to old Companyites to know that this year No. 3 Company will only have two Inf. Bde. Sections, owing to the fact that the Company's strength is to be the enormous total of fifty-one. In spite of this, everyone is optimistic about carrying on during the coming training season, and producing their best as in the past.

By the time that these notes appear in print, we shall have said farewell to another old hand of the Corps. This time it is C.Q.M.S. Radford S., who is leaving the Army with 25 years' service to his credit. If rumour is true, he will soon be busy gazing at his flock of hens laying the golden eggs.

Our Company Commander, Major C. L. Boyd, is enjoying a spot of leave, but he manages to turn in for a game of hockey. Captain C. A. H. Chadwick is officiating as commander of the Company and acting as Adjutant of the Unit at the same time.

The Company now have a C.S.M., who is busy wearing out his forefingers to the bone on the office typewriter. The typewriter has given in. The second round commences on its return from the workshops.

Congratulations to Sergeant Lewis on being awarded the L.S.G.C. Medal.

Promotion.—Not the "Blue Book" this time, but the Gazette. Congratulations are extended to Lieutenant P. G. Curry, on his promotion.

Departures.—They are too numerous to mention individually. Good luck and good Stations to all of them.

Arrivals.—We extend a welcome to the following, and trust that they will soon settle down and find a niche in the Borough of Shot: Corporals Christian, and Greenman, Signalmen Brown, Cox, and Carr, and the two Davies's.

S.E.W.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess, Mons Barracks, Aldershot.

The Mess is now certainly a venue for all members in quest of sociability. Here is a short resume of the activities of the Mess during the past month.

On 12th January, a whist drive was held in the Mess, followed by the usual "attack" of tombola. On this occasion we were full to capacity.

We tried a new departure on Saturday, 15th January, in the nature of an Indoor Games Tournament; the general idea was a competition between the ladies and gentlemen. I am sorry to relate that the ladies beat us by the very narrow margin of two points.

A dance and social followed. David and Goliath again gave us plenty to laugh about. The Krazy Gang, in their "Auction of the Puppy" (Sergeants Pattenden, Nokes and Millen), were in great form. The "goat" was poor old Watterton. He didn't seem to mind. Billie Panton, our Canteen Manager, entertained us with some really good humorous sketches. All this was interspersed with the dancing; we concluded with the usual community singing.

Mons Barracks Dance Band is coming along very well, thank you. Andy complains a good deal at his inability to raise what he is pleased to call a "melody instrument." All he wants is a saxophone or something similar, and then he will be happy.

On 26th January we had another whist drive, and what was hoped to have been a really long dance afterwards. The usual tombola was arranged while the committee got the dance room cleared. When the dancing was due to commence, it was found almost impossible to get our friends away from chasing the elusive numbers. The Dance was voted a great success.

On Saturday, 29th January, we were honoured by a visit of some forty members and their wives from 3rd Divisional Signals, on the occasion of the match between that Unit and the R.A.M.C., Aldershot, in the fourth round of the Army Cup. We will not say much of the game here, as it will have been described in detail elsewhere. Suffice to say, "Bad luck, Third Div., and better luck next time."

Again our Entertainments Committee stepped nobly into the gap, and produced—at extremely short notice—an excellent Social and Dance. Sergeant Dowie (3rd Divisional Signals) gave some really excellent imitations of things like the Sergeant-Major's cat; the Spark Station; the Fitters' Delight; etc. Believe me, they were quite B.B.C.-ish.

Our senior R.S.M.—R.S.M. Spindler—in a few well-chosen words, welcomed the Third Divites. R.S.M. Herbert replied in his characteristic manner. We hope to visit the Third Div. on their own ground shortly; but more of that, perhaps, in the next issue of the WIRE.

The last show produced by the committee before going to press, and I really think the best to date, was given in the Mess on Saturday, 5th February. Commencing at about 9 p.m., we had an hour's dancing to our own Dance Band. This was followed by Sergeant Jones F., who sang "Friend of Mine," and later, gave a really forceful rendering of "The Shooting of Dan McGrew." Mrs. Colter, in real Irish style, sang "Mountains of Mourne" and "Danny Boy." The Krazy Gang really did go crazy. Billie Panton excelled even his excellent self. Lance Sergeant Sugg and his monkey provided quite an original number. Considering this was done with his hands, it was very clever indeed. And last, but not least, Sergeant Cox with his inimitable "Widow Twanky."

A most enjoyable evening, and, tired as Third Divites were, I am told that they were reluctant to leave us. What a reunion of long-lost friends! What a day!

The best of luck to Sergeant Jones F. on his posting to 55th Divisional Signals, T.A.

GOLIATH.

No. 4 Squadron, Mobile Divisional Signals.

Perham Down.

Introduction.—The Unit apologises to all readers for the absence of notes during the past few months. Although rather late, we hope this year will be a prosperous one for all our readers. It is also hoped that we shall be able to subscribe regular monthly news in future.

The Unit has changed very much since our last notes appeared. Old faces going or gone, and new faces appear in their place. There are only one or two old cronies left, and from what I hear, they won't be here long.

Individual training is going strong, and quite a few people are better off with sixpence or a bob a day more. At present talk centres about drafts, as we cater for the Tank Battalions, and the 1st (Light) Battalion has been warned for service in Egypt.

Have you noticed the change in name. Hear Milly say, "When I was in the A.F.V."

Reception Committee.—Have decided that our new arrivals were too numerous to mention. I've noticed that two were here before—"Tich" Healy, and "Young Bristoe." The committee extends the usual palm to all of them, and hopes that their stay will be pleasant.

Departures.—Plenty of these, too. They include Sergeants Hamilton and Cook, Lance Corporal Altoft, Signalmen Waterton, Mitchinson, Roberts J., and Hare, not forgetting our esteemed friend, Lance Corporal Ashford R. C. Signalman Richardson W. R.—(Slug) to all and sundry—has left us for "Civvy Street." Best of luck "Richy." Signalman Taggart B. left us on premature discharge. We wish him all the luck, too. We hope all of them find their new places equally as nice as the one they have left.

Congratulations.—To the following on attaining the dizzy heights of Lance Corporal: Farnsworth A., Mallins R. J., Morris J. N., Murray D. (Monk), and Pitt D. Of these, Lance Corporals Farnsworth and Morris have lost the "U." Lance Corporal Pitt D. has left us for a Vocational Course. All the best "Archie" from the lads in No. 3!

Laments.—"*Salaams* from Corporal Thornton to One Div., 'Pindi."

"Will Mr. Farley please communicate with (Musket) Sam of this Unit when he arrives in England from Malay?"

"Will Norbury and friend Bracegirdle of Jamaica write to their respective halves—Massa Paul Cullen and Logier? Stamps 1½d. each!"

ALI MUSKET.

"F" Troop, Mobile Divisional Signals.

Tidworth.

General.—Much water has flowed under the bridge since the last contribution from this Unit appeared in print. It is, however, desirable that our readers should know that, although our ranks are sadly depleted, we are still in existence.

Excluding those members of ours who prefer to winter abroad, various changes have taken place. "Conrad" is in complete charge of the stores, "Smash and Grab" will shortly reign in charge of the M.T., and, last but not least, "Mr. Wu"—assisted by divers persons—has undertaken the re-organisation of the Troop office.

Our Local Social Circle.—A certain Old Andoverian, at present on long vacation in Shanghai, will be deeply grieved to hear that the "Fine Romance, No. 1" is a thing of the past. In view of this, the presentation of the mangle—scheduled to take place at the Odeon—has been cancelled. This will be a great disappointment to Maxie, who was to have made the presentation. "Romance No. 2" is still functioning, although at the moment is seems to be oscillating between "Hangover" and Aberdeen.

Individual Training.—This event has now entered upon its second phase. Whilst the remnants of the Troop struggle with valve curves, slopes, etc., our O.C.—at present on leave in Switzerland—is also struggling with slopes, etc., but of a different nature. We hope his are more negotiable than ours.

The Regimental Signallers' Class appear to have inaugurated a brighter "E and M" movement, as witness the following astounding statements: The faults of a dynamo include: (1) Dirty commentator caused by the carbine of the brushes, (2) Alternative current, (3) Sauce of supply of power.

Odds and Ends.—We wonder if the prospect of wrestling with Works Tickets, "3519's," etc., has proved too much for a certain Lance Corporal, who recently dived headfirst through a shop window in broad daylight, or was he just replenishing his civilian wardrobe?

Matrimonial Agency.—Following upon our local successes in this respect, we beg to announce that our new Liverpool branch is receiving great support.

Arrivals and Departures.—The usual welcome is extended to the following: Corporal Bishop J. and family from India; Signalman Wakefield G. from Catterick. (Shades of Tiffy Walsh.)

Departures from the Troop are too numerous to mention individually, and therefore the remainder of the Troop (both of them) join in wishing all those who have left us the best of luck.

Monthly Grippers' Shield.—As the post of "Chief Gripper" was left vacant by the timely departure of Texas Dan to India, an eliminating contest was held in camera, and the result is as follows: 1st, Signalman Andrews; runner-up, Lance Corporal Fleckney. The following unsuccessful candidates will undergo a course of intensive training: Signalmen Wakefield G. and Runcie F. (the Maths. expert). The Shield, therefore, has been forcibly presented to Andy.

Agony.—Gripper Yardley, 'Pindi. "Did you get that job on the boat?"

Chippy McHyphon, Palestine. "How about an account of your latest exploit?"

Wendy Cardew, Risalpur. "Are you *still* fond of horses?"

F. C. L.

1st Anti-Aircraft Group Signals, Blackdown.

12th January.

General.—Although I should place many matters under different headings again I have to resort to this one to cover a multitude of events. I hope many of our readers read the short note inserted by "E.F.M." in the January number.

Moves are common in Blackdown, but it is not since No. 1 Cable Section left Blackdown for service with "Base Defences, Mediterranean," that such a move has taken place. After all the preliminary work, packing of stores, making up the Section to full strength and many other tedious jobs, Sergeant Betts

and his merry men are ready to move off. They leave us on 28th January for service in Egypt as an A.A. Area Signal Section, and we wish them all the best of good luck and *bon voyage*. Don't forget some WIRE notes!

The other departures include Sergeant Brook (Jerry) and family to India, and Corporal O'Malley and five signalmen to India on 8th January.

I hope sometime to be able to say—"No more moves from Blackdown." But that will be some time yet.

Technical.—Trade training has now been commenced, and we sincerely hope that by the end of March many of our members will be in proud possession of a C.I, C.II or C.III rating.

M.T. instruction is also being carried out at the moment, and about half a dozen learners are being put through their paces by Lance Corporal Buxton.

I must mention, too, the arrival of the mechanical cable-layer at Blackdown. When we have learnt more about it, more will be said about the subject in these notes.

Congratulations.—To Corporal O'Malley, who tied the knot at Blackdown on 3rd January. The bride was Miss M. Whittall of Tiverton, Devon. Well, Bernard, all the best of luck to you and Mrs. O'Malley.

Arrivals.—Signalman Munden from India; Signalmen Hutchison and Taylor E. from Hong Kong; Signalmen Harvey and Pritchford from India; Signalman Mitcheson from Egypt. There have also been numerous arrivals from Catterick, and I hope that they will not mind the omission of their names.

Captain H. O. Pargeter, Royal Signals, has also joined the Unit from India. We hope that his new home with us will be a pleasant one, and that he will enjoy Blackdown and its surroundings.

Games and Sport.—As most of the Unit have been away on furlough this last month, we have nothing to report. We hope to be able to give a satisfactory account of ourselves in the next issue.

A. V. I.

14th February.

General.—May we first of all apologise for the non-appearance of notes in the January issue. I am sorry that ex-Blackdownites were disappointed, but it was an error of judgment. We shall try and retrieve our good name in the future.

Since our last report, Sergeant Betts and his Section have left us, under the command of Lieutenant Crawford, for Egypt. We understand that the destination is Sidi Bishr. Many Blackdownites will recall this district whilst with the Base Defences. We all hope that they will remember us sometimes, even if it is only a line in the WIRE; we shall be thinking of them.

All the best to No. 1 Section from No. 2; we hope that you have managed that cable-layer.

Technical.—This is still in progress, and we have a few who aspire to a C.I rating. Well, the very best of luck! The mechanical cable-layer, No. 1, is also taking up a lot of our time during the training period; one almost imagines that the Section training period has already commenced, considering the number of days we spend with it. Regarding other training, well, there are the N.F.R. and Group "E" men, but we hope that there will not be any of these left at the end of next month.

As for the M.T. side of the picture, there are some who are drivers and some who are not. Further instruction is necessary in some cases, and one often recalls such people as "Crasher" Bland and "Jock" Alexander during their first days behind the wheel. But such folk usually turn out to be the best drivers, and we hope for the best. Lance Corporal Buxton will be back from his annual furlough soon, and then for some more drivers—we hope.

Education.—This is still under the supervision of Lance Sergeant Atkinson, who, with the aid of Lance Corporal McCauley is still trying to get a few through. The Unit Technical Hut bulges at the sides sometimes, and Lance Sergeant Atkinson has fewer hairs, but it is all in the name of a good cause.

Movement Control.—Cheerio to the following: Lance Corporal Tyler, Signalmen "Swede" Bennett, Cullen, Frank and Comrie to Egypt. Signalman Sanderson to Singapore. All the very best at your new Stations.

The undermentioned are under orders for India: Lance Sergeant Atkinson, Signalmen Panther and Hughes. The following are under orders for Egypt: Driver (I.C.) Williams R., Signalmen Wintle and Dickens.

Welcome to Signalman Tinkler from Catterick. "Tink" knows something about Blackdown, having spent a few years here before. Sergeant Brown and family have arrived from India. He also seems to know quite a number of faces at Blackdown. Lieutenant E. W. Townsend, who joined us from Catterick, has taken over No. 2 Area Signal Section. Welcome, sir! We hope your stay will be a pleasant one.

Jews' Mail.—To Waziristan District Signals. "Late request item noted. Many thanks. What's your address, Nick? *salaams* to all. 'INT'—Mighty Tough in the West."

Also to Sergeant Hodgson as above. "Yours received. Vic."

To Signalman "Badgy" Buckett. "All the best from Signalman Davies. Just off to India."

Games and Sports.—Nothing to report. But we have plenty of dark horses at football, hockey and shooting.

A. V. I.

[Owing to pressure on space, a cartoon, drawn by Signalman Sanderson (now departed to Singapore) has been unavoidably held over to a later issue.—ED.]

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—Having taken up a great deal of space in our general notes last month, we find there is not much to talk about this time; this is, perhaps, a good thing. As one General so aptly put it, "Let us have more men and less paper." Now "paper" in the Army is a most instructive subject, and there is much to say about it, but as time and space are both limited, we invite our old friend "Barleux" to give a short dissertation on the subject in one of his future contributions to the WIRE.

We are in the midst of our second period of individual training, the half-way mark has just been reached. Last month a mechanical cable-layer was taken up to London in a truck and demonstrated to a gathering of distinguished officers at Chelsea Barracks. It was, unfortunately, a very cold day, and the truck—a 15-cwt. model, which is constructed in accordance with the best Army principles, that is to say, at the least expense, possessed only two miniature windscreens, which were about the size of those used by racing motorists. The N.C.O. and driver were a picture of health by the time they reached London. So much for our work, although of course we do do other things.

As regards football, the account of the Army Cup match may be read elsewhere in these columns. We should, however, like to thank the Signals at Aldershot for their kindness in entertaining our team to lunch and tea, and also for arranging tea for our supporters from Bulford. We are most grateful. They also gave us good support at the match. In spite of this, however, we did not win, and there is no doubt we were beaten by a better team.

One of Buchan's cold spells is here again, and with it the famous north-east wind, so well-known to past and present members of the Unit. This is one of the occasions when those abroad can laugh at us. However, we must not grumble as it has been very mild indeed lately.

Agony.—With reference to "E" Company, Training Battalion's "Agony" last month. Write to me and get first hand information about the "Wampas Charbi" Club.

Arrivals.—Signalman Deeley, Drivers (I.C.) Elvins, Fish, and Gilbey, from the Training Battalion; Signalman Roberts, from the Depot Battalion; Sergeants Watt, and Rees, Lance Corporals Burfield, and Newton, Signalmen Hardwick, Sims, Sherard, Temple, Temple, and Waite, from Palestine.

Departures.—Lance Corporal Hall and Signalman Green to "A" Corps Signals, Aldershot; Lance Sergeant Cooper to 1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot; Corporals Pape, and Hartard, Signalmen Bowden, Carpenter, Goff, Jew, Metcalf, Ross, Rogers, Valinder, Weaver, Wilkins, Wale, and Wright, to Egypt Signals.

Marriages.—The heartiest of congratulations to the following recently married couples: Signalman Sutherland to Florence Kay, at Middlesbrough; Signalman Roberts to Catherine Hannah Davies, at Surrey; Signalman Gooch to Olivia Florence Louisa West, at Salisbury.

Births.—Congratulations to all the following: To Signalman and Mrs. Radley, a son; to Corporal and Mrs. Gelding, a son; to Corporal and Mrs. Morton, a son.

ERGIE.

Sergeants' Mess.

I see that we shall have to be very careful not to miss our WIRE notes with such critics as "Barleux" keeping an ever-watchful optic open, and ready to pounce upon us for our omissions. However, it is nice to know that there are people outside the Unit taking an interest in our activities.

On 20th January we held our annual Children's Christmas Party. Although late in the year, it was the most opportune time when most of the families had returned from leave. It was a large gathering, and everybody thoroughly enjoyed themselves; without exception each child received the gift that had been asked for.

The children were first entertained at the pictures, which actually suited all ages and tastes. There was a silly symphony and a real blood-curdling cowboy picture. Next came the tea—an excellent spread—which was followed by games. My word, wasn't the chute popular, especially with grown-ups, who made whoopee while the young 'uns were putting paid to the buns, jellies and other niceties.

Father Christmas was given a wonderfully warm reception. What a pleasure it is to see the kiddies with their wide open eyes full of amazement and delight. Their happiness alone more than repaid R.Q.M.S. Adcock, Lance Sergeant Lay and their staff for the work they did in order to make everything such a success.

Later, the children gave vent to the fullest extent of their lungs when asked to give Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Prescot three hearty cheers. The Colonel and his lady had made themselves responsible that everything had been done to assure the success of the party.

Arrivals.—We welcome the arrival of Sergeants Watt, Prior and Rees and Lance Sergeant Manning from abroad; two of them have served with this Unit before. We also welcome Lance Sergeant Teal, and at the same time congratulate him upon his appointment.

Billiards.—Our prophecy about the Billiards and Snooker Cups have come true. We will tell you more about that later.

Visit to Aldershot.—Saturday, 29th January, was indeed a red-letter day for 3rd Divisional Signals. Buses were hired, and as many of the Unit as possible were carried off to Aldershot to see our team play the R.A.M.C., Aldershot, in the fourth round of the Army Soccer Cup. Alas, it was not our turn for the final this year. We lost the toss, and had to face a gale blowing straight down the pitch. Four goals were registered against us in the first half. In the second half, the wind dropped considerably, but we still failed to score. Many of us hold the opinion that had we won the toss, the result may have been reversed.

After the match, the Unit *en bloc* were entertained to tea by Aldershot Signals. Members of the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess and friends were entertained to lunch, tea and a social and dance in the evening by W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess, Aldershot.

Midnight came too soon, and we all embussed and returned to Bulford after a most enjoyable day. Thanks very much Aldershot Signals for a first-class show. We only regret that it cannot be repeated again this year. However, "Here's to the next time."

ERGIE.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

No. 2 Company.

10th February.

General.—Judging by the shining eyes, rosy cheeks and cherubic expressions on many faces (especially our "Pip") we are inclined to the opinion that the annual furlough was thoroughly appreciated by all. But there is no doubt that one and all are glad to be back. No longer does one awake to the doleful shout of "Roll on," but rather to the beautiful tune of that lovely song, "I'm glad I joined." Ever heard it? Copies can be had on application.

It may be that the short M.T. Course, now in progress, has something to do with it. Nearly everybody who cannot drive is receiving tuition under the watchful eyes of our beloved Paddy.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following from the Stations shown, and hope that their stay will be a long and happy one. C.S.M. Minion, Corporals Milligan and Burrell, Lance Corporal Holbertson, Signalmen Campbell, Kelsey, Syrett and Stubbs from Palestine; Sergeant Jessop from the London T.A.; Sergeant Tudor from India; Corporal Blanchard and Signalman Stoner from China; and Driver (I.C.) Cunningham from Catterick.

Departures.—We wish the following *bon voyage* and a happy landing: Corporal (Dutchy) Holland, Signalmen Teal, McCooke, Benjamin, Kenneford and McLeod, and Driver Bell (Dinger), who left us for Egypt Signals on 28th January. The best of luck to Sergeant Walker and Signalman "Sunny" Watson, who have left us for "Civvy Street." Also to Sergeant Handford, who proceeded on leave pending discharge, and also to Lance Corporal Hodgson now on a "Voc." at Slough. No longer does the Mess resound to the shout of "Bees," Jock!

Congratulations.—Hearty congratulations to the following on attaining the ranks and appointments shown: Corporal Cotton, Lance Corporal Holbertson, and U/Lance Corporal McKend. Remember the old "Batony." Also to Signalman Galer, who took unto himself a wife whilst on leave. Good old "Tidler"!

Agony.—"Don't forget to write, Dutchy. A.B."

A.R.B.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Time rolls on apace, and here we are in a brand New Year. At this point I can do no better than to commence this month's notes by wishing all and sundry, near and far, a very happy and prosperous New Year.

It is rather difficult to produce notes of any interest this month, because 99½ per cent.—this is an approximate percentage worked out with the aid of a slide rule—of the Company, nay of the Unit, were on leave during the month of December and half of January. Judging by the length of time it took many of them to shake down to the half-hour of P.T. first thing on the Monday morning immediately following the leave period, it can be safely assumed that the corner seats in the local pubs of many districts will now be looking forlorn and empty.

Casting our mind back to the period before leave, that is before 16th December, 1937, there was quite a good amount of excitement in the way of entertainment. On the 13th, the Unit had their annual kiddies' treat. We catered for over fifty children, a remarkable number for such a small Unit. The N.A.A.F.I. provided an excellent tea, a statement which was borne out by the barren tables afterwards.

After tea we were treated to a little seasonable music, in which all the children joined—all those under eighty participated. This vocal effort filled in the interval during which the room was prepared for a cinema show.

Then came the great moment—the arrival of Father Christmas by aeroplane (?). The toys were presented by Mrs. Parsons, the wife of our Commanding Officer, assisted by Father Christmas.

At night, we danced until 1.30 a.m., and so we came to the end of a perfect day—a forerunner of many that fell to our lot during the Christmas festivities.

Mention must be made of the extremely well-acted play, " The Sport of Kings," by Ian Hay. This play was performed by the officers and their wives. Considering the size of the stage, and the difficulties encountered during its preparation, the performers are to be congratulated, and it is hoped that more of these performances are to come in the near future.

We must now skip thirty-one days—it is advisable—which brings us to the middle of January, 1938. The interrupted training has re-commenced. Instead of Upgrading Classes, we are now actively engaged in teaching almost everybody in the Unit how not to knock down Belisha beacons when driving vehicles on charge to the Unit.

Training.—Between 9 and 11.30 a.m., our very existence depends on an ability to sprint across the parade ground and dodging motor transport of all shapes and sizes that are careering around at five (?) miles per hour. Life is one big hustle ! The ultimate object of all this is to make every individual associated with M.T. during the collective training able to drive, irrespective of his other duties. The remainder of the morning is spent in improving our knowledge of operating, Signal Office organisation and the formations which comprise a Division.

Postings.—Arrivals and departures have been numerous during these two months, and too much space would be required in order to include every name. We will therefore conclude these notes by extending a hearty welcome to all arrivals, and a hearty *bon voyage* to those who have left us for warmer climes.

JAYGEE.

"K" Section.

Hi, people ! Did you read " J " Section's notes on how—as they appropriately put it—they managed to win the " Six-a-side Football Cup " ? Gather round, folks, whilst we explain.

That Cup was a dead certainty for us. Why, our Section Sergeant had a photograph of it tattooed upon his chest—he felt sure enough about it. Think, too, of the labour that must have been spent in removing the undergrowth from that manly bosom, and the waste of so much good weed-killer.

Now to that fateful afternoon, when much honour was won for " K," although the Cup was lost. How " J " Section triumphed over the Mighty " K " ? They still cannot believe that they beat us, and when the facts are examined from all angles, one can hardly blame them.

Our team took the field just like fighting men take to a sword ; truly a sight for any girl's sore eyes and fluttering heart. One could hear the murmurs of admiration from the onlookers as our players moved the ball around with such natural grace and confidence. Indeed, the place had already been chosen and dusted for the Cup.

But what's this ? Yes, it is " J " Section trooping on to the field. The girls don't bother to look at them. No heartflutters this time.

The whistle peeps, and the teams line up. We are without the services of Lance Corporal Froud—our star performer ; he was away playing hockey for the Corps. But " K " is a man short ! It was a hard game, during which the fighting spirit of " K " overcame that one-man deficiency. But " Six-a-side " is a hard game, and " J " Section—fighting in sheer desperation—scored a goal during the last few minutes, and the score stood : " K " Section, 13 points ; " J " Section, 15 points.

" K " fought back like five fighting dogs, and almost put that Cup where it should have been had our sixth man been playing.

We congratulate " J " Section on bringing off the almost impossible, and hope that " Smiling Daisy " keeps the trophy well polished, because we shall be coming for it soon. Perhaps " Daisy " Sugar, and our friends in " J " Section, will take the opportunity to have a good look at it, and kiss it good-bye.

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I cannot promise to answer all your letters of sympathy and good wishes, but I do realise just how you all feel for us, and, on behalf of " K " Section, I thank you all.

We have lost some of the Section owing to drafting overseas. Soon we shall lose Markendale, a really good all-rounder, whom we will miss in our different games. A chap with a disposition in a thousand, and a real regular fellow. Good luck to you !

Sitting down to tea the other evening, I found myself sitting opposite to that ladies' man, Edmund Wild. What a man ! We were good pals together in Sergeant Boon's Section out in Egypt ; indeed, I permitted him to sleep in my tent. Glancing at his homely features, I wonder how he does it. (I bet he does, too.) We used to go out into the desert during the afternoons for training—and that boy was fit. Glancing out of one eye again at that homely face (not risking both this time), I wonder if it would not have been better to have left him there. We boys always help one another out of our difficulties, but the position is rather difficult. It appears that Edmund has so many girls on his list, that he would have had all the Section married by now ; excepting ourselves, of course.

Well, fellows, that's all ! Don't forget to take your socks off before you get into bed.

LIONEL EDWARD.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

A sad note is struck on writing the notes this month, for a deadly blow has been dealt to the 5th Divisional Signals. The Unit is to move from its present salubrious neighbourhood to the barren wastes of Catterick. That worn out phrase about officialdom moving slowly has received a severe jolt this time ; the War Office has moved much too quickly for us. A great deal of satisfaction may be derived from the fact that many of us may expect drafting orders before the prospect of a winter in Catterick descends upon us.

A series of farewell dances are being held ; the Sergeants' and Corporals' Messes have had theirs. The All Ranks' dance is the next on the list.

Another diversion from the normal occurred on 12th February, when a destroyer—H.M.S. *Walrus*—was almost washed up on to our sports field during one of the famous north-east gales. Fortunately, no lives were lost. The sight of Burniston Barracks being invaded by the Royal Navy was certainly something out of the ordinary.

This month, we bid good-bye to two of our officers who saw us through the troublesome Palestine period. Lieutenant A. Hill has been posted to Mobile Divisional Signals ; and Lieutenant R. G. Miller to 1st Divisional Signals—prior to proceeding to Cambridge University. We wish them both every success in their new Units.

Congratulations to Major L. V. Younie, Royal Signals, on his promotion to that rank. We wish him and Mrs. Younie *bon voyage* on their posting to the Indian Establishment.

Sergeant Blower attended a Course at the Anti-Gas Wing, Small Arms School; Farrier Staff-Sergeant Pummell is now undergoing a similar Course. Lance Corporal Robertson has just returned from a Fire-Fighting Course at Aldershot.

Congratulations to the following on their appointment to U/Lance Corporal: Hurley, Hepworth, Whitaker, Elliott and Clavering. It is to be hoped that the "pice" will not be long in forthcoming.

Our only arrivals are Lance Corporal Harrod from Peshawar; Corporal Gosnold from the Depot Battalion; and Signalman Jenkinson from 2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

A deep depression is centred over Buruiston Barracks. Our further outlook is unsettled. The care-free laughter of this happy band has gone; instead, one hears loud groans and pitiful cries of "We are going to Catterick next month; leaving this bachelors' paradise for that cold, unromantic place." Yes, the powers-that-be have decided that Scarborough is no place for poor, defenceless, single men.

5th Divisional Signals, Catterick Camp, doesn't sound right, somehow; does it? We have a great reputation to maintain, and it is going to be very difficult to get into our stride at Catterick. The surroundings are bound to cramp our style. Instead of "silvery moon and golden sands" we shall have to be content with "moonlight and wide open spaces." What a break!

Departures.—We said good-bye to the following, who departed for the Land of the Pharaohs' on 28th January: Lance Sergeant Davenport, Signalmen Harwood, Baker, Jeffs J. R. and Caveney, Drivers (L.C.) "Yank" Newton, Cray, Atkinson, "oor ane Donald Duncan Malcolm Auchnacloich McIver." and, last but not least, the inimitable "Nellie Wallace." We wish them the very best at their new Station; Scarborough isn't the same without them.

Signalman Holmes left us for the Training Battalion; they will find him a valuable asset to their hockey team.

Marriages.—None, so far, but we have every reason to believe that there are a few dark horses about. Judging by the Late Pass Roll, they can't put it off very much longer.

Congratulations.—To our O.C., Major L. V. Younie, Royal Signals, on attaining that rank.

To Lance Corporals Brown P, Bailey, Robertson and Rankin on being paid for their little "dog's leg." To U/Lance Corporals Hepworth, (Busty) Hurley, Whittaker and Clavering on reaching those dizzy heights.

Arrivals.—C.Q.M.S. Atkinson from China; Corporal Gosnold from the Mounted Wing; and Lance Corporal Harrod from India. We welcome them to the fold, and hope that they will enjoy themselves in the short time available before our move to Catterick Camp.

Special.—"Don't tell anybody, but Signalman McTernan is still on leave. Did '68' get him this?" Scot's Corner.

To Tomo, Bill Roger from Ticky. "What about a line?"

McMANMOUNTAIN

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

12th February.

General.—Things have been very quiet this month. Everyone seems to be recovering from the effects of a hectic Christmas week, especially in regard to the financial aspect. Jews' Courses are in full swing because a few are still looking forward to furlough, and those who have had their furlough intend to get new suits, etc. The older hands are discussing "Vocs." and jobs, and making sure that they do not go out short of cash. We all have some reason or other for keeping quiet.

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Humour does peep out occasionally. This gem came from the Company Office.

C.S.M.: "Are you willing to sign on to complete your eighteen years with the Colours?"

Signalman "Wompo": "Yes, if it doesn't interfere with my annual furlough?"

"Wompo" then followed up the conversation by accusing Signalman "Gertcha" of standing in his light for promotion!

One Saturday afternoon, "Tommo" was peacefully sleeping. Outside the Company were playing football. The captain of the team woke him up and said, "Tommo, wake up. You're playing football."

"Tommo": "When?"

Captain: "Next Wednesday."

Tommo was pleased!

Before leaving this paragraph, may I inform all those interested that we have received a football pool coupon addressed to "R. Signals, Esq." Anybody know him?

Arrivals.—The C.O., Major E. MacD. Burns, resumed command of the Company on 20th January, when he returned from a month's furlough. He must have enjoyed it very much for he came back looking quite fit and pleased with the world in general. Welcome back, sir!

On the 14th we welcomed Signalman Watson from the 4th Divisional Signals. Being an ex-boy, he found quite a few old friends here, and soon settled down. Welcome, laddie!

Departures.—Signalmen Hardwick, Waterfield and Richardson left us for Dunree, Lenan and Armagh respectively on the 17th. We hope that they like their new Stations.

Departures (Pending).—Lance Corporal Houghton and Signalman Barry received quite a surprise when they heard that passages had been reserved for them on the liner leaving for Egypt on or about 30th April. As Busty was provisionally warned for service in Hong Kong, he was only surprised at the change of destination; Barry thought he was all set for another summer at Dunmore. I expect to have further revelations in this paragraph next month.

Tough.—Corporal Wood, as part of his preparations for India, signed on the dotted line again, and now calls himself a pontoon wallah. That's a round-about way of saying that he has signed on to complete twenty-one years with the Colours.

Cumshaw.—To Bill Maddison, Singapore. "Algy is waiting for your address."

To Ted Bennet. "Congratulations. Hope to keep on following you up. Mac."

SPUD-CAN.

LONDONDERRY DETACHMENT.

8th February.

Very little has happened during the last two months to warrant notes of any great length.

We were favoured with a few visits from personnel at Headquarters, namely, the I.P.C., Sergeant Worsley, Lance Corporal Pilkington and Signalman Hobson. Signalman Biggs arrived on 12th January as a relief for operators who were on furlough. He now appears to be acclimatised. We are now eighty per cent. ex-India men, and expressions such as "*Rooty*" and "*Piala*" no longer present a mystery to the humble uninitiated.

We had a few weeks of gales, storms and hail; in fact, a grand variety of weather, during which two cats that were unofficially attached to the station were wafted away. They were recently discovered in the neighbourhood of the band. There have been any amount of orphans of the storm, but they never stayed longer than twenty-four hours.

The last theory paper arrived. We saw the two operators under training wrinkling their brows.

We have even tried a spot of recruiting, but our "hope" unfortunately failed to pass the educational test. Several caustic comments were made. We deem it wiser not to quote them.

A few days ago we picked up an R/T message at great strength, and after a debate, in which Wigan Pier and a fishing trawler were mentioned, it transpired that a small trawler was stuck in Lough Foyle about 150 yards from our aerial. No wonder we were able to receive them.

There is nothing more in our log book or correspondence of importance, so will close till next issue.

Hec Me.

FORT DUNREE DETACHMENT.

8th February.

I am writing these notes in the vague hope that the stormy weather may subside long enough for us to get them through to H.Q. Those of you who have been to Lough Swilly will require no explanation of the above remark. To the more fortunate readers, all I need say is that the Philippine typhoons have nothing on us. I thought it most unsporting when the Sergeants' Mess roof went for six.

The cold weather, however, has its bright spots. (Real Irish that bit). It helps to keep cool those of our members who are hoping to reach the top grade of the educational classes, and also keeps indoors those wonderful people who are clamouring for more pay, and are going all out in an effort to get it. The air is chock full of ohms and things.

Talking about ohms or homes. Our ginger-headed friend is making great progress in that direction. The "feet-under-the-table" stage was passed some time ago. Watch this column for startling developments. I hear that the whole staff of our Foreign Office is agog with excitement.

Due to a series of protests regarding customs duties, etc., we were visited a few days ago by representatives of the W.O., who came to enquire into the cost of living. As a result, Dunree-ites of the future may expect a better time than that we have had to put up with.

"Yours truly" arranged a few hockey matches in 'Derry, and the hockey fever is now getting a strangle-hold on the Fort. We have assembled quite a useful team, and hope to report a few victories in the near future.

Senior Wranglers.—To Dutchy (Shan.). "How cool are the coolies, or are they? Jock and Ginger waiting for news."

Aspenlief.

Ballykinler Detachment.

8th February.

The usual wind and rain prevailed when the Minister for War paid the Camp a visit on 14th January. It would seem that some of the complaints passed on to Mr. Hore Belisha have not gone unheeded, because the A.G.3 and Q.M.G. from the War Office also paid us a visit on 3rd February in order to discuss several matters with the O.C. Troops of importance to officers and other ranks at Ballykinler. I believe that cheaper fares for personnel proceeding on leave (10s. maximum), and better transport facilities to and from the Camp, are some of the things under examination. Let's hope that a hit is registered.

The weather during the last month was so bad, that Percy the gull had to forsake the mast-head. More than one have been heard to say that the object of giving us ballast in the form of dumplings for dinner was to keep us down on *terra firma*. The Section's idea of ballast is notes and silver.

We send our best wishes for the Company's success when they play the Northamptonshire Regiment for the N.I.D. Football Cup.

Sand 'Ills.

South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.

Headquarters.

Spike Island.
14th February.

"Spike" having booked his berth, arranged to sail for the land of eternal sunshine on 8th March. I now find that I have been left holding the baby in regard to the duties connected with this Journal.

Well, I was brought up in the right school; the first job I had at Maresfield was picking horses' hooves; the next was sanitary squad inspector; and the last was emptying the garbage bins. Does all this qualify me for my present task?

Our congratulations are tendered to Captain R. C. B. Stuart, our former O.C., who is now taking his embarkation leave. We wish you had been here, sir, when you received that third pip. To Lance Corporal Morgan D. G. on being placed on the Corps Roster; another one who left before the news came through. To Signalman and Mrs. Ansell E. G. (O.K. Geo.) on the birth of a fine son and heir, who was born at Bere Island on 2nd February.

I hear that Sergeant Pronger is going as far as Karachi with Captain Stuart. I wonder if Mr. Records will send them to Peshawar together; if he does, I give my best to Peshdist, for a finer combination of leaders and friends to junior ranks cannot be found. We will miss them both at "Spike."

The numerous friends of Corporal "Tiffy" Richardson will be glad to hear that he is once again back on light duty after spending the last nine months in and out of hospitals. He reports that he is beginning to feel confident once again. "Tiffy" should have gone to India this season, but owing to his unfortunate injury was unable to make the boat. Well, India's loss is our gain.

Old Spike Islanders will be interested to hear how Steve Hirt is progressing. We saw him a few weeks ago, and he told us that he had been promoted Corporal in the R.A.P.C. on 1st January, and is stationed at Woolwich Pay Office. He would like to hear from any of his old Corps friends who may care to write to him at Woolwich.

What did I see in the *Daily Express* about Tim Healey? Something about being at Bere for three years, and being the happiest man on the Island. I think that a *Daily Express* reporter has had his leg pulled a bit. Tim, how long *have* you been at Bere? You were there when I arrived, and that was long before Granny died!

E15M is at present in the pangs of re-incarnation. The man from Arran has dissected it, and is hoping that if his maths. are correct, the Gillan Special will take the air within a few weeks. Q.S.O.s are his hobby, if I can judge him rightly.

As the trooping season is now over—as far as Spike Island is concerned, I hope—a roll of the members of the Unit may prove of interest. At Spike Island: O.C. Section, Lieutenant R. Webb; Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Tilford C. I.; Corporal Richardson C.; Lance Corporals Boldison J. and Thomas L. J.; U/Lance Corporal Horder C. S.; Signalmen Anderson W., Arkell D., Gillan W., Hughes S., James W., Miller T., O'Sullivan D., Parkinson J., Short G. R., Smith M. D. and Walker W. J.

At Bere Island: Lance Corporal Morgan D. G.; Signalmen Ansell E. G., Healey T., Jones W., Walker H. and Yarnell R. J.

Corporal Woolnough W. is at present at Oxford on a G.P.O. Course; Corporal Brown R. J. is at Hounslow on a "Voc."; and Signalman MacDonald A. is at Waddon on a similar Course.

I am afraid that my first attempt is not too good. "Spike" left too high a standard for me to follow. I apologise.

Tommeau.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Army Signal School (1), Poona.

14th January.

General.—Since the submission of our last notes we have received and despatched another Course, and are now busy with the first Course of 1938. By the time these notes appear, the new Course will be almost completed. We hope that all the students will obtain that coveted slip of parchment duly inscribed with either a " D " or " Q1." Of course, there are other slips that the " old hands " used to prattle about in the dim past, but they do not enter into the scheme of things here, or at least we hope not. Occasionally one thinks it might, when one hears such things as " Carry off the left foot to the position of the letter E," etc. Houdini missed a good escapologist there.

Not having submitted any notes in December, 1937, we take the opportunity to wish all members of the Corps, past and present, a happy and prosperous New Year, even though they missed the promotion roll in January.

We had a very nice, enjoyable Christmas, on the whole. In fact, I never knew I was so popular until the Unit sweepers, bhistis, etc., paraded outside my bungalow on Christmas morning singing " Christians, awake ! " in the vernacular, and every verse ended with " *Kismis sarb, backsheesh sarb.*" Eventually, with the aid of the dog, I moved them farther afield to torment someone else ; I think it was the Quarter bloke. After all, a Christmas-morning head can't stand too much of that kind of thing. One good point about Christmas is that there was a four pay-day month to follow and not a five. We had five in December and well we knew it, for having five pay days in the month does not mean to say that you can have a good time longer. Oh, dear no. We have to make the money go farther (wives please note).

Arrivals and Departures.—We extend a hearty welcome to the following : Major V. C. Holland from Peshawar District Signals ; Mrs. T. A. R. Scott from U.K. ; Sergeant Harvey and family from Jubbulpore and U.K. respectively. We hope their stay will be a long and happy one. We were sorry to lose Major B. G. Rowley, who has left us for a short stay at Belgaum before proceeding to U.K. ; also Sergeant Wheeler, who left for a short stay at Jubbulpore before proceeding to U.K. We wonder how the Roneo will take to its new caretaker. Never mind, Pip, you are going to the land where Roneos are Roneos and not Gestetners.

Late Arrivals.—The M.E.S. to paint the barracks and do some repairs.

Despatches.—With these notes we are forwarding a small photograph of the British Staff, taken in December, or was it November ; I forget which. We hope it will be of interest to other Corps members. We also hope it won't share the fate of the cartoon we sent with our last notes ; someone must have mistaken it for an Imperial Airways Chesterfield-cum-bed and used it as such. The Editor mistook it for a sheet of crepe paper for Christmas decorations. Luckily, he took a second look and returned it to us in the hope that it might come in useful for something. We shall know how to pack such things better next time.

Sergeants' Mess.—Things have bucked up a bit lately in regard to entertainments, and beer has gone down both literally and metaphorically. During the last Course we held a games tournament, versus the Staff and Student Officers. We won by only two points ; a very close finish. At tennis we lost by nine games, which really wasn't much in sixteen sets of only seven games each ; short sets don't give much time to settle down. We haven't a real hot tennis side at any time, but in those games, some of the shots were wonderful ; Wimbledon had nothing on them—in fact, if Fred Perry had seen some of them, he would have been green with envy (or sickness).

After tennis, both sides adjourned for a while to wash out the stains of mortal combat. At seven by the clock, indoor games commenced, of which more anon. The final scores for the evening were :

	Officers.	W.O.s and N.C.O.s.
Tennis	2 points.	1 point.
Shove ha'penny	2 ,,	1 ,,
Darts	½ ,,	3½ points.
Snooker	1 point.	2 ,,
Billiards	1 ,,	2 ,,
Bowls	1 ,,	2 ,,
Poker Dice	3 points.	3 ,,
	12½ ,,	14½ ,,

For an endurance test, give me shove ha'penny. During the last game, both sides went at it hammer and tongs until finally the officers required a " gate " and " top " ring, and the W.O.s and N.C.O.s a " top " ring. Excitement rose to fever pitch ; in fact, so much was wagered on the result that the caterer had to close his door for a while owing to the high pressure outside. Finally the M.C. had to call the game a draw, owing to a longer extension not being asked for.

Poker Dice was fairly tame, owing to some of the players not being allowed to use their own sets ; however, five kings in one takes some beating, doesn't it ?

Reviewing the games as a whole, there wasn't much in it, for in most cases the wins were only by a very narrow margin. The evening finished with a little community singing—and so to bed.

Shortly afterwards we retrieved a little of our prestige when we played the officers at football, or was it one of those new-fangled Yankee games ? What I am getting at is, who takes the points when we won by six goals to four, and the officers by fifteen points to three ?

Amendments to Books and Forms.—Ref. S.T.A.A., 1932, page 123, chapter X, secs. 62 to 79.—In all cases for " T.O.R. (Time of receipt) " read " T.O.R. (Time of *riting*)."

Queries.—Who obtained 4,000 degrees deflection on the Q. and I. ?

FEATHERS.

[Owing to pressure on space an excellent photograph has been unavoidably omitted—ED.]

NORTHERN COMMAND ..... ***INDIAN ARMY***

"A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

7th February.

General.—With the Unit once again settled into barracks, life is again normal. Although we say the Unit, there are, however, still detachments away in Waziristan, comprising seventy-five per cent. of the personnel who remained behind on conclusion of the operations and twenty-five per cent. formed by the new draft from England. We haven't a doubt but that the old hands quite enjoy showing the ropes to the new-comers.

Faces within the Unit are showing considerable change. This always happens during the early months of the year, when the outward drafts have all arrived, and the majority of those booked for the United Kingdom have left the Unit. We still have about ten who are anxiously awaiting the boat home.

On 7th February, the Unit was inspected by the General Officer Commanding, Rawalpindi District, who expressed his complete satisfaction at all he saw during his inspection.

Social life during the past month was brightened by an All Ranks' Dance and a Corporals' Mess Dance, which were held in the Regimental Theatre. Both were well attended and successfully arranged ; excellent entertainment was provided.

Officers.—Our best wishes go with Lieutenant P. B. G. Gambier, Royal Signals, who left us during the month on posting to 1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur. We welcome

to the Unit, Lieutenant G. A. Dutton, Royal Signals, who arrived from the U.K., per H.T. *Lancashire*, on 1st February.

Promotions and Appointments.—Quite a book full this month. Congratulations are extended to Corporals Richardson W. and Young F. C. on their promotion to that rank. Also to Lance Corporals Beenham G. and Fall F. on appointment to Paid Lance Corporal. Also to U/Lance Corporals Lyons H., Nixon H., Hade W., Campbell P. and Bennett T. on their appointments.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the Unit the following, who arrived from the United Kingdom, per H.T. *Lancashire*, on 1st February: Sergeant Holness A., Lance Sergeant Bowie J., Lance Corporal Stead W., Signalmen Barber D., Brady C., Butterfield A., Clarke B., Canham H., Grint E., Hall J., Kay R., Longhurst A., O'Brien V., O'Brien P., Palmer A., Pearson J., Eeeves A. (again), Stewart D., Thompson L., Violet E., Wookey H. and Yardley S

Also the following, who joined us from the United Kingdom, per H.T. *Somersetshire*, on 8th January: Sergeants Wood P. and Parker W. and their families, Corporal Dillon L., Lance Corporals Allaway F. and Milligan H., Signalmen Cade C., Eames H., Graham A., Harcus R., McCarthy D., Potton F. and Severn L.

Also the following, who joined us from 1st Indian Divisional Signals (next door): Lance Corporal Legge B., Signalmen Lyons J., Peter D. and Ashwell W., who proceeded the same week to Lahore for duty at H.Q., W/T Station.

Departures.—Our best wishes go with the following, who left us during the month: Signalman Rawcliffe J., on a quick move to 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Trimulgherry; Lance Sergeant Hibbit W. and family on posting to 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut; Signalmen Danfer A., Gobey H. and Hughes F. C., on posting to 1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur; Signalman Faulkner F., on posting to Signal Training Battalion, S.T.C. (India).

We wish the following *bon voyage* on their journey home, per H.T. *Lancashire*. They are leaving us on 2nd February: Sergeant Boxall C., Corporals Bellinger L. and Manton E., Lance Corporals Walker T., Craik J., Cordner N., Clarke P. and Dix H., Signalmen Ackerman J., Berry J., Berry S., Barker L., Dewell F., Harrison P., Jones A., Jewells W., Lewis A., Ledgerton A., Marsden J., Noble J., Ritchie R., Kidd J. and Barrett F.

The following left us for six months' furlough in the United Kingdom: Sergeant Bye E., Corporal Williamson T., U/Lance Corporal Townsend A., Signalmen Austin R., Davis S. and Hamilton A. We have no doubt that they will enjoy their trip.

Corporal Gill A. left us, via the hospital. Our best wishes for a speedy recovery go with him.

Honours and Awards.—Our congratulations to the following, who obtained the distinction of being mentioned in despatches for services rendered during the Khaisora Operations of 1936: 2315631 Corporal Manton E., 2309584 Corporal (Spriggo) Feltham and 2318901 Signalman Westoby A. All of them have left us for the United Kingdom.

Births.—Congratulations to Signalman and Mrs. Beardmore D. on the birth of a daughter, Annette, at Birmingham, on 24th May, 1937.

CAVE CANEM.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

1st February.

NIL SECUNDUS.

The Start.—"How to" is the big drawback. I have missed night after night of sleep trying to work out a snappy beginning to these notes, but without success. Perhaps the old family blood will curdle in time for a real copyright start next month.

Here Sorrow is Registered.—Somehow, consequent on winning the war, returning to 'Pindi, telling everyone how good we are, fighting the war all over again, telling everyone how good they are and getting ready for Christmas, no notes were submitted last month. For this sad fault we apologise, and promise that it will not occur again (loud cheers from those about to be "gripped").

Here the Joy Bells Break Out.—With the exception of a few unlucky clients in "A" and the 3rd I.B. Section, the Unit returned to 'Pindi during the second week in December, and we are emphatic that it is the best move that was ever made. Nine months in the Field is enough for anyone. A cave-man's existence is all right when the "Coach and Crossbones" is just across the road, but when chlorinated water reigns supreme, enough's as good as a feast. My Department of Vital Statistics informs me that the Unit drank seventy-seven million, three and three-quarter pints of crushed chlorine out there; placed in a long row, it is quite a big drop. Definitely, we are glad to be back; the Bazaar Wallahs are glad that we are back, and our dear friend, the Faqir of Ipi, is also glad that we went back; and so everyone lived happily ever after.

Here is How We Made Whoopee at Christmas.—The children come first. They were entertained to a miniature Fair, a bumper tea and a wonderful Christmas Tree Party by the officers and their ladies of both Units in 'Pindi. Of course, to keep the children in hand, all the dads and mums, and also members of the Combined W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess had to attend. You will have to toss up to decide who enjoyed the show most: the grown-ups (?) or the children. Father Christmas defied all traditions by arriving in a Light Tank, and it took one harassed father weeks of patient explanation to account for the change from the traditional sleigh.

The backbone of the British Army had their "Do" on Christmas Day—and what a "Do"! It started with gun-fire, and steadily improved throughout the day. The dinner was a great success; there were so many plates that the waiters became dizzy carrying them in and out. Before the dinner commenced, the R.S.M.—Mr. C. E. Day—proposed the health of The King. Old Soldier R. H. Hill proposed the health of our Commanding Officer and officers, and, in the unavoidable absence of Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. C. Penney, Major Nicholls gave a short and to the point speech, wishing everyone everything. All the toasts and speeches were honoured in the usual manner.

Boxing Day was set aside for a soccer match between "A" Corps and the Divisional Signals. We hoped that the result of this match would settle the question of the best team, but it didn't. (See the Sports Notes.) The soccer match was followed by a mixed hockey match—Ladies v. Officers and Sergeants. The match was played under the usual Christmas catch-as-catch-can rules. Whistles blew and blew; but, after all, what are whistles? The umpires bid, were outbid, and then revoked. The poor husbands who played, had to obey orders; and the ladies won by one goal to nil. Special mention must be made of "Arabella" McCormick, who played an astonishingly pan-chromatic game at third base. The next day saw another Inter-Unit "Do," when the Division played the Corps at hockey. The result of this game is given in the Sports Notes.

This match was followed by a ladies' soccer match—1st Divisional Signals v. "A" Corps. Spurred on by the crowd, the ladies developed the real Inter-Unit spirit, and set about popping the ball in the net in great style. No one succeeded in shaking the rigging, but it was a good game.

Here We Introduce New Poppas.—Although it is nearly the boy's first birthday, we congratulate Lance Sergeant and Mrs. Choulerton J. on the birth of their heir. I wonder if he will develop Joe's streamlined figure. We also congratulate C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Powles on the birth of a daughter.

Here We Have a Chuckle.—At the lads on the ride, who have to walk home each morning. Let us hope that they will never get the chance to laugh at us!

At the N.C.O. on the Musketry Cadre Course, who, when asked what the hole in the bottom of the magazine was for, decided it was there to allow for the escape of the compressed air caused by pushing the cartridges into the magazine!

At the sentry, who, when told to strike the time gong in double beats, struck eighteen bells at nine o'clock!

Here We Register Dismay because—The Junior N.C.O.s are on a Drill Course, and in the not too distant future, we can see a lot of marching and banging of rifles being done.

The N.C.O.s' Musketry Cadre Course is "giving it big licks," and the crystal tells us that before many moons have passed they will be getting their own back on the backbone of the B.A.

30th December, 1937.—Forty entries for the Tin and Bottle Tennis Tournament, played on the Corporals' Room Court, was quite a good number, particularly as the Men's Courts have been out of action for some while. The result was as follows: 1, C.Q.M.S. Coombes L.; 2, Mrs. Shepherd; 3, Signalman Kane L. A.; 4, Signalman Barney C.

31st December, 1937.—After heavy rain throughout the night, the cricket match between Major Schofield's eleven and Lieutenant Stephenson's eleven had to be cancelled. The ground was unfit for play. Further rain also cancelled the Proclamation Parade, for which we were all "teed" up on the morning of the 1st.

1st January, 1938.—The Indian officers were entertained in the Officers' Mess during the morning, and a photograph of all British officers and Indian officers was taken.

10th January, 1938.—Sounds of more revelry and gaiety emanated from the Dining-hall. This time the Junior N.C.O.s, in order to finish off a perfect festive season, held a Carnival Dance open to the Station. It was again a crowning success. The same band provided the music, a fact which accounted for the slight financial loss on this event. However, everybody thought it was worth it, and once again smiling faces and coloured dresses gave us a festive atmosphere.

The first ladies' spot waltz prize was won by Mrs. E. Eynott (now in Blighty), and the first gentleman's prize was won by another "daftar wallah"—Lance Corporal Greaves (cries of "wangle"). Nobby Clark drank a pint of milk to prove that he was on the "tack," Gripper Wilson won the "Grippers' Shield," taking all before him, and Mrs. Jagger received a handful of spinach for her husband, who won first prize as "Pop-eye" at a previous Fancy Dress Ball. Timekeeper Madder was presented with a watch that wouldn't go, whilst Corporal Dale won the baby's bottle for some reason or other. The swindle prize went to a lady from the R.A. Drum-Major Jones managed to obtain a small third.

Again everyone went home happy and bright. Nobby Clark says he fell off the verandah on his way to his bungalow, but according to the look on his face the next morning, it would appear that he had fallen off the Qutab Minar! Still, all's well that ends well, and the big drum belonging to the Wheler Club Band is still intact.

Here's to next Christmas!
A couple of Rides are Ridin', and we fear that by the time that we have to mount those horses, they will have had enough, and won't take us.

Here We Congratulate.—Major C. L. Morgan, C.S.M. Oakes, C.Q.M.S. Garroni, Sergeant Cooley, Lance Sergeant Hopwood, Corporal Robinson and Lance Corporal Hague on their promotions and appointments to the ranks shown.

Here We Bid Welcome and Farewell.—To our new O.C., No. 1 Company—Major B. D. Willoughby—and to all those others too numerous to mention individually, who have lately joined us to swell the various rolls.

A reluctant farewell to all those "Admion," who have gone home (we hope they are not sorry), with a special mention for our former O.C., No. 1 Company—Major L. B. Nicholls. "Old Nick's Warriors" wish him every bit of the best in the future, and, although at times we have consigned him to the place where "Old Nick" reigns, we hope to serve under him again some day.

Here We Say.—In case we didn't say it in our last notes—all the best to everyone for 1938.

AUSTIN.

[Owing to pressure on space some excellent photographs have been unavoidably omitted—ED.]

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess, Combined Signals, Rawalpindi.

Greetings, Cads!—We had a couple of grand shows at Christmas, which call for a few words. (Pause while I bang my head against the wall to stir up the old grey matter.) The first of these was the draw of the annual Christmas Swindle. The number of tickets bought this year constituted a record; whether this was due to the persuasiveness of the promoter, or as thanksgiving for our return to 'Pindi, hasn't been settled yet. R.S.M. Day and Sergeant Bloodworth officiated as "drawers-out." I would not like to say that this combination was perfect, as they kept getting my name mixed up with the blanks; anyhow, they got rid of all the prizes. After the end of the draw, it was discovered that a lot of medicine still remained in the Bar, so decks were cleared for action, and a dance was held. It was quite a successful affair, but very thirsty work. The interval, interlude or interruption was filled by the performing camel, under the leadership of Ali Baba Clarke. Jim Wyeth, Spike May and Don Ellison did duty as the camel, but Spike thought it rather a lack of team spirit on Don's part to drink M.B. before the act went on.

The single members had their Dinner on the 26th. It was an all-in affair; but gouging with the wishbone and kicking in the scrums were the only two things barred. Eighteen members sat down to dine at 8 p.m., seventeen fell by the wayside, and "Young Soldier" Dirs was declared undefeated champion at 11.32 p.m.; only the vinegar remained on the table.

The annual dance was held on the 29th. This function was another good effort. The officers of both Units and their ladies attended, as well as a number of other members of other Messes and Clubs. Ali Baba and his camel turned up and again performed. "Gripping" at the Bar continued while the dance was in progress—and what a "grip"! It left me a nervous wreck. When an Ordnance wallah got going on the Boer War, I broke down and wept. The Mess Party for the families took place somewhere round about the 27th. The ma's, pa's, masters and misses all went to the pictures in the afternoon, returning later to the Mess for tea. Everything went off very nicely. Unfortunately, half a dozen of us sat at the same table as the undefeated champions, and we did not get our fair share. And so ended Christmas, 1937.

The "Ipi" Cup for the best shot at Volunteer goes to "Lofty" Baldock. (A tricky shot with the 21 ball, played off five cushions and then in off pink.) The "Khonia Khel" Plate became the property of "Ginger" Cosstick for his amazing feat in staying in the Mess throughout the whole of one evening without putting "I can't Dance" on the gramophone.

Stop Press News.—Heartiest congratulations to our Commanding Officer—Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. C. Penney, O.B.E., M.C. —on the award of the D.S.O.; and Lance Corporal Hurst J. on the award of the M.M., both in connection with the Operations in Waziristan.

AUSTIN.

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

Casting back our faltering memory to the bleak days of January, little apparently presents itself for the sorting process which ultimately produces the stream of polished, sparkling satire destined as WIRE notes. I intend to carry a note book and pencil in future. Apart from the added importance which one derives from occasionally pulling it out and scribbling furiously, I shall be able to collect some of those brilliant anecdotes retailed in mess-room and bath-house, and smelling unquestionably of stables. Should they find their way into print, they may go down to posterity, competing with the classics for popularity.

We said good-bye to Sergeant Jeffers, Lance Sergeant "Jim" Manning, Signalmen Sam Flint and Ginger Bennett—the "Quetta Mush." Their departure was early and rather unobtrusive. They carry with them our best wishes whilst in Blighty.

Arrivals have been numerous. We commenced 1938 under a new Commanding Officer—Lieutenant P. B. G. Gambier—and doubtless he will accumulate many pleasant memories during his stay with us. Sergeant Riando, Lance Sergeants Lourie and Cowell, Corporals Dale, Paling and Pike, Signalmen Aisthorpe, Blow, Clarke, Croft, Danfer, Duncan, Edwards, Gobey, Hughes and Briggs have joined the Unit from Stations as far apart as Peshawar and Jubbulpore. As may be imagined, these

numerous changes almost gave us the appearance of a totally new Unit.

Everyone is settling down very quickly, and as we are up to strength, even signalmen are to be seen filing away after the first horse to clean a " yhakdhan " or dust a No. 1 Set. Stout work, and let us hope that our strength in personnel does not fall as low as it did in 1937.

Two Rides for British ranks are at present in progress; one high class, and the other very low class (ground level). Enthusiasm runs high, and the general topic of conversation is somewhat horsey—" chips " and runaways; one dozen per man is the regulation allowance before we can claim proficiency in that art. We shall doubtless hear of many more similar episodes before the " pass-off."

Talking of horses. Old members of the Troop will be grieved to hear of the passing of some of the old stagers to the equine paradise; Bounder, Felix, and Freddy of Polly Hopkins fame, Fearless and Tiptoe took the final count. Lieutenant Yule gave a lecture during the dissecting of one of our noble friends Although to some it was a little on the gruesome side, it was. to us of more calloused outlook, quite interesting.

At the Nowshera Horse Show, Lance Corporal Bolam gained second place in the Best Trained Troop Horse Event on No. 44. When some of our " youngsters " mature, namely, our seven- and eight-year-olds, we may yet pull off some of the other events.

On the night of the 15th, we held an invitation New Year's Dance; it is the only dance we hold throughout the year, and its success is guaranteed if only for its novelty. Such was the attraction that we ran two Bars; both briskly patronised. It is wonderful how well a dance can be enjoyed sitting around a fire—gripping and being gripped; the while quaffing a " little something," out of politeness. Ah, well; recording reminiscences thusly has proved my downfall, and as we are now on the " wagon," thoughts like those must be put aside, not albeit without a sigh for the times we have had—there I go again.

I have been sitting in front of the typewriter (such is my skill, they let me do that now), endeavouring to think of something screamingly funny or of unsurpassed wit. I can get the first line O.K.; it is something like this: " There was an old man of ? " What next, young man, what next? Great stuff this Indian sun. Roll on!

I cried when I heard this one. It appears that a certain highly-placed N.C.O., whose fame lies in technical spheres, called long and lustily for a sweeper. When one presented himself, the following instructions were issued with due majesty: " Sweeper, wheelbarrow bulao! Ha, ha! No? Ah, well; 'e done 'is best! "

Corporal " Johnny " Bull came over all " snobby " the other week and added a third one. His presence in the bungalow at nights is missed, and several enterprising orators vie to maintain a standard unsurpassed on the Catterick Frontier or in Risalpur.

Signalman Richmond fought his way to 'Pindi, and whilst his previous year's success was not repeated, we are exceedingly pleased that a member of such a small Unit should be a representative in the Northern Command Boxing team. Sharbosh, Gunner!

We learn with regret that Signalman Mannering, who was attending an A.1 " I.M. Course " at Jubbulpore, developed a malady sufficiently serious to warrant his repatriation and discharge. As we shall not see the " inimitable Monty " again, all his pals and acquaintances have asked me to express, via the WIRE, their sincere wishes for a speedy recovery and a successful career in " Civvy Street."

On the playing fields—not of Eton—we ran into the semi-finals in both Hockey and Football Tournaments. Again our " hoodoo," in this case " F " Battery, knocked us out of the Victory Cup. Old acquaintances may shed a tear of regret, but it was ever thus. Chippy Woods intends doing another year to make a last attempt next year to win that coveted trophy.

Agriculturally, our enthusiasts are doing well, judging by the number of young rabbits, chicks and ducks. We shall soon be over-populated.

Here is an agony of my own: " To Dart, sometime of Quetta: Should like a line about your latest invention. How about it? "

CHIKKABLANKA.

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2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

20th January.

Tune in to 2 Bar C, folk! On return from our little picnic at Nurkot, technically called annual training, thoughts were turned towards Christmas and all the good things that it brings.

On Christmas Eve a Children's Party was held, at which all children in the lines attended. Santa Claus paid his usual visit, for which travelling allowance was admissible. Thanks to Staff-Sergeant Hoad Reddick—the Brigade Head Clerk—all the children had a very enjoyable time. We only had one qualm: would the old Yule log fuse?

Owing to the absence of the Commanding Officer, who was at Lahore on duty, Captain and Mrs. A. Murray, R.E., very kindly came along with their little daughter. After the presentation of motor cars, dolls, etc., the elder children received their rewards. Presents recalled the recipient's past twelve months' performance. Corporal Parks W. (Wonder) was definitely in a class by himself in competition for the " Gripper's Spoon."

We now have twelve months in which to recover, and to replenish coffers.

Ordinary routine re-commenced with a visit from Lieutenant-Colonel G. L. G. Pollard, M.B.E., Royal Signals, on 8th January. We believe that he was pleased with everything he saw. On the 18th, the District Commander, Brigadier F. Gwatkin, D.S.O., M.C., inspected the Unit. Owing to limited time, the " D.C." was unable to inspect the visual stores. Another certain decoration gone by the board! However, in spite of the rain, the District Commander seemed very pleased with the lines.

The Brigade Horse Show took place on the 13th of the month. A jumping team and three horses for the " Handy Hunters " were entered. Sergeant Standen R. on " Linnet," Lance Sergeant Nuttall R. on " Bhalu," and Jemadar Mohd Akbar on " Beltane " put up a very creditable performance as a team. In the " Handy Hunters," Jemadar Mohd Akbar was unfortunate in knocking down a jump in the final round.

All B.O.R.s have now returned from Waziristan, and the Troop are preparing for further operations in connection with the Lahore District Exercise at Lahore in February.

The comings and goings have commenced in connection with the " troopers," and this month we have said good-bye to Sergeant Reat W. and Corporal Stonehouse R., who have been posted to the Territorial Staff and " H.E." respectively. We welcome the following with their grooming kits: Corporal Parks W., from Waziristan District Signals (all the way from Wana, where tents are tambus); 2323054 Signalman Fox P., from 1st Indian Divisional Signals; 785112 Signalman Durber F., from Peshawar District Signals; 2323908 Signalman Beeley E., from Waziristan District Signals; and 852349 Signalman Brookes K., from Kohat District Signals.

Corporal G. L. Connor passed in Urdu towards the Special Certificate of Education. I hope no one will misinterpret my intentions. Signalman Cass A. obtained a First Class Certificate with a " D " for Maths. O.R.S., please make a note for averages. To complete the Honours List, Lance Sergeant Kenny H. threw the jolly old hammer 114 feet, thus winning the event in the Lahore District A.A. Meeting.

We take this oportunity to welcome Corporal Grafton back to the fold. He is, at the moment, on the high seas, and in another couple of weeks should be where horses are horses, but I am sure that he will not easily recognise the lines. Just " keep off the grass," Paddy!

KHANNA.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

6th February.

Our regular correspondent has been posted to another Unit, so it is left to me to fill the breach as best I can. Authorities on the subject assure me that this has its compensations, and so I will endeavour to keep the high standard set by my predecessor.

Arrivals.—Lieutenant A. C. R. Stead; Lance Sergeant Walsh and wife; also ten B.O.R.s; all of them from U.K. per H.T. *Nevasa*. Lance Sergeant Edwards and family and Signalman Pritchard from U.K., per H.T. *Somersetshire*. Sergeant Finney and family, Farrier Staff-Sergeant Walmsley and family, Sergeant Hamilton, Sergeant Haines and fifteen B.O.R.s from U.K., per H.T. *Lancashire*. Signalman Soffe N. from S.T.C. (India). A hearty welcome is extended to all of them.

Departures.—Sergeants Bramwell and Bennett, Lance Corporals Walsh and Harrod, Signalmen " Ruby " Hughes, Mangnall, Lettice, Geddes and Hall to U.K., per H.T. *Somersetshire*. Sergeant Webb, Lance Sergeant Sherrington, Farrier Corporal " Shoey " Baddeley, Corporal Brassfield, Signalmen Hough, Fuller, Semple, Lawson, Owen and Ide to U.K., per H.T. *Lancashire*. We wish them all the best of luck in their new spheres. Your voice is sorely missed in the canteen, " Ruby."

Corporal Day W. and Signalman Durber F. to 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop to join our long-faced friends. Signalmen Edwards J. and Clarke L. to 1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop to learn how to use a curry comb. Signalman Grant J. to S.T.C. (India).

General.—The Unit has just finished Brigade Training at Jallozai Camp. Listening to the comments passed by those who participated, we gather that it was enjoyed by all.

We now have a Unit Dance Band of more than ordinary merit, in fact there has been talk of a B.B.C. contract. The Unit dances have also been a great success this year, a good attendance being recorded at each one held. One of our newly-joined members tells me that it outrivals the Newbiggin dances. Look out, Catterick!

Promotions.—Congratulations to Sergeant " Paddy " Longwill on dispensing with the " L "; also to U/Lance Corporal Bristow on gaining the first rung on the ladder of fame.

Jews' Mail.—" Ted " sends his *salaams* to Catterick, and would like some pencils, red for choice.

SILO.

Waziristan District Signals.

January.

Pointed reference to the date, and thinly-veiled sarcasm, insults and browbeating from the Sergeant-Major, has forced us to commence once again the terrible task of compiling the Unit's notes.

It is not a job to be taken lightly, in that "dear mother, I now take up my pen " or " hoping this finds you, etc." manner. After scrapping the ninth trial MS., we wondered if it would be a far, far better thing to throw the typewriter through the window, and report to the Guard Room.

Mercifully, we got the hang of things somewhere in the very early a.m., and the resultant script doesn't give us the least worry, for we shall be many leagues away in a much better land ere " W.D." Signals run their critical eyes over it.

A good start would be that hectic, hair-thinning period immediately preceding the " Festival of Excess and Indigestion." We were then back in our winter quarters, and had said a fond farewell to Sergeant Starling, Corporal Dickinson and our old friend Joey Bloomfield, who departed to the happier land, in anticipation of a glorious Christmas on the bosom of the deep. We were working at absolutely top speed at (*a*) trying to make the Fort look like a battleship, and (*b*) organising for Christmas. (We are very good at organising, eh, Jackie ?).

Despite the gloomy prognostications of many of the " old guard," the whole affair went off quite successfully, and much credit is due to those who put in weary hours of work and worry to that end. The high lights of the week were our All Ranks' Dance, the Christmas Draw, and the B.O.R.s' Own New Year's Eve function. We also had a night for Signalmen only on the 26th, but the least said about this event the less hearts will be broken.

We are glad to welcome as guests (on payment) two Wanaites and three of our Manzai-Wana Convoy Detachment.

Altogether a successful Christmas; and we are pleased to announce that those working on (*a*) above made a very creditable show with the nautical superstructure; the last touch was added the other day, when they hoisted one of those balls which are used at sea when there is a death on board or dirty weather brewing.

As anticipated, our friends from other Units have started to trickle back to tell all their friends about Tauda China and other places of interest on our itinerary. Some of them are staying permanently, but we are losing the remainder of them in a few days' time. They certainly were a great help, owing to our uneven " set/opr." ratio during the past year, and if they didn't enjoy their stay, we can excuse ourselves on the grounds that we were not exactly " At Home " most of the time.

Signalmen Stewart and Healy have just caught the January boat *en route* for the " Fifty Shilling Tailors." Our best wishes go with them.

We have received two drafts from the U.K., and the way they have settled down to our ways, and where our ways didn't suit converted us to theirs, is truly wonderful. We hardly dare to suggest that we hope they will have a good time with us—it is more to the point that we hope we shall have a good time with them. No doubt we shall, if we can only keep up the pace.

Oh, and Sergeant Riando. We must not forget the Pay Clerk. After a few farewell nights, he has left us for the Cavalry. It is not known whether his new Unit was warned, but our loss is their funeral. We wish him the best.

We have also lost our Q.2 temporarily; he has gone to Razmak to see the dentist. We will miss the flashing gums of the famous Lombard smile.

Individual exploits worthy of mention during the last month have been legion, and therefore impossible to chronicle. But mention should be made of our mid-winter swimming gala, wherein Fisher carried the day, while Lance Sergeant Manning was a good second. Brrr! Another interesting interlude was of a technical nature. Rumour whispers that when one of our operators was asked by an out-station to " measure my frequency," he answered, " You are coming in on the pencil mark on my dial." Further details are unknown.

The following agony is commended to the Dead Letter Office : " Mclver, Inverness. Please write. Lost your address." Rogers (ex-Radio Club), "A" Corps, 'Pindi.

And this (Code) : " L.C. Ram, 'Pindi. Youv Addit." Brown.

There being nothing further to add, " I will now close, hoping this finds you as it leaves me at present. . . ."

C. C. R. B. 93 TDG.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess, H.Q. Section, Dera Ismail Khan.

Exit 1937 ! Enter 1938 ! A new year dawns, but before chronicling our deeds and misdeeds, the Mess members desire to extend a hearty greeting to " yin and a'."

December has been a very gay and happy month, with social functions and many homely evenings. D.I. Khan seemed to take on a festive air, and the Unit indulged well and truly. We also had a Tennis Tournament, which was open to all members of Wazirdist Signals. Some surprisingly good tennis was seen, and the entry of Lieutenant P. O. J. Nicholson of Bannu Signal Section for all the events added a fillip to a very successful tournament. Corporal Foster certainly put in some hard work and his efforts were well rewarded. We thank you, Flossie !

A dance and social evening, which completed the tennis finals, was well attended. The B.O.R.s certainly had a good time, but, oh, the " gripping " ! The Mess have not got a chance in that line now.

The Children's Christmas Tree and Party was held on the 24th. The toys were obtained direct from England by our Commanding Officer, Major R. L. M. Rosenberg. The children were more than delighted and surprised. Some fond parents were missing for hours—just showing the lad how it works. We have heard that one before, F-of-S. !

The youngsters had a splendid evening, and it was a pleasure to watch their merriment and fun ; truly a reward in itself for the organisers.

The *piece de resistance* of Christmas week was the All Ranks Dance. It was held in the Club at D.I. Khan, by the courtesy of its members and through the efforts of our Commanding Officer and Adjutant, who obtained the Club for us. The show was voted an excellent one from every point of view, and certainly showed what " W.D." Signals can do.

The Mess has lost a very good member in Sergeant Riando, who left us on 4th January for Risalpur, where he has now decided to soldier on. Good luck, Paul ! An impromptu dance, which was held on the 3rd, to give Paul a send off, was certainly a " wow." The ladies, led by Paul, gave us some very good community singing. *En passant*, why don't you sing more often, sir ? You can, so let's hear you !

The gigolo of the Mess—our noble Farrier—certainly took the boards in style during Christmas week. He caused many a mere man to take a back seat. Keep going, Shoey ! But how did you get that horse boxed, and did you intend it to walk all the way along the railway lines ?

Congratulations to Lance Sergeant Manning, and can he take it ? Call me, Sergeant !

The Mess has now decided to enter for the World's Hockey Championship in Tokio in 1940. A very useful team, ably assisted by Lance Sergeant Gordon, has shown the B.O.R.s how to play hockey. We have played them three times, and have not been beaten. The first match proved to be a duration test of one hundred minutes, but the Mess improved as time went on, and so did the score against our opponents. Punch up ! We await your next challenge.

Sergeant " Pip " Wolfe and Sergeant " Ted " Collins have proceeded to Jubbulpore on an " S " Course, and should be at home among the old Wazirdistites who are in Jubbulpore. Corporal Douglas-Beveridge has left us for Meerut and the horses. Educate them, " D.-B.," or commonly, " larn 'em."

Sergeant Hodgson, Mrs. Hodgson and Jean, Lance Sergeant Gordon and Corporal Park arrived just before Christmas from England. We hope that all of them will be happy with us.

Razmak Signal Section.

5th December, 1937.

" Sauve Qui Peut."—For the first time since October, 1936, the Section has almost returned to its normal routine, and once more we control the communications here. The lower square no longer reminds us of the facilities Headquarters Section possesses for the Field. The upper square still resembles a battlefield, but we always anticipate having to clear this up.

We missed Charles, Mac., and part of his school. With him went all that might have thrown light on to the missing " old masters." *O tempora ! O mores !*

Columns.—The Brigade moved out to Shawali on a Three-day Column last Sunday. On Monday, His Excellency The Commander-in-Chief visited Shawali. He spoke to Lieutenant C. T. Honeybourne, Royal Signals, Jemadar S. A. Rahim, I.S.C., Signalmen Petrie and Rama Rao. The last two named hold the distinction of having spent more time in the field than any others of the Station.

Christmas.—Seventy-eight ducks have been posted to the Section. Signalman Hughes has been appointed Duck-Orderly. We understand that every man will get a duck. (Hardly cricket, Throgmorton !) The ducks have been finally warned for draft on Christmas Eve.

Postings.—Lieutenant G. K. Mehta, Indian Land Forces, has joined the Section from Jubbulpore. We hope his stay will be a happy one.

Mail.—Bricky, Scarborough. " Keep sober, soon be home. Ted."

NULLI SECUNDUS.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

2nd February.

Generally Speaking.—On looking through my diary to make a resume of the month's events, I am amazed at the amount of material available on which there is to draw, such as postings and promotions, changes that have taken place, and a foretaste of things to come (begging Mr. Wells' pardon).

The times are propitious, and happenings are mostly happy ones. This, naturally enough, leads to celebration, giving " Chota " scope for the uttering of his eternal war cry, " bottoms up." If some outstanding event hasn't occurred, then the mere date is sufficient to raise spirits (abstract ones !). For example, if one is alive and more or less healthy on, say, the 17th instant, then the 17th is an occasion to be celebrated, and as one thing leads to another, the dawn of the 18th isn't quite so rosy as its predecessor.

There are setbacks in this paradise. As each home-going draft leaves, it carries with it members of both hockey and football teams, who have nobly supported their eleven for many a long day. From amongst their reliefs, talent has not yet emerged from under its bushel, and therefore the niche, which we have carved for ourselves in local sport circles will become increasingly difficult to hold. Where is the new blood we so badly need ? Where are our potential sportsmen ? That the desired quality is latent we have no doubt ; all that is wanted is the enthusiasm to stir it. In other words, it requires a ***revival***. With the public interest firmly engaged, all the necessary practice will be provided. Come to the fore ; here exists an unparalleled opportunity to shine and for unrewardable service to your fellow-men ; and, incidentally, it will provide much amusement for yourself.

Agreed that this is an odd place for an appeal, though it isn't exactly that. It merely requests that you should snip this paragraph out, place it in a prominent position and glance at it often, and then, when you are asked to play in a branmash match, think that it isn't merely organised to give the representative an opportunity for a game. He, eagle-eyed, is watching all your movements, storing notes in his capacious brain (***sic***), and when the hour arrives, he has you at his finger tips and it then becomes *your* hour.

If this is too lecture-ish, then I am too, too sorry. But, some of you will admit that enthusiasm is sadly lacking in certain quarters, won't you ?

Bacchanalia.—The spirit of carnival, which has been rife in these glades for long enough, has been fanned by the lightest of zephyrs to a roaring furnace at which Bacchus himself might have warmed his hands. The peak was reached, however, on the auspicious occasion of the promotion to Corporal of Lance Corporals McMahon, Gunn and Butler, who have our congratulations. These events were far-reaching, causing U/Lance Corporals Turvey, Barrett and Murphy to become paid. (The flames were licking hungrily this time.) Two of the vacancies thus created were occupied by Signalmen Green and Fordham. They have their feet most firmly planted on the ladder, and may they climb high. Best wishes!

Regarding promotion. There is the sad story of Thomas Hatton, who aspires to be a Sepoy. He, however, is uncertain of the difference between that exalted rank and that of "Teapoy." Which, being so, will be better left at that.

Comings and Goings.—The population has of late been variable. We are, nevertheless, becoming rapidly accustomed to these changes. As you learnt last month, all of our warriors have returned from Waziristan, but Signalman Frank Campbell was left behind. He eventually returned from the war zone on the 14th, with the distinction of being the last of the Unit in that area.

On the 4th, Lance Corporal (now Corporal) Tommy Butler was posted here from 1st (Indian) Divisional Signals. To him we extend the not entirely frozen hand and hope that he will be happy here. By the way, he waggles a deft hockey stick.

The second draft of the season, made up of Signalmen Carter, Craddock, Campbell R. and St. John-Beale arrived on the 9th, and by now have shaken down to life in Kohat, and appear to be thriving. That "five" is verily a flea-bite. Best of luck to you.

We are deeply sorry to lose Lieutenant G. U. Finney, who left here on the 22nd for some leave prior to his posting to 3rd (Indian) Divisional Signals. We wish him the very best of luck in his new Unit.

Two further grievous losses were Farrier Staff-Sergeant Howells (our popular "Shoey") and Signalman Bill Warburton (our tame bruiser). They have gone home, and our good-byes aren't untinged with envy. A plaintive neigh is sometimes heard in the mule lines, and we wonder if it can be one of those unmanageable ones that was unaccustomed to the sight of a Farrier and had to be paraded before one every day. What will they do now, poor dears?

Lance Sergeant Bill Cowell, Signalmen "Puff" Blow and Brookes had equestrian ideas foisted upon them, and the two former have been posted on the 15th to the 1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop at Risalpur, and the latter to the "2nd" at Sialkot also on the 15th. By now they have possibly discovered what a difficult and elusive thing a "seat" can become. May we suggest to Signalman Brookes that crooning is indeed effective with restive mounts?

Lieutenant S. G. Humphrys takes with him the Unit's best wishes for a good leave at home. He left us on the 28th.

Socialism (Rose-coloured).—A splendid communal effort by the junior N.C.O.s, led by Corporal Alfie Froggatt, made the 1938 edition of the Corporals' Annual Dinner and Dance on 5th January a huge success. Amongst those who contributed largely to this was the versatile Lance Sergeant Robins, this time in the capacity of chef. With amazing deftness, he produced foods that tickled the most jaded palates. C.Q.M.S. Meredith, barman for the occasion, did extremely well. Perhaps this pair know something about the glassy and heavy eyes which were apparent after the interval. The attendance was large, and not one wit dulled by Corporals Gunn, McMahon or Page. The ubiquitous "Spud" was also present, but on this occasion almost a mash.

En passant, this affair was perhaps Corporal Froggatt's swan-song; shortly afterwards he handed over the Presidency of the Corporals' Mess to Corporal Talbot.

The Band.—Mention of festivity is incomplete without adding something of the Signals Dance Band, who have done tremendous work during the winter. They have covered many engagements both in and out of the Unit, and have in every possible way fulfilled the promise shown at the opening of the season, when they spent many weary hours at practice, driving us nearly to the verge of madness.

Their big plum was an engagement to play at the Garrison Officers' production of "Making a Nonsense." Here, without appearing on the stage, they filled many bright moments and played some excellent accompaniments.

Geoffrey Bateman, working under the cover of darkness, contributed largely to this clever production by painting the scenery and creating the stage effects. His sylvan backcloth for the ballet based on the popular song "Trees" was sheer genius; and the War Office scene with the Cenotaph just visible through the window almost conjured Whitehall's traffic roar before us. The point and effect of many of the sketches in this revue would have been lost without the almost perfect staging.

The Church Fire.—We were rudely disturbed in the early hours of last Friday morning to learn that St. Augustine's Church was ablaze. Within a very short space of time the whole Unit was on the scene, but, alas, quite unable to check the conflagration, which by this time had rapidly spread through the nave and chancel, and almost demolished the roof, the supports of which were white hot, cascading showers of sparks into the night. The Kohat Municipal Fire Brigade and the R.A.F. Chemical Tender arrived shortly afterwards. Their efforts preserved the main walls of the building and extinguished the burning debris. Old Colours of the Frontier Force Battalions were destroyed—these are irreplaceable—also many memorial tablets and the fine pews that had been presented by Frontier Force Regiments. The building and its contents was entirely uninsured.

The Staff.—The changes are being rung on our employed personnel with far-reaching effects. Corporal Page is relinquishing his job as Clothing N.C.O. and will be replaced by Corporal Rice from the Cookhouse. Lance Corporal Robson is stepping into the vacancy, and what "Dizzy" is doing meanwhile is nobody's business. Signalman Robertson, by the way, is to be relieved of the onerous duties of speech.

Coursing.—This ancient sport has its adherents here as elsewhere. Corporal Bow dashed off to the S.T.C., Jubbulpore, early in the month in order to pursue an elusive "Q" on the "S" Course. Lance Corporals Lawrence and Evans are similarly engaged, but with a different object in view. They are on the short (but not too sweet) P.T. Course at the Central Gymnasium, Rawalpindi. Doubtless they have now designed the novel shapes into which they will batter and twist us during that first half-hour of the day. It will, however, be in the nature of revenge.

Impossible People.—The football player (?) who, when asked to supply our correspondent with some details of a certain football match in which he had played, declined on the grounds that he had contributed so much to the result.

And Davenport, who rushed into the bungalow the other morning exclaiming that the atmosphere was rather "centipedical." When asked by the inmates what he meant, he replied, "It is rather fœtid, isn't it?" There were no boots available at the psychological second.

Last Minute News.—As we were about to go to press, news was received that Mrs. Winckley, wife of Major G. C. Winckley, M.C., our Commanding Officer, had won the Ladies' Golf Championship for the North-West Frontier Province. Mrs. Winckley has our sincerest congratulations on winning this event.

ROBANSON.

[Owing to pressure on space some excellent photographs have been unavoidably omitted—ED.]

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

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

January.

Once again the cry "Roll on Bostan" is beginning to be heard very faintly, as if from a far-off land, and we are all looking

forward (or are we ?) to another sojourn in that land of " Spring Training." Meanwhile, the Frontier has called for assistance, and the Unit has responded nobly be despatching Lance Corporals Parry and Crockett, Signalmen Overton (all of Burma fame), Roberts A., Till and Deighton to Fort Sandeman for temporary duty. Corporal Bray L. has left us for a short stay in Jubbulpore, where he hopes to shine (should be spelt with a capital " S "). In regard to the Corporals' Room, we have to offer our heartiest congratulations to Corporal (now Lance Sergeant) Hothersall, who has turned over yet another page of that famous book, *From Private to Field Marshal*.

Gas training has been carried out, and everyone passed the tests with creditable success, which was due to the excellent instructions received. (I was one of the instructors.) For a fortnight the Square seemed to be one gesticulating heterogeneous mass of humanity. In reality it was just a spot of practice in getting in and out of respirators. In spite of certain queer answers given by individuals, such as "A cup of hot tea is best for a tear gas casualty " and " For a gas alarm—whistle," they all managed to get away with it.

Those on I.T. are beginning to weigh their chances, and the general cry, " To BII or not to BII " can be heard interspersed with cries of " Inverse square laws " and " Half the alphabet divided by once through the numerals."

" K " Section has left the Unit for a short training spell at Kotri. Another hole in the guard roll ! No. 2 Company could not raise a full Section without taking overators from the Upgrading Course, and so No. 1 Company had to supply the deficiency. When the Section was formed, a programme of route marches and schemes was carried out until the date of their departure. The idea was to break them in to the footing part of the training, but No. 1 Company's *de luxe* travellers did not quite get the idea, and, after the first few efforts, those who were not hobbling about on Chaplis were on sick reports. (Eh, Steve ?) I wonder what that zealous seeker of experience—the Company night alarm—thinks of the " Sands of Sind." I expect he is looking forward to " Gripping " us with " Soldiering on the Plains " when he returns.

The G.O.C., Baluchistan District, is visiting the Unit on 4th February, and " Oh, what a show they made ! " Grandiose preparations, which include a massed parade of " J " Section at war strength, are afoot for his reception. The weather during the past few days has been rather damp, but has now cleared, and we hope that everything will be satisfactory for the big event.

On 1st January the Unit paraded for the annual Proclamation Parade. After the parade, Lance Corporal Kerry was presented with his Special Certificate of Education. Signalman Jones J. D. was also successful in obtaining his " Special," but owing to his duties at Hyderabad, the presentation was postponed until his return. Congratulations to both of them.

On 18th January the new Entertainments Committee presented its first show—a dance at the Masonic Hall. The dance was very successful, and, to use that very hackneyed phrase, " a very enjoyable evening was spent by all." The success of the function was due to the very hard work performed by the committee, under the energetic direction of Corporal Oliver, who is their Secretary.

Our Sports Clerk is at present suffering from a great disappointment. He could not go home without visiting the Frontier, and so it was arranged for him to go with the Sandeman Detachment. Woe is he ! Someone else was found in his place, and he now only has his imagination with which to astound the rustics. Cheer up, Huckleberry, there is still a chance that you will not be going home until after the arrival of the last draft, when you will be able to tell them all you know. (Shouldn't take you long.)

Lance Corporal Hearn has left for Karachi (that land of milk and honey). Ginger hopes to follow, but that telegram has not yet arrived. Surely they haven't overlooked you ?

We welcome Lance Sergeant Cook, Corporal Boffy and fifteen Signalmen from the U.K., and wish them all a very pleasant stay in the Orient. We imagine that this stay will be in the region of five years.

I must apologise for the brevity of these notes, but there is little else of importance to report.

RONKAY.

Sergeants' Mess.

Our Farrier Staff-Sergeant (the Pocket Battleship) has bewildered the Army Staff and the Unit Office Staff. First, he intends to finish, then decides that a spot of leave would be better, so decides to finish again. Between you, myself and the troopship, he doesn't quite know whether he is coming or going. Further reports—" Unsettled."

The strength of the Mess is very depleted at present, owing to the fact that several members are away training at Hyderabad and Kotri. Rumour whispers that they volunteered in order to get away from the cold weather. Others have left us for the Blighty shore, but so far their reliefs have not arrived. Some " volunteers " are, however, expected before the end of the trooping season.

In the early part of the year we lost that veteran " Gripper," Cyclone Basil Breeze, alias the Karachi Klutcher, who returned to " B " Corps Signals, Karachi, in time to sail on 5th February. He possesses a great faith in football sweeps, and his record was only once challenged, and then by the redoubtable " Sadie " of Burma fame. Watch him, Canterbury !

Zhob Signal Section.

December, 1937.

General.—We expect that a lot of WIRE subscribers have begun to wonder where we have got to, and whether we had got swallowed up in the earthquake. Well, such a disaster did not befall us, and, as the story goes, we are still here, alive and well to tell the tale, which is quite a long one for a new start off in the realm of journalism. To begin with, we wish to chronicle the arrival of our new " Q " bloke and his wife—C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Conway—and hope that their stay will be a pleasant one. To C.S.M. Russell and family we say *bon voyage*, and hope that they will be happy at their new Station.

Christmas has come and gone, and we all enjoyed the festive season's round of functions with the full zest of Yuletide. It seemed very appropriate that the weather should be proper Christmas weather with plenty of snow and ice. Though the glass was well down and the air was quite nippy, the attendance at our Dance, held on the 31st in the Sergeants' Club, was overflowing. As this function was a " fancy dress," the turn-out was a splendid one. " Cardinal Wolseley " seemed to be having a lively time with a " Pirate from Penzance," whilst the " Don Cossack " from the Steppes could be seen enjoying the cup that cheers with " Herr Hitler " and " Captain Blood." The dancing was fast and furious, and even the " Unit Accountant " could be seen indulging in the light fantastic.

On the 25th we had the Unit Christmas dinner, and all seemed to have enjoyed the repast to the full. The toast of " His Majesty the King Emperor " having been proposed by our worthy C.O., Major Fielder, the diners settled down to do justice to the groaning tables of eats and drinks. The usual remaining toasts of " The Ladies," "Absent Friends," " Visitors " and " The C.O." having been passed and replied to, the diners adjourned to the Institute, where all indulged in various games until the early hours of the next morning.

We wish to offer our many thanks to Mrs. Fielder and Mrs. Conway for their valuable culinary assistance, which helped so much to make both our functions a veritable success.

Arrivals.—To Sergeants Beach and Hotchkiss, Signalmen Harker, Page, Owen and Conway we offer a hearty welcome, and hope their stay in Zhob will be a happy one.

Departures.—To Sergeants Ratcliffe and Pearson we say *bon voyage*, and hope that their new Stations will be as sociable and pleasant as the ones they have left in the Baluchistan area. *El Arish*, Bill !

Agony.—Is Nebby really on the tack ? Someone said that he is starting to improve his linguistic abilities.

Things We Would Like to Know.—If tacking it is not injurious to the sight. Ask Nebby.

If Nebby is the short for Nebuchadnazzar.

How many dates make a wedding ? Ask Nobby.

If the lovesick swains require postheen coats at night.

Well, we have made a start, and hope to keep it up. So cheerio, until next time.

ZHOBSIGS.

EASTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Unit Headquarter Company.

The Christmas Festivities. —The programme of events for the festivities resulted in increased daily activities from 23rd December, 1937, until 1st January, 1938. This period included a couple of " holiday routines " and practice ceremonial parades, without which we should have been right out of our depth ! However, Christmas week (or should I say ten days ?) was voted by all to be one of the best spent in India. My tactful enquiries on the subject did not raise a decent moan from anybody.

Thanks are due to our Commanding Officer and the P.R.I. (or should I say P.R.I.s ?), Major C. E. Sketch and Major A. J. A. Schofield, who took a daily interest in the hardworking committee's preparations for the amusements. I mention both P.R.I.s, as these officers were in progress of handing over, and, in consequence, both played an active part. The committee, Lance Corporals Greaves, Telfer and Brookes and Signalman Millett, not forgetting their assistants, who are too numerous to mention, went all out to attain their objective. Their efforts met with the satisfaction of all and sundry. Well done !

23rd December, 1937.—The Corporals' Room Dinner was held in the Sergeants' Mess. (The single members of the Sergeants' Mess were invited.) This was followed by a Social Evening to which the families came along in force. A real good show, which started the ball rolling. Here, I suppose, it is correct to say the Corporals did the Sergeants very well, but towards " twelvish " we think the boot was on the other foot. However !

24th December, 1937.—The Children's Christmas Tree Party followed by the Sergeants' Mess Draw took place.

The officers' ladies arrived during the morning with some wonderful toys for the children, and started to decorate the tree. Balloons were blown up—and burst—tinsel sprinkled, lighting arranged, when, lo ! and behold ! there was no snow ! Immediate indents for snow were submitted, and we hoped for the best. In the interim the renowned catering firm of Messrs. Rawson, Rawson and Rawson supplied tea to cool the jagged nerves. The B.M.H. came up to scratch, and at last the " dcpe " was flung high and low (more low), and the tree was ready for the great surprise, which was due to commence at 3.30 p.m. At approximately 1 p.m. I noticed Billy Bunter poking his nose hard against the window pane, having a look. No, the window pane is still intact.

The bewitching hour arrived, and so did the conjuror, who entertained the company until teas were ready. The bird trick was probably his outstanding feature. I noticed that Sergeant Ward slipped out of view in case the bird decided to perch on his waxed ends. What an invitation ! Of course there were some disappearing tricks. Although Sergeant Richardson managed to get his ring back soon after the performance ended, it took the R.S.M. about four days before his rupee was returned for circulation ; and then it was a question of whether the Caterer or the Treasurer was responsible for its re-appearance, which only goes to prove that there was more than one conjuror on the scene.

The cake and crackers, which were the next item on the programme, held the visitors until dusk had fallen ; and then the mad rush to the adjoining room proved that the labour of the morning had not been wasted. Father Christmas (surname Gudgeon) arrived down the chimney. Watching the progress of his torch, I should say that the chimney had recently been cleaned, because he literally fell down it, but not before the Foreman of Signals had managed to inform the youngsters that the letters they had posted in the fireplace had been given due consideration.

On behalf of the families, may I congratulate our Colonel's wife, Mrs. H. D. Beadon, and her committee for their work and forethought, which was greatly appreciated by the children and their parents.

Further tactful enquiries produced no complaints, except those from a couple of youngsters who told me that they were beginning to feel the effects of the tea. Reverting to my slogan of last year—or was it the year before ?—" California Syrup of Figs " does the trick ; and so on to 8.50 p.m.

At this phase the parents were wondering how much they had to buy to complete their Christmas stock. To cut a long story short, I do not think that Sergeant Hills of the Troop had too much to worry about, and I am wondering if he has yet been able to consume and drink all that came his way. But really, it is surprising how the goods vanish round about this time of the year.

Dancing followed, with music from the panotrope, ably assisted by Mrs. Beard on the drums. Then a few songs. Outstanding were Mrs. Maguire with " Bonny Mary of Argyle " and Nobby Clarke, who, whether we liked it or not, persisted in singing the " Song of the Thrush." When it came to the " thousands of miles away " many handkerchiefs were seen to be emanating from the handbags. Even a hard-bitten old Indian wallah like myself had to proceed to the hatchway to treat myself to a *chota peg* ; not for sentimental reasons, but chiefly because nobody else would ask me to have one.

25th December, 1937.—Christmas Day. (You're telling me.) At midday, the officers and their wives met the families in the Sergeants' Mess, where greetings were exchanged. The unfortunate part about this little social gathering was that the mince pies and Christmas cake apparently had been confiscated the night before.

At approximately 1 p.m., the officers and Sergeants proceeded to the Men's Dining-room. The decorations here were, undoubtedly, the best I have seen. The dining-room walls were covered with various caricatures, and the lighting effects were excellent. Apart from the decorations, the eats were of the best. The following menu was served and enjoyed by all :

Tomato Soup.
Buttered Fish and Sauce.
Roast Fowl and Roast Pork.
Vegetables.
Mince Pies.
Christmas Pudding, Brandy Sauce.
Dessert.
Minerals. Beer.

Signalman Millett toasted the C.O. and officers, and the R.S.M. called for three cheers, which, when rendered, nearly raised the roof, to say nothing of the cotton wool hanging flimsily on the E.I. blankets. The C.O., in his Christmas and New Year greetings, expressed his appreciation of the hard work which had been done in order to make the show such a success.

The cooking of the dinner by a recognised catering firm added to the enjoyment of the " meal of the year," and although the " Cooper " flavour normally is quite good—well, the " Stiffles " flavour was certainly better.

Having signed menu cards for about two hours, I decided that the best thing to do would be to creep away like a white ant to laze for a while in preparation for the social event at 6.30 p.m., which was to be held in the Dining-hall. However, my plan of campaign was frustrated. I distinctly remember saying, " No more for me, thanks," but again I was baulked. Nevertheless, all good things come to an end, but only to start again at the Social—or rather Smoker—which terminated at 8.30 p.m., when some went to the pictures to close one eye, and others, of course, to join the " carol party."

Two parties decided to give the families their very best vocal efforts. Party A was thirty strong, and Party B fifteen strong ; thank goodness they did not meet to make it forty-five strong. Unfortunately, quite a number of lights fused on this occasion. In fact, lights were popping off and on all over the place.

And so Christmas Day was voted by one and all as one of the best—the very best.

26th December, 1937.—Boxing Day (Sunday). Being a day of rest, we duly rested, except for a Treasure Hunt, which was held at 10 a.m. The clues—eight in all—were estimated to take about one and a half hours to solve. About fifty B.O.R.s took part, and started with a fifty-yard dash to obtain their first clue from the R.S.M., who, withstanding low tackles and ankle

taps, saw the hares away, only to see them all make a bee line for his office instead of the M.I. Room. One bright youth, however, discovered his error, and set the pace for the unenlightened to follow. Much to the Committee's surprise, the first man romped home within forty minutes of the start, due, no doubt, to his cross-country abilities. However, he was a clue short, and was therefore disqualified. The first home, complete with clues, was Signalman Blundell, who received a " Shaving Set " ; the second was Signalman Laws, who became the proud possessor of an " Ever Ready Torch."

Bread, cheese and pickles, also fruit if required, were then served to the competitors.

The Commanding Officer entertained the Indian officers to tea at his bungalow.

27th December, 1937.—At 9 a.m. a practice ceremonial parade by Companies, followed by a Unit parade, brought us back into harness again.

At 8 p.m. the Junior N.C.O.s played the Signalmen at an Indoor Games Tournament. I understand that the result was a draw. Although everybody enjoyed themselves, I heard som mention that the result was a wangle. Surely not !

The bewitching hour of 7.30 p.m. arrived, and all was prepared for the Sergeants' Mess Dinner, which was to be followed by a Dance. The excellently-prepared table made us only too keen to get down to business. On the arrival of the " Snifter," which had been prepared in conjunction with C.S.M. Marshall by the same catering firm previously mentioned in these notes, " eats " became the order of the day.

THE MENU.

By Messrs. " Stiffles."	By The " Dinner " Committee
Hors-d'œuvres.	A Snifter.
Tomato Soup.	Hors-d'œuvres.
Fish Mayonaise.	Gurmukteser Soup.
Roast Turkey and Ham	Machli de Bericas.
Plum Pudding, Brandy Sauce.	Pairu Aur Sur a la Bignor.
Cheese Straws.	Bharu Duff avec Thora Crater.
Dessert. Cafe.	Fatehpur Fromage.
	Desert Us Not.
	Cafe Au Three Star.

After a very enjoyable dinner, the room was cleared for dancing, which carried on until 2 a.m. The band from the Wheler Club was exceptionally good, and inspired those who were tripping the light fantastic. Even " Big Harted " decided to have a dance.

28th December, 1937.—At 9 a.m. another practice Proclamation Parade was held. The Chief Signal Officer, Eastern Command (Lieutenant-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E.), attended this parade and took the salute.

The football match in the afternoon, " Officers and Sergeants v. the Remainder," was, unfortunately, cancelled, as the semi-final of the All-India Cricket had to be played, requiring the backbone of the Officers' and Sergeants' Eleven.

29th December, 1937.—The hockey match, " Sergeants v. Other Ranks," resulted in a draw, much to the surprise of the latter team, who had every intention of smartening up the Mess team. However, the old soldiers played like heroes to keep the young blood out—and succeeded.

29th December, 1937.—All Ranks Dance (soft lights and sweet music). This event revealed scenes which had never before been witnessed in our lines. Gaiety and revelry were the order of the evening. It was a huge success, and the talk of the Station for days. Jimmy Cummins and his Wheler Club band provided music which was a splendid accompaniment to the dance. The same band are frequently heard broadcasting from Delhi, and it was a distinct achievement in getting them to play for us. The success of the dance was due to them.

The function was organised by the Christmas Entertainments Committee. The lighting arrangements, made by Lance Corporal Dowding and Signalman Kirk, were excellent and spectacular. The decorations were still standing ; the cotton wool was still clinging ; and the verandah was like a page from a shipping company's magazine. Palms and easy chairs, the ladies, coloured lights and jolly music, beautiful dresses and sparkling faces, combined in making this the crowning social event of Christmas, 1937.

Sergeant (Irish) Richardson and his wife carried away the first prize in the spot waltz. Several other spot waltz and novelty prizes were distributed by Mrs. G. Bew, including a drum for our new Drum-Major, Drum-Major Jones N. (shades of Proclamation practice parades). Charlie Eynott did not get his letter, but it is reported that his bearer is still cleaning his blues.

The dance finished at one o'clock, to the disappointment of all present, but a practice Proclamation parade the following morning prevented a late affair, and, in any case, the band, who had already played to a tea dance the same evening, were tired. And so we all went quietly to bed with the memory of a dance that will take a long time to forget.

[Owing to pressure on space some excellent photographs have been unavoidably omitted—Ed.]

7th Infantry Brigade Signal Section.

Ghangora Camp.

11th December, 1937.

On 16th November, 1937, the " Galloping ' J ' " arrived in Camp with hearts full of hope and feet full of blisters. Although the " Meat Waggon " was never really crowded, it was certainly patronised by our youthful members. The journey to camp was like any other " hike," except for a serious accident to one of the lorries which ended its career there and then. As it carried the Canteen, cooking utensils and staff, we were greatly worried, but not a bottle was broken. The Chah Wallah's memory was still as good the following day, even though he had collected a lump on his head like a loaf of brown bread.

Much amusement was caused by a worthy member, when he ordered the Section to keep to the left. Moments passed, but no vehicle appeared. Later, much to his chagrin, an aeroplane zoomed overhead.

This year, communication at the end of each day's march was maintained with Meerut by a No. 1 Set. Now that we have settled down in camp, " Lofty " Dowding, our I.M., has erected, after much calculus, a three-quarter, or something or other, aerial, which has proved a marked success. R/T was tried, and we were much surprised when Meerut gave us the usual R.9s. ; later, our O.C. and the O.C., " K " Section, held a conversation between Ghangora Camp and Fathepur, which are 30 miles apart.

" Middy," who is in charge of the Section's grubstakes, has that bankruptcy look about him, and is going " baldheaded " with anxiety in order to make ends " meat." It is no wonder, considering the delicate appetites of Sergeant Bailey, Corporal Hadland, " Bugs " Allan and Leach.

We were very sorry to lose our O.C. for a few days in hospital. Further casualties are : " Tubby " Slater and one mule (N.Y.D.).

We were very pleased to have Lance Sergeant " Sunshine " Ray and Signalman " Ethel " Everitt join our Section, for we are very short-handed. For a Section composed of mostly " just come outs," we are doing well and liking it.

Facts.—One Signalman wondered if a fullerphone superimposed on a No. 1 Set would give " scrambled speech."

On 5th December, 1937, we were treated to a spread by the I.O.R.s of the Section in honour of their I.D. festival. Needless to say, *tiffin* was postponed until tea time.

Finale.—We are all sunburnt, happy, and looking forward to the Christmas pudding (if any).

Two " Ls."

[Owing to pressure on space some excellent photographs have been unavoidably omitted—Ed.]

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

13th January.

Greetings.—To all our readers at home, abroad and in the Dominions, a very happy and prosperous New Year. The best of health and good luck for 1938.

Shop.—The Unit had a rather hectic three weeks at camp during the latter end of November and beginning of December.

Suffice to say that the general standard of efficiency was maintained throughout. Radio telephony is all the vogue at the moment. I am told there are a few budding Allison's and Marshall's, so the B.B.C. will never be short of commentators.

Weapon training is now in full swing, and glancing through some of the results of those who have already finished there appears to be an up grade, possibly with a view to the Scissors Cup.

Shipping.—The first draft home left us on Christmas Eve. They were Sergeant Child (Charlie) and family to London Corps Signals, and Corporals Hunt (Chesty) and Swan (Don), who proceed to Catterick Camp. C.Q.M.S. Applegate (Bill) proceeded on eight months' furlough to U.K. on 11th January.

Camp Echoes.—When out on a shooting expedition, somebody suddenly discovered his companion strangling a hare and shouted: "Let up! Let me get at it!" Both barrels were then discharged. Who was it?

Wedding Bells.—On 6th November, 1937, the marriage of Corporal Wilson to Miss Ellen Norman took place at the R.C. Church, Meerut. We offer them our best wishes.

Blue Book.—Heartiest congratulations to Lance Corporal Sneddon (Muscles) on attaining the first step up the ladder.

Valedictory.—And now, dear readers, I bid you a long adieu. I have an appointment with a boat, and hope to enjoy reading these notes in print under the sky in Blighty.

PIP.

February.

General.—This month sees the New Year well started. So far we have taken part in one Signal Exercise with the 3rd Indian Divisional Signals. The second one we were lucky (and thankful) to miss, owing to an inspection of horses. (One occasion on which we were very thankful to the dear creatures.)

At the moment we are very busily engaged in preparations for the Chief Signal Officer's inspection on the 8th, and the Brigade Commander's inspection on the 9th—phew! Still, as always, we can take it. We will let you know how things pan out.

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—The following nice boys have reported themselves to the Troop in order to taste the joys of caring for animals and whatnot—especially the whatnot: Lance Sergeant Hibbit W. from 'Pindi—he has a special whatnot, M.T.; Lance Sergeant Steele H. R. from "Bhoosa King" at Karachi to the lordly seat of Chief Clerk; Corporal Johnny Driver from Jubbulpore; Corporal (Ovaltine) Douglas-Beveridge from Wazdist—he is bandy already; Signalman Dodd from Karachi; Signalman (what again!) Robertson from Quetta; Signalmen Goodall and Gillard from 3rd Indian Divisional Signals; and Signalman Trotter—our one and only really new draft from Scarborough. They all hope to prove themselves worthy of their spurs, and we, in our turn, hope that their stay will prove a happy one.

Has Beens.—Our Commanding Officer—Captain C. Childs—has left us for the more congenial atmosphere of Catterick Camp. He liked his Course so much that he has decided to stay in Blighty. We all wish him the very best of luck and success in the future.

C.Q.M.S. Applegate, who has left the cares—and what cares—to Sergeant Hill, is having a spot of the best in the only place in which one can obtain the best. No prizes for working that one out. Lance Sergeant Lourie, who has had a change of Troops, is now showing the 1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop how it should be done; at least, we hope so.

To all those who have left the Troop, we send our best *salaams* and also the best of luck; at the same time assuring them that we shall carry on the Troop traditions to the best of our abilities.

Congratulations.—To Lance Sergeant Hunt J. on his appointment. It's a bit late, we know, but—well—you know how it is.

To Whom it May Concern.—I don't know quite whether this should be a warning or not, but the following are leaving us on the 11th for Blighty. You have been told!: Lance Sergeants Phillp P. W. and McDowall G., and Signalman Ward. The first two are good all-rounders at football, cricket, billiards, darts, and even the Olde English pastime of "gripping." We are exceptionally sorry to have them leave us, for they will leave a big gap to fill. Loud chuckles from the Div., who may be able to win a couple of games now—if we let them. The Units at home to which they are posted will find little to criticise in regard to their abilities at work or play. All our very best; and may your shadows never grow less.

Is That So!—Our tame Chuprassi reports the following: "The M.O. shouldn't give you T.A.B. Inoculation just prior to going home; you'll only get another dose as soon as you land."

"All those years spent out here tend to mix you up, sir." I agree!

"What's the matter with my sports coat? Why, only the other day the . . . turned out their guard as I went by; must have mistaken me for an officer, eh? I'll say they must. Imagine something like a battleship cruising across the square. Wonder the sentry didn't want to sign the pledge.

RUSTY.

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

18th January.

General.—The Troop have returned from the three days' District Exercise. As usual, our wireless sets behaved well, and the Force Commander expressed his gratitude for the excellent communication maintained throughout the Exercise.

It was discovered during the Exercise that the Troop had a second "Kitchener" in their midst—a man well known to all ranks, and especially to Poona. It is no mean feat to capture the enemy's ration column. If it had been a REAL war, no doubt a decoration would be forthcoming—on the other hand, perhaps it would have been a coffin.

Visit of Viceroy.—H.E. The Viceroy is visiting this Station on 22nd January, and Signal Units are providing W/T communication for the salute of guns; the salute is to be fired concurrently at three places, which are roughly five miles apart.

New Faces (continued).—Signalman Rawcliffe from "A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi. He has already proved himself a snooker champion, and enjoys the privilege of having his tea poured out by the youngsters (all those with less than sixteen years' service). Lance Corporal Knight, from our neighbours, 4th Divisional Signals. He has already purchased some vaseline and white "Blanco," but his thrill has been postponed until February, when he reports to the Troop. This waste of money also applies to Boy Rawcliffe.

Departures.—The scribe; to the C.S.O.'s Office, Poona.

Things We want to Know.—Are all correspondence journalists absent minded?

Why does "Champ" Lavelle dress in breeches, puttees and spurs to read Wild West books?

Troop Competitions—Christmas, 1937.—Three competitions were held during Christmas.

HANDY HUNTER COMPETITION: Triple tie between Captain Barker, Lance Corporal Snowball and Naik Jacob, 4th Divisional Signals. In the run off, Lance Corporal Snowball won by a few seconds, and is now the possessor of a Cup. Our C.O. did not compete in the run off as his horse had had a strenuous day. After all, our officers were not competing for prizes; if they were, I am afraid that they would have added several to their collection of trophies.

OPEN JUMPING: The splendid display of jumping was heartily applauded and enjoyed by the guests and all ranks. The winners were the C.O. and Lieutenant Whistler, who tied for first place. In the run off, Lieutenant Whistler won by the proverbial "blister on the nose." The next best to receive prizes were: 1. Naik Kishan Singh, 4th Divisional Signals; 2. Naik Ghaus Mohd, Troop.

YOUNG SOLDIERS' COMPETITION: A great contest, for which the winner—Lance Naik Feroze Khan—deserves a pat for an excellent all-round performance. The scribe was placed third, and according to the experts, would have won the trophy if his skill in grooming had been better. It is understood that during his stay in Poona, the scribe is to undergo a lengthy Grooming Course at the stables of the Poona Light Horse. If the C.O. would kindly extend the period of service to seven years, he will be back next Christmas on a week's leave in order to win the coveted shield.

BONNIE DUNDEE.

[Owing to pressure on space some excellent photographs have been unavoidably omitted—ED.]

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Egypt Signals.

Unit Headquarters.

General.—As we are still here, I must mention that there has been very little to write about, hence our slight absence.

Departures.—Signalman Browne H. has left us for the Land of Hope and Glory. We wish him the best of luck. "Oh, postman, where art thou ?" Good luck, Topper !

Vacancies Filled.—One Unit Postman, filled by Signalman Burke.

Mothers' Corner.—Calling all parents of bonny bairns. Blotto and Blotto, photographers, take amazing pictures of young children ; also bottled if required.

Things We Should Like to Know.—Can a certain wireless set pick up Daventry after " Lights Out " ?

Would " Blotto " like another pair of socks for his birthday ?

Sport.—For the Section Football League, please turn to Sports page. Hockey commences next week, and our first match is against "A" Section.

Finis.—Anyone who wants a job of writing these notes, please applv. Good wages and excused parades. Yeah !

K. K.

No. 1 Company.

General.—During January the main occupation of military interest has been the navigation of the desert by means of the sun compass. This is an excellent instrument so long as the sun shines, but during the heavy rain that we have had recently the sun compass was found to have certain disadvantages. The method of using an electric torch in place of the sun, to throw a shadow on the compass card did not prove entirely dependable.

Nevertheless, many hundreds of desert miles have been accomplished by "A" Section to the tune of " Line, please " (from the driver) and " More left ; more left ; on " (from the navigator sitting in a howling gale on the top of the vehicle).

Drafts.—News comes to the effect that we are to expect one hundred O.R.s on or about 10th February ; their names are too numerous to mention, but we hope that they will enjoy their stay with us.

Departures.—The following embarked at Alexandria in the *Dilwara* for passage to the United Kingdom : Signalmen Spauls A. and Pearson A., and Driver Hirschfield F., all to A.V.T.C. Signalmen Browne H. and Osborne E., both to Ministry of Labour Courses. We wish them the best of luck in their new spheres of life.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Corporals Bennett and Davis on attaining their second stripe.

Camps.—Lance Corporal Kettlewell and his staunch supporters have returned to Fayid Camp for another spell of duty (or rest). Ginger's Jews' Course will soon attain four figures if he attends any more camps.

Gossip.—They say that wedding bells may be heard very soon.

Those Who Wait.—Roebuck and our Bobby are still waiting for the *Queen Mary*. Buck wants to know where he can buy a boat.

Odds and Ends.—Can anyone play the mouth organ ? If so, please come to "A" Section, and do us a favour. Romance is in the air, as we quietly recline on our " feather " beds in the cool of the evening listening to the sweet, soft strains of the violin wafting over the desert the dreamy music of the " Blue Danube," tangos and foxtrots. Our Horace will soon be a Fritz Kreisler.

Jews' Mail.—To Tomo (Doncaster la 5th Div.). " Stamps only cost two annas. Scafy."

To Beard (504), ex-" E " Cav. Troop. " What about it ? T. Early."

To Tuby Nutt, " F " Sect., 2nd Div. " Remember 2nd March, 1937 (promise about civvies). Come clean, O fat one. From Morris 8 Crasher."

No. 3 Company.

General.—1st January being the end of the festive season for another year, one and all have been getting down to training with a will, and, as a result, some excellent results and reports have been received.

" J " Section, during the period 8th to 22nd January, were attached to the 31st Brigade, R.A., and upheld the name of the Corps for efficiency and service.

" K " Section, during the early part of the month, gave a demonstration of wireless telephony to the Staff Officers, H.Q., B.T.E., and were commended upon their efficient performance. During the latter part of the month, several of their personnel and cars were attached to " W " Troop to assist them in Cavalry training.

Both " J " and " K " have carried out several Section Schemes in the Black Hills and Suez Road areas, during the course of which much useful practice was obtained. One point that may be of interest to ex-members of these Sections is that the D.R.s can quite easily maintain the speed of the new 8 cwt. wireless trucks when on the move. At first the D.R.s had other ideas on the subject.

" B " Cable Section, which for the time being is a skeleton Section, together with Company H.Q., comprise the remainder of the Company.

Promotions.—Lance Sergeant Couperthwaite to be Sergeant ; Lance Corporal Moxon to be Corporal ; Lance Corporal Perree to be Corporal.

Arrivals.—Nil, but we have a draft of one hundred other ranks arriving on the 8th to form No. 2 Company, and to fill our depleted ranks, not to mention the fact that we shall gladly allow them to head the Guard and Duties Roll.

Departures.—On 2nd February, Signalmen Caulfield and Cowan had their patience rewarded, when they proceeded home per H.T. *Dilwara*. The former for a Ministry of Labour Course and the latter for a Vocational Course. As usual they were interviewed by the scribe, prior to their departure, and Signalman Caulfield said, " During the whole of my service I have diligently searched my kit-bag for the Field-Marshal's baton, which I heard, upon enlistment, was stowed away in every soldier's kit-bag, but not a dog's hind leg could I find. So roll on, ' Civvy Street,' and mine's a pint."

Signalman Cowan said, " Many a long night have I whiled away preparing a speech for those relieving me, and now I'm going home, just six days before the draft arrives. Just my luck ! "

To both we wish the best of luck, and trust that in the years to come they will look back with pleasure upon the happy days spent in this Unit.

We Hear.—That a certain Signalman believes that a magnet is a piece of iron dipped in solenoids.

That a Lance Corporal was instructed to put a hydrometer in the circuit to determine the charging rate !

That a Sergeant replied to his lineman, who had already been instructed to run a line out, and who had asked the Sergeant to obtain permission for him to " tee-in " to another line, " That he would ' tee-hee ' nobody in this Unit," and told him to run the line out as per instructions.

TEE-NUH.

[Owing to pressure on space, two excellent photographs have been unavoidably omitted—ED.]

"X" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Cairo.

Technical Notes.—We are in the throes of an uncomfortably busy training season. The "limbering-up" process in the form of Regimental Schemes has just finished. The period 31st January to 27th February seems to be designed for the purpose of breaking things. (What eloquence!) As twenty-five days of this period will be spent "in the blue," our cynic states that there will be time enough to break everything, as well as sending several of our venerable organisations tottering towards the M.I. Room, glassy-eyed and muttering, between foam-flecked lips, things like, "Fetch Commander," "'A' Squadron in position," "Can I close down?" "Were you at Waterloo?" "Wassa Time," and so on until *rigor mortis* sets in.

In the Spring, we are receiving new Sets, new cars, and new charging engines. "Soft music, Blackie; just close your eye and let it sink in!"

Posted.—To Karachi, one—Lance Corporal Macnair, A. Next to that phrase, "It's not the money, but the principle of the thing," this one—"Your gain and our loss" is the most hackneyed. But this time it is really true, and not idle chatter. Good luck, Mac., and don't break your fountain pen.

Three Guesses.—When a young man is very much in love with a very attractive girl, he is apt to bestow virtues and abilities upon her that no human being can ever possess. Yet at painful periods there enters into his soul vague but troublesome suspicions. At such times he is apt to regard the possibility that she might be guilty of the basest treachery and double dealings. It is, however, essential to impress upon the reader that these gloomy spasms are few and far between. Two guesses!

Culinary.—"This canteen steak is rotten. I've tried it at Torino's, the Services' Club, Fleurents, and Dimetre's. 'The Finish' steaks are best! Of course, I don't know about Shepheard's . . ."

What.—He felt a wave of hot air sweep up and envelope his leonine head in a blue haze! (Those interested should address their enquiries to "The Rogers Multi-Hole Cigarette Lighter.")

Heard in the Barrack-room.—"When you lose a thing, you can find it when you don't want it by looking where it wouldn't be if you did want it." (All in one breath.)

How do you spell manœuvres? S-C-H-E-M-E-S.

CHASMAN.

Malta Signal Section.

Command Signal Office, Valletta.

8th February.

General.—The New Year, now well in its stride, opened quietly, and we have no earthquakes, visits or any social affairs to record. A glance round the barrack-room reminds us that events of more than a little importance have taken place. Four empty beds render mute evidence of the following:

Posting.—Having marked off the days in the approved fashion, and hoisted the paying-off pennant as per local custom, the following embarked in H.T. *Dilwara* for passage to the United Kingdom: Corporals "Blokey" Welbourne and "Nutty" Burrows, Signalmen "Jock" Henny and "Shiner" Glithro. Saying good-bye to these doughty seamen one early morning, we were surprised on return from a "hard day's labour" to find them still with us. Wind and weather against them, they departed on the third good-bye, and we trust they had a better trip than the weather here portended. To each of them we wish every success at their new Stations, and hope that "Shiner" and "Jock" do not find the cold, hard world too hard to conquer.

Promotions.—We are again indebted to Mr. Records for a little subject matter, and therefore congratulate Lance Sergeant Rowe on his appointment. He is still looking for the individual who opened both doors wide when he approached the Mess in company with Lance Sergeant Keywood.

Sport.—League fixtures have been completed and football is now quiet. A few friendly games have helped us to keep the team in trim. Several have assisted the Staff and Departments at hockey, and some of them now co-operate with the R.A.S.C., and also field a rugger side with a fair measure of success.

SKIP.

Malaya Signal Company.

Alexandra.

January.

General.—Having got over the big event of the last year, and ushered in the present one to the clinks of glasses, the Company has resumed normal operations once more. The big treat expected at Christmas did not come up to the expectations of the Signals, but thanks to the noble man behind the pay desk (who had saved our money for us) we were able to drink the canteen dry on Christmas night, after which tragedy everyone invaded Singapore.

We are pleased to record that our "Duckie" (fra' Bolton) saw all the hardened drinkers of No. 35 Company, R.E., under the table, and then settled down to enjoy himself.

Moves.—Signalman Smart to Pulau Brani for a month's rest. Beware of Ducky, Taff! He has a lot of work to do and hates turning the megger. Signalman Salisbury from Pulau Brani to Alexandra after ten weeks' hard work. Ahem! Our George is still in hospital. "Come on, George, it's about time we had you back. Soccer starts soon!"

Congratulations.—To Busty Bellis (of Fort Canning) on securing a hold on the ladder of fame, and having sewn a Duncan bar on his shirt. Here's hoping that you will soon lose the "U," Busty, and don't forget the drinks for Alex. To Signalmen Cocking and Salisbury on getting a final grip of their "First." The results are even—one "D" each; the former for Maths., and the latter for Map Reading. (No chance of getting caught in a current now.)

Weddings.—Yes, we get them here, too. This time it is our O.C., Lieutenant E. I. E. Mozley, who embarked in the good ship "Matrimony" on 14th December, 1937, with Miss A. D. Mason of Leeds. The wedding took place at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore. The bride was given away by Major-General Dobbie, G.O.C., Malaya Command. The Company take this opportunity, sir, of wishing you and your bride all the best in the future.

Honorary Cork Club.—This famous club held its annual dinner at the Union Jack Club on 30th December, 1937. Thanks are due to the management of the "U.J." for the excellent fare provided. Being a non-member, I cannot say much, but, according to reports and the number of bleary eyes to be seen the next morning, the tea must have been extra strong. Sapper Clarke from "P.B." acted as pianist, and helped to make the evening a success. We should like to know why twenty-one members went by bus, but only ten returned. At what time did the others get back? Why did our sailor become sea-sick on the way home?

Monthly Dance.—Our monthly dance in December was again a huge success. Being held on Christmas Eve, everyone was out for a good time, and, believe me, they had it, too, judging from the amount of work done behind the bar. Sergeant Hodgeson, R.A.O.C., and his two merry men did not even have time for a drink. The accordion band of the 30th Company, R.E., Changi, which was in attendance, produced an enjoyable programme.

Queries.—Which chappie is for ever saying "Roll on that boat," at the same time dreading the day that he will have to set foot on it? Now, Dixie, don't be bashful, try going home by air this time.

Why did the R.A.S.C. abandon their trip to Pulau Bintang when they were halfway there? A wireless message from the Anderson stated that half the trippers were suffering from *mal-de-mer*, but on questioning some of the victims the only answer we could get was, "Oh, I was all right, it was the others." One bright lad said, "The boat hasn't been built yet that could get me down."

Whose face did Dixie and Co. mistake for a boot that needed blacking? O.K., Jock; but you must learn to behave when you visit the Signals Room.

Sport.—We have very little to report this month, as only three games have been played. A very thrilling game was witnessed when we had our return match with the Indian Association; the result was a draw, 1—1. We squared your debt off, Taff! Next came two matches against the 11th A.A., Changi, in which we were badly beaten in both games. No doubt this was due to the absence of our Changi support. The match at Changi was lost to the tune of 4—1, and the return game, held at Alexandra, was also lost with a score of 3—0. Thanks are due to the R.A.O.C. for filling in the gaps left by our own players who were crocked.

Football practice has already begun for the coming season, when it is hoped to enter a team in the local leagues. More anon.

Odds and Ends.—Fred's head looked a bit bigger the other day, and we wondered why. Then we saw the local "rag" headline—"Peck fails to convert"—and then we knew. How many copies did you send away, Fred?

To old, P.B.-ites. Hong's family was increased just before Christmas by the addition of a *lagi kechil prempuan*.

The famous "C" Sets have recently been given a new lease of life by the great Ticky, who, as a parting gesture to Malaya, spent much valuable time in re-wiring them. Good show, Ticky!

Jackie Bailey was busily fixing up his album the other night. Under a snap of "Old-Timer Mitch" he wrote, "Signalman Mitchel, 1935." "Mitch," who happened to be watching, said, "Correction, please, 1934 to you."

Jews Only.—Collie, Egypt Sigs. "Please open up communication; have message for you. Bill."

Soapy, S.-of-S. "Nearly had the new charging engine last week, only it turned out to be a new generator for the W.T. Station. Dixie is still living in hopes. By the way, Flying Bertha has now been fixed with four large bolts and a base of concrete; so her flying days are over. S."

Apology.—It is difficult to compile notes at two hours' notice in order to catch the mail, but our late scribe, "Ould Ireland '17" (Paddy Smyth), cannot cope with his fan-mail and notes at the same time.

In Conclusion.—Not having Tando's vivid imagination, we cannot describe the palm-fringed beaches and the sun-kissed maidens, so, cheerio until next time!

SLIM (R.H.S. II).

[Owing to pressure on space, a photograph has been unavoidably omitted—ED.]

Changi Detachment.

The mellow monotonous tones of a distant tom-tom, heralding the approach of the moon to its fullness, reminds me that once again WIRE notes are due from this "Outest" of Outposts—Changi. You, who sit back comfortably in your arm chairs at home in England, glancing hurriedly through Changi's contribution, little realise the adventurous journey these notes must undergo prior to reaching the Editor.

Having thought out some suitable topics with a digestable paragraph or two around them, the scribe submits his effort to the local censor. With loud snorts, punctuated by exclamations such as "Tripe," "Liar," "Official Secrets" indiscriminately, and with a flourish of the hand, he draws his blue pencil through the "tiddly bits," much to the chagrin of those foreign powers, who always make a point of reading Changi's WIRE notes.

After this censorship, the notes are handed to a loin-clad native runner, who sticks them on his spear head, and with loud cries and incantations, rushes forth into the blackness of the dense jungle which surrounds Changi. After a hectic journey, fraught with dangers (snakes, tigers and the Signals' Morris), he eventually arrives at the gates of Fort Canning. Muttering the pass word, "Balonichangi," he is immediately admitted.

The Fort Canning Signal Censors add, subtract and punctuate, much to the gleeful amusement of "Tiger" Bellis. After being duly sealed, they are placed in the Captain's safe of a homeward-bound vessel, and all concerned heave a sigh of relief when they are safely on their way. Now read on.

Christmas and the New Year Festival.—After a fourth Christmas in Malaya, our views are possibly biased, but it is generally admitted that this year's festivities did not go with the swing of previous years. Of course, conditions have changed. Signals are scattered around various parts of Malaya, and they did not congregate at Pulau Brani as in the past. However, those who were wise, drowned their sorrows in wine and "sukiyaki." Next year we hope that some really enterprising young fellow will endeavour to gather us all at one place, organise a Concert Party and—begone dull care.

Marriages.—Our O.C.—Lieutenant E. I. E. Mozley to Miss Anthea Mason at the Cathedral, Singapore, on 14th December, 1937. No doubt the Alexandra scribe will report fully on this matter, so it just remains for the Changi Signal personnel to tender to Lieutenant and Mrs. Mozley their sincere wishes for a happy married life.

Moves.—With the dawn of the New Year, the Detachment collected their barrang and removed to the top floor of "F" Block—directly above the Church; in the belfry, as it were. We are becoming quite accustomed to these periodical moves.

Sport.—On the field of sport we still continue to carry all before us. All our recent matches have resulted in a win in favour of Changi Signals.

The 3rd A.A. Brigade, R.A., recently tried to teach us a lesson by turning out an extremely strong team, which comprised quite a few of the R.A. Malaya players. However, we refused to be beaten, and the result of the encounter was a draw.

Fort Canning, frightened by our ballyhoo campaign in the daily newspapers, refused our challenge, on the grounds of financial difficulties! Filled with the lust of previous victories, we literally thrust ourselves at the Fort Canning team, who put up a reasonable fight. The final score resulted in a win for Changi Signals, 2—1.

The 41st Company, R.E., and a Company team of the Gordon Highlanders have also been taken in our stride; the scores were 3—0 and 2—0 respectively. Truly a wonderful team!

Postings.—Signalman Reaney proceeded to Pulau Tekong to undergo two months' solitary confinement amongst the malarial breeding and snake-infested swamps of that island. Signalman Burge has returned to Changi in place of "Ireland for the Irish."

This Month's Best.—Our "Toots" rushed into the Telephone Exchange, where he spied a switch which had recently been fitted to the wall. "Ah, what is this for?" he cried, and then pulled the switch down into the "On" position. He was immediately answered by a long drawn out howl as the Changi Area Administrative fire hooter howled forth its message of "Fire"! For the next hour or so, the Exchange operator was busy informing irate Fire-Engine Staffs, Brigades, Piquets and Fighters that there just wasn't any fire. Our "Toots" had vanished from view by this time!

TANDO T.B.C.

Tientsin Signal Section.

28th January.

General.—Now that the Christmas festivities are over and the after-effects have worn off, maybe we can make some attempt to describe the activities of this far-flung outpost.

The Christmas celebrations were enjoyed in the age-old manner—indeed, the liquid refreshment nearly lasted out. The families sent their usual invitations round to us, and we certainly rallied to the call. By the time that we had finished our tour of inspection (or should it be infection), the majority were just able to locate the rendezvous for the Christmas dinner, which was specially arranged by the Comprador (bless his heart).

The "Old Grey Mare" went down (flat out) with great gusto; and was quite a novel experience to half the Section. The honour of striking the match belonged to "Robbo." Altogether, a very happy time was spent by all, and we tender our heartiest thanks to all the families for making us so welcome.

Several of our Romeos, who were not content with only one celebration, visited the town a few days later in order to celebrate the Russian Christmas. Touching on the very delicate subject of Russians, *How to learn Russian* books are very much in evidence, maybe it is because—never mind, I prefer to live. The two most popular phrases in evidence are, "Lend me five bucks" and "Chang, clean my blues."

Technical.—In spite of these frivolities, the Section has been very busy of late, owing to the closing down of the local Radio Station; we are now sending the civilian traffic from Tientsin. The detachment at Peking have been hard hit by illness; both

Signalmen Godwin and Boyd are in hospital. We hope that they will be fit again by the time that these notes appear in print.

Old Tientsinonians will be surprised to hear that at last the new transmitter is to be built, and very soon, too.

Departures.—We wish *bon voyage* to the following, who have embarked in H.T. *Dunera*, bound for old Blighty's shore: Sergeant Lockyer (our Section Sergeant and hockey goalie), Corporal Robinson (our champion runner) and Signalmen Maxworthy and Armstrong. "Maxie's" theme song is, "I'm coming back again," and I also noticed that "Lou" took his fur hat with him. You won't need it in Blighty, old man! Signalman Hopcraft, who decided to take the air at Peking, has left us to join the detachment there. Signalmen Banham and Ellison, our two naval experts, returned to Stonecutters after spending a six-months' "holiday" here.

Promotions.—Yes, we even get them here. Congratulations are extended to Lance Corporal Verlander E. on attaining that appointment. Well done, Jim! Gee, I'm thirsty!

Arrivals.—Lots of queer things have made their appearance lately; the barrack-room resembles a small zoo. The latest arrivals are two ducks (Rufus and Rastus) and something that resembles an elephant crossed with a plum duff. These additions to the canaries, Yanto, Chang and Dumbell, makes me begin to wonder if our room really belongs to us, or whether it is a R.S.P.C.A. Institution.

Social.—The Junior Staff Mess is still continuing to have great success with the fortnightly whist drives.

A farewell dinner was given in honour of the members departing in H.T. *Dunera*. I said dinner, but I think there are other words which would suit it better.

Things We Want to Know.—Who is Tempter No. 1? What a spring chicken is like? Who bought the chocolates? Who invented "Gripping"?

Safe Mail.—Dusty Holland. "Purr up! Smudge."
Clarke R. J. (Egypt). "Stamps dear? Darkie Lawson."
Pop (Palestine). "Write. Mac."
Pip, R.A.M. "Is the fleet in port again? Copo."
Tich. "Congrats! Bruce."

Late Laugh.—Operator: "I tried to get them for two hours, and then found the transmitter switched off."

Finis.—Without poaching on the sports notes, the following members of the "S. and D." soccer team are to be patted on the back for helping to win the 2nd Division Championship for the second successive year: Lance Corporal Verlander, Signalmen Banham, Wechman and Hopcraft.

MATA HARI.

Shanghai Signal Section

12th January.

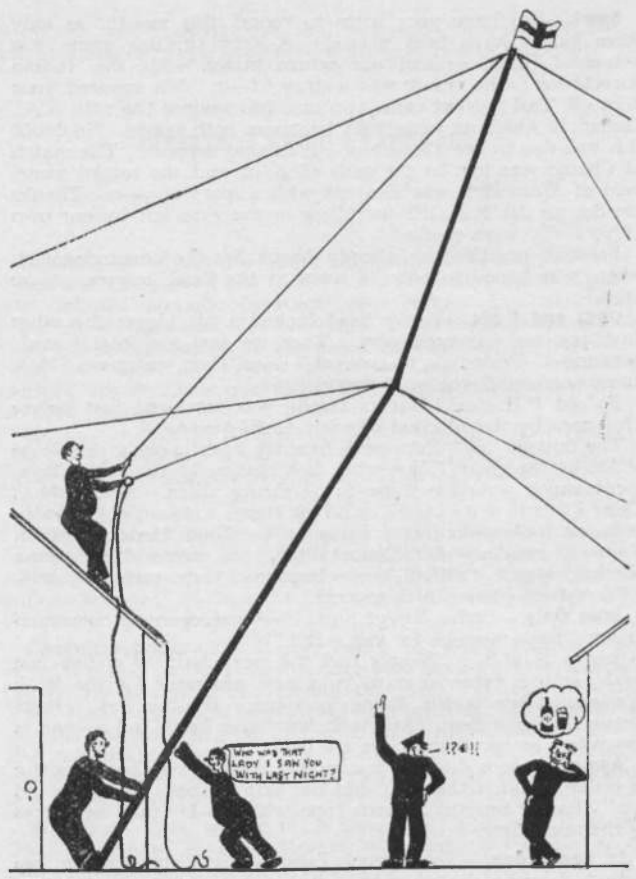
General.—We regret the absence of notes for so long, but we offer the Coronation Tattoos and a prolonged war as our excuse. We are still in the throes of a "State of Emergency," but things have quietened down considerably and are now practically normal.

It has been quite an experience for all the members of this Section, though only very few of us had the opportunity (or inclination) to actually participate in it. Nevertheless, we have had the opportunity of watching air raids, bombing, and a city (Chapei) laid to waste by a retreating Chinese army. Truly, this was the most awe-inspiring sight imaginable. However, we will now leave the subject of warfare to our friends of the Press.

Arrivals.—Since our last appearance in this journal we have had great pleasure in welcoming to our ranks Lieutenant A. B. Whatman, Royal Signals (of Polar fame), as our new Commanding Officer. It may be a little late in the day, but we take this opportunity of wishing you a happy stay in this wicked city, sir.

We have also taken unto ourselves a new Section Sergeant—Sergeant Macdonnell—who has taken up the job so long vacated by Sergeant Wright. (We believe it is C.Q.M.S. now!) We hope that Sergeant Macdonnell and his wife will both enjoy their stay with us. The influx of Signalmen has been great, and we welcome (with a feeling of superiority) the following: Signalmen Robb, Ray, Acton, Bloomfield, Pemberton, Evans, Thomson and Jamie.

Departures.—These, too, have been numerous, and we wish the following good luck at their new Stations: Signalmen Ravilious, Rowlands and Seaman, who have returned to Hong Kong; Signalmen Sinclair, Lacey, Shannon, Harrison, Long, Powell, Robinson and Mellor, who—after talking about it for a year—have decided after all that England is a better place to be in than China. We also wish Signalman Russell every success in his venture into civilian life.



HOW TO PUT UP A 48' WIRELESS MAST AS DEMONSTRATED BY SHANGHAI SIGNAL SECTION.

Enlistments.—Even this Section has caught Recruiting Fever, a fact borne out by our two recruits, who have departed on the *Dilwara*. They are ex-Signalman Rouse A. of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps, who has been sent to Hong Kong for line training, and Mr. F. Jennings, also of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps, who has departed to Catterick with the intention of making great efforts to become a fitter. We wish them both all the best of good luck.

Marriages.—Signalman NcCann made the plunge with Miss Julia Collace at the British Consulate on 19th June, 1937. Yes, we know it is a bit late! We hope that they enjoy wedded bliss for many years to come. There will be more for this paragraph next month!

Promotions.—Congratulations to Lance Corporal Linton on dropping the "U" in such quick time.

Gear.—It may interest ex-Shanghailanders to know that, thanks to the progressiveness of our new C.O., we now have a crystal controlled M.O.P.A. transmitter and a "Hammerlund Comet Pro" Receiver. We are quite an efficient little Section now.

Christmas.—We hope that our former brethren enjoyed their Christmas at sea as much as we in Shanghai did. We assure them that we certainly had a hectic time.

Mast Erection.—The drawing by the Section cartoonist almost explains everything that happened when "Lofty" Evans (Elmer)—the Section fitter—insisted on lending a helping hand with the erection of a mast and aerial.

In Conclusion.—Life flows peacefully on.

SIGS. SHAI.

THE TERRITORIALS AND SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

The London Corps Signals, T.A. and Affiliated Supplementary Reserve Units.

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

14th February.

General.—Individual Training and Paid Courses are still going apace and recruits are joining up at a fair rate. In fact, everything in the garden is lovely, except our Headquarters, which is not large enough by a lot. It is something like trying to use a Borough Council house for the pupils of a London County Council School! Our Commanding Officer must feel like "the old lady who lived in a shoe."

However, we have heard, on the usual good authority, that "if so-and-so can be determined" then "we might get a larger Headquarters." Well, one never knows what might happen from year to year.

We are informed that for camp this year we are to renew our acquaintance with Myrtle Grove. Never heard of her? It's not a "her," it is a lovely little spot "near" Worthing.

On Saturday, 22nd January, we were entertained again by Eric Ross and his Dazzle Cabaret. Two of them were certainly dazzlers, while the other members were very much cabaret. Altogether a really good show. During the break, Mrs. Vigers, the wife of our Honorary Colonel (Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D.), presented prizes and medals to those who were fortunate enough to win them during the previous year. The Inter-Section Efficiency Cup was won by "Q" Section; the Inter-Section Musketry Cup by "S" Section; No. 2 Company the Inter-Section Efficiency Cup by "P" Section; and No. 3 ditto by "N" Section. The Vigers Cup (Shooting), competed for annually between a team from "H" Station (Selfridges), B.H.1 Division, Metropolitan Special Constabulary, and our Unit, was won by the "Specials."

Sergeants' Mess.—The final of the "Murphy Snooker Competition," which has been played off, resulted in the Cup being won by the R.E.O.C.A., Duke of York's Headquarters.

On Saturday, 3rd February, we held our Annual Dinner at Headquarters. Some 130 odd members and their friends, with representatives from several other Messes, enjoyed an excellent dinner and were afterwards entertained by the Moss Bros. Minstrels; a very good show, too. The absence of our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel C. L. H. Humphreys, T.D., who is abroad, was regretted. We were, however, especially pleased to have with us our Honorary Colonel, and Major W. H. Lloyd, M.C., our officiating Commanding Officer. For the first time we had the pleasure of the company of our "Doc.," Captain A. P. McEldowney. There were, of course, the usual dinner speeches.

We must congratulate Acting C.S.M. Davis H. C. (P.S.) on his appointment to that crowned glory, and also Sergeant Hiles H. J. on his award of the Efficiency Medal (Territorial). It seems to take a long time to get one, doesn't it, Harry?

Social.—Our dances are still very well attended and appear to be increasing in popularity. Why not come along, if you are round our way? Book these dates: 12th and 17th March, 2nd and 3rd April.

Tailpiece.—The P.S.I., with a class of recruits, asked a few questions arising out of his lecture given on the previous Monday. He noticed that one of the class could not answer a single question. The following conversation then ensued:

P.S.I.: "Weren't you here last Monday?"

Lad: "No, sir."

P.S.I.: "What's your name?"

Lad: "Smith, sir."

P.S.I.: "You're not in this Squad!"

Lad: "No, sir; I haven't joined up yet, sir. I'm only sitting here with my friend."

The remarks of the P.S.I. cannot be recorded.

EFFEMMA.

The London Corps Signals Cadet Company.

The 1st West London Cadet Corps, of which this Unit forms "A" Company, has now four Companies on its roll, each affiliated to a parent Unit, T.A., from whom it receives every assistance, interest and co-operation. We are still the biggest Company in the whole Unit; indeed, the biggest Cadet Company (non-school) in the whole County of London area. This occasions much pride, but we cannot rest on our laurels, nevertheless. This year we want to win every trophy possible; in particular, those awarded for boxing. We believe ourselves to be the senior Cadet Unit affiliated to the Royal Corps of Signals.

There is great talent and experience amongst our officers and warrant officers; the N.C.O.s are keen and efficient, and the Cadets are pulsating with enthusiasm. We look forward, therefore, to a happy, prosperous and successful year. Cadet 2nd Lieutenant F. G. Baigent, our Quartermaster, has joined the Officers' Emergency Reserve. This month we hope to have a Church Parade at St. Ethelreda's Church, Fulham, where our Padre, Rev. Leonard Spiller, M.A., is the Vicar, and where we always made welcome.

A party of our Cadets, together with other "West Londons" from Kensington, Westminster, and Chelsea, recently attended a showing of the film, "The Gap." This film, incidentally, was much appreciated, and enjoyed by all ranks. We would like to see more films like it on show at every cinema in the United Kingdom. We believe that National Defence is a sacred duty, and would like to see the general public better educated with regard thereto. For our own part, we are trying to educate our Cadets so that, as they grow older, they will be prepared to take their share in the defence of their hearth and homeland.

2nd Cavalry Signals (Middlesex Yeomanry).

Chelsea, S.W.3.

General.—Things run so smoothly with us that it is becoming increasingly difficult to find anything to write about. We are becoming so efficient that soon we shall just sit down and wait for the next war.

It has often struck me that we have P.S. Instructors sent here for the purpose of instructing us in the art of communication. On the other hand, I feel certain that they learn quite a lot themselves; by that I mean that they all return to their Units sadder and wiser men; they are either grey or bald, bowed or bent.

The following scene must have been seen quite a number of times recently, when I have had occasion to enter the recreation room. Every parade night somebody approaches me and asks me whether I write our article for the WIRE. "Yes, why?" "Oh, nothing; I just wanted to know." One of these days I hope one of them will tell me why—without being rude, of course.

Our monthly dance was held on Saturday, 12th February. As one of our P.S.I.s said, "The crowd's a nice bloke, isn't he?" By which I mean to insinuate that a few more of our Yeoman might come along and make a good show into a better one. Incidentally, our novices' boxing team has its first match with opponents from an R.A. Battery at Eastbourne. The contests take place at H.Q. on Saturday evening, 5th March. A little support for this would not be misplaced either.

Technical.—Things are progressing well. Week-end training is well attended. Sergeant M——'s little catch questions and tricks are all taken in the right spirit. He hasn't caught me yet!

(I haven't been out.) Looking back over the last few years, I think we can congratulate ourselves on the remarkable improvement shown in the technical side of our work. There is a much greater enthuiasm shown for this work these days. We hope the improvement continues.

Equitation.—I have been told that photographs of equestrian interest would be welcomed by the Editor. I regret that we haven't any until next month, but we have found a budding artist in our midst, who remembers our own riding school. He did execute a very good sketch for us of a recruit's impression of his first jumping lesson. This sketch has been lost, but perhaps our artist will be good enough to draw us another one. The loss is very much regretted as it was really a very fine and true-to-life picture. The " man at the helm " is hoping that some kind person has found the envelope containing the sketch, and has thoughtfully posted it in the nearest pillar-box. A rather forlorn hope !

The rides at Knightsbridge and Hounslow continue to be well attended. Incidentally, we hope to see Signalman Hill back on the active list again very soon. Hard luck, but don't let it discourage you.

Things We Want to Know.—Which Signalman, walking home in " Blues " from a dance, had seven different people say good-night to him ? He tells me that they were nice boys, too.

Which Corporal nearly lost his spare valves ?

And who complained that he didn't like drinking on his own ? Why not ? Did he have to pay for it ?

Why does a certain Sergeant always land on the same eye when he dismounts ?

Agony.—To C.Q.M.S. Handby, Indian Signals at Quetta, or thereabouts, from Sergeant Robinson of this Unit. " That R.T. didn't work, but we did our best. Regards to yourself and that tall half-section of yours ; I forget his name."

To Sergeant Walsh, last heard of behind the bar at Mons Barracks, Aldershot, September, 1936. " How are the slacks wearing ? Please remember Sergeant Robinson to Sergeant Longwill, if he is in your vicinity."

If any of the Signals in Palestine know Corporal Robinson of the M.M. Police, would they be kind enough to tell him that a letter to his brother would be welcome ? Thank you."

To Tich at Catterick. " Many thanks for letter. Will be writing soon."

ROBEAUX.

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

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

Technical classes are in full swing and special attention is being given to the experimental apparatus for communicating information in connection with the detection of aircraft. Dr. Morris Hart lectured to the Unit on the theory of sound as applied to sound locators, and all those present appreciated his very clear explanation of the problem. As the information will reach the Operations Room, Anti-Aircraft Signals are particularly interested. Further lectures on the working of the apparatus have been arranged.

Arrangements are in hand for an Easter Camp at Blackdown, when we shall again have the pleasure of meeting our friends of the 1st Anti-Aircraft Group Signals.

It is with very sad thoughts that we have to report the death of Mr. A. J. Fuller, formerly Company Sergeant-Major of the 27th Air Defence Brigade Signal Company (now No. 2 Company, 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals, T.A.), who retired in 1932 after long service with the R.E. Signals and the Royal Corps of Signals. His happy nature appealed to all ranks, and he had a long and distinguished career as a Volunteer and Territorial. We know his service to his country in peace and war. We extend our very sincere sympathy to his relatives.

Floral tributes from the officers and N.C.O.s of the Unit and from the Old Comrades' Association were taken to his home as some slight outward recognition of the esteem in which he was held by all those with whom he had worked for so many years.

Mr. Fuller enlisted in 1905 in the London Electrical Engineers Volunteers, Regtl. No. 1450, and re-enlisted in the Territorial

Force on its formation in 1908, Regtl. No. 50. He transferred to the London Army Troops in 1909, and went overseas with L 8 Motor Airline Section, under the command of Major H. C. Carey Thomas, in 1914, as Section Sergeant. Promoted C.Q.M.S. in 1916, he was at this time responsible for all permanent line construction required for G.H.Q., serving under Lieutenant-Colonel H. E. Day, D.S.O., M.V.O.

In 1918 he was commissioned and took over the command of his old Section. He was twice mentioned in despatches. The end of the war found him still with the same Section, with the rank of Lieutenant ; this in itself must be a unique record. In May, 1920, with his enthusiasm still unabated, he enlisted in the ranks of the 3rd Corps Signals, which had been formed from his old Unit—the London Army Troops. In October, 1922, the Unit was re-formed as the 2nd and 3rd (London) A.A. Defence Signals and C.S.M. Fuller again re-enlisted, being promoted at once to the rank of C.S.M. His discharge, in May, 1932, terminated an association with Signals of which any man would be proud.

A recent photograph of our friend is reproduced with these notes.

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals Cadet Company.

The past month has been one of steady progress, although it will be several months before we are fully into stride. Our Scottish uniform still occasions much comment, but, as this is mainly flattering, we rather like it. Also, we are conscious that besides having the most attractive and distinctive uniform of any Cadet Unit south of the Tweed, we also have the cheapest. As poverty is the greatest bogey from which Cadet Units suffer, we pride ourselves that we chose wisely and well in the matter of kit.

We hope soon to have our first Church Parade, and for this occasion to secure the well-known Pipe Band of the Lowestoft Scottish Cadets, who have kindly offered us their services.

The Cadets are all paying for their kit, 8s. a head, and it is hoped that everyone will soon be in full kit. Most of our recruits are sons of serving members of the Territorial Army from our parent Unit. This is a great source of gratification to the Company Commander, and a happy augury for the future. In establishing this Cadet Company, we hope to build it upon the right foundations and traditions.

Our parent Unit, the 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals, T.A., continues to show us the greatest kindness, co-operation and consideration in every conceivable way. In particular, we are most grateful for the sympathy and kindness of Colonel G. C. Wickins, T.D., whose support is an invaluable asset. Sergeant F. G. Pitz, T.A., whose son is enrolled in the Cadet Company, has become our Cadet C.S.M., and we could not wish for a more efficient or capable Instructor. The prospects for the future are bright and rosy, and we hope to be able to set an example to all other Cadet Units in efficient administration, patriotic service and *esprit-de-corps*.

P. K.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Manchester.

General.—Every Tuesday evening a special Course in wireless is held at our Headquarters for the signallers of the Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry. We hear that they are making excellent progress with the No. 1 Sets.

On Monday, 31st January, we were all very pleased to see our late C.O. (Colonel W. S. Ashley) again. This was his first visit to us on a drill night since he vacated command last November.

Training.—Companies have now been carrying out their own training for some time. Good attendances are the rule, and there is an all-round advance in technical knowledge. It will not be many weeks before Sections start out every Sunday for the Cheshire countryside, in order to get in a little practical work before our pre-camp week-end training.

On Monday, 7th February, our C.S.O. (Lieutenant-Colonel D. A. Brown, M.C.) held a Syndicate Discussion for all officers at Headquarters. Many useful lessons were learnt by those present.

Recruits.—We are now taking in recruits to replace the men who will be discharged before camp. No difficulty is being experienced in getting the right type of man, as we already have a long waiting list.

"Daily Telegraph and Morning Post" Cup.—This year the 42nd Divisional Signals were placed tenth in the "Daily Telegraph and Morning Post" Cup for the best camp attendance. We might have been placed higher, but for the fact that the electrical trades from which most of our men are drawn were exceptionally busy at the time we went to Camp, and the employers were unable to release all the Territorials on their staffs for annual training. However, this year we expect ro be much higher up the list.

Attachments.—We extend a hearty welcome to Lieutenant Pascoe of the 54th Divisional Signals, who is attached to us for drills whilst he is in business in Manchester.

2nd Lieutenant Henderson, who is Signal Officer of the 5th Battalion, Manchester Regiment, is also attached to us for instruction.

Trade Board.—On Sunday, 6th February, the second Trade Board of the season was held. (Full report later.)

Boxing.—At the time these notes are being written, the semi-finals and finals are being fought.

Agony Column.—Is it right that our parade ground is shortly to be converted into a "dirt track"?

Is "Oller" going to the Medicals as "Musketing Officer"?

Who is the "Captain of the Palace Guard"?

Why is Naughton trying to rival Clive in the second-hand market?

Is it true that "Old Faithful," during the T.E.W.T., wished that the bomb that hit the "Quarters" had hit him as well?

Puff and Huff.

[Owing to pressure on space a photograph of the Boxing Team has been unavoidably omitted—Ed.]

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

The Priory, Exeter.
February.

Editorial.—The past month has seen considerable progress in the training classes. In certain cases, tests have taken place, and some members have moved up to more advanced work. The recruits in all Companies show marked keenness, and if their present progress is maintained, they should prove of great use in the Camp Exercises.

With the arrival of the longer evenings, everyone is looking forward to a fair amount of outdoor work. Once our transport quota is increased, it is felt that greater interest will be shown in short Evening Exercises. Now that each Company has received more up-to-date wireless apparatus, there should be no difficulty in producing a full programme during the Section training period.

I was present at the opening of a new T.A. Drill Hall in Devonport recently to accommodate a Heavy Battery for Coast Defence. The Hall is a converted chapel, and its conversion to military requirements has been very well carried out. It was at one time suggested as a new home for our No. 1 Company, but having inspected it since its conversion, I thought that it was wise for the Company to wait as the accommodation is less than in the existing Drill Hall, and that is not sufficient. Our No. 1 Company therefore hopes on.

The last of the Company dinners has taken place, and a full account appears in the Company notes. As a participant in the evening's proceedings, I felt that much had been attained in the organising of such an evening, and that far more than was expected had been achieved. In glancing at the large number of Service guests who were present, it was apparent that Royal Signals again led the way.

Mercury.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

York Street Drill Hall, Devonport.

February.

Training.—Operators have recently been submitted to local tests, which have led to various movements in the classes. Incidentally, it is very pleasing to note the progress and keenness which many of the recruits are showing. Some of the trained soldiers will have to look to their laurels.

The P.S.I. has been taking the operators through a series of lectures on "Procedure," and has brought home to them very successfully the importance of this side of the work. 2nd Lieutenant A. L. Farr gave another interesting lecture on "Elementary Electricity and Magnetism" on 20th January, and on 3rd February Lieutenant G. K. S. Edwards gave a talk on the "Training Manuals."

Social.—The outstanding event of the month has been the Annual Company Dinner, which took place on 29th January in the Drill Hall. On this occasion there was a larger gathering than on any previous similar occasion.

Major-General W. Green, who recently took up his appointment as Commander of the South-Western Area, was the principal guest, and, in a speech, referred to the fact that the Territorial Army seemed to be coming very rapidly into its own. He mentioned that he had served with the Territorial Army at various periods during his career. "The general impression it has made upon me," he said, "has been one of admiration for you fellows, who, after doing a hard day's work, turn to during the evenings and start to learn a new trade—and a very exacting trade this soldiering is." He referred also to the important part that Signals played in the Field, saying that a Commander could usually decide how to act if he received sufficient information.

Major W. J. L. Cornelius, proposing "The Commanding Officer," referred to the Company's progress and activities during the year. "The Establishment was 159 all ranks," he stated, "and the present strength was 107. The bulk of the deficiency was accounted for by specialists—11 Motor Transport Drivers, 18 Despatch Riders, and 14 Electricians." He also mentioned that 34 per cent. of the Company's losses since its establishment

in Devonport were due to men who had joined the Regular Forces. He mentioned, in addition, the sad lack of facilities for both recreation and training afforded by the present Drill Hall. "We have been promised a new Drill Hall in a far more congenial position," he continued, "and we hope the promise will not be over long in its fulfilment."

He went on to mention that a great many of the Company worked in the dockyard, where the overtime had affected their attendance at drills; and, in speaking of the camp attendance, he recorded his appreciation of the help employers had given in releasing men, in some cases with additional leave and pay. In concluding, the Company Commander read a letter from the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Walsh, expressing his regret at being unable to attend the dinner.

Lieutenant P. W. Shaw toasted "The Permanent Staff," on whose work, he said, the efficiency of the Unit largely reflected, and particularly mentioning R.S.M. Stone G. E. and R.Q.M.S. Boulger H. W., two members whom the Unit would be shortly losing with great regret.

The Adjutant (Captain C. W. Knight), R.S.M. Stone and R.Q.M.S. Boulger replied in turn to the toast. Captain Knight congratulated the Company on their work with the Regular Army at camp last year. R.S.M. Stone spoke of the responsibilities which would fall upon the rank and file of the Territorials in the event of mobilisation; most of them, he pointed out, would become N.C.O.s.

Mr. Boulger, in speaking of his long career with both the Regular and Territorial Armies, said he thought the Regular Army was the finest career to-day for any young man not in a regular and steady job. "If you have a regular job," he continued, "the next best thing you can do is to join the Territorial Army. It is a fine life."

Both of the last-mentioned speakers received loud and clamorous applause at the end of their speeches; an indication of the high regard which is felt by the whole Company for their splendid work with the Unit.

R.S.M. Stone won the admiration of the Plymouth Company during his tour of duty as a P.S.I. with them, while Mr. Boulger has always been a good friend to the Company, as indeed he has been to every Company. It is hard to think of a camp without them. It will take a bit of getting used to!

Lieutenant G. K. S. Edwards, in proposing "The Guests," said that in welcoming Major-General Green to their Drill Hall that evening they could welcome him also to the West Country. He mentioned, too, how pleased they were to have with them the Commanding Officers of four of the five other Territorial Units in the city.

C.S.M. Gibbings then proposed the health of Nos. 2 and 3 Companies, and spoke of the good feeling and friendly spirit of competition that existed between them all. Captain F. H. Reeks (O.C., No. 3 Company), in replying for his Company, commented on the fact that distance unfortunately prevented their meeting each other more frequently.

R.Q.M.S. Green, for No. 2 Company, introduced a humorous element by producing the photographs of two men, who, as he warned everybody, had been trying to join their Company. The photographs, which were those of R.S.M. Stone and R.Q.M.S. Boulger, were presented to them on behalf of No. 2 Company.

Various musical items were interspersed during the evening's proceedings by the Devonport Unemployed Dance Band, and also with songs by Sergeant S. R. Stone of the Company. At the conclusion, everybody was delighted to see Sergeant Ford presented with the Territorial Efficiency Medal by General Green, who also presented the Coley Cup to the winner, Signalman Pawlby A. G., and also a number of S.M.R.C. Coronation Medals to the best shots in the various ranks for 1937.

The following officers of the Company were present: Major W. J. L. Cornelius (Company Commander); Lieutenants P. W. Shaw and G. K. S. Edwards; 2nd Lieutenants R. D. Nash, L. H. Clemas, D. E. Herbert, R. W. Fennamore and A. L. Farr. Among the guests, besides those already mentioned, were: Brevet-Colonel N. C. Hamilton (43rd (Wessex) Divisional R.A.S.C.), Brevet-Colonel G. C. Wycisk (5th Battalion, Devonshire Regiment), Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Rolston (Devon and Cornwall Fortress R.E.), Captain W. A. Lister (128th Field Ambulance, R.A.M.C.), the Chief Constable (Mr. G. S. Lowe), Mr. R. McDonald (Member of the Devon T.A.A.), Major Western, Captain G. P. Clarke (the Garrison Adjutant), 2nd Lieutenant P. A. Totterdell (No. 3 Company) and Mr. W. J. Cornelius.

Au Revoir.—L.S.A. Ford B. W. J. left us for H.M.S. *Tamar* (China Station) on 11th February. He takes the best wishes of the Company with him.

ONE COY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

No. 2 Company.

Drill Hall, Gloucester Road, Brighton.

General.—Once more into the breach, dear friends. It does not seem a month ago since my pen was put to paper in an endeavour to record the acticities of this Company.

Training.—The schedule of training is being carried out as usual this month, and the keenness which exists in the Operating Room 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 the linemen, but advantage is being taken of the lull in their training period to ensure that all the cable is in good condition for future Sunday Schemes.

On Sunday, 30th January, a Scheme was held in the vicinity of Falmer, and all those who took part excelled in their work. Of course, several mistakes were discovered, but we hope to put them right before our next Scheme.

Concerts.—Now, all you budding songsters, get your voices in trim, because we are going to have a monthly series of Smoking Concerts. These concerts will be held on the last Saturday in the month. Bring your wife, sweetheart and friends, and let us make it a regular night out. I want to see a list of names in the office early.

Boxing (Territorial Championships).—On Saturday, 29th January, we journeyed forth to Horsham to try our luck in the Championships. But, alas, our luck was out. We entered six lads; three of them reached the finals. They put up a very good show, but, as I have said before, our luck was out.

In the semi-final of the fly-weights, Signalman Jenkins was much the superior, and his opponent received so much punishment that the referee stopped the fight in the first round in Jenkins' favour.

In the final, however, he was only beaten after a very close fight. Both received the referee's praise for the manner and spirit in which the contest had been fought.

The next tit-bit of the evening was Signalman Wicks, who only lost his fight on the referee's verdict. Again the referee praised the fighters.

In the semi-final of the light-weights, Signalman Leaney gained the verdict after a very spirited fight. In the finals he met a man who had more ring experience, and was only beaten on the closest of points.

The others who took part did very well indeed. Our O.C., Captain Freer-Ash wishes to thank all those who took part in the Tournament, thereby fostering the sporting spirit of the Company.

Whilst on the subject of boxing, I would like to inform all my readers that in the near future a Boxing Tournament will be staged between the Territorial Army in Brighton and the Regular Army. In our last encounter, the "Terriers" won; it will therefore be a very interesting evening, with the "Terriers" striving hard to retain the Preston Cup.

We take off our hats to Signalmen Leaney and Jenkins on reaching the finals, and for the manner in which they fought. Also to the three Headquarter lads who propose to try their luck at Chelsea on 12th February.

Things We Want to Know.—Whether any news is likely to come from the "Hurst" Sections.

What is the fastest means of communication: telephone, telegraph or tell-a-woman.

Who told the Sergeant to put a penny in the slot, when the said Sergeant could not obtain any light from the lamp during the course of a lecture.

NIMROD.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Birmingham.

Sergeants' Mess.—I was hoping that members would supply me with material for this month's notes, but no one has come forward with even something for "Things we want to know." I expected that I should be asked to write something about that "Rousing ovation on return from a Map-reading Exercise."

Which reminds me that the Map-reading Exercise was a most valuable experience for all those who attended. Representative fractions, contours, re-entrants and trig. points are no longer meaningless expressions to our party. The Exercise, conducted by Major E. A. James, took place over country between Birmingham and Lichfield, and was worth many hours of theoretical instruction.

Not the least enjoyable part was the accommodation and messing. An empty barn and a field kitchen? No! Well; tents, perhaps? No, again! The party was housed and fed in the George Hotel at Lichfield—and, by George, it was good. Too good, perhaps, for I understand that several wives have enquired what their husbands were doing when they weren't eating. In order to demonstrate to his wife that real work was done, Sergeant Allen proposes to bury next week's housekeeping money at 596231. Take it or leave it!

The Mess social events flourish. The last two or three dances were great successes, and the crowd grows larger every time. C.S.M. Robins and his committee are rewarded by the obvious enjoyment of the guests, and are doing the right thing by engaging efficient bands. Pressing R.Q.M.S. Barlow into service as M.C. does not appear to have been a grave error so far, but you can never tell.

The officers' invitation supper to the Sergeants' Mess on 29th January was another very pleasant function. On this occasion the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel P. H. Jones, M.C., was able to say many important things in connection with the work of the Unit. As R.S.M. Bardoe V. said, when thanking the C.O. and officers, "it provides an excellent opportunity for the W.O.s and Sergeants to get properly acquainted with their officers, especially in cases where there have been some changes in the Sections."

All members are looking forward to renewing friendships with 3rd Divisional Signals when this Unit camps at Windmill Hill in August. We hope that Records will have spared a few who remember us, though it is understood that the "Call of the East" has been *fortissimo* this season.

Well, here we go.

CHEVRON.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals, T.A. and Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Leeds.

General.—Training is proceeding very smoothly, and the attendances are increasing. There is a spirit of learnedness and wisdom in the air which augers well for the future.

The 49th (W.R.) Divisional Regimental Signallers' Course of two weeks duration, concluded on Saturday, 12th February, much to the regret of the personnel concerned. Some twenty-eight attended the Course, and, as usual, they were fed and housed by us. The instructors were Sergeant O'Rourke and Lance Corporal Sanderson of the Northern Command Signal Company and 5th Divisional Signals respectively. A feature of the Course was the introduction for the first time of the No. 1 W.T. Sets for the R.A. Signallers.

Recruiting.—Recruiting is going ahead very well indeed, and once again we are well over strength. A determined effort, aided by the Press, was made to bring the Despatch Riders of the Unit up to strength, and it is pleasing to relate that it was very successful; and so for the first time since the War, this Unit has its full complement of D.R.s. If what we hear is true, then quite a lot will be heard of the D.R.s in the near future.

Sport.—Even if we have not won all that we expected, we have at least added laurels to our name in the sporting world.

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YORKS.

Cross-country.—On Saturday, 29th January, we competed in the Inter-Group Championship of the Division, finishing a good second to the winners and only two points behind them. Signalman Metcalfe ran very well indeed, finishing second in a field of twenty-four, and only a few yards behind the winner. Sergeant Speight is to be congratulated on getting such a good team together.

Boxing.—Three of our boxing team fought in the 49th (W.R.) Divisional finals at Halifax on 5th February. Although beaten on points, they put up a very good show. Sergeant Wrighton, who was our best man, was awarded the "best loser's" prize. Signalmen Mart and Walker, who found themselves up against boxers with considerable experience, fought very well indeed. C.S.M. Brewster is to be congratulated on getting three men in the final; this is the first time that he has taken the team in hand.

Basket Ball.—This is a game which the Unit is trying to popularise in Leeds among the T.A. Units. We play every Tuesday evening among ourselves, and feel that it is a good game which would foster the "Inter-Unit spirit" among the T.A. Captain C. C. Danby, our Adjutant, accordingly arranged for two American teams, who play regularly in England, to come along to these barracks on Tuesday, 15th February, and to show us how the game should really be played. Considerable interest was shown by the Staff and Units in the Division, and about 250 officers and other ranks attended. The game was preceded by a talk and demonstration, which was much appreciated. The game itself was most entertaining and instructive, and it is hoped that all Units will now go ahead and get their teams going.

Officers.—We welcome Lieutenant A. C. A. Stedman from 50th Divisional Signals on transfer to this Unit and trust that he will find us to his liking. We also congratulate him on being selected team captain of the 49th (W.R.) Divisional boxing team, who are competing in the Territorial Army Championships in London on 4th March.

Sergeants' Mess.—The Management Committee of the Sergeants' Mess have been very busy. First there was the Annual

Ball, which was held on Friday, 21st January. It was better than ever. The Drill Hall, very tastefully decorated, accommodated some 500 dancers, and everyone had an excellent time. The very large number of representatives from other Units was very noticeable, and there must be something in the saying that this Dance is the best one of the year in Leeds. The committee have also been busy making plans for the Annual Dinner in March, and all seems well. The Sunday night concerts are still going strong, and the performers are very good indeed. Well done, everyone!

M. S. R.

SIGNALS ASSOCIATION (LEEDS BRANCH).

The usual monthly meeting and smoker was held in the Canteen at Gibraltar Barracks on Monday, 7th February, and was well attended.

A number of new members were enrolled.

Our Chairman (Captain Parry) outlined the activities for the next two months. These include a hot-pot supper in March and a dance in April. So we are forging ahead.

Captain Parry appealed to any member present who was out of employment to let him know, and he would endeavour to get him a job; similarly, he said, if any members knew of a job going, would they let him know, so that he could try to fill it from this branch of the Association.

Our thanks are accorded to Sergeant Fleming and the members of the Sergeants' Mess on raising the sum of nine shillings for our funds. "Every mickle makes a muckle."

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

General.—Winter training almost completed, happenings at the Drill Hall are not so brisk as in the past few months, but we still get the keenly interested recruits to come along in an endeavour to improve their knowledge, and with the expectations of doing great things when our training commences in full swing.

We have had a fair number of N.C.O.s and men interested in physical training. Under the instruction of Corporal Alderson they have thoroughly enjoyed it, and openly admit they feel ever so much better.

Sport.—BOXING.—What can I say here? Do I hear someone say, "Least said soonest mended"? The writer was so confident of the success of No. 2 Company this year that he even laid the odds of 2 to 1 (in cigarettes) on No. 2 Company winning. To introduce those two letters "if" would be foolish, so we must congratulate No. 1 Company on their fine performance in winning the Dent Cup. To all the boys of this Company who took part we tender our very best thanks, and can only hope for better things next year.

The selected place on the Mess sideboard for the Cup will, during the next twelve months, be kept nicely polished in the hope that next year it may find a resting place there. Before closing we must say how pleased we were to see Signalman Nickling an interested spectator at the boxing, and glad to see him looking so well. Keep it up, George!

MIDBRO.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Camp, 1938.—We were all thrilled to receive a letter from our Commanding Officer informing us that we shall probably be working with the 1st Divisional Signals in the Aldershot area during July. In this connection, we hear that the C.O. and Adjutant of both 1st and 51st Divisional Signals were seen at a London theatre recently, and all following closely the theme "A little co-operation from you." This is a good omen.

We must take this opportunity of thanking the powers that be both at 51st (H.) Division and Scottish Command, for their valiant and successful efforts on our behalf in the face of very heavy odds.

Pipe Banner.—We hear that the design has now received the approval of H.R.H. The Princess Royal. The work on the banner will, therefore, start immediately.

Officers' Lectures.—A short Course of lectures for officers has been held during the past four weeks. On Tuesday and Thursday evenings the Commanding Officer's room (the only room available—such is the activity in the barracks at present) has echoed to the sound of the buzzer, not to mention the "banjo twangs" specially laid on by Captain Levack in order to demonstrate the mysteries of the fullerphone. The Course has been well attended throughout, and it is hoped that much benefit will be derived by all.

Officers' Mess.—On Saturday, 29th January, the camp film was shown to officers and their friends in the Mess. We were very pleased to have with us on that occasion our C.S.O., Lieutenant-Colonel C. Wheeler, and Mrs. Wheeler.

We regret to report that Captain Williamson is down with scarlet fever, and sincerely hope that he will make a rapid recovery.

Appointments.—Heartiest congratulations are extended to Lieutenant J. D. T. Hillman on his appointment as Quartermaster of 51st (H.) Divisional Signals, T.A. We hope that his time in the T.A. will be a happy one. We also welcome Mr. J. Carry to the Unit.

ONECOY.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

General.—Several momentous happenings have come to pass since our last notes.

Company Smoking Concert.—A very successful evening's entertainment took place in the Drill Hall on Saturday, 18th December, when members of the Company and their friends, about 150 in all, attended the Company Smoking Concert. The evening commenced with a supper, followed by the showing of the camp film, and two supporting films. All ranks were greatly interested in the camp film, which brought back happy memories. The social side of the evening was continued, with various members of the Company and friends giving solo items, as well as community singing to the accompaniment of liquid refreshment. We are indebted to Corporal Gray (piano accordian) and Corporal Maher (telling the tale) for their excellent efforts, and trust that Willie is busy rehearsing more tales for the next occasion. Our O.C., Captain James Cochran, spoke a few words during the course of the evening, welcoming our guests, and reminding everyone present that we could still take in a few more recruits to the Company. Eventually a very enjoyable evening was brought to a close at 11.15 p.m.

Trade Board.—We were very pleased to see that the efforts of our instructors, during the "Sixty-Hour Course," bore such excellent fruit. The Trade Board took place on 23rd December, and fourteen men were put forward for testing. The following ratings were obtained: Operator Signals B.III—3; Group "E"—1; Linemen C.II—1; C.III—4; Group "E"—2; a total of eleven ratings out of the fourteen men presented.

Courses.—Our Winter Courses for Operators and Linemen re-commenced on 13th January, and we have hopes of another excellent report from the Trade Board in March. Our optimism is borne out by the fairly good attendance.

Officers' Lectures.—A series of Officers' Lectures is being held during February and March, and both the lecturers and lectured are learning a great deal.

Departures.—It is with great regret that we record the departure of our R.S.M. from the Service on 22nd January, when he completed his allotted span of twenty-one years with the Regular Army. R.S.M. Hillman J. has been like a father to this Unit for the past eight years. Not only those in the Unit, but many outside friends in Stirling remember his delightful personality during the R.S.M.'s tour as a P.S.I. in Stirling. All ranks of this Company join in wishing R.S.M. and Mrs. Hillman the very best of health, happiness and wealth on their retirement to civilian life.

Congratulations.—We offer our heartiest congratulations to the following on their promotions to the ranks shown: R.S.M.

Hillman J. to be Lieutenant-Quartermaster (T.A.); T/C.S.M. Lewis W. to be A/R.S.M.; and Sergeant Berriff C. to be T/C.S.M.

R.S.M. Hillman could not bring himself to leave the Service entirely, and has joined the Unit as our first Quartermaster. We trust that he will long be spared to carry on the good work of leading us on the right path.

Sergeants' Mess.—The Mess arranged a Social Evening on Christmas Eve, in order to give old and new members an opportunity of getting to know each other, and also to celebrate the festive season. A very enjoyable evening was spent by all those present, and I am told that the C.S.M. has noted several names for future Smoking Concerts.

On 29th January, an outing was arranged for the members and their wives. The party proceeded by bus to Glasgow, where they attended the pantomime "Dick Whittington" at the Alhambra. After the performance they adjourned for supper. The fifteen members and their wives, or lady friends, who took part in this outing spent a really enjoyable evening, which, it is hoped, will be repeated in the future.

Inspections.—On 1st February we were inspected by the new Divisional Commander, Major-General V. M. Fortune, C.B., D.S.O., who expressed himself as well satisfied with what he saw at the Drill Hall. The opportunity was taken to press him to take up the question of garage accommodation, which the T.A. Association are endeavouring to secure.

Following this inspection, we were visited on 3rd February by the Chief Signal Officer, Scottish Command (Lieutenant-Colonel C. R. Wheeler), who came in during the evening to see what we were doing in the way of winter training. From reports received, it seems evident that everything was satisfactory.

TWUCO.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

The Drill Hall, Hunter Street, Kirkcaldy.

General.—We must apologise to readers for the absence of notes from this Company for the past two months, but as the scribes concerned have been changing over, the omission, we hope, is excusable.

The Company recently has been full of activity. The first Sixty-Hour Paid Course finished on 10th January, and the second Sixty-Hour Paid Course commenced on 13th January. The attendances have been up to standard, and the Trade Boards in March and May will show hoe much has been learned.

A Company dance held in December was a success, both socially and financially, and we hope that the one that is to be held on 18th February—the last this season—will be a greater success.

An "At Home" was held on Saturday, 8th January, at which there was a demonstration of Signal work which included two working Signal Offices connected by fullerphones, D.IIIs, visual, exchanges, "A" Sets and No. 1 Sets—all in communication. Our two new Norton motor cycles were on show as well.

The demonstration was followed by tea, and during the afternoon there were four shows in the "cinema" (a lecture room) of a film taken by Captain Williamson at last year's Unit camp. The film was very interesting, and the technicolour shots were excellent.

The object of the "At Home" was to boost up recruiting, and also to provide prospective recruits with some idea of the interesting work carried out by the Company. From an entertainment and attendance point of view, the "At Home" was a success, but only three recruits were obtained.

The present members of the Company can do much towards bringing in recruits; so now then, you lads, do your stuff! We need many more men as several members of the Company have recently left the training area to find employment.

The Company will have to be at full strength when we proceed to camp this year. We are going to Aldershot for attachment to the 1st Divisional Signals, with whom we are co-operating for the Aldershot Command Exercise and the Staff College Exercise. We hope to be able to show them what we can do, and also to pick up some tips on the latest ideas employed by Regular Divisional Signal Units. We are wondering if our

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"A" Sets will be of any use at Aldershot. Next month some of our N.C.O.s are proceeding to Aldershot on attachment to 1st Divisional Signals; no doubt they will learn a lot that will be useful to them later on when we join that Unit at work.

Congratulations to Lieutenant (Quartermaster) J. D. T. Hillman, formerly R.S.M. of the Unit; R.S.M. Lewis W., formerly T/C.S.M. and P.S.I. of this Company; and also to T/C.S.M. Berriff C., of No. 1 Company, on attaining their respective ranks. Lieutenant Hillman apparently likes the Highlands, seeing that he has decided to settle down in Aberdeen.

Sergeant Ferdinando J. G. has taken over the duties of P.S.I on arrival from the S.T.C., Jubbulpore. He is looking for a reliable "munshi." We have been notified that the Pipe Band is to have full dress uniform in the near future; this will probably mean some prospective Piper and Drummer recruits.

To Robbo, Benny and Paddy. "What about a line? Ferdy."

To Taffy. "Hearty congratulations! Will be sending you a stamp from the wilds when I have thawed enough to lick it."

THREECOY.

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

21, Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Lieutenant-Colonel Robertson.—Jardine Street is not the same place! A big thing has happened. We have reached another milestone in our careers. Imagine the Lowland Signals without J. W. Robertson. We should say Lieutenant-Colonel Robertson. We mean no disrespect, for J. W. Robertson ranks high in our affections. Jardine Street opened its doors to Driver Robertson in 1913. Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Robertson, D.C.M., began his Army career as a driver the year before the Great War. They tell us that there were few drivers better than Jimmy Robertson when he left for France in 1914. He won his D.C.M. that winter, and was shortly afterwards commissioned.

After the war, he helped largely in raising the Supplementary Reserve Signals at Glasgow, which he commanded for nine years, before being promoted to the command of the Lowland Divisional Signals.

So Colonel Robertson has left the Signals and Jardine Street. Every officer and man regrets his going. A grand, honest, upright fellow was J. W. There are those who will long remember him with gratitude. Many a good turn he did. Good-bye to you, our most excellent officer and gentleman. For all you have been to us, and all you have done for us, we bless you and thank you.

Macneil Moves.—Corporal Macneil J. has arrived at Rawalpindi to join "A" Corps Signals. Corporal Macneil is a son of our own respected C.S.M. Macneil J. We will continue to follow Mac junior's career with interest.

Local Gains.—Bob Murray, S.R., who steps up to the acting rank of R.S.M., and Sergeant Gould A., P.S. man with the T.A., are now observed to be sporting crowns.

W.O.s and Sergeants.—The Sergeants' Mess is the hub of the Jardine Street universe these days. The annual dinner was held in the Mess on 21st January, and a great affair it was. There were seventy serving members present. Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. Cumming, T.D., and Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Robertson, D.C.M., were there, too. Captain Peterson (Adjutant, S.R.) and Captain Shawcross (Adjutant, T.A.) were also honoured guests.

A very hearty welcome was accorded to Lieutenant-Colonel T. M. Niven, the new Commander of the Lowland Signals. Seldom have we seen such a gathering in the Mess. The menu was excellent and the concert was splendid. R.S.M. Murphy made a first-rate chairman. Mess President C.Q.M.S. Smith performed his duties truly and well. There was a grand turn out of the old and bold. Jimmy Mcneil and Colin Sinclair were there. So were Jock McQuarrie and Andy Houston, and Taffy Williams and McDougall of the S.R. were well to the fore. Jock Christie and C.S.M. Bain were there in full flight. The Mess dinner was truly an event of events. Success marked its every phase. Roll on the next time.

The W.O.s and Sergeants were again well to the fore on 4th February, when they patronised the Empire Theatre 150 strong. A sumptuous supper was afterwards served at Jardine Street. This was followed by a dance, which lasted till 1 a.m. The entertainments committee excelled itself. The arrangements were complete and elaborate, nothing was left undone. The soft lights and sweet music of the ballroom were all that could be desired. There was a concert for non-dancers. Everyone was happy. They are asking for another Theatre night. No wonder!

The New Colonel.—It is with very great pleasure that we note the promotion of Lieutenant-Colonel T. M. Niven. Colonel Niven succeeds Colonel J. W. Robertson in the command of the 52nd Divisional Signals. Colonel Niven's promotion has given rise to much satisfaction, not only at Jardine Street, but in Territorial circles in Glasgow.

The new Colonel enlisted in the 52nd Divisional Signals in 1920. An enthusiast in the Territorial cause, Colonel Niven has contributed much to the prosperity of the Lowland Signal Units. A deservedly popular officer, his courtesy and unassuming manner, in addition to other good qualities, have gained for him the respect of all ranks. Colonel Niven has commanded No. 1 Company, T.A., for several years with marked success.

This Unit has been repeatedly complimented on its outstanding efficiency, which was due in great part to their Commander's technical and organising abilities. We feel that in Lieutenant-Colonel T. M. Niven we have a worthy addition to the long line of distinguished colonels who have served at Jardine Street. We are certain that under his guidance and influence the 52nd Divisional Signals will go on from success to success.

The Major.—Brevet-Major Victor Warren, T.A., has been promoted to the rank of Major. This is good news for our T.A. Units. We congratulate Major Warren on his step up.

Atkinson Arrives.—Jardine Street has had a recent welcome visitor in the person of C.Q.M.S. Fred Atkinson, 5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough. Since we last saw him, our old friend has been doing splendid work in China. We were exceedingly pleased to meet our old P.S. man again. We have many pleasant recollections of C.Q.M.S. Atkinson. His excellent record as an instructor at Jardine Street will not be easily forgotten, and his unexpected visit to Glasgow has been a pleasant surprise for his many friends.

Another Arrival.—We welcome to the Corps 2nd Lieutenant J. G. Young. Lieutenant Young has been appointed to our T.A. Units. We trust that he will spend many happy years with us.

[Owing to pressure on space an excellent photograph has been unavoidably omitted—ED.]

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Cardiff.

The season is approaching when the fancy of young men of the Unit turn to thoughts of 8—10 words a minute. This is as it should be. The Commanding Officer said he wanted improved operating, and he will get it. The N.C.O.s are keen to get to grips with the job, and there is a spirit of rivalry between the Sections which is invaluable from a training standpoint.

Officers are enjoying an interesting series of lectures. On 31st January, Lieutenant F. H. Brooke, Welch Regiment, talked of the North-West Frontier of India; a fascinating subject in view of the recent Operations in Waziristan. On 14th February the Adjutant lectured on "Mobilization Duties." The Quartermaster, Major W. S. Catleugh, gives a lecture on "Trumpet Calls of the British Army" on 21st February. There is a Signal Scheme for Officers at Bridgend for the week-end 26th-27th March. These Exercises are popular, and good work is invariably accomplished.

Mr. P. S. Banbury, who was gazetted 2nd Lieutenant in the Royal Corps of Signals (Regular Army) on 29th January, 1938, has been posted to the Signal Training Centre, Catterick. We wish him the best of luck and every success in his new career.

Congratulations to Messrs. D. G. Davies, A. J. Blower and J. N. Evans on passing the Certificate "A" Examination. You can't keep good fellows down.

C.S.M. Baxter E. O., D.C.M., No. 2 Company, has obtained his discharge from the Unit on attaining the age limit. He has a long association with the Signals, prior to and throughout the Great War right up to the present day. His record is a distinguished one, and it is with regret that we see yet another stalwart handing in his kit. His successor is C.Q.M.S. Forse T. W., now promoted W.O. Class II (C.S.M.)—the worthy president of the W.O.s and N.C.O.s' Mess. Another N.C.O. with a fine record commencing before the Great War is Sergeant Salway P. J., who has been promoted C.Q.M.S. of No. 1 Company—a well-deserved reward for many years of conscientious service. Congratulations to both!

Five N.C.O.s are to participate in a "Spread" Course at the Drill Hall, Cardiff, from 14th-26th March, in order to complete the Cadre of Instructors; and on 20th March, the N.C.O.s are to hold a Signal Scheme in the vicinity of Cardiff.

The W.O.s and N.C.O.s entertained members of the United Services' Mess in a Games Tournament on 9th February. It was an enjoyable evening; these functions always are, with a good supper, provided by Sergeant Woodyatt.

A close contest took place on 2nd February, between senior N.C.O.s and members of the Canteen. The usual games were played, and it was neck and neck to the end, so close indeed that Captain V. W. Hawkins declared that each side had beaten the other.

THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

No. 3 Company.

February.

General.—Paid classes have started again, and there is a lot of competition in the Training Section. Keep it going, lads! The Section Sergeants are looking forward eagerly to the Trade Board.

The Company regret the absence of Lieutenant R. V. Pascoe, who, at the moment, is staying in Manchester. Hurry up, sir, and come back to the fold.

A short Course, under the P.S.I., for N.C.O.s and selected Signalmen is in progress.

Enlistments.—We welcome the following, and hope that some day they will rise to the rank of General: Signalmen Small, Bell, Sheppard and Boy Bird.

Congratulations.—To Sergeant Bradbury W., on being allowed to extend his service beyond the age limit for one year. Sergeant Bradbury was the first recruit to join the Company when it was formed. Old soldiers never die. Is that right, Bill?

Social.—Our Annual Dinner was held at Garons Banqueting Hall on Monday, 7th February. It was very pleasing to see the majority of the Company present. The reply to the toast to the Imperial Forces, given by Colonel A. D. Curtis of the Shoeburyness Garrison, will be remembered by all those present. It just shows how the Territorial Army has progressed, and how

it is looked upon with esteem. The absence of Colonel F. A. Manley, T.D. (the Commanding Officer), who unavoidably could not be present, was regretted. The dinner was excellent, and afterwards we were entertained by Mr. A. G. Chapman (baritone), Fred Johnson and Dave Gibson with Walter Hammerton at the piano. The various Cups and prizes were presented by Councillor A. H. White, who deputised for the Mayor.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.
No. 3 Company L-of-C., S.R. (Liverpool).

The absence of notes from this Company has been due to several causes, but certainly not lack of interest.

The Drill Hall is now a hive of industry with all the new members of the Unit being put through their paces. Recruiting is still going apace, and a hectic season appears to be indicated for all.

Our companions, the 55th (W.L.) Divisional Signals, T.A., expect to depart for their new quarters within the next few weeks, and a very pleasant partnership will therefore be broken up. We wish them every success in their new barracks, and hope that a new departure in entertainments may be started by friendly competitions and visits between the two Units.

Things are still in the air regarding the arrival of their successors at the barracks; we cannot hope for better friends than the ones leaving.

Another September Camp is the order for 1938, although once again the lateness of the period selected is regretted, the intervening months will certainly be fully occupied.

The Annual Dance was held at Acacia House on 21st January. A most enjoyable evening was spent by all of the 200 people who attended. This year we included a whist drive, the idea being to attract more of the "Old Brigade." To our surprise, although the "Old Brigade" rallied, they simply refused to leave the dance floor for the more sedate atmosphere of the whist room. Was the "Palais Glide" the attraction, "Old Timer"?

A. R. K.

The London Divisional Signals.
(City of London Signals.)

Motor Cycle Trial.—The "City of London Signals Motor Cycle Club" organised a very successful Trial over a marked course near Tunnel Hill, Pirbright, Surrey, on Sunday, 6th February. An invitation to the 48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals, T.A., Despatch Riders' Club was accepted by ten Despatch Riders from Birmingham. After keen competition, City of London Signals regained the team award lost to the 48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals during the Inter-Team Trials at Birmingham last October.

City of London Signals also provided the best individual performer—Signalman Kennard E.—who narrowly beat Signalman Darrall A. of Birmingham. After a good day's sport, a party of forty sat down to dinner. On the Saturday evening, the majority of the party attended a dance at Signal House. It is hoped to make this a bi-annual match, to be held each year near to Birmingham and near to London. If these notes should meet the eye of any other member of a "Signals Despatch Rider Club," it may perhaps lead to the organisation of similar events.

Football.—In the Sports notices will be found a record of the activities of the City of London Signals football team, which is now under the guidance of C.S.M. Angell E. J., and who are enjoying their first season.

Officers' Mess Dinner.—The usual monthly Mess Dinner was held on 27th January. The guests included Brigadier C. C. Rawson, O.B.E., Brigadier G. M. Giles, M.C., T.D., and other officers of the 2nd (London) Infantry Brigade.

Formation of City of London Signals Cadet Company.—With the backing of Colonel A. T. B. Bignold-de-Cologan, T.D., of the London Rifle Brigade and British National Cadet Association, steps are being taken to form a Cadet Company affiliated to the Divisional Signals. The boys are given the run of the Drill Hall on Thursdays, and are instructed in drill and in the trade of Operator Signals.

Annual Sergeants' Mess Dinner—12th February.—Even more successfully than usual, the warrant officers, staff sergeants and sergeants entertained a large number of guests to a dinner, which was followed by a dance. Covers were laid for 210. R.Q.M.S. Waite proposed the loyal toasts, and C.S.M. Peddlesden proposed the health of the guests, among whom were a large number of officers.

In his reply, the Commanding Officer spoke of the pleasure experienced by all his fellow guests at attending such a dinner. He paid a tribute to the ladies, of whom there were a large number present, for their unselfishness and patriotism in encouraging their men to belong to the Territorial Army. Referring to the fact that this dinner was almost certainly the last occasion when the warrant officers and sergeants of Line of Communication Signals would be present as members of the Mess, he said that he was sure that they would attend the dinner in future as guests. He spoke of his gratitude to the Sergeants for their hard work and enthusiasm, and mentioned in this connection that 100 per cent. of the Sergeants were attending Paid Courses. This was a good example to the remainder of the Unit.

After paying a tribute to the work of R.Q.M.S. Strange F. G. and Sergeant Hammond P., who had recently left the Permanent Staff of the Unit, but had come up from Aldershot for the dinner, the Commanding Officer spoke of his intention to form an Old Comrades' Association. Major W. M. Knight, T.D., had volunteered to start one, and to arrange for its affiliation to the Royal Signals O.C.A.

Amongst the Sergeants' Messes of other Units who accepted invitations were: Mons, Barracks, Aldershot; London Corps Signals; 63rd (6th London) Field Brigade, R.A.; 98th Field Brigade, R.A. (The Surrey Yeomanry Q.M.); London Divisional Royal Engineers; H.A.C. Infantry; 1st A.A. Divisional Signals; 600th Fighter Squadron, R.A.F.

Sports.—City of London Signals football team was formed in October, 1937, by C.S.M. Angell E. J., and the following is a record of matches played to date:

23rd Oct., 1937.	v. London Corps Signals ..	Lost	1—7
30th Oct., 1937.	v. 9th Bn., Royal Fusiliers ..	Lost	0—1
6th Nov., 1937.	v. 9th Bn., Royal Fusiliers ..	Lost	0—6
20th Nov., 1937.	v. 63rd Field Brigade, R.A. ..	Won	4—1
5th Jan., 1938.	v. Post Office, S.E. Area ..	Won	1—0
15th Jan., 1938.	v. 63rd Field Brigade, R.A. ..	Drawn	4—4
22nd Jan., 1938.	v. Cornwall F.C.	Drawn	4—4

C.O.L.S.

1st Cadet Signal Company.
(Haberdashers School Cadet Corps.)

Resignation.—We are very sorry to lose the services of Cadet 2nd Lieutenant R. F. Bradshaw, O. i/c "S" (Surveying) Section, who has been appointed Headmaster of a new school at St. Albans. We all wish Mr. Bradshaw every success in his new post.

Field Day.—During a Field Day held at the School's playing fields at Mill Hill on 2nd February, Signal Sections took part in a miniature Signal T.E.W.T., involving a forward move of Company and Battalion Headquarters. This was directed by Lieutenant R. G. Miller, Royal Signals, who is an ex-member of the School Signal Unit, whose willing help we were fortunate in obtaining. This officer, in a detailed and constructive report on the Scheme, complimented the cadet N.C.O.s, who undertook the roles of Brigade and Battalion Signal Officers, Company Commanders, etc., on grappling with their problems with considerable success at a first attempt. The Field Day ended with a short route march of the personnel, headed by the Band.

Certificate "A," Part I (Signals—Practical).—The following cadets of the Unit were successful in passing this part of the Certificate "A" Examination on 4th February: Sergeant Manley R. G., Lance Sergeant Brand M. J., Corporal Bayliss A. J., Lance Corporals Sedgwick R. H. and Trent P. T., Signalmen Mordant D. F. and Tapsfield H. A.

These candidates will sit for the second (written) part of the examination in March.

SPORTS NOTES

1st Divisional Signals.

Hockey.—The re-play of the match in the second round of Army Cup took place on Friday, 21st January, between 1st Divisional Signals and 2nd Battalion, The Buffs. Result: Signals lost 1—3 (after extra time). The match, which was played on the Officers' Club ground at Bordon, proved to be a hard game with plenty of thrills. The Buffs scored in the first half, and it was not until within five minutes of the end of the second half that Lance Corporal Williams scored the equalising goal. However, during the first half of the extra time, our opponents scored their second and third goals. Although we pressed hard during the last ten minutes, it was of no avail—we just "went down." It was most unfortunate for us that Major Bowen, our centre forward, was injured just before the end of the first half. Up to the time of his injury, Major Bowen had played a very strong and aggressive game. Well done, sir!

The Rawson Cup.—"A" Corps Signals were the eventual winners. The results are as follows:

v. 2nd Divisional Signals	Won	5—3
v. "A" Corps Signals	Lost	0—2

The Unit team went to Bramley for their annual game against the R.A.O.C., on Wednesday, 9th January, winning the match by a comfortable margin of 7—0.

Football.—With very much regret we reluctantly withdrew our team from the Command League. It was impossible to field a strong enough eleven. Lieutenant (T.M.O.) T. W. Harrison (Officer i/c football) has had to confine the team's activities to friendlies and pick-ups.

Cross-country Running.—Under the able leadership of Lieutenant D. R. Yearsley and Sergeant W. M. Cotterell, we have got a promising young team in training for the Mons Barracks run on 18th February. Possibly, the team may compete in the Army Unit Team Championships, which are due to take place at Aldershot on 15th March.

Association Football.—The results in the Army Cup matches to date have caused many unexpected surprises. It is past history that 3rd Divisional Signals went down to the R.A.M.C., Aldershot, after a most gallant and uphill fight. As far as Aldershot gossip went, the R.A.M.C. were an almost certainty for the Cup Final; but they met their Waterloo in the 4th Battalion, Royal Tank Corps, losing by 2—0. The winning goals were scored in the last ten minutes. The "line-up" for the semi-finals of the game is now as follows: 4th Battalion, Royal Tank Corps; 1st Battalion, Royal Welch Fusiliers (Blackdown); Depot, R.A.O.C. (Hilsea); and the R.A. (Shoeburyness).

Rugger.—The Aldershot Command final was played on Thursday, 25th January. Result: 1st Battalion, Welch Guards, 3 points; 1st Battalion, Royal Tank Corps, 0.

It was a foregone conclusion before the game started that the Guardsmen would win. This conclusion became doubtful as soon as the match started. The Tanks put up a magnificent fight against their more stalwart opponents.

The finalists for the Army Rugby Union Cup are: 1st Battalion, Welch Guards, v. 2nd Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment. This match will be played on the Command central ground on 5th March.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Soccer.—The chief event of the past month was our match in the fourth round of the Army Cup against the R.A.M.C., Aldershot.

A large crowd of supporters turned up from Mons Lines and elsewhere to wish us luck, but all their good wishes were unable to save us from losing the toss. When play started, Royal Signals, Southern Command, were doing their best to work the ball forward in the teeth of quite a respectable young gale.

The R.A.M.C. were quick to adapt themselves and take advantage of the wind at their backs. Their defence had only to kick high, and the ball travelled the length of the field. Their forwards, especially Captain Edwards, their centre forward, kept well up near to the goal mouth, and kicked hard whenever the ball came near them. The score at half-time, despite several good saves by Lance Corporal Hall, stood at 4—0.

It may have been imagination, but it appeared to the Signals' supporters that as soon as the whistle went for half-time the wind immediately began to die down. Whether that is true or not, it is quite certain that the Signals' defence did not adapt themselves to take advantage of the wind in the same way that the R.A.M.C. had done, and the forwards, although on the attack throughout the whole of the half, did not manage to score once.

When the whistle blew for full time, the score was 4—0 to the R.A.M.C. We had lost to a better and more experienced side. We wish them the best of luck in the succeeding rounds.

Our team for this match was: Lance Corporal Hall (3rd Divisional Signals) (goal); Corporal Thornton (Tank Brigade Signals) and Lance Corporal Bundy ("E" Troop) (backs); Driver Stewart (Tank Brigade Signals), Corporal Henwood, capt. (3rd Divisional Signals) and Lance Corporal Terry (Tank Brigade Signals) (halves); Signalman Stevens, Signalman Phimister, Lance Corporal Grant, Lance Corporal Beard R., Lance Corporal Matthews (all from 3rd Divisional Signals) (forwards). Reserves: Signalmen Sutherland and Leburn (both from 3rd Divisional Signals).

Cross-country.—The cross-country season is just about to start in earnest, and we shall soon see the results (or otherwise) of our training. We are due to compete in the following events: Garrison Championships on 15th February, the S.P.A. Championships on 22nd February, and in the Southern Command on 2nd March.

Meanwhile, the third and deciding Inter-Company run has been won by Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, whose side beat No. 2 Company by 159 points to 193. Signalman Valentine, having been first home in all three Inter-Company runs, has been awarded the Individual Medal.

We have only run one match outside the Unit since Christmas, and that was against the R.A.F., Andover, who are tipped as the probable winners of the R.A.F. Junior Cross-country Championships. (There were ten runners (seven to count) over a course of about six miles.) We managed to beat our opponents by 51 points to 57. Our seven scoring individuals were: Signalman Valentine, 2; Signalman Bachelor, 4; Signalman Whichelow, 5; Signalman Neame (Tank Brigade Signals), 7; Lieutenant Barnes, 8; Signalman Harvey, 12; Signalman Brown (Tank Brigade Signals), 13.

Hockey.—Since the Christmas leave period, we have played only four games, the results of which were as follows:

v. Andover Sports Club	Won	1—0
v. 1st (Light) Battalion, Royal Tank Corps (second round Army Cup)	Lost	0—5
v. 9th Royal Lancers	Lost	2—4
v. 26th Field Brigade, R.A.	Lost	0—2

For the Army Cup match at Tidworth we played the following side: Signalman Delicate; Corporal Bruton, Driver Stillwell; Signalman Wilkins, Lieutenant Price, Signalman Roberts; Signalman Wale, Signalman Nye, Signalman Howard, Corporal Johns and Signalman Neame.

Six of our players were Indian born. We thought we had a very good side, but the weather let us down; it rained from start to finish. Having lost the toss, we were forced to play up the slope, a difficult task on the rain-soaked ground. Half-time found us two goals down, but we confidently expected to recover in the second half. Apparently, we were having an "off" day, and never got going at all, losing a further three goals. On the day's play we were beaten by a very much better side, but we thought we could have done better.

Two days after the match we lost two of our best players in Signalmen Wale and Wilkins, who sailed for Egypt. We wish them luck—on the hockey field in particular.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

Soccer.—Herewith are some further results :

v. Southern Railway	Away.	Won	9—0
v. Vyse United	Home.	Lost	1—2
v. 3rd Battalion, R.T.C.	Away.	Won	2—0
v. Sandwich	Away.	Won	2—0
v. 2nd Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment	Home.	Won	11—1

Our position at present in both the Civilian and Military Leagues is third ; and it is likely that our February matches will go a long way towards deciding the ultimate winners.

In the Military League, the two leading teams—P.W. Vols. and the R.A.S.C.—have to be met away, and in the Civilian League we have to meet Ramsgate Technical—our nearest rivals—twice.

We are expecting big things from Signalman Harding, who recently joined us from the S.T.C. He showed great promise in his first game with us.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

12th February.

As will be seen in the Company notes, we have had a spell of foul weather which rendered all the sports grounds unplayable during most of the month. However, the bad weather didn't stop us from keeping up our training for those big events—the N.I.D. Football Cup and the N.I.D. Hockey Cup. We have great hopes of winning these tournaments, and hope to give you some good news about these games next month. No games for these Cups have yet been played.

We managed to play three friendly games, winning two and losing one. In these games, the recent arrivals in the Company proved themselves more than useful players. Here are the scores :

6th January v. H.Q., 1st Bn., Welch Regiment	4—3
11th January v. R.A.S.C., Belfast	5—0
12th January v. Co-operative F.C.	1—2

I'm sorry these notes are so sketchy. This fault will be eradicated next month if the Company remains in the Cup Tournaments as long as we think it will. Wish us luck !

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Rugby Football.—As a climax to a most successful rugby season, this Unit won the Peshawar Club Cup after what has been described as one of the best games of rugby ever seen in Peshawar. The results of games played for the Cup, which was inaugurated this year, are as follows :

1ST ROUND : Royal Signals beat H.L.I. (28—0) ; R.A., Peshawar, beat Peshawar Club ; Royal Tank Corps, Peshawar, beat the King's Regiment ; 4th Field Brigade, R.A., Nowshera, beat R.A.F., Peshawar. SEMI-FINAL : Royal Signals beat R.A., Peshawar (25—0) ; 4th Field Brigade, R.A., Nowshera, beat Royal Tank Corps, Peshawar. FINAL : Royal Signals beat 4th Field Brigade, R.A., Nowshera (23—3).

Royal Signals team : Signalman Black ; Signalman Baker G., Signalman Buirski, Lieutenant Stodart, Lieutenant Goldsmith (capt.) ; Signalman Buchanan, Lance Corporal Mann ; Lance Corporal Evans, Lieutenant Stead, Signalmen Forslind, Mulholland, Legge, Ide, Gamble and Corporal Fenton. 16th man, Signalman Beard.

Referee : Captain "Saila" Willis, O.C., 11th Light Tank Company, R.T.C.

The first match, against the H.L.I., which was played just before Christmas, resulted in a very easy victory, 28—0. The Signals backs, who combined well on a dry day, scored after several good movements. The issue was never in doubt from the start, and the combination of the team was always worth watching. Eight tries were scored, but only two were converted. The following scored : Buirski, 2 ; Baker, 2 ; Buchanan, 1—a really good cut through from fly-half ; Stodart, 1 ; Goldsmith, 1 ; Walsh, 1.

The next game, versus the Combined R.A., Peshawar, was played on 18th January, in pouring rain. A feature of the game was the extraordinary sound handling of the backs, who scored no less than 25 points against kick and rush tactics with a very greasy and heavy ball. Buirski scored in the first half minute, and then the R.A. pressed until half-time. With the change of ends, and in pouring rain, the ball came out regularly and all the three-quarters scored—Buirski, 1 ; Baker, 2 ; Stodart, 2 ; Goldsmith, 2. Two tries were converted by Goldsmith.

The final was played in Peshawar on 23rd January, before a very large and enthusiastic gathering. The weather was perfect, though the ground had been rather over-watered. The R.A. arrived from Nowshera with a big reputation, which they fully lived up to during the first half, leading at the interval by 3—0. They started playing with the sun and slightly downhill ; their forwards played excellently and the tackling of their backs gave our own normally dangerous backs more than enough to consider. The play, which was midfield, was most exciting to watch ; a really hard tussle with both sides evenly matched and "all out." The R.A. scored just in the corner, their captain—Lieutenant Hunt—catching our defence asleep, and taking a pass from a throw-in from touch.

On changing over, a different story was unfolded, and the crowd were treated to a real display of team work and determination. It began at once. Buirski got the ball clean from Buchanan, cut through, passed to Stodart, who ran straight and hard, and scored four yards from the touch line (3—3). Goldsmith took the kick, which went over amid enthusiastic applause (5—3). It was the turning point of the game. Signals scrum got down to it, gave the ball regularly and cleanly to the backs, who made a clean job of the match. One try must be mentioned. From a loose scrum in the Signals' half, the ball came to Buchanan, and from him to Buirski, to Stodart, then to Goldsmith on the wing ; back to Stodart, back to Buchanan, and finally to Fenton, who scored under the posts.

The following scored : Stodart, 2 ; Goldsmith, 1 ; Ide, 1 ; Fenton, 1. Goldsmith converted four out of five tries.

Mrs. Strettall presented the Cup and Miniatures. Major-General C. B. Dashwood Strettall, C.B., in a short speech, congratulated the team. And so we hold the Cup till next year.

[Owing to pressure on space some excellent photographs have been unavoidably omitted—ED.]

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Hockey.—Hockey in this Unit for December, 1937, and part of January, 1938, has been confined to the Tournament and Competitions held within the Peshawar District.

This Unit has emerged from these Tournaments with a record of which it may well be proud. In the opening round of the District Cold Weather Tournament we subdued our old rivals, the H.L.I., by a 3—0 victory, after a stern struggle. After defeating the 1st Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment, by 6—1, we went on to win the final against the King's Regiment by 5—1.

The next Tournament in which we participated was the "Francis" Memorial Tournament, which is played each year, and is, I think, the biggest Hockey Tournament held in this District. In all, about twenty-eight teams, both civil and military, compete.

We were drawn in the first round against the 14th Mountain Battery, R.A., and defeated them by 1—0. In the next round we met the R.I.A.S.C.; the result was a draw, no goals being scored. We won the replay by 4—1.

In the next round we met the H.L.I., who were defeated by 4—2. This left us in the semi-final, and our opponents on that occasion were the Frontier Club, a very fine civilian team. The Frontier Club secured a one goal lead in the first half and kept it until about two minutes before the final whistle. The excitement was intense, as the Signals team were trying all they knew to score and force a draw. When it seemed as if nothing could save us from being defeated, a short corner was awarded. The Frontier Club team packed the goal mouth and it seemed as if nothing could get through. Signalman Seager hit the ball from the goal line and Lance Corporal Moseley stopped it with his hand. Then Lieutenant W. A. K. Stodart hit the ball a mighty wollop and it went into the net like a bullet just as the final whistle blew.

The replay of this match, which took place the next day, was watched by a large crowd. The result was a 3—0 victory for Signals; two goals were scored from short corners, and one scored by Lance Sergeant Gibbons from a pass by the right wing across the goal mouth.

This left us in the final with the Frontier Police as our opponents. A very fine game was witnessed. In the first half the Frontier Police secured a one goal lead, and in the second half they obtained another goal. The match ended with a 2—0 win for the Frontier Police. I think a day's rest would have produced a different result, as our players were stale after playing three successive matches.

Small Cups were presented to the team, and Lance Corporal Moseley and Signalman Seager received additional Cups for individual play.

Another match in which members of the Unit participated was the Civil v. Military match, which was inaugurated three years ago. The result was a 1—0 win for the Military. (This was the first time the Military had won this match.) We supplied the following players: Signalman Rogers (goal), Lance Corporal Evans (right back), Lance Corporal Moseley (inside right), Signalman Seager (centre half and captain) and Signalman Hough (right half). Signalman Seager, who was nominated captain of this team, was presented with the Shield.

The Tournament team was as follows: Signalman Rogers; Lance Corporal Evans, Signalman Martin; Signalman Hough, Signalman Seager, Lieutenant W. A. K. Stodart; Lieutenant D. J. Goldsmith, Lance Corporal Moseley, Lance Sergeant Gibbons, Lance Corporal Bristow and Signalman Kelly.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Cross-country.—No. 1 Company, 82 points; No. 2 Company, 218 points. No. 1 Company had the first ten men home and the 13th and 14th. Signalman Rowley was the individual winner, with Signalman Wilmshurst twenty yards behind.

Soccer.—Results of Combined Signals, Rawalpindi, XI games:

v. R.A.F.	Home.	Won	5—4
v. Devons	Home.	Won	2—0
v. S.W.B.	Home.	Won	4—3
v. R.U. Rifles	Home.	Drawn	2—2
v. R.U. Rifles	Away.	Drawn	1—1

Results of 1st Divisional Signals games:

v. Devons	Away.	Drawn	4—4
v. "A" Corps	Away.	Lost	2—3

Hockey.—We appear to have a very good XI. Only a few games have been recorded, but we hope that in future notes a complete record will be published:

v. Rawalpindi Arsenal	Away.	Won	4—0
v. Kirpa Ram's	Home.	Won	2—0
v. Rawalpindi Police	Home.	Drawn	0—0
v. R.U. Rifles	Home.	Won	2—1
v. "A" Corps	Away.	Won	3—1
v. R.A.F., Chaklala	Home.	Won	4—0
v. Rawalpindi Arsenal	Home.	Won	2—1

Section Games.—Leagues for both soccer and hockey are in full swing, but the task of giving each result is beyond me, so I won't attempt to give them. I shall publish the league results when they are complete.

Boxing.—We have a gang of fellows knocking each other for six each day in preparation for the District Tournament, which takes place in February. I hope to be able to tell you next month that each one of them has won his contest.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

By far the most outstanding match of the month was that of the Unit "A" team versus No. 1 (Indian) Wing, R.A.F., in the Kohat British Troops and R.A.F. Football League, which was our victory with a score of 2—0. In the process of attaining this position we dropped only one point.

The previous game against these opponents left them still undefeated, and needing only a draw to win the championship. Interest in this last game was therefore greatly heightened, and a fierce struggle ensued. On the balance of play, our opponents were unfortunate, and our own sheer enthusiasm rather than good football carried the day. The Unit defence was tremendous, the goalie—Signalman Hobden—making splendid saves that well showed his rare ability. Signalman Kelly settled the issue by scoring a goal in either half.

The Murray Cup.—The Inter-Section football and hockey matches have started for this trophy, bringing with them a spirit of keen rivalry and some excellent games. In the two matches played to date, " D " has been the victor with a score of 5—2 against Headquarters at hockey, and 2—1 at football against the same opponents. This is a good start, and with a little effort they should attain a very good place in this tournament.

Tennis.—A friendly tournament between the sergeants and men showed some excellent play and also provided a great deal of fun. The seniors were defeated by 134 points to 96. Of the victors, Lance Corporal Clarke and Signalman Jennings played brilliantly, not losing a point throughout. Of the vanquished, Sergeants Taplin and Saunders put up an excellent show. Such tennis is good to watch, and incidentally goes a long way towards maintaining a good standard within the Unit.

[Owing to pressure on space a photograph of team has been unavoidably omitted—ED].

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Football.—Owing to inclement weather during the month of January, a number of matches had to be cancelled. Here are the results :

	FIRST TEAM.		
4th Jan.	v. The Muslin Club	Won	5—3
5th Jan.	v. 2nd P.W. Vols.	Drawn	0—0
8th Jan.	v. 2/7th G.R.	Lost	2—3
19th Jan.	v. 2nd P.W. Vols.	Lost	1—7
23rd Jan.	v. 2nd P.W. Vols.	Drawn	2—2
27th Jan.	v. The Muslin Club	Won	1—0
	SECOND TEAM.		
5th Jan.	v. 2/7th G.R.	Lost	3—5
21st Jan.	v. 2nd Light Tank Company ..	Lost	0—3

At the beginning of the month, someone thought of a new formation for the defence. This was tried out against the 2nd Battalion, P.W. Vols., on 19th January, and, as the result shows, proved to be an utter failure. In the next game with the P.W. Vols. we reverted to the old method, which proved much more successful, and we were rewarded with a draw. The goals were scored by Lance Corporal Harris and Signalman Campion. Signalman Aldridge was very unlucky in the second half, when, with an open goal to shoot at, he miss-kicked the ball. He told us afterwards that he was trying to blind the goalkeeper with mud so that he could not see the ball coming later. Lance Corporal Harris also missed a penalty in the second half.

Rugby.—Results :

12th Jan.	v. 2nd Light Tank Company ..	Drawn	0—0
16th Jan.	v. 2nd Light Tank Company ..	Lost	0—6

The first match was played on a very muddy ground, making it almost impossible for anyone to score.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

General.—At the moment there is not much doing in the way of sport. Out of season rain has had a lot to do with it, but we hope to get going very soon.

We have played the Div. three times at soccer recently, losing the first game 1—0 ; this must have been our second team. We won the second game, 4—0. We were told afterwards that their team had sore feet after the strenuous (?) Signal Exercise nerts ! The third game we lost, 3—0 ; our first team were definitely on stables that afternoon.

Our hockey team has played two opening games and have won both. We hope to report great things of them in the near future.

We have also entered a team in the Delhi Horse Show, but more of that anon, when the results have been received.

Egypt Signals.

Football.—Hard luck seems to have followed us this season. Owing to Courses, Leave to U.K., and Schemes, etc., we have not been able to keep the same team throughout. The following table shows the final results :

	First Game.		Second Game.	
v. R.A.O.C.	Lost	2—5	Won	2—0
v. R.E.s	Drawn	1—1	Lost	1—2
v. 1/R.N.F.s	Lost	2—3	Lost	2—4
v. 11th Hussars	Lost	1—3	Drawn	1—1
v. 7th Hussars	Lost	0—2	Won	1—0
v. R.A.S.C.	Won	3—1	Drawn	2—2
v. R.H.A.	Lost	4—7	Drawn	3—3
v. 8th Hussars	Won	4—1	Won	4—3
v. R.A.	Lost	0—2	Lost	1—4

Final position : 7th.

ROBERTS HUGHES CUP.

1st Round : Corps v. R.A.S.C.

This was a fairly good game, which resulted in a win for the R.A.S.C. by 2—1. In the League we played the R.A.S.C. twice, winning one game and drawing the other.

COMMAND CUP.

1st Round : Corps v. 1/R.N.F.

This match, which was played at home, proved to be one of the best matches seen this season. In the first half, a movement started by McLoughlin, McGowan and Brown brought about a picture goal, and half-time came with a score of 1—0 in our favour.

The second half was full of shocks. Our opponents were awarded a penalty when the ball glanced off Hendry's arm. Rather hard luck on that player, after playing such a splendid game in the first half. The score now stood at 1—1.

The Fusiliers then followed up with two quick goals, from which we never recovered. Our defence played well, but the forwards did not take the numerous chances which came their way ; excitement may have been the bogey. Those who played in the game must be congratulated on their keenness and performance.

Boxing.—A friendly match against the R.H.A. took place on 26th January in the Signals Ring. The first part of the evening

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was cold, and was marred by intermittent rain showers, so that at one time it seemed likely that boxing would have to be abandoned. However, the weather eventually cleared and a rather thin audience were rewarded for their attendance by a very keenly contested series of fights ending with a score of six wins for each side. As it had previously been agreed in such circumstances that the first string of welter-weights should decide the match, the R.H.A. were declared the winners by the narrowest possible margin. Both teams then repaired to the N.A.A.F.I. to fight their battles over again in the warmer atmosphere rising from a fish and chip supper.

The result was an encouraging one for Egypt Signals. Although the contest had been billed as a "Novices' Team Match," six of the R.H.A. were members of their Regimental team. The general standard of boxing was high. Signalmen Ingram, Kendall K. and Clarke all accounted for their men in a most satisfactory way, and Signalman Sayer produced the necessary agressiveness which enabled him to out-box and defeat a very experienced opponent. Lance Corporal Bothamley boxed very well indeed on his re-appearance after a long rest, and was unlucky to lose the referee's casting vote in a fast and keenly contested fight with Bombardier Rockett, which gained the loudest applause of the evening. Results in detail :

Signalman Kendall v. Gunner Clarke.—K.o. for Signals.
Lance Corporal Marshall v. Gunner Burnett.—On points for Signals.
Driver Dennis v. Trooper Howell.—On points for R.H.A.
Signalman Ingram v. Gunner Watson.—K.o. for Signals.
Signalman Fairclough v. Gunner Byrne.—On points for R.H.A.
Signalman Offord v. Gunner Selby.—On points for R.H.A.
Signalman Whittaker v. Gunner Lewis.—On points for R.H.A.
Signalman Sayer v. Lance Bombardier Orient.—On points for Signals.
Signalman Clarke v. Gunner Jarvis.—On points for Signals.
Signalman Porter v. Lance Bombardier Casey.—On points for Signals.
Signalman McHugh v. Gunner Muirhead.—On points for R.H.A.
Lance Corporal Bothamley v. Bombardier Rockett.—On points for R.H.A.

We are now anxiously awaiting the drafts from Home, in the hope of raising a team from the new talent, in order to take on some of the older men in an All-Signals Boxing Evening to wind up the season.

B. B. K.

No. 1 Company.

Football.—C. OF E. CUP, 1ST ROUND.—This match was played on the Polygon ground against No. 3 Company. After a very good game, we lost by 1—0. The winning goal was scored by a penalty. Since this game, No. 3 Company have qualified for the semi-final. We wish them luck, and hope that they will carry it off.

The Section Football League has just finished, and the results are as follows :

Section.	Points.	Place.
"J"	18	1
"K"	16	2
"W"	12	3
"X"	12	3
"M"	11	4
"D"	10	5
"B"	9	6
"A"	9	6
"U.H.Q."	7	7
"Y"	4	8
"Z"	2	9

Swimming, 1937.—Signalman Kendall K. was awarded the Army Badge for last season.

Boxing.—The following members of this Company represented the Unit v. R.H.A. : Lance Corporals Marshall and Bothamley, Signalmen Kendall K. and Offord, Drivers Dennis and Porter.

K. K.

Tientsin Signal Section.

Soccer.—In continuation of our last sports notes, we are proud to announce that the Staff and Departmentals team have already won the 2nd Divisional Championship for the second year in succession, although there are still two matches to play.

This is a very creditable performance, in view of the fact that they have lost the services of the following players since the season started : Signalman Banham and Corporal Rose, R.A.S.C., who are now homeward bound, and also Signalman Hopcraft to Peking. This necessitated some drastic changes, which were liable to upset the team's standard of play. The team, however, lost none of its power, as the following results indicate :

v. "C" (S.) Company, 1st Battalion, Lancashire Fusiliers, drew, 1—1 ; v. "H.Q." Wing, ditto, won, 5—0 ; v. Tientsin Association F.C., won, 4—0.

The league table is as follows :

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals. F.	A.	Pts.
"S. and D.s"	10	9	1	0	35	4	19
"D" Coy., 1st Bn., Lancs. Fus.	9	5	1	3	21	10	11
"C" (S.) Coy., do.	8	4	2	2	19	14	10
Tientsin Association F.C.	11	3	4	4	16	26	10
"H.Q." Wing, 1st Bn., Lancs. Fus.	10	3	3	4	12	17	9
"B" Coy., do.	9	2	2	5	13	16	6
Russian Sporting Organisation	9	0	1	8	4	33	1

Hockey.—The "S. and D.s" have only played two league games so far, but the team shows promise of holding their own, despite an unexpected defeat by the German Hockey Club. The league results are as follows : v. 1st Battalion, Lancashire Fusiliers, "A" Team, won, 5—1 ; v. German Hockey Club, lost, 0—1.

THE WIRE

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VOL. XIX.—No. 218 APRIL 1938 PRICE—SIXPENCE

Editorial Notes.

The Signals Experimental Establishment, Woolwich. — The Signals Experimental Establishment will be "At Home" to all Regular Officers of the Corps (including those on leave from abroad) on 27th May, 1938. Officers will be able to see all experimental apparatus in the process of being designed, or due to go to field trials.

Officers should arrive not later than 11 a.m. The nearest Station is **Woolwich Arsenal.** A convenient train from London leaves Charing Cross at 10.28 a.m., arriving at Woolwich Arsenal at 10.54 a.m., and, if required, transport will be sent to meet this train. Return trains to London run at very frequent intervals throughout the day.

Those wishing to see all the demonstrations and apparatus should be prepared to spend the day at the S.E.E. up to 4 p.m., when tea will be served. Luncheon can be obtained locally at 2s. per head (exclusive of wines).

Any officers desirous of attending should notify the Superintendent, Signals Experimental Establishment, Woolwich Common, London, S.E.18, at least one week beforehand, either by letter or by telephone (WOOLWICH 0181), stating whether they are coming by train, and whether they require luncheon.

Mufti should be worn.

Attendance is voluntary, so no travelling expenses can be claimed. No direct personal invitations will be issued, and it is hoped that all Regular officers will take this as a personal invitation.

Gill Memorial Scholarships at Brighton College for Sons of Army Officers.—It is officially announced that about six GILL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND EXHIBITIONS are offered for competition among sons of Army officers.

Candidates will take the ordinary June common entrance examination at their own preparatory schools. Admission to compete for the Scholarships and Exhibitions is by nomination, and candidates must be :

1. Under the age of 14 years on 1st June, 1938, and
2. The sons of officers who held or have held a commission in the Regular Army or, failing such candidates, the sons of officers who held or have held a commission in the Reserve or Auxiliary Military Forces.

The annual value of the Gill Memorial Scholarships and Exhibitions ranges from £75 to £30, thus reducing the amount payable by a parent or guardian to between £75 and £120 respectively, inclusive of necessary extras. Scholarships and Exhibitions are tenable for three years, but the period may, on the recommendation of the Headmaster, be extended to four years. Successful candidates will enter Brighton College at the end of the summer holidays.

Applications for nomination by the War Office (accompanied by birth certificate and certificates of conduct covering the previous two years) should reach the Under Secretary of State (C.1.), The War Office, London, S.W.1, not later than 30th April, 1938.

Royal Signals Officers' Dinner Club.—The Annual Dinner of the Royal Signals Officers' Dinner Club will be held on 27th May, 1938, 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.

Silver Cable Wagon Replica.—Apropos Editorial notes in our July, 1937, issue. The Silver Cable Wagon Centre-piece will be on view in the window of the Goldsmiths' and Silversmiths' Company, Ltd., 112, Regent Street, London, W.1, from 14th to 26th May, 1938.

Reunion Dinner for Officers and Other Ranks of Indian Unattached List Signal Companies.—A Reunion Dinner will be held in London at an early date to which all Officers and Other Ranks who served with Nos. 31, 32, 33 or 34 I.U.L. Divisional Signals are cordially invited. For further particulars apply, in writing, direct to W. A. Dowley, 29, Eckington Gardens, New Cross, London, S.E.14.

Corps Cricket.—The following is a list of Corps Cricket fixtures for the forthcoming season :

9th June.	v.	R.A.O.C.	At Aldershot.
10th/11th ,,	v.	R.E.	At Aldershot.
13th/14th ,,	v.	R.A.S.C.	At Aldershot.
15th ,,	v.	R.M.A.	At Woolwich.
5th/6th August.	v.	R.T.C.	At Bovington Camp.

Individuals serving at home, or on leave from abroad, desirous of playing in any of these matches, should communicate with Major H. S. Lewis Barclay, 4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

Obituary.—We regret to announce the death of ex-R.Q.M.S. Purkiss B. H., who passed away, in Frimley Hospital, after a short illness, on Saturday, 5th March, 1938.

The funeral took place, with semi-military honours, at Frimley Churchyard, on Tuesday, 8th March, and was attended by Major (Q.M.) W. A. Gallagher, Captain (Q.M.) A. E. Winton, D.C.M., Lieutenant (T.M.O.) A. C. Shenton, Lieutenant (Q.M.) J. A. Burgess, together with a representative contingent from the Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess, Mons Barracks, Aldershot.

Floral tributes were also sent from "All Signal Units at Mons Barracks"; "The Sergeants' Mess, Mons Barracks"; and "The Aldershot Branch of Signals Association."

EMPLOYMENTS.

Situations found during the preceding month with the co-operation of the National Association for the Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen.

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7	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Labourer
8	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
9	Ex-N.C.O., Brighton	Postman
10	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
11	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
12	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
13	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	P.O. Cleaner
14	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Labourer
15	Ex-N.C.O., Chatham	Mess Waiter
16	Ex-N.C.O., London	Postman
17	Ex-Signalman, London	Garage Hand
18	Ex-N.C.O., London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
19	Ex-Signalman, London	Caretaker
20	Ex-Signalman, London	Attendant
21	Ex-Signalman, London	Garage Hand
22	Ex-Signalman, London	Motor Cleaner
23	Ex-N.C.O., London	Postman
24	Ex-Signalman, London	Chauffeur Mechanic
25	Ex-Signalman, Taunton	P.O. Engineering Dept.
26	Ex-Signalman, Reading	Fitter
27	Ex-Signalman, London	Messenger
28	Ex-Signalman, Derby	Barrack Labourer
29	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Platelayer
30	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Telephonist
31	Ex-Signalman, Reading	Chauffeur
32	Ex-Signalman, Leeds	Clerk and Storeman
33	Ex-N.C.O., Woolwich	Clerk

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4	Ex-Signalman, London	Loan	£2	0	0
5	Ex-Signalman, Hants	Loan	£5	0	0
6	Ex-N.C.O., Salisbury	Grant	£5	0	0
7	Ex-Signalman, Cornwall	Grant	£3	6	8
8	Ex-N.C.O., Birmingham	Grant	£2	0	0
9	Ex-Signalman, Dagenham	Loan	£2	10	0
10	N.C.O., Aldershot	Loan	£6	0	0
11	Signalman, Aldershot	Grant	£5	0	0
12	Signalman, Aldershot	Loan	£3	3	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.
18th March.

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.

2313063	Sergeant Davis R.	14/10/32
734621	Sergeant Humphrey J. W.	22/12/32
2316204	Sergeant Cooke R. J.	9/1/33
2313952	Sergeant Jones W.	6/2/33
*2308431	Sergeant Evelyn R. R.	15/2/33
6003199	Sergeant Greenwood E. W.	3/4/33

* For absorption on the 50% roll following promotion.

HOME AND ABROAD, 5%. INDIA, 4%. RANK AND FILE.
Class 15.

2309070	Lance Sergeant Webber F. G.	18/1/32
5608650	Lance Sergeant Policella J.	30/1/32
2311336	Lance Sergeant Sherrington F. G.	3/2/32
2312509	Lance Sergeant King L. J.	6/2/32
2316298	Signalman Paine H. E.	19/2/32
5876703	Farrier Corporal Loakes J. B.	20/2/32

Yours faithfully, G. E. Sampson, Colonel,
i/c Royal Signals Records.

Corps News—Officers

Moves—

Major L. V. Younie from Scarborough to Meerut (3rd Indian Divisional Signals).
Major L. B. Nicholls from India to Aldershot (2nd Divisional Signals).
Major W. U. Tyrrell from Aldershot to Egypt Signals.
Major C. E. Sketch from India to Catterick (S.T.C.).
Major S. J. Fielder from India to Aldershot ("A" Corps Signals).
Major E. H. C. Harris from Perham Down to Aldershot ("A" Corps Signals).
Captain C. Childs from India to Aldershot (1st Divisional Signals).
Captain E. S. Cole from Catterick to Aldershot ("A" Corps Signals).
Captain R. C. B. Stuart from Spike Island to Peshawar District Signals.
Lieutenant P. E. M. Bradley from Canterbury to Peshawar District Signals.
Lieutenant C. W. M. Young from Aldershot to Rawalpindi ("A" Corps Signals).
Lieutenant P. G. Goodeve-Docker from India to Catterick (S.T.C.).
Lieutenant F. H. Pellew from Nigeria to Perham Down (Mobile Divisional Signals).
Lieutenant M. G. Ridley-Martin from 2nd Divisional Signals to Aldershot (No. 4 Tank Signal Section).
Lieutenant A. Hill from Scarborough to Bulford (3rd Divisional Signals).
2nd Lieutenant R. Lyall from S.T.C. (No. 34 "Q" Course) to Perham Down (Mobile Divisional Signals).
2nd Lieutenant D. R. Horsfield from S.T.C. (No. 34 "Q" Course) to Scarborough (5th Divisional Signals).
2nd Lieutenant J. de D. Yule from S.T.C. (No. 34 "Q" Course) to Scarborough (5th Divisional Signals).
2nd Lieutenant J. B. Birkett from S.T.C. (No. 34 "Q" Course) to Aldershot (1st Divisional Signals).
2nd Lieutenant R. E. Stoney from S.T.C. (No. 34 "Q" Course) to Aldershot ("A" Corps Signals).
2nd Lieutenant G. A. B. Sutherland from S.T.C. (No. 34 "Q" Course) to Canterbury (4th Divisional Signals).

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

[War Office, 15/2/38]

Supplementary Reserve—Royal Signals.

2nd Lieutenant D. J. Tynan-Byrd, from R.E.S.R., to be 2nd Lieutenant, 16/2/38.

Territorial Army—Royal Signals.

48th (S.M.) Divisional Signals. 2nd Lieutenant P. M. G. Lee to be Lieutenant, 24/11/37.
52nd (L.) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Robertson, D.C.M., to be Lieutenant-Colonel, 16/1/38. G. B. Allan to be 2nd Lieutenant, 16/2/38.

[War Office, 18/2/38]

The names of the undermentioned have been brought to notice by His Excellency The Commander-in-Chief in India for distinguished services rendered in connection with the operations in Waziristan, N.W. Frontier of India, 25/11/36 to 16/1/37:

Royal Signals—Lieutenant W. A. K. Stodart, Lieutenant C. L. Ommanney, Lieutenant M. A. Charlton.

For operations 17/1/37 to 15/9/37:

Colonel L. G. Phillips, late Royal Signals,
Royal Signals—Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. H. Vulliamy, Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. C. Penney, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., Major L. B. Nicholls, Major R. L. M. Rosenberg, Lieutenant P. B. G. Gambier.

Regular Army.

Colonel A. C. Sykes, D.S.O., O.B.E., h.p., to be C.S.O., Southern Command, 11/2/38.

Supplementary Reserve—Royal Signals.

F. W. Groves to be 2nd Lieutenant, 19/2/38.

Territorial Army—Royal Signals.

Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel W. S. Ashley, from 42nd (E.L.) Divisional Signals, to be Colonel, 5/11/37, with seniority, 5/11/36.
The London Corps Signals. 2nd Lieutenant F. A. F. Bowring to be Lieutenant, 19/2/38, with seniority, 11/3/36.
44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant J. H. Baker to be Captain, 1/2/38.
N.M. Corps Signals. Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel G. J. Underwood retires on completion of tenure of Command.

[War Office, 22/2/38]

Regular Army.

Colonel A. C. Fuller, O.B.E., from C.I.R.E.S., to be Deputy Director of Mech., War Office, and is granted the temporary rank of Brigadier whilst so employed, 1/1/38.

Royal Signals.

Lieutenant T. E. Dobson is seconded whilst employed as Instructor, School of Signals, 21/1/38.
Lieutenant R. G. Miller, from h.p. list, to be Lieutenant, 23/2/38, with precedence next below Lieutenant M. Stonestreet.

Supplementary Reserve—Royal Signals.

Major (Quartermaster) H. Golden, late I.A., to be Major (Quartermaster), 14/2/38.

OFFICERS

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LONDON, W.C.2

The undermentioned to be 2nd Lieutenants, 23/2/38: I. S. G. Mackenzie, J. D. Norfolk.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

The London Corps Signals. Lieutenant P. R. Mann to be Captain, 23/2/38.

2nd Cavalry Divisional Signals. 2nd Lieutenant J. G. Potter to be Lieutenant, 30/1/38.

44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals. W. A. Woods to be 2nd Lieutenant, 23/2/38.

51st (H.) Divisional Signals. J. R. Guy to be 2nd Lieutenant, 23/2/38.

55th (W.L.) Divisional Signals. 2nd Lieutenant G. G. Graley to be Lieutenant, 20/2/38.

The London Divisional Signals. A. H. Clarkson to be 2nd Lieutenant, 23/2/38; C. K. Clarkson to be 2nd Lieutenant, 23/2/38.

[War Office, 25/2/38]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.

W. G. Roberts to be 2nd Lieutenant, 26/2/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

50th (N.) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant G. Hammonds resigns his commission, 7/2/38.

51st (H.) Divisional Signals. R. M. Dawson to be 2nd Lieutenant, 26/2/38.

52nd (L.) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel J. W. Robertson, D.C.M., retires on completion of tenure of command, 16/1/38.

[War Office, 1/3/38]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.

J. F. J. O'Connor to be Lieutenant (Quartermaster), 11/2/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

49th (W.R.) Divisional Signals. N. E. Dixon to be Lieutenant, 2/3/38.

54th (E.A.) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant P. S. Wright to be Captain, 1/2/38.

[War Office, 4/3/38]

REGULAR ARMY.

Colonel C. J. S. LeCornu, O.B.E., M.C., on ceasing to be employed, is placed on the h.p. list, 17/2/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

52nd (L.) Divisional Signals. 2nd Lieutenant R. Graham to be Lieutenant, 9/11/37.

[War Office, 11/3/38]

REGULAR ARMY.

Signal Training Centre. Colonel R. Chenevix Trench, O.B.E., M.C., h.p., to be Commandant and granted the temporary rank of Brigadier whilst so employed, 11/2/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals. S. C. Isaacs to be 2nd Lieutenant, 12/3/38.

[War Office, 15/3/38]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Major R. G. Smith is seconded for service on the Staff in India, 15/3/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

The London Divisional Signals. Lieutenant G. W. Gray ceases to hold a commission in the T.A., 12/3/38.

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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 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.]

Promoted Warrant Officer, Class II (C.S.M.).

2311392	C.Q.M.S. Oakes F.	13/11/37	16

Promoted C.Q.M.S.

2308766	Sergeant Garroni J.	13/11/37	16

Promoted Sergeant.

2309252	L/Sergeant Longwill J.	13/11/37	29
2313855	L/Sergeant Tant H.	13/11/37	34
2313590	L/Sergeant Tidey E.	20/11/37	34
2314644	L/Sergeant Prickett W.	20/11/37	34
2314729	L/Sergeant Shurer A.	27/11/37	34
1853335	L/Sergeant Simpson W.	10/12/37	34
2316102	L/Sergeant Heasman E.	10/12/37	34

Appointed Lance Sergeant.

2316636	Corporal Scratcher J.	5/11/37	42
2316995	Corporal Walker C.	13/11/37	43
759563	Corporal Bull G.	13/11/37	43
2316545	Corporal Wright H.	13/11/37	43
2316525	Corporal Hopwood C.	20/11/37	43
2318021	Corporal Hothersall P.	20/11/37	43
2316456	Corporal Manning C.	26/11/37	43
2316049	Corporal Sugg H.	8/12/37	44
2318013	Corporal Weeks L.	10/12/37	44
2317444	Corporal Rowe A.	11/12/37	44
2312932	Corporal Hodge C.	31/12/37	39

Promoted Corporal.

2868603	L/Corporal Grieve J.	4/11/37	59
2318001	L/Corporal Gunn P.	5/11/37	61
2320248	L/Corporal Richardson W.	13/11/37	63
2323125	L/Corporal Butler T.	13/11/37	63
2322228	L/Corporal Brookes C.	13/11/37	64
2315572	L/Corporal Gilkes A.	13/11/37	64
2315873	L/Corporal Robinson R.	13/11/37	64
2321054	L/Corporal Young F.	13/11/37	64
2322083	L/Corporal McMahon G.	20/11/37	
2321693	L/Corporal Bennington L.	27/11/37	
2319725	L/Corporal Holt J.	7/12/37	
2321370	L/Corporal Cotton A.	8/12/37	
2320448	L/Corporal Hoar R.	10/12/37	
2320149	L/Corporal Faircloth W.	10/12/37	
1416007	L/Corporal Dollimore C.	11/12/37	
2321971	L/Corporal Axson G.	17/12/37	
2322065	L/Corporal Partridge L.	31/12/37	
2317991	L/Corporal Butler C.	1/1/38	

Appointed Lance Corporal.

2321322	Signalman Wright W.	1/8/37
2317746	Signalman Gee W.	4/8/37
2321556	Signalman Tracey G.	8/8/37
2321542	Signalman Robertson J.	8/8/37
2320757	Signalman Boot A.	10/8/37
2568537	Signalman Lloyd C.	11/8/37
2320231	Signalman Cox A.	11/8/37
2321490	Signalman Hircoe J.	12/8/37
4265066	Signalman Robertson W.	12/8/37
2322067	Signalman Cox C.	13/8/37
2323021	Signalman Williams V.	13/8/37
2322224	Signalman O'Donnell J.	17/8/37
2320581	Signalman Boldison J.	18/8/37
2321491	Signalman Scott P.	19/8/37
2322244	Signalman Martin J.	19/8/37
2322159	Signalman Hamilton T.	21/8/37
2322454	Signalman Parker G.	21/8/37
2317449	Signalman Dewhurst H.	21/8/37
2323910	Signalman Lord J.	22/8/37
2323776	Signalman Horne F.	24/8/37
2321183	Signalman Trusselle S.	25/8/37
2321257	Signalman Sweeny J.	26/8/37
2316980	Signalman Sutcliffe R.	26/8/37
2319871	Signalman Ashford R.	30/8/37

Discharges.

2310426	F-of-S. Q.M.S. Mutter W.	1/2/38	9
2311719	C.S.M. Hillman J.	22/1/38	7
2306414	C.Q.M.S. Dempsey G.	26/2/38	14
2314054	Sergeant Goodman L.	7/2/38	21
2311826	Sergeant Walker A.	13/2/38	21
*2310732	Sergeant Bennett G.	17/2/38	74
2309311	Sergeant Newmarch E.	22/2/38	20
31227	Sergeant Handford J.	23/2/38	25
*3702912	L/Sergeant Halfpenny J.	31/1/38	78
313889	Corporal Johns J.	2/2/38	45
2317480	Corporal Foreman W.	4/2/38	55
2317619	Corporal Conolly L.	5/2/38	55
2314808	Corporal Honey A.	9/2/38	49
2317589	Corporal Payne S.	25/2/38	
7211627	L/Corporal Taylor G.	10/2/38	63

Transfers to Army Reserve.

2564669	Corporal Campbell A.	1/2/38	52
2320300	Corporal Taylor C.	24/2/38	60
2320411	L/Corporal Leigh G.	3/2/38	
2315481	L/Corporal O'Neill H.	24/1/38	

* Special Roster.

Signal Unit, Glasgow University O.T.C.

Glasgow University.

14th March.

Certificates.—We congratulate all Officer Cadets who passed the examination held in November, 1937. We have now eleven complete "A"s and three who have also obtained the written part of "B." We hope that there will be many more successes in the March examination.

Departures.—Officer Cadet Ripsher has left our ranks to take up a post in South Africa. Our best wishes go with him.

Commissions.—Corporal Holloway and Lance Corporal Campbell have obtained commissions in the 7th Battalion, H.L.I. Our best wishes go with them, and may they rise to a high command some day.

Recruits.—We have welcomed into our midst nine recruits, who are making good progress in solving the mysteries of the Signaller's art. Recruits do not come along as we should wish, but a few good ones are better than a lot of not-so-goods.

Fun and Games.—The annual dance was held in the Q.M. Union on 2nd February. There was a good attendance, and everyone had a good time.

Training.—Under the direction of our Adjutant, Captain J. F. M. Macdonald, three T.E.W.T.s were held during February. These were of a general tactical nature; no special signal problems were involved. They were both interesting and instructive, and proved of great value in the Certificate examinations.

Courses.—Five members of the Unit have applied for permission to attend the Signalling Course to be held at Catterick in April. As yet it is not known how many of these applications have been granted, but the lucky ones have been threatened by the P.S.I. with the prospect of having to give short lectures (even shorter than that probably) upon their return. This is definitely a good thing, although those who are threatened do not think it sounds so good.

Efficiency.—The officers of the Unit have presented the Unit with a beautiful Silver Cup—to be competed for annually—for the most efficient cadet.

General.—Who suggested that, if nothing else, the T.E.W.T.s ensured at least one square meal a week?

With the first glimpse of sun, thoughts seem to turn to Scarborough. Ah! Once again the well-thumbed snaps are passed round, and the old hands keep the recruits spellbound with "tales of mystery and imagination," of exploits and of conquests during last year's annual camp. We all look forward to our fortnight under canvas, but those of us of more thoughtful disposition, who have watched our equipment accumulating day after day, until our store is almost full, are inclined to think that camp this year will spell "work," and that evenings may be spent in more relaxing activities than last year—who knows?

STONE AGE.

Signal Unit, Manchester University Contingent O.T.C.

This term has seen a very intensive programme of lectures and parades in connection with signalling work; parades are held every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 5 p.m., and there are reading practices almost every lunch-time. Many of us have become conscious of our slowness in reading, and so our P.S.I. is making every effort to get us up to Classification tandard before 6th March, when the tests take place.

In the Certificate "A" and "B" Examinations before Christmas, 1937, two out of our four entries passed in the former, five out of our seven entries passed in the latter. These results can be improved upon, and it is hoped that we shall be more successful at the March Examinations, for which a much larger number will be entering.

The list of special Training Courses has been announced, and we are very pleased to note that at last the Unit, in conjunction with the Infantry Unit, has been given an opportunity to study the problem of "Gas" at Ashton Barracks from 26th to 26th February. The Courses have been offered to us through the kindness of the Royal Signals at the Signal Training Centre. Many of us have very happy memories of last year's Course at Catterick, especially the dance in the Sergeants' Mess, and we are certainly looking forward to the period 4th to 16th April.

Much to the envy of the Infantry Unit, we have been measured for an issue of riding breeches, which, we hope, will soon be ready for wear.

We are all eagerly looking forward to the return of fine weather so that we shall be able to put into practice the theoretical knowledge we have been amassing (?) during the winter months. By Easter we shall probably have settled down to an active programme of fortnightly Exercises in preparation for the more intensive training period in Camp, which, we hear, will probably be at Scarborough.

NOTON.

Plain Tales.

Sahibs Make News.—Ho, cads! What a fourpenny one for the old school. What a bramah. All for a handful of diamonds. Slowly but surely the night school boys are coming into their own. They, at any rate, are good citizens, and not only go to school to equip themselves for a climb up the ladder, but probably eat their spinach as well.

I guess I don't have to explain what it is all about. I expect you read your papers. Quite a lot of fun these last few weeks, what with British boxers running out of rings in tears and British skaters sulking because they lose their titles to better performers. Britons hiding in their bedrooms while parents persuade girls that they are not good enough because they clip their final "g's." £1,000 damages. Laughtor and cheers in Court, and what the dickens would you expect, anyway?

Men, successful in the eyes of their neighbours, risen to the heights after twenty years of untiring effort, crashing to the depths after an hour in the dock. The month nicely rounded off with the product of public schools being walloped in prison.

Our friend the Bronzed Major, who joined us last month, has been brooding in his bungalow at Bundumpur ever since the news trickled through, and is inconsolable. His little Union Jack hangs dejectedly on its decaying flag-pole at the edge of the Sind Desert, and his old Porterhouse tie is draped over the back of a worm-eaten chair.

Maybe we can cheer him up later.

For Your Remarks Column.—"Lancashire mounted police now carry 6 lb. radio sets by which they can conduct two-way speech over a radius of from two to five miles. Orders can be received from and news transmitted to an aeroplane overhead or a roving police car."—Daily Press.

Corporal! Tell the Quartermaster I want six D.III Telephones of a date not earlier than 1918. We'll show these people something.

Society Chat.—As usual, I was most unreliably informed about R.Q.M.S. Jim Adcock's trip to India. It would seem now that he is not going. Well, that's just tough luck on India, but I daresay Jim can take it.

Mrs. Flaptiddle, who was always suspiciously clever at Sergeants' Mess whist drives, fell downstairs and broke her leg again last week, the silly thing.

Lady May Screeme, whose mother, of course, was a Yelle, caught her shoe in the tram lines near the Bull Ring last Wednesday. Traffic has been diverted, and it is expected that she will be removed by the end of the month.

Literary Note.—With an icy hand clutching my heart, I threw down the March WIRE and searched for my typescript. Maybe you found the cause of my agitation yourself. It was some satisfaction to discover that I was in the right of it. Someone ought to award me substantial damages. What will my customers think of such blobs as "The major's face turns purple and he *roared*." The Lance Corporal was just as naughty. He gasped. He just shouldn't have done that. My poor "Bronzed Major" is having a lot to contend with these days.

Further Mystery.—"Say, Hooky," whispered Ukann Larfe. "You've got me all wrong. I was just coming to look you up about—you know what."

Mademoiselle Colette, although very pale, watched the scene with interest, and from the corner of her eye noted the well-dressed woman in the corridor. Who was she? Where did she get that marvellous fur coat, and the pearls?

Everyone was totally unprepared for what happened in the next few seconds. A delicately perfumed arm shot out from behind the Hooker and seized his wrist in an incredible grip. With a movement too rapid for the eye to follow, the pseudo ticket collector was up-ended on to the seat. The lady twirled the pistol on a dainty finger and blushed prettily.

"My fifth husband taught me that," she said, and seated herself beside Ukann Larfe.

See if you can guess who this is.

Loud Pedal.—I remember that I promised to tell you about Birmingham Dance Bands, but held the matter over because there appeared to be so much misery and trouble about already. Now, with the sun shining through the fog and soot and everyone looking fairly prosperous, we can re-open the subject. Birmingham professional bands are very good, and we will not waste time on them. They know their dots. There are, however, many semi-pros. People who work all day and get together in the evenings for the price of a drink. Not all semi-pros. do this. There are some who stick out for the Union figure and get it because they are worth it. Getting back to the rough stuff, we find that discipline and deportment are entirely absent from some of the lesser-known combinations. This is particularly unfortunate because very often individual ability is apparent and is being wasted for want of proper handling.

I saw a band of accordionists a short time ago. One of them not only took the platform smoking a cigarette, but addressed the audience without troubling to remove it from his mouth. Another band possesses a fault common to most local gigsters. The idea, apparently, is that each member of the band must drown his neighbour. If the saxophonist can hear the trumpet he feels that he is not pulling his weight and sets about rectifying the deficiency of volume. When the absolute limit is reached I suppose they kick each other's stands over or tear their opponents' music up. Not that the latter procedure would matter much for written music doesn't mean a thing. Crescendo is a sheer impossibility for if they attempted it they would burst. In spite of all this they continue to play, because, at local hops, the band is the least important thing, and if one can hire Kelly's Achers for £2, why pay £5 for The Six Swiggers.

Look out for my new fox-trot ballad "Where my clarinet has busted." An appalling—ahem, appealing—number recorded by Jim Blister's Nit Wits on Fullerphone B.991 (Pink Label). This is backed with an entirely new idea in entertainment and is specially arranged for the hard of hearing. In this recording, a

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dumb tight-rope walker plays clock patience on a rubber table in his socks.

"Yes (George, Jubbulpore), a semi-breve is where you hang on until you hear someone else start."

If Lance Corporal Softly knew the address of Tom Sayers it is probable that he would forward a photograph of the present S.T.C. (I.) Band.

BARLEUX.

Corps Golf.

The Royal Signals Annual Golf Meeting will be held at the Berkshire Club, Ascot, on 20th and 21st April, 1938.

First Day: Royal Signals Championship and Royal Signals Handicap.

Second Day: Royal Signals Bogey Singles and Royal Signals Bogey Foursomes.

All events, except the Championship, are open to serving and retired Royal Signals officers of the Regular and Territorial Armies and the Supplementary Reserve.

Post entries will be accepted, but it would be of great assistance if intending competitors would notify Major H. S. Lewis-Barclay, 4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury, stating whether they require caddies.

(Signed) H. S. LEWIS-BARCLAY, Major, Royal Signals,
Captain of Royal Signals Golf.

Civil Employment.

"A man with a trade is a man with a job. He can do something that other people can't do, and need never drift from one temporary job of a kind that anyone can do as well as he, to another."

This reminder occurs in a leaflet to be issued by all Commands emphasising the importance of vocational training courses to soldiers in their last year of Colour Service.

Vocational training helps a man, when he has served as a soldier, to go out into civil life as a skilled and qualified man.

There is no need for him to have served in any technical branch of the Army. During the last six months of his service, if he has conducted himself well, he is given six months' special training either at a Government Training Centre or at an Army Vocational Centre where he can fit himself to enter a recognised trade.

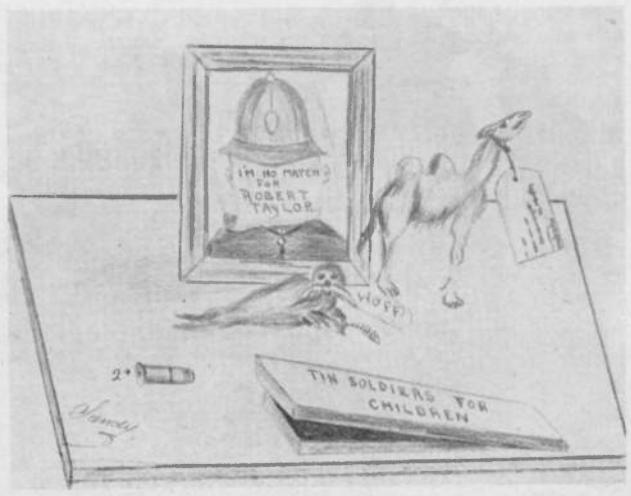
During the last twelve years jobs have been found in this way for nearly 80,000 men. These men do not, of course, earn full rate at once. They start as "improvers." But they improve. In the last year, over half the men placed got 1s. an hour to start. After a month or so, if they proved efficient, they rose to 1s. 3d., 1s. 6d., and in some cases 1s. 8d. an hour. When a man has been trained he is found a job almost as a matter of course. Last year over 98% of those trained found jobs at once on the completion of training.

A centre is like a large factory. Although men are still serving soldiers so far as their pay is concerned, they work under civilian conditions and wear civilian clothes. They "clock in and out" of the Centre as if at a factory, and when the evening hooter goes, they are free to do as they like.

The Centres cover five groups of trades as follows: Engineering including fitting and turning, instrument making, machine operating, metal polishing, motor mechanics, panel beating, sheet metal workers, metal spinners, electric welding, oxy-welding. Building including bricklaying, builders' labourers, carpentry, gas and hot water fitting, house painting, plasterers, tile fixing. Miscellaneous trades including cabinet making, coach body building, coach finishing, coach painting, coach trimming, draughtsman, french polishing, glass tube bending and welding, hairdressing, hotel waiting, upholstery, wood-machining.

G.P.O. training including overhead construction and plumber joining. Agriculture and horticulture including dairy farming, pig farming, general farming, poultry farming.

Trades suitable for the long service man including positions of trust, poultry farming, boot repairers, handyman, gardener, gardener-chauffeur, gardener-handyman, groundsman.



Farewell from Sandy and the Boys
(Dedicated to 1st Anti-Aircraft Group Signals by Signalman Sanderson now in Singapore).

Signals in Tanganyika.

Imagining that WIRE readers might be interested in the activities of Royal Signals' personnel where the influence of the Royal Corps of Signals is only just beginning to be felt, this article resulted. It would be appreciated if readers would discriminate between impressions and opinions on the one hand and facts on the other, remembering that impressions and opinions are those of the writer, whilst facts have been obtained from official publications, maps, etc.

A brief, general description of the area and troops involved might be of value. The King's African Rifles is administered by an Inspector-General at the Colonial Office in London, and is composed of two Brigades, the Northern and the Southern. The Northern Brigade serves in Kenya Colony and the Uganda Protectorate; the Southern Brigade (to which details given in this article will apply) serves in the Mandated Territory of Tanganyika, the Nyasaland Protectorate and British Somaliland. This article will describe activities in Tanganyika.

Tanganyika embraces a total area of 360,000 square miles, being the largest country administered by the Colonial Office. Statistics of reasonable interest can be obtained from the Tanganyika Guide, which is obtainable from the East African Trade and Information Office, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2, and so they will not be duplicated here.

There are three Battalions of Infantry in the Southern Brigade. One Battalion of Nyasa natives serves in Nyasaland, and one in Tanganyika—at Tabora. A Swahili-speaking Battalion serves in its native country—Tanganyika—at Daressalaam. In addition, the Southern Brigade has a Supply and Transport Corps and a Signal Section, the H.Q. of both being at Tabora in Tanganyika. The Brigade Signal Section is composed of approximately fifty Askari—native troops, being a mixture of about one-third Nyasa natives and two-thirds Tanganyika natives. Until three years ago it was commanded by a Regimental officer, then Lieutenant D. White, R.Signals, was appointed O.C., and the Section began its modernisation scheme. Lieutenant White is now on leave pending reversion to an R.Signals Unit. A year ago C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Catt was appointed as the Section's first Foreman-of-Signals, and wireless was introduced in the form of two R.A.F. "TR_4" Sets.

For about eight months little progress was possible owing to the non-arrival of replacements for the batteries and Set components, which had been damaged on first arrival. There being no Ordnance Depot handy, and the organisation of these forces being as it is—with no direct connection with Ordnance—

Sketch map of the area involved, showing the route used for the tours described.

replacements take a considerable time to arrive. However, the Sets were working by 1st September, 1937. One was set up in a lorry which had been handed over for our use. This was a ten year old Crossley 30 cwt., for which a new body had been constructed and fitted by the local workshop staff of the Tanganyika Railways. The correct suspension gear not having arrived, solid rubber feet were all that could be given the Set and its accessories, which were mounted on and under a table placed across the lorry behind the driver's seat.

On 1st September, the F-of-S set off with the lorry and S and eight Askari by rail for the manœuvre area at Kondoa-Irangi, 350 miles from Tabora. Three weeks were spent getting in all the practice possible at tuning-in and becoming accustomed to the Sets, and also in establishing communication and starting daily schedules with the nearest Post and Telegraph Dept. Wireless Station, a hundred miles away, prior to the start of the Brigade Training.

The natives are not quick to learn (an opinion !) and, with such an innovation as radio, they become almost painfully slow. It is hoped that, having once grasped the elementary facts, they will not quickly or easily forget them.

The station was recognised by the P.M.G., as the nearest telegraph office was in the same town as the wireless station, 100 miles away, and both State and private messages were handled. The P. and T. station's primary task is with the Imperial Airways Empire Service Flying Boats, so the time constant was important, and as the Askari were, of course, unable to cope with the job alone, the brunt of this task fell on the F-of-S, who was, fortunately, able to operate sufficiently well for the other station. Commercial procedure was used.

The training was the biggest attempt in this Brigade since the War, and the R.A.F. Squadron from Nairobi (Kenya) came to co-operate. The wireless personnel were rather shocked to find their Sets being subjected to such treatment—and still working. Owing to the shortage of officers, the O.C., Signal Section, was appointed to the Directing Staff, and the F-of-S had to carry out the duties of Brigade Signal Officer as well as the schedule keeping. With such conditions existing it was not anticipated that the normal Infantry Brigade Signal Section work, the manœuvre wireless work, or the fixed wireless work would be a complete success. They were not, but it is believed a few lessons were learned, and that wireless has come to stay.

The Section will, of course, have to be prepared to operate from any part of the Southern Brigade's area, and it was felt desirable that tests from as many outlying districts as possible should be conducted. Advantage was taken, therefore, for a three days' break in the training to take the Mobile Set on its first test tour. The route chosen was Kondoa, Arusha, Moshi, Kibaya, Kondoa ; a distance estimated from maps and others' experiences at 425 miles. The O.C., Northern Brigade Signal Section (Lieutenant C. H. Stoneley, R.Signals), who was visiting the Southern Brigade for the training period, accompanied the F-of-S and three Askari on this trip.

A start was made at 7.30 a.m., and the first day took them along the main road which runs northwards from the Cape. This entailed climbing two quite hazardous escarpments and crossing the Rift Valley. Arusha—the " Half-way House " between the Cape and Cairo—was reached at 9 p.m., 184 miles being covered in 13½ hours all out and non-stop. The type of road can probably be judged from this performance. They left Arusha at 7.30 the next morning, so that little of it was seen. About twenty-five miles out a successful test was made with a " P.O." station, although minor repairs were necessary first, and the journey continued to Moshi—52 miles from Arusha. Here the P. & T. Wireless Officer kindly gave Mr. Stoneley and the F-of-S lunch, and showed them around the not-yet completed " D.F." station which was being erected for service with the new Empire Service Flying Boats. Everything was of the latest design ; money was apparently being freely given.

Leaving Moshi at 3 p.m., they returned along the Arusha road, keeping a sharp look-out for the road leading south, having failed to see it on the way to Moshi, but being assured there that such a road did exist. By 8 p.m. (it gets dark at 6.30 p.m.), they were still on the Arusha-Moshi road and still on the look-out, having travelled backwards and forwards several times, reducing the distance travelled each time in the hope that eventually the road would be found. It was decided to camp, and they did so in the only open space for miles around—an African shopkeeper's backyard !

The next morning all efforts to find the road were unsuccessful, and it was decided to cut across country to a native village visible in the distance. It proved to be peopled by Masai, who were able to show the party the " road " leading south, and good speed was made for a couple of hours, the road being no more than a little used track passing through what could well be imagined as a prairie of wheat, but was merely acres and acres of sun-bleached grass. A halt was made at about 10 a.m. for a test with the stations at Moshi and Kondoa. Results were again satisfactory, although it was again necessary to carry out minor repairs of faults due to inadequate mounting. These minor repairs were necessary after every halt, but will not be referred to again.

Soon after restarting a climb was made to a plateau, and in twisting and turning to reach it the party had several fine views of Mount Kilimanjaro, 70 to 100 miles away. It had been hidden by clouds throughout the previous day. The track varied between quite good and quite bad, and, at about 4 p.m., the party reached what appeared to have been an elephant's playground, so numerous were the colossal tracks left by them. This state of the track slowed the lorry to below 5 m.p.h. No elephants were seen, and at 6 o'clock it was decided to camp, and to set off earlier than usual in the morning, as the party were due at Kondoa then.

A start was made by 6 a.m. next morning and, after clearing the elephant area, as good a progress was made as the state of the road would allow, but owing to bad road conditions and to the inaccuracy of the map, Kondoa was not reached until seven that evening ; 565 miles had been covered in forty-six running hours, the lorry going all out the whole time.

The final Scheme had commenced by the time the party reached Kondoa, so the personnel concerned had to " get cracking " right away. The Set still worked, but only by the application of ingenious Heath Robinson gadgetting. At the conclusion of the Exercises one Set returned to Tabora, whilst the Mobile Station started on a 1,000 miles test tour of north central Tanganyika.

(*Continued on page* 196)

HOME STATIONS

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

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

School of Signals.

There is a hush over Catterick Camp; it is the silence of expectation. We who man this outpost have lately experienced *really glorious weather—in March*. It is astounding, unbelievable and, we understand, utterly without precedent. For that reason we are very wary in our conversation upon the subject. Such talk is conducted in whispers, and our remarks are neutralised by the frequent touching of wood. To use a political cliche "It is expected that reprisals will follow."

Catterick's plant life, however, appears to hold different views on the subject. Some of the more optimistic varieties have already cast discretion to the winds and have burst into bud. It would appear that the "con." man's motto, "There's one born every minute," does not apply solely to the world of men.

We extend our greetings to Lieutenant R. H. Bellamy, D.C.L.I., who has arrived to take over the duties of Instructor from Captain A. I. Buchanan-Dunlop, Royal Scots Fusiliers.

Quite a few notables have left us during the past month: C.Q.M.S. Lawrenson to Aldershot; Signalman Paddy O'Flaherty to the Embankment, complete with newspapers; Drivers Marsden and Morton on Vocational Training Courses; U/Lance Corporal "Digger" Lea; and R.S.M. Freemantle.

C.Q.M.S. Atkinson and Sergeant Waldron have arrived, and we hope that their stay here will be an enjoyable one.

S. O. S.

Sergeants' Mess.

Our last Mess meeting disclosed the fact that we have lost some well-known faces, and gained some new ones. C.Q.M.S. Lawrenson G., switching off his wireless receiver for the last time, departed to Aldershot, and in his place we welcome C.Q.M.S. Atkinson F., who now keeps the stove warm in the General Store. Sergeant Waldron D. is with us, and occupies the chair that seems to be the stepping-off place for the wide open spaces of civilian life. Paddy Walsh wore his last pair of Trousers, S.D., out on its hard seat. "Spud" Murphy placed it carefully against the table before departing to the War Office, and now Sergeant Waldron has inherited it. We extend the heartiest greetings to Sergeant Waldron, and hope that he will screw the chair to the floor.

Congratulations are due to the Mess billiards team, who have lately added the Senior Billiards League Trophy to our groaning sideboard. On Monday, 21st February, the team met the 21st Field Brigade, R.A., on their own ground. Sergeant Hayhoe kicked off by winning his game, 150 to 96. C.Q.M.S. Farmer followed suit by scoring 150, whilst his opponent reached 87. C.Q.M.S. Hague, playing a really skilful opponent, lost by the narrow margin of 24. Sergeant Self followed, and made sure of the trophy by beating his opponent by 22. Sergeant Moran, who was our last man, made a splendid effort, but lost his match by 37. So, by three games to two, the trophy has at last reached the School Mess, where we hope it will remain.

Our entertainments during the month included a visit from the Darlington Club, who brought their own music and variety turns; an Indoor Games Tournament with a team from the Sergeants' Mess of the Cameronians; and a Whist Drive and Dance on 5th March. The Indoor Games Tournaments are proving such a success that we have an engagement with the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps, on Friday, 18th March. One feature of the Whist Drive and Dance, on 5th March, was the last appearance at a Mess function of R.S.M. Freemantle, who made the occasion one for saying good-bye to the many visitors who knew him. We don't know the location of your next Station, sir, but we wish you all the very best, wherever it may be.

A last-minute arrival to the School is C.S.M. Minion, who, with Mrs. Minion and the little "Mignonettes," came to Catterick Camp from Canterbury in order to take over the duties of C.S.M., R.S.I. Courses. We wish C.S.M. Minion and family a happy stay with the School. Owing to C.S.M. Minion's arrival, the road between the Visual Stores and the R.S.I. Offices will no longer be overworked with the number nines of Sergeant McKee. What a pity; he had just indented for a pair of roller skates, too. However, Sergeant McKee can add one more to his ex-Boys' roll.

C.S.M. Callegari F., at Aldershot, will be interested to know that C.Q.M.S. Hague F. has successfully inherited the mantle of President, Entertainment Committee. He is doing very well at the moment, but has not yet reached the "Pipe and Tail" warming stance, so beloved by the one-time President, who could so skilfully spin (and warm) his "Tale" at the same time.

"D" Company, Training Battalion.

General.—Many events of note have happened in the Company during recent weeks. The Company hockey team once again decided that they would have the Mackworth Hockey Trophy. Congratulations! We offer a word of warning to the other competitors. What has been done before can be done again.

Arrivals.—If many more decide to join the Company, we shall all be sleeping on the moors. We have had quite a number of recruits, who have arrived from the Dismounted Wing, and we trust that their stay with us will be a pleasant one. Lance Sergeant Worsley joined the Company from the N.I.S.C., Belfast; he is shortly leaving us for Jamaica. C.Q.M.S. Ratcliffe has arrived from "Ponki." We hope that it will not take him long to get acclimatised to our world-famous weather.

Departures.—We have said good-bye to quite a number of recruits during the past few weeks. On 22nd February a party of about twenty hammer-fisted linemen and daring D.R.s left us for Field Units. We hope that their new Stations will be to their liking. Signalman Toyne C. W. left for "A" Corps. We trust that he will settle down comfortably in his new home. To anyone else who has escaped mention, I convey the same wishes. Recruits may come and recruits may go, but "D" Company will go on for ever.

Blue Book News.—Both the Junior and Senior Messes have been rather busy with Promotion Liquor. In the Senior Mess,

we congratulate C.S.M. Nicholson on reaching warrant rank. The Junior mess has been the more successful of the two. Congratulations to Lance Corporals Challis, Strype, Graham, Ferrige and Wood, who are now collecting the "shekels." Our good wishes also go to U/Lance Corporals Archer, Rotherham, Smith, French and Illingworth on making their first step into "society." Congratulations to Corporal Ryan on dropping the "L"; we are still doubtful whether it was a red "L."

Marriages.—C.Q.M.S. Ratcliffe decided to let everybody know that he had arrived from India by starting the wedding bells ringing, and placing the ring on the finger of Miss Edna Fewster at Newcastle-on-Tyne. C.Q.M.S. Storr was married to Miss Frances Thorpe on 24th February at Nottingham. Yet still another victory for Cupid's heavy artillery. Cupid's third victory of the month was Corporal Swan, also a new arrival from India, who was married at Scarborough on 9th February to Miss Gladys Hall. As every good fairy tale always finishes—may they live happily ever after.

Births.—The stork, which paid a visit to the home of Signalman and Mrs. Harris, left them a daughter, Eleanor Irene, on 9th January.

"Gripper."—We regret to say that "Mutt" is now losing his grip, and in the near future we are expecting to see the "Gripper" Shield handed over to a newly-made "Unpaid" of "E" Company. For the benefit of readers, we have been able to secure one of the latter's yarns. He states that, some time ago, the Orderly Officer turned out the guard during the early hours of the morning. Unfortunately, the Guard Commander could not find his rifle, so he decided to take a broom with him in lieu. Luckily, the Orderly Officer failed to notice the difference. Moreover, at the inspection, the Orderly Officer found that one of the Guard had no boots on. The man, who was asked where his boots were, calmly replied, "Now, isn't it too bad, I was under the impression that I was wearing them." (That one is a new edition of Ripley's "Believe it or Not.")

Eavesdropper.—Here is an extract from a conversation heard in a certain barrack-room after "Lights Out." The conversationalists were an N.C.O. and a Scottish recruit.

Recruit: "Are you happy in the service, my man?"

N.C.O.: "What do you mean, am I happy in the service? Do you know that I get six bob a day to look after you savages?"

Recruit: "If you give us a bob a day, we will look after ourselves."

Discharges.—Signalmen Deig and Wilson N. left us to join the "Civvy Street" Light Infantry. We hope that they will be successful in their new venture.

Black Coaters.—There was a meeting of the Honourable Society of Black Coaters, and we were lucky in obtaining a photograph of a batch of the members. We publish it with these notes, and by special request of the President, readers are asked to keep the journal out of the hands of Scotland Yard "defectives."

"BLACK COATERS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE."

Standing left to right: Signalmen Bennett, Stuart, Nilsson.

Sitting, left to right: Signalman Corbett, L/Cpl. Smale (President), Signalmen Ettenfield and Robinson.

We Want to Know.—Which sentry challenged the Orderly Officer with the words: "Hands up!"? (He must have spent some of his time way out in Texas.)

Who told the Orderly Officer to advance and be exercised?

Which Welshman used the following form of challenge to the Orderly Officer:

Sentry: "Stop! Who goes thither?"

O.O.: "Orderly Officer!"

Sentry: "Come hither, and let's have a look at you."

"E" Company, Training Battalion.

General.—The Company, as usual, is suffering from that harmless (?) disease—Training. Recruits may come, operators may go (we hope), but Instructors go on for ever. Or do they?

The great news has come at last. By some miraculous calculation of days and months, August seems to be the most favoured. "Nice work if you can get it" seems to be very appropriate.

Arrivals.—We welcome C.Q.M.S. Adams E. and Corporal Shepherd to our health resort; both are from overseas. We have also had the usual influx of aspiring operators from the Depot Battalion, but they are far too numerous to mention.

Re-engagements.—Our Chief Clerk—Corporal "Badgy" Shorrock—has decided that another little "tour" won't do him any harm, and he is now a proud potential pensioner.

Jews' Mail.—To 305 Mac., Egypt. "What about it? It was not like this in civilian life. Jim 215."

A SIGNALMAN'S PARADISE.

The bugler had sounded "taps," and out went every light,
As I hit the hay in my three-by-six to sleep throughout the night;
When suddenly a heavenly voice the evening's stillness rent;
'Twas good St. Peter's call to me, and heavenwards I went.
It took me just one hundred years, I didn't journey fast,
But rather like a troopship or a slow train going past;
I wondered why we made no stops, till I heard St. Peter say:
"Side track all the Generals, boys—there's an Operator on the way."

At last I reached the pearly gates, in awe I gazed around,
For there were forty Majors policing the ground;
While in dismay a Colonel stood from early until late,
He'd overstayed his one-day pass, and couldn't pass the gate.
St. Peter came, as I looked on, and in his hand he held
My A.B. 64 complete, and a red tape rubber band.
He looked it over carefully and shouted through the door:
"You've earned your place in heaven, lad; you joined the Signal Corps.

I know you went to India, and helped to write history's page,
It's not quite all your own fault that you pegged out from old age;
Just bide your time, rest all you please, your time means nothing now;
The 'Non-coms.' will do all the work, and Captains sling the 'chow'."
The barracks were of marble; inside were easy chairs;
And Captains fanned my fevered brow, while Corporals swept the stairs;
The Sergeants were the porters there, all supplied with mops,
And all the First Lieutenants were St. Peter's kitchen cops.

We searched the "Loots" for cigarettes, cigars and matches, too,
And made them carry our wireless sets until the day was through;
And when for lack of sunlight, they returned from all the whirls,
They stayed in barracks scrubbing floors, while I met all the girls!

Hospitals were also there, with doctors weak and strong,
Who got their " number nines " each morn, and inspections all day long ;
One surgeon with a broken leg got salts and three black pills,
I had marked his report " for duty," just to cure him of his ills.

At last I tired of pleasure, and lay on my feather bed ;
No thought of reveille on my mind, I'd sleep to noon instead.
But all at once I felt a push, and in my ears a croak—
" It's half-past three, relieve the guard " ; and then—Oh, hell ! —I woke.
I grabbed my trusty rifle, and in the morning air,
It was my turn on guard again, away back over here ;
I walked my beat in earnest, until my feet were sore,
Proud to be in the Army, *a Signalman—nothing more.*

"F" Company, Training Battalion.

General.—Very little of general interest has happened since our last notes. Ordinary routine is the order of the day. One spice of variety was provided by our new Commandant, Brigadier T. Chenevix Trench, O.B.E., M.C., who was walking round our lines about a fortnight ago. We understand that he is going to pay a more intimate visit to the Company during next week.

We take this opportunity of saying good-bye and the best of luck to Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., on his well-earned retirement. We also hope that Brigadier T. Chenevix Trench, O.B.E., M.C., will have a pleasant time during his stay at Catterick Camp.

We have been extremely lucky as regards weather during the past week ; it has been real summer weather—a rare occurrence for Catterick at this time of the year. Last night, however, the normal gales returned again. Scotton Ground was visited by many athletes last week. They must have thought that spring had arrived to stay ; I am afraid they will be disappointed.

Every morning we have to gargle. This is a hardy annual, although 'flu and colds are not so prevalent as formerly. Many ex-Boys will probably remember the " C.S.M. Precautions." Yes, they are still with us. For the benefit of the unitiated, " C.S.M." is not Company Sergeant-Major, but Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.

There are indications that the Tattoo is not far off. We have the story and the dates, and will be going into rehearsals soon.

Captain T. W. Boileau assumed command of the Company some weeks ago. He has spent a fortnight doubling the duties of Adjutant and Company Commander. We hope that our former O.C., Major H. P. Hart, M.C., has settled down at his new Station.

Arrivals.—Lance Sergeant McDowall from India for employment on the Cadre.

Departures.—Signalman Tyler left us for " E " Company. The following ex-Boys have left us for the Units stated. The best of luck and good wishes go with them : Signalmen Athow, Deane and D'Hooghe, " E " Troop ; Signalmen Curtis, Billett and Galliway, "A" Corps ; Signalman Halford, 4th Divisional Signals ; Signalman Webb, " D " Troop ; Signalman Bowler, 1st Divisional Signals ; Signalman Jones, 2nd Divisional Signals.

Boxing.—At the Garrison Boys' Championships, our No. 2 team won the Team Event with No. 4 team as runners-up. In the Individual Championships, we won all the weights, with the exception of the feather-weight, in which we provided the runner-up. Individual winners were : Middle-weight : Boy Murray A. ; welter-weight : Boy Robbins ; Light-weight : Boy Allan T. ; bantam-weight : Boy Green B. ; fly-weight : Boy Warren R. On Friday, 11th March, we are sending a team to box Ampleforth College. We hope to score an overwhelming victory this time.

Cross-country.—We entered a team for the N.E. Counties Run, and obtained third place. In the Northern Counties event, we also entered a team, and were placed seventh. These results were satisfactory, considering the size and quality of the entrants.

Four of the older boys were scoring members in the Training Battalion cross-country team who won the Northern Command Cross-country championships.

STOP PRESS

PERSONAL

Ex-C.S.M. W. Johnson, D.C.M., M.M., desires information concerning the present whereabouts of any old friends who served with him in the following Units :

2nd Battalion, West Yorkshire Regiment, August, 1914, to December, 1917 (Regimental Number 7839) ;

23rd Infantry Brigade, 8th Division, November, 1914 to December, 1917 ; R.E. Number, 107394

8th Corps Headquarters, December, 1917 to 1919 ; The Rhine Army, 1919 to 1923. R.Signals Number 2306899

Shooting.—We have made remarkably good strides in the Mackworth Small Bore Shooting this season, especially since the New Year. We often see scores of 98 nowadays, and have won two matches. We warn the S.T.C. that we are out for the championship next season.

Effas.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess Training Battalion.

Marriages.—Congratulations are extended to C.Q.M.S. Ratcliffe R. and Mrs. Ratcliffe on their marriage, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, on 16th February, and also to C.Q.M.S. " Jack " Storr and Mrs. Storr on the occasion of their marriage, at Nottingham,

This Month's Celebrities.

Signalmen Ritchie, Weetham and Noble from India ; Signalmen Millar J. and M'Anency from the Training Battalion. They are all on leave at present. We hope that they will enjoy their stay with us, although they will not be here very long.

We said good-bye to several of our comrades on the 8th of this month ; they are bound for Units in India, per H.T. *Dorsetshire*. We wish them the best of luck at their new Stations. We lose another member of this Company on the 26th. He is bound for India, too. I hope they will have the same amount of trouble with him as I have had ; he doesn't sleep, just dies. Look out for him in Meerut, and look after him, too. His name ? None other than Dunkin—and what a man !

Congratulations to Corporal and Mrs. Tuft on the birth of a daughter, Doris Irene, on 9th March. Corporal Tuft is leaving us for the Ministry of Labour Centre at Handsworth on 31st March.

We are still holding the whip hand over No. 2 Company at soccer, for on Friday, 11th March, we managed to beat them 5—4. The respective Sergeant-Majors were holding forth on the merits of their teams for days before the game, throwing heavy bets about with the gay abandon of reckless youth. Someone alleged that we had bought the referee and linesman, but we beg to differ. We didn't buy them, we threatened them with punishment worse than death itself. We are now awaiting the return game—and what a game it is going to be.

Heard in the Technical Lecture Room :
" Where is the ' centre tap ' ? "
" The middle one in the Ablution Room, Corporal ! "

H. G. R.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

VIRTUS IN ARDUIS.

Apologies Are Due.—To those who follow our activities through the medium of these notes, for their non-appearance last month. So little took place, that it would have meant just two or three lines saying we were still on the map.

Visitors.—We had a very distinguished one in the person of our newly-appointed Chief Signal Officer, Colonel C. W. Fladgate, who appeared to be surprised at the amount of work we got through. This was not his annual inspection, so perhaps we may be able to show him even more when he visits us again.

Despatches.—Two this month, leaving us very short-handed. However, we can take it ! Firstly, to Peshdist, our one and only Bill, who, at this moment, is telling the youngsters about the first time he passed " Gib." in an oracle. Put him on gardening, Peshawar—he likes it. Secondly, to 4th Divisional Signals, we lose our " tallest on the right " man, Signalman Carver. To both of them we extend the hope that they will settle down at their respective Stations as well as they have done here. Don't forget to let us know what the Frontier looks like now, Bill.

Matches.—In view of the increased Marriage Allowance, I had hoped to record two or three prospective claimants to a place of honour in these notes, but, so far, there has been no claim. You still have plenty of time to put in the requisite three weeks' probation, lads—it doesn't take effect until 30th April. Perhaps our Ben has been talking the matter over with the Leeds telephonists ; we await his homecoming with interest.

Greetings.—To Corporal Manton, posted to the Railway Training Centre at Longmoor.

Musketry.—Will have been completed by the time that these notes appear. I wonder if we shall equal last year's performance of 100 per cent. First Class Shots. Judging by the way the Squads are shaping up to it, I rather think we shall. Especially now that Austen fires with "A" Corps, Rawalpindi.

Congratulations.—To Sergeant Wigzell and Lance Sergeant Dymond, who have been put off till next Trooper what might have happened this.

Well, stap me if I can think of any more to write about. (Subdued murmurs of " How unusual.") So until next month, when the fine weather we are enjoying may bring a spate of news, cheerio !

FRANKIE.

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CELLARS STOCKED — PAYMENT AS CONSUMED

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

On 22nd February the D.R.s on I.T. paid a visit to Coventry for the purpose of visiting the Rudge-Whitworth motor cycle factory. Combining business with pleasure, the party set off to call on Sergeant Jones and the " T.A. Circus " at Rugby. Finding the " Circus " quite happy and comfortable in the R.A. Drill Hall, we continued on to Coventry, where the night was spent in the Drill Hall of the Yeomanry, which is also the Headquarters of No. 31 W/T Section, Royal Signals, S.R.

At about 9.30 a.m., the party arrived at the Rudge Works, where we were made very welcome. The staff, who were very helpful, did everything in their power to make our visit an interesting and instructive one. Progress round the machine shops was rather slow as members of the party kept getting lost. Most of the employees in this part of the works were of the fair sex, so perhaps this was to blame.

After the tour, the O.C. and two other members of the party were given 500 c.c. " Specials " to take out on a road test. They returned very favourably impressed with the performance of the machines.

On completion of the visit, the Rudge Publicity Department came into action and took a photograph of the party. The party returned to barracks via Worcester. At Kempsey, a halt was made for lunch as there was a convenient Transport Cafe there. The presence of some " fruit machines " here caused a longer stop than had been intended, but proved a pleasant if somewhat expensive diversion. Dragging ourselves away from the prospect of making a fortune, we set out once more for home, where we arrived at about 6.30 p.m., rather tired, but still enthusiastic about Rudge motor cycles.

O.C. PARTY.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

On the occasion of Charlton's first meeting with Aston Villa for the Cup, the Mess had an outing to London. After the match, we went our various ways and found other amusements according to taste. On our return journey to barracks, many interesting stories were told about " What I did." Although Mr. Middleton brings many gardening friends together, two of them found London and its fickle ways too much for them ; Tubby and Ted, the inseparables, lost each other in London's teeming crowds.

Last month we entertained the cross-country team in the Mess after their splendid performance of winning both the Garrison and S.P.A. Cross-country Cups. The Cups were filled many times, a fact which indicated that the team could drink as well as run. The C.O. and the officers of the Unit attended, and the C.O. presented Signalman Valentine with a special medal in appreciation of his individual performances.

On 26th February we had representatives of some Territorial Units here getting acquainted with the new Sets and instruments coming into use. Several old faces showed up in the Mess, and tongues began to wag. I say, " Hooky," something tells me that " Barleux " was referring to you in the Crown Hotel incident !

Departures.—We have said good-bye to C.Q.M.S. Archer and Sergeant McAdie, who have left us to soldier in Quetta, where I am sure they will amuse their new Mess members with old stories, ably assisted by Charlie Storey. " Q.A.D.S." Never heard of it !

Congratulations.—To Lance Sergeants Rafferty and Whitfield on joining the Mess.

Information.—In the wake of other Messes, we follow suit in publishing the names of our members. Perhaps, by doing so, we may be putting old friends in touch with each other. They are as follows : R.S.M. Herbert A. ; R.Q.M.S. Adcock J. ; C.S.M.s Wattley H., Stevenson W. and Finney W. ; C.Q.M.S. Higham B. ; Sergeants Prior W., Winter W., Brooke G., Luck V., Sprunt R., Watts N., Rees T. H., Stockton F., Jones W., Gratwicke S., Cooley T., Dawson S. and Eynott C. ; Lance Sergeants Lay F., Staerck E., Manning S., Mundy J., Woodbury W., Barnett W., Whitfield C., Teal L., King F., Rafferty H. and Phillp P. ; Attached : Staff Sergeant Gauntlett D. (R.A.O.C.).

To " Civvy Street."—C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Chimes has left us on pension. He has opened a business of his own in Greenwich, and we all wish him the very best of success.

No. 3 Squadron, Mobile Divisional Signals.

Tidworth.

It certainly is time that we appeared in the Wire notes, and now the start has been made, we hope to be regular subscribers. No excuses for being lax in the past, just a solemn promise to reform.

In a very short time this Unit has had more stamps made than the War Office itself. In 1935 we were known as " E " Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals ; in 1936 as " E " Troop, Cavalry Signals ; in late 1937 as " E " Troop, Mobile Divisional Signals ; and on 1st January, 1938, we became No. 3 Squadron, Mobile Divisional Signals. The Squadron is organised into a Headquarters and five troops, one troop for Cavalry Brigade H.Q., three with mechanised Cavalry Regiments, and one for work with the mechanised R.H.A.

The Squadron is commanded by Major W. G. L. Kennard (formerly of Iraq), who is at present our only officer. Sergeant Deamon is A/S.S.M., and Sergeant Beckley A/S.Q.M.S. The other senior N.C.O.s are Lance Sergeants Coaten H., Smith H., Bartlett J., Marchant I. and King L.

The Brigade Commander's last official report states that we are a happy family, a very true statement of which we are proud.

During the last nine months, many improvements have been carried out to ensure the comfort of all ranks. The dining room has been re-decorated—small tables, chairs, cups and saucers, etc., brought into use ; the place looks more like a restaurant. A radiogram with an extension speaker plays during meals. The Squadron Easy Room has been re-furnished, and many additional attractions added ; it is quite up to Sergeants' Mess standard.

Entertainments.—Our Entertainments Committee, under the direction of the A/S.S.M., have been going great guns ; indeed all Tidworth looks forward to any show put on by us. On 2nd December, 1937, we started off with a carnival dance. This function was so successful that we put on another on 9th February. In spite of these two shows being held on Wednesdays, they were well attended, and when on 4th March we staged a fancy dress ball, it drew people from as far away as Swindon. On this occasion, we built a Spring Garden in the centre of the dance hall (hyacinths and daffodils were growing round a miniature lake), and what a scramble after the last dance. The ladies clutched handfuls of blooms only to find that they were in pots covered with moss.

It was decided last month to purchase a radiogram ; and we now have a 10-valve H.M.V. record-changing set ; the cost of this was partly met by putting up one of the Easy Room sets as a swindle prize at our February dance ; it realised nearly £9.

Every Monday night we hold a whist drive and dance in our lines ; whist in the Easy Room and dancing in the Dining Hall. Attendance is about a hundred every week. Wallflowers are scarce at these dances, owing to the fact that on Tuesdays and Thursdays we hold free dancing classes. Anyone wishing to learn the rhumba should apply to the Kitson-Lathbury Dancing Agency.

Our outstanding function was the Christmas Dinner, to which officers, N.C.O.s and men sat down in December last. The whole of the meal was cooked by the married ladies of the Unit. Puddings and pies were made in their homes, but they took the cooks under their wings on the day of the dinner and ran the cookhouse. Good show, girls !

Arrivals and Departures.—These are too numerous to mention. Sergeant McLoughlin (our former Q.M.) and family are now on their way to India. Good luck to them and to all the others who have left us during this season. The lastest arrival is Jackie, Johnnie or Billy Holt, son and heir of Corporal and Mrs. Holt. What about another celebration at Lyons, John ?

Football.—In the Tidworth Garrison Football League, " F " Troop are assisting us to give a good account of ourselves, and we hope to pull off the league championship. A glance at the following results will show that the hints and advice given by our O.C. are having effect :

15th January.	v. 12th Lancers	Won	5—0
22nd ,,	v. Queen's Bays	Won	16—1
25th ,,	v. 10th Hussars	Lost	3—4
29th ,,	v. 2nd Royal Warwicks	Drew	2—2
5th February.	v. 1st Loyal Regiment	Won	3—1
19th ,,	v. R.A.M.C.	Won	3—0
26th ,,	v. R.A.S.C.	Won	9—1
5th March.	v. R.A.O.C.	Won	7—0
10th ,,	v. Rifle Brigade	Won	5—2
12th ,,	v. 5th Battalion, Royal Tank Corps	Drew	1—1

We can also give a good account of ourselves at hockey.

Miniature Range.—A recent purchase of two Parker Hale B.S.A. .22 match rifles and a .22 revolver provide us with many a pleasant evening on the range. Prizes are given weekly, and the competitions are so arranged that the A/S.S.M. does not " take all." Major Kennard and the A/S.S.M. are the wizards of the range, but Messrs. Marchant, Cullen and Holt seem to get Thursday's beer money fairly regularly.

Threemob.

"F" Troop, Mobile Divisional Signals.

Tidworth.

Time Marches On.—The truth of this statement is evident as witness the departure of our one and only George to Southampton on a Vocational Training Course. To anyone requiring a live publicity agent there now exists a unique opportunity of snapping up George, who, undoubtedly, has a flair for telling the tale.

Departures.—As we are on the subject of departures, we have to record with regret the departure of Signalman Johnstone A.

More Training Battalion Celebrities.

on 24th February. Jack says, " Why he left it so late he can't think." What about it now, you two " Jocks " ?

Departures.—The boat on 25th February will be robbing us of quite a number—all for India : Sergeants Andrews, Bob Hart, Mick Lewis, Reg. Daw and Bill Pronger (from Ireland). The last named has been with us so long now that he begins to think his posting was to the Training Battalion. Good luck to them all and their families.

There is a general shortage of news this month, and we must say *au revoir* till next month.

Ash.

Corporals' Mess Depot Battalion.

General.—It is important that now and again the Mess activities should appear in print ; if only to let readers know where to send their Christmas cards.

In the near future the Mess is going to be renovated. New furniture, new paint, and new ideas. A sample of the new furniture has already arrived, and the only fly in the ointment is that certain members find it hard to reach the floor from such a great height. We lowered the dart board for their benefit, and now we shall have to build up the floor.

Changes.—During the past few months quite a number of members have left us, and others have arrived to occupy the vacant seats at the fireside. If anyone is overlooked, they must forgive and forget. Corporal Whitefield got himself promoted and left at short notice for the sunny south. Lance Corporals Smith G., Archer, Rotherham, Smales, Illingworth Craig and French all put up the " bar " and now await permission to draw the pay for it. Corporals Melmore, Swan, Shepherd and Booth are all recent members, and have been duly welcomed. The following are now Paid Lance Corporals : Challis, Wood A. E., Strype, Ferrige and Gibson. Robertson A. T. and Ryan have been promoted Corporal. Corporal Brunton-Douglas received an extra stripe, and left us for the other side of the road. I think that covers most of the ground in regard to old and new faces.

Romance.—Corporal Swan went on a long leave, and came back a married man. Congratulations ! Our Benny still keeps us in waiting.

There are several members trying hard to claim the extra money, so do not be surprised if some real stalwarts " tie the knot." We all admire Bill Gee's taste, and realise what a terrible man Cupid is.

Quiet.—We have two wireless sets in the Mess, but we still can hear Mutt talking. Hopeless ! The only effective way of silencing this member is by making pointed reference to a Leeds tram.

Boating.—Lance Sergeant Worsley (an old friend) reported here on his way to Bermuda. Better to be born lucky than rich in these hard times. Corporal Dick will not proceed to India this year ; and Corporal " Foxy " Rose is turning his head the other way—because he has already been on draft furlough.

Sport.—Mainly darts. Apart from the regular attendance at the Newbiggin Hall, we have made an onslaught on treble 20. Some think they are good, and others know it. A team of dart experts hope soon to pay a visit to the Richmond Hotel in order to prove their worth. Thank goodness for bad figures and late passes.

Dandelion.

Aldershot News

"A" Corps Signals.

Headquarters.

General.—The outstanding feature at present is the marvellous summer weather we are experiencing in March. Even the Indian wallahs seem to have noticed the " heat."

We are now nearly at the end of our individual training, and are looking forward to collective training and camp at Popham from 23rd June to 27th July.

Births.—Congratulations to Corporal and Mrs. Tuft on the birth of a daughter. Also congratulations to Signalman and Mrs. Barry on the birth of a daughter.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Signalmen Martin E., Williams F. and Mayor on attaining the first step on the ladder.

Hockey.—We have had the honour once again of winning the Mons Barracks Hockey Tournament, beating 2nd Divisional Signals 2—0 and 1st Divisional Signals 2—1 after a really strenuous and fine game. The team all join in wishing 1st Divisional Signals better luck next time.

Points to Note.—What is this new Society—" The Grippers " —and who is the president ?

The tea ration at " gun-fire " has been reduced to half a mug per man. What is Corporal Goldberg going to do when we get to Camp ?

Bowdley.

No. 1 Company.

Now that the annual furlough season is over, and nearly everyone has returned to the fold, things are beginning to look more like normal.

The Individual Training Course is drawing to a close, and there are quite a few worried brows to be seen these days. We hope that everyone who has studied hard (or otherwise) during the past couple of months will successfully pass the final test.

Weapon Training and Gas Instruction still occupy our early morning thoughts.

The forming of Sections, and all the preparatory work which heralds the approach of the training season, have occupied quite a lot of our time recently. The buzz around barrack rooms at the moment is : " What Section am I in this year ? "

We welcome to the fold Lance Sergeant Gresham and Signalman Lee from Ceylon ; Corporals Bellinger and Baddeley,

(Haggis) to " B " Corps Signals, Karachi. His absence will be noticed in the Troop and in the Andover District. We are given to understand that his name has been entered on the Roll of Honour at the Andover " Steam."

Our Free Offer.—In order to lighten the lot of the young soldier liable to proceed to India with little or no knowledge of the customs of the country, we have decided to present a series of lectures entitled " Hints and Tips to Blue-noses." With this object in view, we approached the eminent specialist, Professor Yogi, who promptly went into a trance—apart from his usual state of coma. On recovering, he expressed his entire willingness to lecture on this subject, at the same time remarking, with becoming modesty, that, with the possible exception of the Druid or Rosie, he was most suited to undertake the task.

Consequently, these lectures will be held in the Old Soldiers' Room (No. 12) at sun-set daily. Students are requested to bring their own prayer rugs. As it is considered undesirable for the lecturer to be placed at a disadvantage, no old soldiers with over five years' service will be admitted.

Troop Training.—The Troop operators have survived " I.T." with no casualties, and are now engaged on driving instruction combined with operating practice in armoured cars. Apart from technical hitches, no serious damage has yet been done to the surrounding scenery ; we haven't all got a penchant for plate-glass windows.

Weapon Training.—This offers the Druid even more material on which to base his infamous statements. Whilst undergoing revolver instruction, care of arms, etc., he was asked what he would do if he had to put his revolver away for a month. He replied, " I'd forget it ! " This almost eclipses his previous statement that " the *Titanic* was torpedoed during the Boer War." In this connection, we understand that a certain educational instructor is contemplating committing the act of Hari-Kari.

Personal.—Wally, Hong Kong. "Ann Arum Lily still in vogue. Honeymoons imminent. Blackpool indicated. Geordie."

F. C. L.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Having relinguished the happy memories (with reluctance) of a furlough period just terminated, we turn our thoughts to Section training with a little " D.A.G." thrown in. Who, what and where is this thing called " D.A.G." ? Is it a new arrival to the Company or to the Unit ? Yes, it is a germ, and it has bitten all and sundry. To be precise, it is, as the whole world knows, " Something that destroys everything that lies within or without its path "—GAS ; and to think that we all suffer from it in some mild form or other, especially the hen-pecked husbands.

We hope to be sufficiently efficient in the near future to be able to withstand the attacks of any form of Gas. In passing, I should like to point out that a ticket of identity will be necessary for all those unfortunates who are garbed in the black protective suits of the Klu Klux Klan.

Now to that important item—Section Training. Up to the time of writing, only a week of this has been completed, but what a gorgeous week it has been. Sunshine and warmth throughout the whole seven days, except, of course, for the light frost at night. Under such conditions, the best training results can be obtained, but before commending ourselves upon our efficiency, let us await " Old Man Pluvius."

Departures.—*Bon voyage* to Signalmen Hall R. and May E. J. to China ; Corporal McKeer, Lance Corporal Lea, Signalmen Markendale and Booth to India.

We also wish Corporal Honey, Signalmen Potts, Brown J. J. and Benson prosperity in their new spheres of activity in civilian life.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the Company : Corporal Hughes from India ; Corporal White R., Signalmen Scarisbrook, Wain and Walton from Palestine ; and Corporal Funnell from Woolwich. We hope that their stay with us will be long and pleasant.

Promotions.—Congratulations are extended to Lance Corporals Urqhart and Lewis T. on having the " U " link removed, and also to U/Lance Corporals Jones J. O. and Pickles L. on receiving the ferrule part of the Field Marshal's baton.

JAY GEE.

Eastern Command Signal Company.

Dover Detachment.

H.M. Gun Wharf, Dover, Kent.

11th March.

General.—Old Doverites (Barleux—you're in on this) will be delighted to read just how well the Section has responded this trooping season. For the past ten years the Section has made frantic efforts to obtain good copy for the WIRE. I do hope, Mr. Editor, that you will have sufficient space at your disposal to publish our first real attempt.

Sergeant Abraham managed his get away under cover of darkness, but Corporal Spence was not so fortunate, as evidenced by the accompanying snap. The departure of Corporal Spence from the Dover Priory was made as impressive as only the Signals at Dover know how. Even the weather favoured our parting guest. Brilliant sunshine, temperature 63 degrees ; what time the band of the 2nd Battalion, Devonshire Regiment, obliged with the latest dance tune hits. Much had been done to take the ache from his weary heart, but it was left to the Southern to give him the greatest of agonising moments. Readers who have experienced the one-man-draft situation will indeed sympathise when I recount the final scene.

The adieux ended, Spence attempted to board the train, only to find the carriage door locked. Consternation ; shouts of " Porter, open this carriage door ! " The porter, who dashed up breathlessly and in fine Southern time, blandly responds, " Can't, can't." " Why ? " " Got no key." A plaintive voice from the crowd, " What's the poor soldier going to do then ? "

By this time the train is on the move, and the porter (the very same one), ambling away, offers Spence this very sound piece of advice, " Don't so and so go." However, the guard now made an appearance, and failing to appreciate matters from the porter's angle (perhaps he'd helped other soldiers, who knows ?) merely bungled the Signals draft into his own van. As the train moved out, the band favoured with " When my dream boat comes home." A little premature I thought, but what say you, Spence ?

I think that it is well to mention that a draft of the Devonshire Regiment was leaving by the same train, just in case readers may have erroneously imagined that the band was present for the especial benefit of our Corporal Spence. That portion of a civilian on the extreme right engrossed in a bit of train worship, is, Egypt readers, none other than the redoubtable Sergeant Salmon. It is hoped you may have something big in the way of rolling stock, as he is considered pretty hot on locomotion.

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Arrivals.—Sergeant Warner A. E., having enjoyed the cruise from India, safely dropped anchor at Archcliffe. After attention to minor details, such as Quarters with a sea view, complete with bathroom ; R.A. (H.R./m) and " make it as much as you can " ; has left us to enjoy a further month's round of hectic pleasure in London. Who's next for Dover ?

Promotions.—The sole representative of the Signalman class is justifiably satisfied that his upgrading cannot be further delayed, having in view the much discussed anticipated colossal wastage amongst higher ranks during the ensuing years to 1960. A trio of N.C.O.s have similar convictions, but incline to the opinion that publication of their names might give the impression they seek preferential consideration. C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Emsley, Sergeants Wilmot and Salmon are fully in agreement with the foregoing, but refrained from comment on the score that they may be accused of " asking for it."

Conclusion.—Emulating " In Town To-night," but monthly only, we hope to give you some interesting snaps of the Section at work. So please order your next copy early, and save the pictures. Details of a fascinating competition will be published under this heading later.

C. C. C.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Headquarters.

12th March.

At first I thought this last month had been quiet, but my notebook says otherwise. My main difficulty is to sort things into their correct headings. Thanks to drafts and furloughs, the main heading is " Moves." We hope our next issue will deal mainly with " Arrivals " to take the places of our departed members.

In our sports notes, ex-Niscovites will see that we have done our best to maintain the high level of previous years, but our inability to keep a whole team throughout the season, again thanks to drafts and furloughs, has told against us. However, being beaten by better teams is not a disgrace, and we certainly did our best. The details will be found in the appropriate place.

Training.—The Trade Testing Board is causing a certain amount of effort, and it is hoped that next month will see a few of our hard-working Operators and budding D.R.s drawing the extra cash for which they are working. That should provide an item of interest next month. Meanwhile, text books and the midnight candle are rapidly being worn out.

As part of the Unit training programme, a party, under the C.O., visited the B.B.C. (N.I.) Studios at Linenhall Street in Belfast on 5th February. The visit proved very interesting, and the amount of instruction absorbed was obvious from the conversations and arguments which ensued for days afterwards. Apart from the technical observations, the entire party decided that an announcer had to know as much as the Chief Engineer —a decision which revised entirely any previous ideas we had regarding announcers.

The following week, on the 12th, another party, again under the C.O., visited the B.B.C. Transmitting Station at Blaris (Lisburn). The elaborate precautions taken against break-downs, and the quality of the apparatus in use, left us with only one query—How do they get those " due to a technical fault at the transmitters " ? The courtesy of the officials, and their efforts to make our visits successful in every way, were commented upon with gratitude by all.

Promotions.—At last I can use this heading ! Congratulations to Lance Corporal Swetnam and U/Lance Corporal Garton on reaching the ranks stated. Since they are both at Lough Swilly, I suppose we will have to thirst on.

Moves.—Now for it ! The ball started rolling when Signalman Watson left us for Fort Lenan as a leave relief on 4th February. Sergeant Peters J., M.B.E., and Signalman Garner were the next to go. They went on the 11th, also as reliefs, so we shall be seeing them again soon. Lance Corporal Melly departed on the 14th for Omagh, and Signalman Cartlidge on the 15th for Ballykinler. Two more off the duty roster !

On the 16th we were very glad to welcome Lance Corporal Watson, more so as he was discharged from hospital that day. He had been in hospital since 24th January for an appendix operation. He left us on convalescent leave on the 17th, and, after that, a Training Centre will have the benefit of his presence ; no next month will see him again in this column. Corporal Wood looked in long enough to collect his kit on the 22nd, and then left for Catterick, *en route* to India. In " Chippy " we have lost a good all-round sportsman, on and off the field. We congratulate the Unit that adds him to their messing strength, and also wish " Chippy " all the best.

On the 23rd we saw another shining light go. Lance Sergeant Worsley left us for Catterick, prior to sailing for Bermuda on 21st March. He is going out to take up an appointment as Permanent Staff Instructor to the Signal Section of the Bermuda Volunteer Engineers. Before he left he was treated to a long lecture on " Jam " by every N.C.O. in the Company ; there was even a hint of " a pull in the W.O." He takes with him the good wishes of the Company. There are some more arrivals and departures, but, as they happened during March, I will leave them for the next notes.

For the benefit of those in Hong Kong, who are presumably anxiously scanning these notes, Corporal McLaren has been removed from the " warned for service overseas " list.

Things We Would Like to Know—Which D.R. went to the Army semi-final boxing match in Belfast with a free pass marked " Wireless Operator " ?

Which sanitary man adopted as his theme song, " Nice work if you can get it " ?

Does two potato chips and a bar of chocolate really make a tasty sandwich ?

Congratulations.—From the Company to Corporal " Bob " Edwards, formerly with this Company, on his marriage. Sorry for the delay, Bob, but we didn't know until we saw it in the Wire.

Sport.—Three tournaments, the N.I.D. Football Cup, the N.I.D. Hockey Cup, and the Garrison Billiards Tournament, feature in our sports notes. It is regretted that we did not feature brilliantly in these tournaments. As we have said in the Company notes, the constant changes in the teams, due to drafts and Inter-Company moves, has had a bad effect on our play. Most of the other Signal Units can, I presume, say the same, and they will appreciate that we have tried our best and gone down before better teams. The standard of individual play was very good; passing was our weak point.

The following team was selected to meet the 1st Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment: Driver Scoffin; Signalmen Cox F. and Jones; Lance Corporal Pilkington, Lance Sergeant Barron, Lance Sergeant Oliver; Signalmen Westbrook, Balnis, Couch, Hobson and Lance Corporal Blount.

The day was ideal for a Cup game. The keen wind blowing across the field gave little advantage to either team; and the sun shone most of the time. We scored the first goal in the first few minutes, after a rapid swinging movement up the field. After this, the Northamptons settled down, and the remainder of the game found them pressing hard. The goalkeeper put in some splendid work, and it is mainly due to him and the backs that the score was kept down. The forwards and halves did well individually, but the passing was weak. I think the score gives as good an indication as any of the trend of the play. The final score was: N.I.S.C., 2; 2nd Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment, 4.

On the 21st we met the 1st Battalion, East Lancashire Regiment, in the first round of the N.I.D. Hockey Cup. The team comprised: Signalman Brierly; Signalman Hobson, Signalman Jones; Lance Corporal Pilkington, Signalman Spencer, Lance Corporal Blount; Driver Scoffin, Corporal Thomson, Lance Sergeant Barron, Signalman Couch, Lieutenant Bayliss.

Here the team play was much better, and the individuals well up to scratch, but again we met a better team. The final score of a very hard-fought match was: 1st Battalion, East Lancashire Regiment, 5; N.I.S.C., 2.

The Garrison Billiards Tournament brought to light some new talent. The tournament was confined to private soldiers, and our lads got busy. Signalmen Cox A. (capt.), Cox F., Balnis, Hobson, Garner and Hunt formed the N.I.S.C. team. The first team, "C" Company, 1st Welch, went down 12—6 and our optimism rose accordingly. The next round—the semi-final—proved a much tougher proposition. We drew 9—9 (three games each), and the captains had to play another and deciding game. The results was: "A" Company, 1st Welch, 11; N.I.S.C., 10. Owing to the difficulty of turning out a team, only one friendly game was played. It was against "A" Company, Welch Regiment, and we lost 1—2.

The cry now is, "Roll on cricket and tennis." We shone there last year, and, although we have lost many of our stars, we hope to give another good performance. At least, if we put up the same show of keen enthusiasm as our football and hockey teams, we shall not have any cause to hang our heads, no matter what the result may be. Wish us luck!

SPUD-CAN.

Armagh Detachment.

We have just a few items of news since our last notes were published. Our fitter, Signalman Clarke, decided to take the long drop and was married in Armagh on 23rd February. Good luck, Nobby.

Signalman Morrice, having completed a tour of duty, returned to Belfast on 17th January, and was relieved by Signalman Richardson, who, if rumour is correct, is shortly to leave us for duty in Sarafand.

We have had some very bad weather lately. What with the gales, etc., we were justified in anxiously looking mastwards on one or two occasions. However, our anxiety appears to be ended now that the sun is shining once more.

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The Foreman of Signals, accompanied by Corporal McLaren, visited us on 1st February, but did not remain with us very long as they were on their way to Omagh.

Agony.—Jock. "Squeeze Box X112 Dis. N."

ELEMEE.

Ballykinler Detachment.

General.—Our notes for this issue are confined to sports and moves. The N.I.D. cross-country run was held here on 23rd February and resulted in a very easy win for the Regiment stationed here. Final placings and points were: 1, 2nd Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment, 87 points; 2, 1st Battalion, East Lancashire Regiment, 288 points; 3, 17th Heavy Battery, R.A., 362 points.

In the semi-final of the N.I.D. Boys' Football Cup, the boys of the Northamptonshire Regiment drew with the boys of the East Lancashire Regiment; even after extra time the score remained one each. Both teams gave a very spirited display, and a draw was a fair result of the run of the play.

The temporary relief, Signalman Cartlidge, not being aware of the procedure adopted on the B.C.D.R. (that is, to inform both the driver and guard of the train where you wish to alight), found time to alight at Dundrum Station, 4½ miles past the Camp station.

Moves.—Signalman Cartlidge from Belfast as leave relief for Signalman Conboy. Signalman McCulloch to Belfast. Signalman Crockett to Fort Lenan.

Conclusion.—Our best wishes to those who sail on the last boat for a safe journey and a speedy return.

SAND 'ILLS.

Fort Dunree Detachment.

Arrivals.—Sergeant Peters, M.B.E., Signalmen Garner and Waterfield. To all of them we extend the glad hand, and trust that their stay with us will be an enjoyable one.

Departures.—Sergeant Masters, M.M., and Signalman Davidson for a well-earned furlough. Maybe I shouldn't have said "well-earned"; are not all furloughs well-earned?

Congratulations.—To U/Lance Corporal Garton W. for obtaining a foothold on that famous ladder without undue biting of the finger nails.

Congratulations again to the Battery football team for the magnificent stand against Fort Lenan in the first round of the N.I.D. Cup. We lost narrowly by fourteen goals to one.

Congratulations once more (blimey!) to "von" Hardwick for his "Du bist so schon und reizend mein liebchen; ich liebe dich."

Senior Wranglers.—To Signalman De-la-Porte, somewhere in Egypt. "Would like address. Square yards."

ASPENLIEF.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India).

January.

A few days ago a certain individual asked me why the word "India" appeared in brackets after "Signal Training Centre." The answer, of course, is obvious, my dear Watson. To ensure that we don't get confused with the Signal Training Centre, Catterick, in official correspondence. So far, so good. As it happened, he was looking at a notice board, the inscription on which also included "(India)". Even the wildest stretch of imagination could hardly have confused the surroundings with Catterick, but there's no telling what one might do, is there? In any case it serves to remind the new draft they are really here, and the whole thing isn't a bad dream.

Whilst on the subject of drafts, we welcome all recent arrivals, and to those who have not previously served in Jubbulpore, we extend the usual warnings. Look twice, think twice, and then think again.

During the past week, considerable consternation has been caused in the married quarters by the appearance during the hours of darkness of a marauding member of the bovine specie. Rows of sweet peas, palms, shrubs, and grass, which proved the chief attraction, were quickly devoured. At one quarter, where he found ferns on the menu, he kicked over the plant pots as a warning, and then, just to show he was no respecter of persons, he ate all the plants in front of the guard room, with the sentry too amazed to stop him.

Marriages.—Perhaps you may wonder why the paragraph should be emphasised in this manner, but marriages here are so few and far between that they are something of an event. The central figures this time are Lance Corporal Leith and Miss Beryl Marjorie Haskins, who were married on 19th January. We wish them both the best of luck and happiness.

Other News.—The work of Signals, no matter how well carried out, has come to be accepted as part of an ordinary day's events, and it is therefore very pleasing when we are able to record the award of decorations. To Sergeant Isaac, who was awarded the Medal (for Meritorious Service) of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire for "valuable services rendered in connection with the Operations in Waziristan during the period 25th November, 1936, and 16th January, 1937." To Sergeant Woolhouse, whose services for "Devotion to Duty" during the Waziristan Operations, 1936/37 (first phase, Khaisora) were brought to the notice of the Army Commander. We offer our hearty congratulations to both of them.

Our congratulations also to the following: Sergeant Tidey, on his promotion; Lance Sergeant Wright, on joining the Sergeants' Mess; Corporals Gilkes and Smith C., on picking up the second one; Lance Corporal Lines, on being paid for his services; and U/Lance Corporal Newsham, on his step in the right direction.

Early morning P.T. still keeps the majority in trim. A cross-country run this week provided a little variation. The markers returned from the run looking remarkably fresh, due, of course, to their ability to use bicycles.

W.

The S.T.C. (I.) Dance Band.—As the dancing season is nearing its end, we publish a recent photograph of the Boys, which was taken in the Nurbudda Club. Reading from left to right, they are: Corporal Poole (piano and piano accordion), Signalman Taylor (second alto sax. and clarinet), Signalman MacGregor (bass and guitar), Corporal Mitchell (tenor sax. and clarionet), Signalman Young (drums), Lance Sergeant Collett (leader, first alto sax. and clarionet), Signalman Page (guitar) and Lance Corporal Softly (trumpet).

As forecasted a year ago, the band has had a very successful season. We have taken all the engagements worth having, amongst them being the Ball, given by H.E. The Governor of the C.P.; the R.A. Officers' Ball; the Nerbudda Vale Hunt Ball; and two or three big shows at the Nerbudda Club during Jubbulpore Week. Soon we have the Masonic Ball, and in

March we have a nice change, for we are to go to Saugor for the week in order to fulfil three engagements. In addition to these engagements we have had the usual less important dances. During the Christmas period, right up to New Year's Eve, we were out every night.

The addition of clarionets, piano accordion and bass have improved the combination immensely, and in no small measure have helped us to get a very good reputation. Of the eight comprising the Band, five of last year's members are still with us, namely, Lance Sergeant Collett, Corporal Poole, Lance Corporal Softly, Signalmen MacGregor and Page. Corporal Mitchell and Signalman Young joined us from U.K., and Signalman Taylor came from Rawalpindi.

The Boys are as keen as ever, and the jolly spirit of everybody is emphasised by their willingness to attend practice, and the giving of their best wherever they play.

Our Colonel (Lieutenant-Colonel Pollard) and the Officer i/c Band (Captain Burridge) have shown great interest in our performances. Their constructive criticism has assisted us greatly in reaching such a good standard.

Although at the moment there is no vacancy in the Band, it does not imply that there will not be vacancies in the future. If there are any dance band musicians due out here during this coming trooping season who can read orchestrations at sight, they would be welcomed at the S.T.C. (I.). Apart from earning money, we have some very pleasant evenings playing out. This should meet the requirements of any keen player, and is certainly a good way of spending spare time.

L.F.S.C.

28th February.

February has been a very busy month. The visit of H.E. The Viceroy—to present a portrait of the Royal Family—to the Indian Signal Corps on behalf of our Colonel-in-Chief, The Princess Royal; the Annual Mounted Sports and Display; and the Athletic Meeting to compete for the Fazal Din Trophy, have all necessitated everyone getting down to it. I had intended to describe the visit of H.E. The Viceroy, but the photographs of the ceremony are not yet to hand, so this item will be held over until next month.

The Mounted Sports and Display on 19th February were very successful. The Motor-Cycle Display was very well received by the spectators, and while we do not claim to be as proficient at "cyclobatics" as the S.T.C., Catterick, the show was very good indeed.

A P.T. Display by the Indian Boys, followed by a Toy Soldier Display—"Changing of the Guard"—also given by the Indian Boys, were both very effective; particularly the P.T., which was carried out to music, and without any words of command.

Individual Jumping, Team Jumping, and Tent Pegging provided the usual thrills. The Tent Pegging was won by Lieutenant A. M. W. Whistler. Three competitors with a carry on each run were given a peg edgeways-on for the run-off. Lieutenant Whistler again obtained a carry as against misses by the other competitors.

Officers' Team Jumping was accounted for by the S.T.C. (I.) team with a total of 5¼ faults. This may also be considered a very good performance, as the S.T.C. (I.) team, comprising Major Newington, Captain Burridge and Lieutenant Whistler, had an advantage of 10 faults over the next best team, who could do no better than 15¼ faults.

The Other Ranks Individual Jumping (Open to the Station) was won by Sergeant Turner, 28th Field Brigade, R.A., with a clear run. Sergeant Farlow, after a tie, took third place. Here again the standard of jumping was very good, only one fault separating the first three competitors.

The illustrations accompanying these notes are of various items in the day's programme.

The "Fazal Din" trophy was won this year after a keen struggle by "A" Company. The trophy was suitably filled after the presentation. Now we can turn our attention to preparing for the soccer and hockey competitions, which commence very shortly.

W.

Sergeants' Mess.

January.

The continuance of cool weather has provided us with ample scope for weekly entertainments. Whist drives still attract a good attendance, and dances are increasing in popularity with each function. The revival of tennis "At Homes," followed by an impromptu dance with the Band, have proved a great success, and are now a regular feature of our entertainment programme.

A familiar figure in the Mess is due to leave us very shortly on retirement. Mr. Brierley—"Jim" as he is known to his very wide circle of friends and acquaintances in the Corps—has been a "member" of the Mess for a number of years. We now take the opportunity of thanking both him and Mrs. Brierley for all they have done for the Mess during that period. Mr. Brierley, as one would expect of a soldier of the old school, could always be relied upon to wield a wicked cue, throw a good "arrow," tell a good story, appreciate a good glass of ale, or sing a song. On leaving his appointment as a member of the Staff of the Gun Carriage Factory, both he and Mrs. Brierley take with them our very best wishes for their future in the home country.

Quite a number of new faces have made their appearance in the Mess: R.S.M. and Mrs. Nash, C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Butler and family, C.Q.M.S. Jackson and family, Sergeant Cook and family, Sergeant Drudge and family, Sergeant Challen and Lance Sergeant Houghton. We wish them all a very pleasant stay.

On 3rd February, a large portion of the Unit—Sergeant (Tiny) Low to be precise—left us for 2nd Indian Divisional Signals. He was duly "seen off" at the station by the official mourners, one or two of whom, I thought, appeared rather overcome by the occasion.

W.

February.

We have now seen the last of winter, and the verandah once again shows signs of life. The vicinity of the dart board is particularly busy these days—the ancient game having become very popular. Of course, darts is a very cheap form of entertainment, provided that you win, and even apart from the exercise of the arms, the game is certainly a stimulus to the player's mental arithmetic.

Our chief social function this month was a tennis "At Home" to the officers and their ladies on 20th February, when our new Signal Officer-in-Chief (Colonel E. N. F. Hitchins, D.S.O., M.C.) was present. Tennis was followed by a dance in the Mess, which concluded a very enjoyable evening.

On 19th February we were "At Home" to the W.O.s and Sergeants' Messes of the Station on the occasion of the Annual S.T.C. Mounted Sports and Display. The Sergeants' Mess event, which included finding a lady partner's shoes, putting them on the lady partner, drinking a bottle of lemonade (from the bottle), and then running (with lady) to the finishing line, was won by Lance Sergeant Wright and Mrs. Benfield in record time.

Our usual monthly programme of whist drives and dances still proves very popular, but with the coming of warmer weather, I am afraid that we shall all be quite content to sit peacefully on the lawn, or, at any rate, as peacefully as the mosquitoes permit.

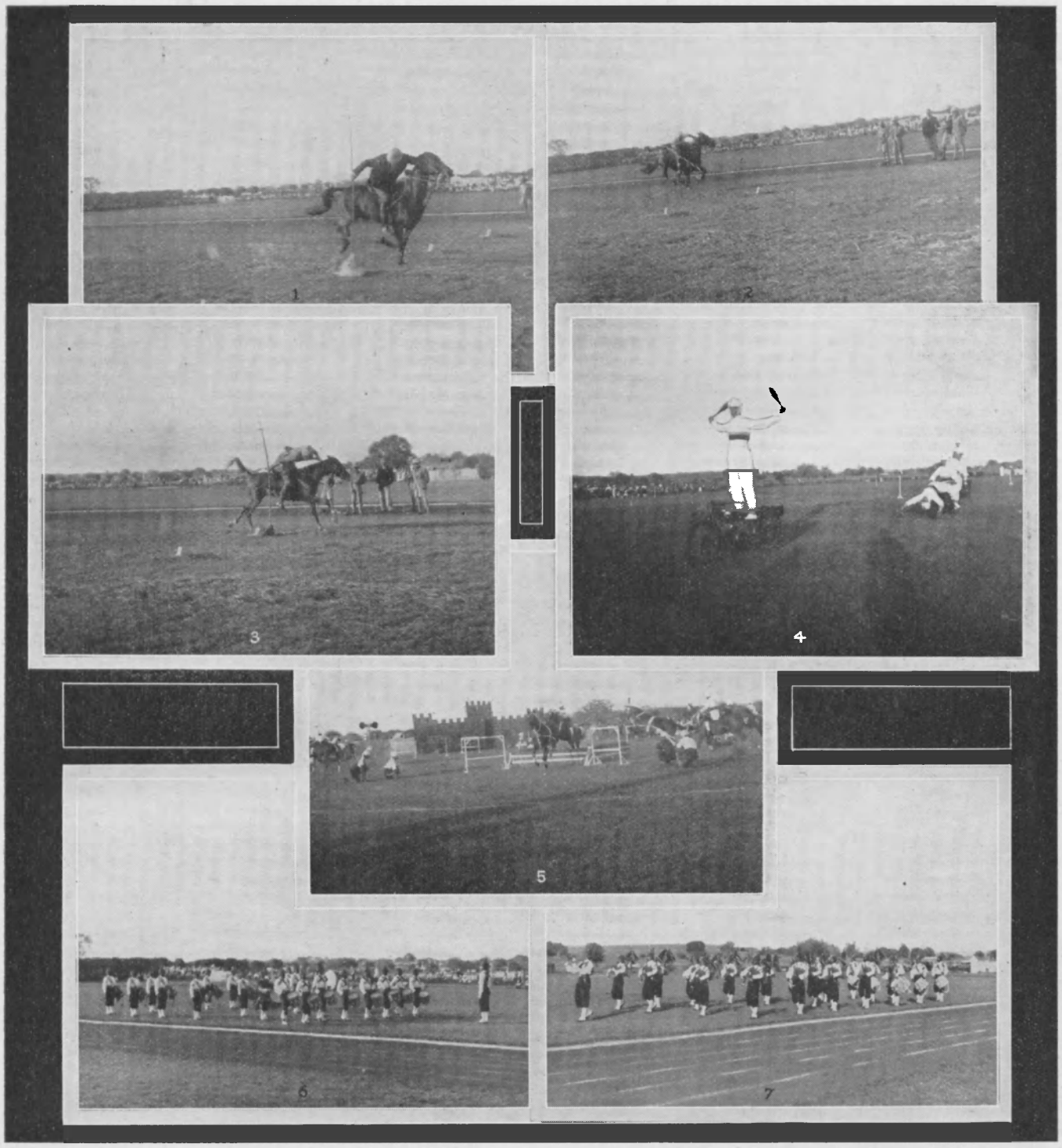
W.

Corporals' Room.

General.—Things on the whole have been very quiet since the New Year, which partly explains the absence of our notes for the last two months.

We held a very successful dance in January, and all those who came had a good time. With our usual luck in the draw, we picked a day when two other functions were taking place, but as the 15th Field Brigade, R.A., were leaving the Station next day, quite a big crowd of Gunners turned up to say "Cheerio." Their successors' advance party, who came along also to see where we lived, stayed for the rest of the evening. So though

SOME SNAPS FROM SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE (INDIA).



1. Major Newington and an edge-on peg. Has he lifted it ?
2. C.H.M. M. Ali Khan.
3. Lt. Whistler misses an edge-on peg in the heats.
4. One of many stunts on our old Douglas machines.
5. Equine tandem scissors with jumps.
6 and 7. Two views of the Indian Signal Corps Pipe Band which played during tea.

we said good-bye to some good friends, we also made a few new ones.

Promotions.—Owing to the absence of notes, these congratulations are rather late. To Lance Sergeants Connolly and Wright, Corporals Gilkes and Smith C., Lance Corporal Lines and U/Lance Corporal Newsham we offer our heartiest congratulations on moving one step nearer to the " excused parade " squad.

Departures.—By the time that these notes appear in print, the Upgrading Courses will have settled down in their own Units again. We hope they all enjoyed their stay here. Judging by the " empties," last Saturday's event wasn't too bad. Cheerio to Corporal Greenland, Lance Corporals Rymer, Crosley, Cox and Last.

P.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

"A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

8th March.

General.—The month seems to have been a very quiet one. The trooping season draws to a close, and most of the arrivals to be expected this season have arrived, and are well settled down in the Unit. The few to go home will be sailing shortly. The familiar cry of " roll on " seems to have waned.

Officers.—Our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel C.H.H. Vulliamy, left us on 17th February for eight months' leave in the United Kingdom. He was closely followed by Lieutenant E. C. R. Blaker, who also proceeded on seven months' leave at home on 24th February.

We welcome to the Unit, Lieutenant G. A. Dutton, Royal Signals, who arrived from the United Kingdom, per H.T. *Lancashire*, on 1st February, and also 2nd Lieutenant H. K. Milward, Royal Signals, who arrived, per H.T. *Neuralia* on 21st February.

Arrivals.—C.S.M. Lydamore A. and family from Waziristan District Signals on 2nd March; Signalman Robinson L. and family from the Signal Training Battalion, S.T.C. (India) on 1st March. We trust that their stay in the Unit will be a pleasant one. Signalman Porter L., having decided to extend his service to complete twelve years, rejoined us from Vocational Training at Bareilly in order to carry on with his soldiering.

Departures.—Lance Corporal Beenham G. has been posted to 1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur. Corporal Williams T. (at present on six months' leave in the United Kingdom) is posted to the Signal Training Battalion, S.T.C. (India), on his return to India. They both take our best wishes for a pleasant stay in their new Units.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations are extended this month to Sergeant Washburn S. on his promotion and to Lance Sergeant Hodge C. on his appointment. The latter has since left us for the United Kingdom on transfer to the Home Establishment.

Languages.—The following are to be congratulated on passing their languages examinations: Lieutenant F. P. Johnson, Royal Signals—Urdu Higher Standard; Sergeant Instructor Arthur R. (A.E.C.), and Signalman Everard J.—British Service Urdu Test.

Medals.—We congratulate the following, who have successfully passed through the prescribed period of eighteen years and have been duly awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal: C.Q.M.S. Paskins W., Sergeant Savage W. and Lance Sergeant West C.

ARMY SIGNAL SCHOOL (INDIA), POONA.

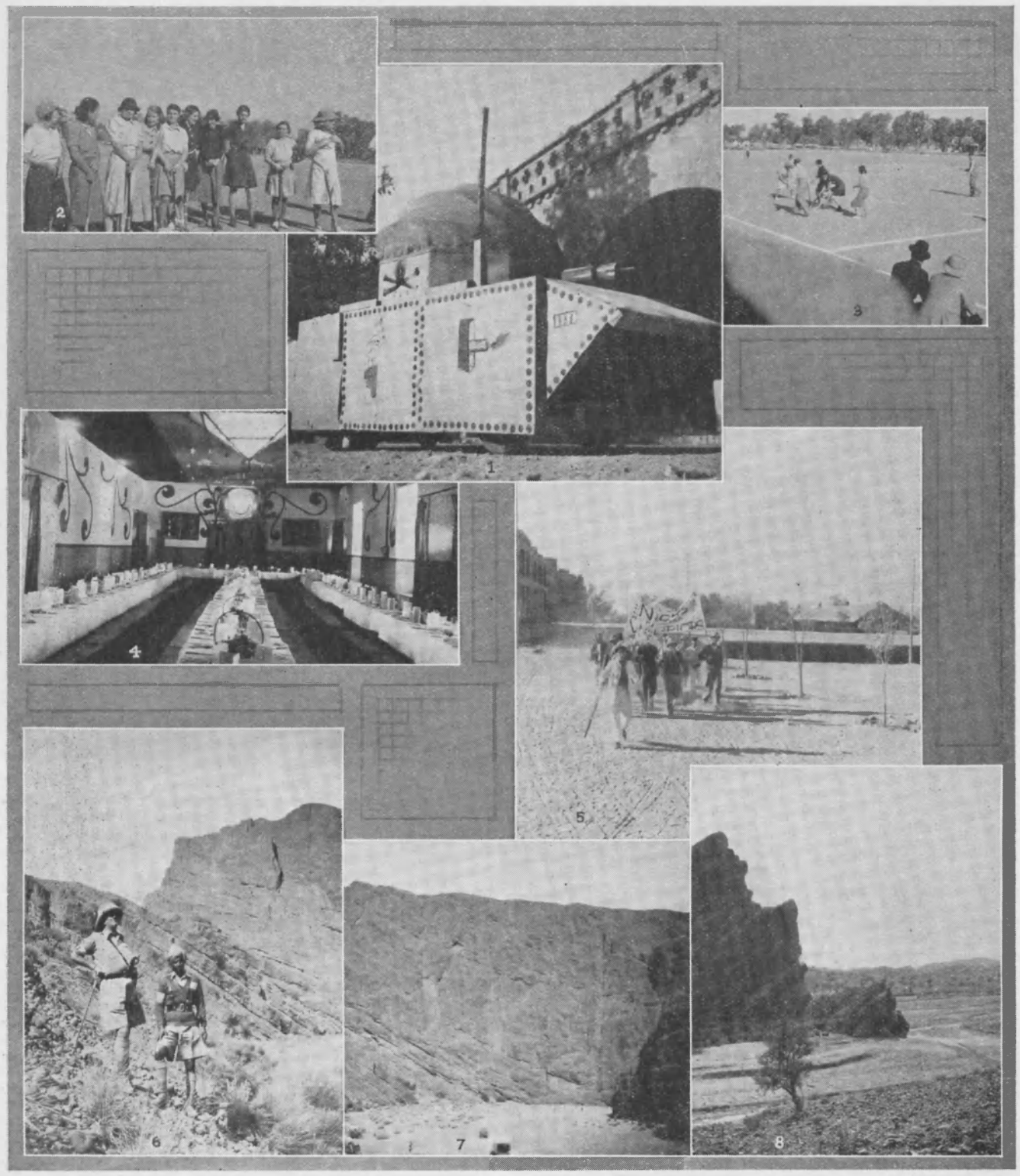
Back Row (left to right): A/Sergeant Neal R., Sergeant Jackson C., A/Lance-Sergeant Pratt L., A/Lance-Sergeant Smart R., A/Lance-Sergeant Skirving J., A/Sergeant Hicks N.

Middle Row (left to right): Sergeant Coles G., Sergeant Wheeler E., Sergeant Hall N., Sergeant Patterson H., A/Sergeant Musson T., A/Sergeant Jaine W., A/Lance-Sergeant Ransome H.

Sitting (left to right): C.Q.M.S. Gibbard C., Lieutenant G. A. F. Barff, Captain T. A. R. Scott, Major B. G. Rowley (Commandant), Captain A. Boyce (Adjutant), Lieutenant I. C. de W. Middleton-Stewart, Lieutenant E. H. Baume, R.S.M. Moult R.

SOME SNAPS FROM 1st INDIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, RAWALPINDI

(See last month's notes)



1. Father Christmas's New Style Sleigh.
2. The Ladies' Hockey Team. "Arabella" McCormick on the right.
3. The Mixed Hockey Match in progress.
4. The B.O.R.s' Dining Hall at Christmas.
5. "Nick's Warriors" go forth to render much music at the Inter-Unit HockeyMatch.
6. Major L. B. Nichols in Bhittani Country.
7. Bhittani Scenery.
8. Another scene at Bhittani.

Re-engagements.—A vote of courage to Corporal Vollans L. on having bravely entered into that other period of nine years.

Births.—Our congratulations are extended to Sergeant Instructor and Mrs. Arthur R. (A.E.C.) on the birth of a daughter, Juliet Anne, at Rawalpindi, on 23rd February.

H.T. "Lancashire" (Outward Bound, January, 1938).—A letter has been received by Sergeant Holness of this Unit from the brother of Corporal Griffiths, who was injured aboard H.T. *Lancashire* on its outward journey in January, 1938, the injury necessitating amputation of one leg. An expression of appreciation has been extended to all those on board for their kindness and grateful thanks for the financial assistance rendered. His brother adds that despite a rather bad time after landing at Gibraltar, owing to complications involving his other leg, Corporal Griffiths is remaining very cheerful, and it is optimistically considered that a good recovery will be made. Although unable to write himself, Corporal Griffiths conveys his very good wishes to all through the medium of his brother.

CAVE CANEM.

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

8th March.

Such is my procrastinating nature, that I find myself at 11.30 p.m., or in technical jargon 23.30 hours, lying in bed with a couple of old message pads propped up on a box, endeavouring to sort something out for to-morrow's post.

February has been a very quiet month for us, except for the enthusiasm of our budding "roughs." "Did you see my horse this morning? Tearing them off all over the place he was, but I fixed him."

Remarkable industry is being shown by some of our fighting operators, who walk round the lines with a mysterious and scholarly air, and, of course, Vol. II, parts I, II and III. They sally forth to do battle at Peshawar very soon, and we wish them luck, or should I say a fitting reward to their merits. I hope to report an increase in our B.I.s strength next month.

Several members, looking for fresh worlds to conquer, and with contrite memories of Christmas aftermaths, have turned to "education" as a means of forgetting their awful past. The cycle wallah does a great trade these days, and the discussions and arguments on what is the capital of such and such a place or how to find the square root of an undeterminable non-recurrent decimal by means of hypobolic functions and exponentials are all very learned and uplifting, but nevertheless disgusting to me, whose chief problem is how to make a pint bottle fill a quart glass. There I go again, I'll never learn.

Old members, who carried away with them prospective Field Marshals' batons, may possibly be grieved to hear that we have, by a general vote, converted the Junior N.C.O.s' Room into a Library and Writing Room. The scheme has worked successfully; innumerable magazines and periodicals have found their way in, and it looks like a dentist's waiting room, except that the magazines are of much more recent edition. The purchase and hire of many new books gives an adequate selection for such a small Unit. It is proposed to start a technical section, comprised of the complete works of P. G. Wodehouse, Thorne Smith and Fanny Hill. The idea is that if, for instance, you come over all mushy, and decide to go in for mechanics and hydrostatics, you'll have such a pleasant surprise that your original intention will be completely forgotten. Anyway, who wants to get technical?

We said good-bye to Signalman Featherstone early in the month. He left us after a six-year tour, having at last realised his folly. As conducting N.C.O. (self constituted), I ought perhaps not to mention this, but we did see "off" a goodly sack, and my poor old suitcase will never be the same shape again. By the left! It was cold coming back in that tonga, Alfie.

In preparation for the Troop Sports, about which more later, everyone has dug out his oldest breeches, stuck a topee on at a horsey angle, and is assiduously practising in the riding school those finer points of the equine art, concerning which the more intelligent horses disagree most violently. Being an ardent follower of the Italian seat and method—if you don't believe me, ask the critics—I leave such things as passages and "changes" at the canter severely alone. I can't do them, so what the heck!

The month has been notable for a revival of tennis consciousness. We held a "Tin and Bottle," which did not get the backing it deserved, owing to school and other matters interfering, but, nevertheless, was quite successful, I believe. Ah, well; I'll leave that over until next month; must have something to write about.

We welcome Lance Corporal Beenham, who is, of course, amongst many old friends. He will certainly find that he has come to the right place, as the number of extended tours bears witness, although the latter is sometimes put down to a peculiar form of insanity that comes on in the last year of a tour.

Corporal Paling can now put on a paternal air and refer glibly to "my young lad." On his own admission, he has been a father now for about a month. Cheer up, Ronnie; at least you can sleep undisturbed at nights for some time yet!

BLANKO.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

General.—The collective training season is practically over, and all thoughts are turned to Trade Boards and more "pice" with which to paint this Frontier resort red. Now that "Civvies" are allowed to a certain percentage of the Unit, great activity has been seen around the Dhursi's shop. All one hears is talk of styles and cuts, and what coloured socks are in favour in Blighty. I predict a startling display when the Unit really sets out in force.

Recently we were inspected by the G.O.C., Peshawar District. Due to the efforts of all concerned, a very good show was put up. It is to be hoped that the G.O.C. (Major-General Dashwood-Strettell, C.B.) was very impressed by all he saw.

The new drafts from U.K. seem to have settled down in the Unit. The Unit "grippers" have been giving them the low down on "when I was on active service in 19——."

Arrivals.—Lieutenant E. K. Steward; Sergeant Greed and family; Sergeant Wilkins and family from Jubbulpore. A hearty welcome is extended to all of them.

Departures.—Major W. M. Clapp, M.B.E., and wife to Blighty on eight months' privilege leave; Lieutenant D. J. Goldsmith to Jubbulpore; C.Q.M.S. "Yimkin" Smith and wife to 2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta; Signalman Munslow J. to Jubbulpore (hoping for a "cushy" staff job, "Muns"?).

Howlers.—Who said, when calling the Roll, "Call out when I answer your names"? "Bear up, Jim. Eighteen years in the country does make a difference."

Which Sergeant likened one of our Signalmen to a car (four cylinder)?

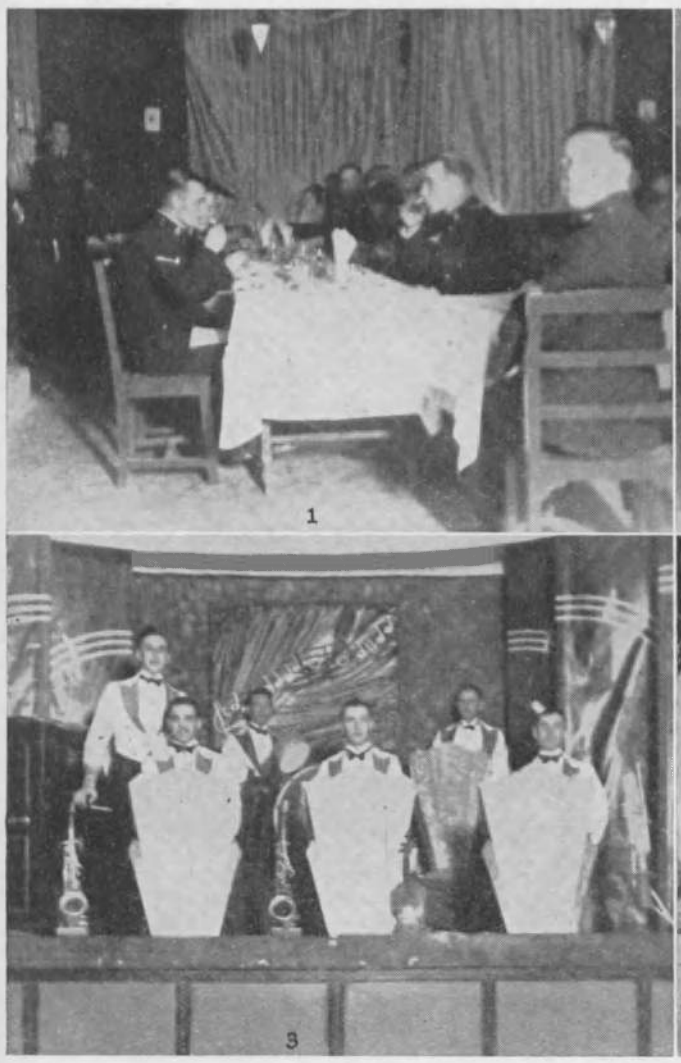
Promotions.—Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Smith on attaining that rank.

"SILO."

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

General.—As the former Unit scribe, complete with airy persiflage, has departed for a "warmer" spot in this warm country, his mantle has descended upon my shoulders, and I admit, with the greatest reluctance, that my poor efforts will not equal those of my predecessor. In order to forestall my readers' criticisms, I apologise at once, thereby, I hope, "scotching" all criticism at the start. And now, having reached those dizzy heights in which Editors haunt the dreams of the "innocent," and waking moments are dreaded, I will attempt to justify my existence.

Postings.—This month has been particularly interesting. Large numbers of our "old-timers" have proceeded to that Mecca of the British soldier—England. On the first troopship this year, sailed Farrier Staff Sergeant Howells, complete with family; also Signalman Warburton, *en route* for home. We wish them the best of luck, and hope that the joys of England are all that we hear.



(1) Corporals' Annual Dinner on 5th January. Lance-Corporal Hodder, Dorsetshire Regiment, in foreground, Lance-Corporal Clarke and Lance-Sergeant McLean in the rear.

(2) Another view of our N.C.O.s at "it." Lance-Corporal Evans near to the camera in a pensive mood.

(3) The Unit Band. Signalmen Colley, Jones, Lance-Corporal Howard, Signalman Hunt, Lance-Corporal Turvey, Signalman Eames.

(4) The Unit Office, Signal Office, B.O.R.s and Children's Schools, seen from across the hockey pitch.

Coincident with the departure of Sergeant Brett and family, Sergeant Costello and family, Corporal Gunn, Lance Corporal Barrett, Signalmen Jennings H., Giles W., Jones E. and Cribb H., the Unit was blessed with the arrival of much-needed reinforcements in the shape of the third draft from U.K. This comprised: Sergeant Mansfield and family, Lance Corporal Jacob and family, Signalmen Peskett D., Ledger K., Eichert R. and Whellans W. They have found that Kohat can be a "home from home," because their "settling in" appears to have taken place most satisfactorily. We wish them the best of luck and also a pleasant stay in Kohat.

Last, but by no means least, the Unit has suffered the loss of Signalman Hanson F., who left us on 1st March for the 4th Indian Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry. An indefatigable sportsman, he was much appreciated in the realms of hockey and soccer, in which his efforts left little to be desired. We wish him all the luck at his new Station.

The Blue Book.—A large number of promotions have occurred, and the following are congratulated on the higher step: Lance Corporal Lawrence R. to Corporal; U/Lance Corporal Evans A. to Paid Lance Corporal. Lance Corporal (Madge) Evans was lucky; his pay arrived before he left for the Army School of P.T., Ambala, to undergo (I like that word) the Third British Short P.T. Course. As he is also proceeding on Blighty leave at the conclusion of the Course, we are given to understand that the results will be very much appreciated on the boat. Cheer up, "Madge," muscles are still made by hard work.

Extensions.—Although this heading may cause readers to think that late nights and early mornings have been the vogue, we are compelled to disillusion them. Two of the "props" of the Corporals' Room have "taken on." We are fully aware that this is against all precedence, especially as both members have been in the Service long enough to know their own minds. Nevertheless, they have signed on to complete the "pontoon." Congratulations to Corporals Froggatt and Talbot. 1947 should be here before long, and civilian life will be strange. We hear on good authority that "Chota" is expecting to proceed to England soon; at least, vague murmurs of "roll on" continually reach us from the region of his bed. Cheer up, "Chota," we have the same feeling at times, too.

Inspections.—The Unit received a visit from the C.S.O., Northern Command, on 18th February. He was apparently quite satisfied with things in general and Kohat District Signals

St. Augustine's Church, Kohat, after the fire.
(see last month's notes.)

in particular. We congratulate ourselves. Our hope now is that all other inspections will be just as satisfactory.

Marriages.—None to report to date, but we are still hoping.

Social.—A challenge was sent to the Corporals, Kohat District Signals, from the Corporals of the R.A.F., requesting that the superiority of either at football be proved. A match accordingly took place between both the Messes on the Air Force ground, and the result, considered by some critics to be a foregone conclusion, was a verdict in the favour of the Corporals, Kohat District Signals, of 3—1. " Pongo " Pask had the distinction of performing the " hat trick." We understand, however, that sundry members of the Air Force team had been training during the Saturday morning—not for the soccer match, but for the social which followed. Beer was provided at half-time instead of the customary lemons, which change appeared to meet with the full approval of both teams. Anyway, play livened up considerably in the second half. Corporal Froggatt skippered, and his merry men responded right nobly in making a sad hole in the R.A.F. Mess funds. A mass attack at midnight proved very successful. " Spud " Murphy crept away under cover of darkness with the pride of the R.A.F. Mess (a rumoured " Gainsborough "), which now adorns the wall of the K.D.S. Corporals' Mess. A counter-attack is expected (and joyfully anticipated) in the near future.

Back Row (left to right) : Signalmen Hunt, Hobden (capt.) Seatter.

Middle Row (left to right) : Lance-Corporal Pask, Signalman Jennings, Lance-Corporal Barrett, Signalman Kelly, Lance-Corporal Clarke.

Front Row (left to right) : Signalmen Cook, Giles, King.

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Much knowledge of military strategy and tactics is expected to be learnt from these nocturnal manœuvres and further details will be issued later (Official Communique).

We have great pleasure in announcing that the Spaniel (?) companion of Signalman Davenport (D'port to his friends) has successfully reared a large family. Mother and children are doing very well. If the absence of socks, shoelaces and other small articles is any criterion, our proud " paterfamilias " must be expecting to stock a general store, and to have trained the pups accordingly.

Agony.—What price the " Seven Pillars of Wisdom " now, Bobbie ? A prepaid postcard in reply will suffice.

STYLO.

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

"B" Corps Signals, Karachi.

February.

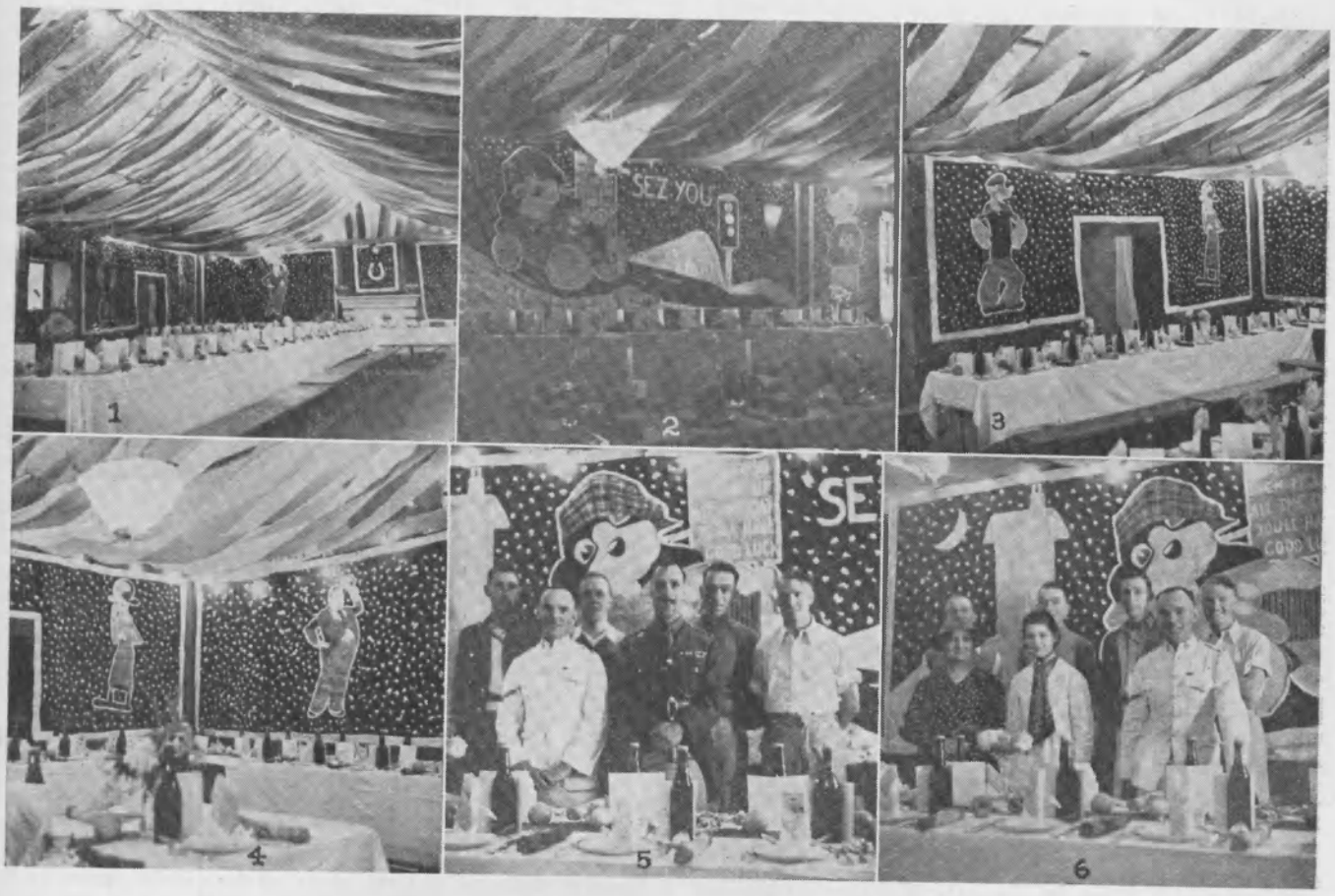
Since the last notes for this Unit appeared in print, there have been many changes ; old faces have left us, and new ones have arrived. In fact, so numerous are the changes that it can almost be said that we are new " B " Corps Signals.

Sturdy warriors of the Frontier, Burma Commission, K.G.A. and U.J.C., have said good-bye to Kipling's " Mother India," good-bye to sand, sand rats and sand storms ; gharri wallahs, taxi wallahs and loose wallahs. They shed no tears at the thoughts of leaving this land of thrift, where the thrift is only one-sided ; the other half don't get the chance to be thrifty.

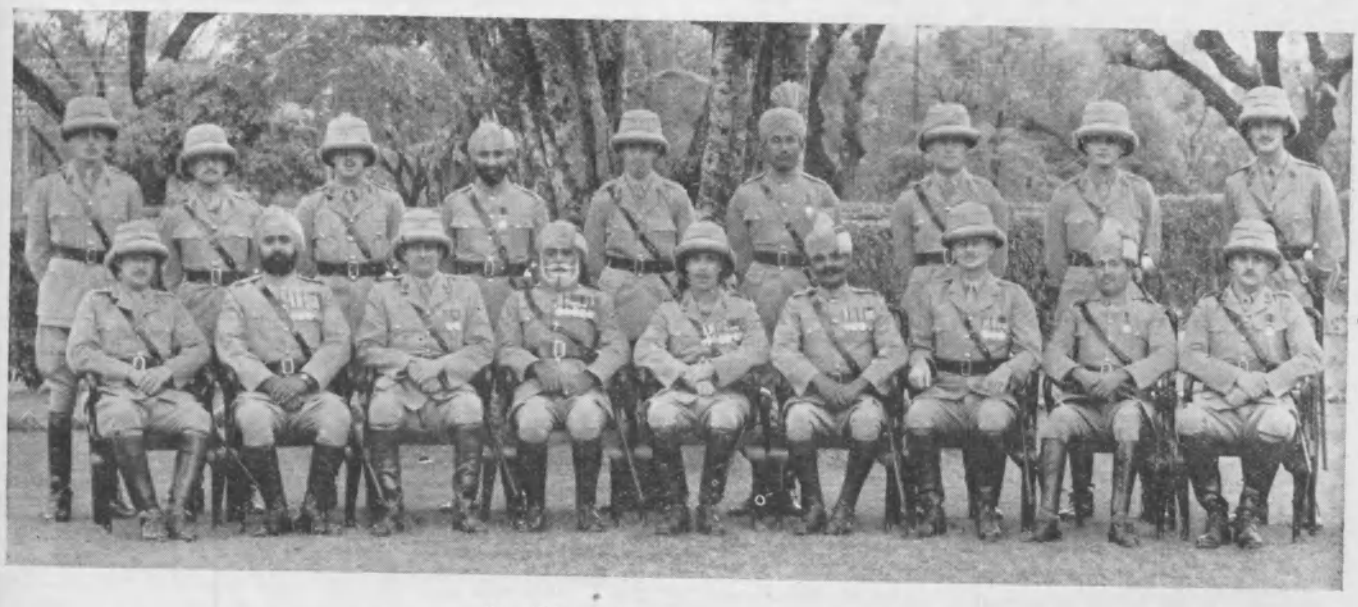
To the Jims, Joes, Gingers, Dodgers, Killers and the rest of you, we wish the best of luck, and hope that you found the snow-clad fields to your liking and the " gimmahs " up to expectations. Here is a piece of news which I know will interest at least one of you : " Fritz " carried off the Championship Cup at the Dog

A PAGE OF PHOTOGRAPHS FROM 3rd INDIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, MEERUT.

(SEE MARCH NOTES)



Photographs 1, 2, 3, and 4.—The Christmas Decorations. 5.—Commanding Officer with Decorations Committee. 6.—Decorations Committee and Caterers, Messrs. Stiffles.



BRITISH AND INDIAN OFFICERS.

7th INFANTRY BRIGADE SIGNAL SECTION, GHANGORA CAMP.

Show again. He has settled down well. Good old "Chicken Pie."

It is early yet to speak of the merits, misdoings or otherwise of the new arrivals. We certainly got a "Gripper"—one O'Malley—and a card sharper in MacNair. Some are homesick; others lovesick after being seasick. Cheer up my hearties, there is still a chance of that "Four Year Plan"; in any case, a rumour now and again can set your mind at rest. Yes, I know that some of you have been here before, but you didn't want another "duffy" here, I'll bet.

At the time of writing, the Unit are doing a spot of training at Dabeji Camp, and, from all accounts, the sand storms are, well, let me see—yes, I've got it—just bally awful, old boy. Remember Bairnsfather's cartoon, "If you know of a better 'ole, go to it." (Who said "Petrol Duff"?)

During the past month, the Sergeants' Mess and the Corporals' Mess have held a whist drive and dance. Thanks to our Harmonica Band, we enjoyed the dancing so much that Miss McEwan and Allsopp (our grass widows) were nearly walking out on us. I hope, in our next notes, to be able to say something about a Men's Dance; rumour whispers that they *are* going to have one.

I haven't sufficient sports news available to contribute to the sports section, but being a rugger enthusiast, I do know that we were beaten 9—0 by the P.W. Vols. in the Western Command Tournament. Our lads certainly put up a good show, but we did not get that little bit of luck that can mean so much in rugger.

Oddities.—You went home a boat too soon, Dellar; Baji paid out 125. It "bobbed up" to Bob's delight.

Next year's boat list is up. (Loud cheers.)

We shall soon be saying *au revoir* to our Adjutant, Capt. K. H. Treseder. (Are you crossing the days off, sir?)

We wish that we could have seen the facial expressions of the youngsters, who came out on the last boat, when they were told that 2nd Divisional Signals at Quetta possessed a reindeer and dog sleigh section.

Charzi.

SOUTHERN COMMAND ..... ***INDIAN ARMY***

4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

24th February.

General.—In the course of his tour of the City of Hyderabad and a few outlying suburbs, His Excellency The Viceroy passed through Trimulgherry on 22nd January, and the troops of the Garrison lined the roads to pay their respects. Of course, our little welcome was modest when one hears of the celebrations in Hyderabad during his stay there. The illuminations and decorations of that city, where the streets are paved with rupees, must have been a magnificent spectacle. The Divisional Signals and the Troop combined in order to provide wireless communications from Faluknama Palace and the Residency, Hyderabad, to the Racecourse, so that the salutes could be synchronised at the two former places of welcome. The Troop provided the Sets at the Palace and the Residency, and the Divisional Set remained on the Racecourse with the Royal Artillery. Needless to say, everything went off without a hitch. Outside Mercury Lines the road was lined by our stalwarts—British and Indian—and all stood respectfully to attention as His Excellency drove slowly past on his visit to Deccan House, Bolarum. On the sam evening, he dined with the officers of the 16/5th Lancers.

The following inspections have taken place within the Troop during the months of January and February:

(a) All animals, which were inspected by the D.A.D.V.S., proved a credit to the Troop.

(b) The Brigade Commander held his Annual Inspection. On the date of the inspection, Mercury Lines was at its best, and the Troop personnel—both British and Indian—paraded for this inspection. All looked very smart and were well turned-out.

(c) Lastly, we had a visit from the D.A.D.O.S. It is easy to guess the results of this inspection, if one is to judge by the pleasantness and the cherubic countenance of our "Q."

(d) We are just about to be inspected by the Signal Officer-in-Chief in India. A report will be published next month.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to Lieutenant J. H. L. Crichton, who has been posted to the Troop from S.T.C., Jubbulpore. All are looking forward to the time when your Course at Saugor is completed and you return to join our happy band at Trimulgherry. From home, we welcome Sergeant Dilworth and family, and Signalman Hare. We hope their stay at Trimulgherry will be a very pleasant one. Sergeant Dilworth's arrival was awaited with suppressed excitement and anticipation by the walking members of the Troop, but we now realise that we are in capable hands, and the Riding School is once more in the news.

Departures.—Lieutenant A. M. W. Whistler has forsaken us for Jubbulpore. He was very popular with all ranks in this Troop. We hear that the 4th Indian Divisional Signals—our neighbours—are having a hard task in trying to find a worthy

Lieutenant Whistler.

substitute for their cricket team. Corporal "Ginger" Rhodes has left us for posting to the Home Establishment. Both the Troop Lines and the Corporals' Mess seem a lot quieter nowadays, and two of the Junior 4th Div. N.C.O.s do not seem to be as bright as usual. The Babu of the Wet Canteen is seriously thinking about closing shop and a certain lovable little doggie is running around in circles. Good luck, "Ginger"! Lance Corporal Mudie has left us for Poona, to be a burden upon the C.S.O. in the official guise of a Clerk. He took a little trophy in a competition just before his departure, but as he is just a "young soldier" we won't tell you what it was.

Empty Saddles.—A time-honoured Troop custom of the Riding School states that a member of the ride "dismounting without permission, presumably to pick up a chip" is punished by having to stand drinks all round. As a result, the canteen bearer has applied for a rise of an extra five rupees per week. One member of this ride has a conscientious habit of quitting his stirrups at the walk, to give himself "a bending." Our ride provides entertainment for the remainder of the B.O.R.s every morning. The latter tell me that they didn't realise there were so many different ways of ridding oneself of a horse. Cowboy records are very popular in the Mess of late.

Further Sport.—The Troop Sports Inter-Section Competition has shown a wonderful keenness during January and February. The standard of play is very high, and some very good matches of hockey and basket ball have been fought out in a businesslike manner. As a result of this, we are anticipating a victorious result in our annual "needle" match with the 4th Indian Divisional Signals, which will take place on 25th February. The result of this match will be published in our next contribution to the WIRE; provided I am still in one piece.

The Troop hockey eleven have already played two games in the last two weeks. In one, we held St. John's (Secunderabad Club to a draw, 2—2, after a very hard-fought game. The other match, also against a civilian club—The Ready XI—we lost, 2—1, but we still thirst for a return match with these two clubs, and hope for the best.

At present, we are having a little trouble, owing to some of our best sportsmen being on annual furlough.

FOUR-BAR-C.

Naik Mohd Lall Khan.

There's a glut of cowboy records in the Mess;
You'll find western stories in our library;
Now we're looking for some pen-pals in the West,
'Cos we're riding on the ranges with the Four-Bar-C.

We have ordered ukeleles, guitars and jews' harps, too;
We have started harmonising, though it don't come easily;
We've asked Records for a fiddler, and the posting's going through,
'Cos we're riding on the ranges with the Four-Bar-C.

For sombreros we have topees, but of neckties we are bare;
And sheepskin chaps are lacking unhappily;
To stretch our horses right out, we use neither whip nor spur,
When we're riding on the ranges with the Four-Bar-C.

Like all good cowboy stories, we have our little row;
But we only shoot it out when playing hockey;
Still, just to keep things going, we ask "How's the Frontier now?"
Oh, those hard-boiled riding cowboys of the Four-Bar-C.!

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OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

What does it mean ?

Egypt Signals.

No. 1 Company.

February.

General.—The month has arrived, and in our haste we take up scrubbers, mops and buckets to dig out all the 1937 dust, spiders, etc. It is the annual Spring clean, and we have also heard that the inspection is to take place on 1st April. (Nuff said.)

Schemes.—A few members of the Company proceeded to Bahariya on the 3rd for the purpose of testing sun compasses.

Moves.—The following moves have taken place: To H.Q., B.T.E.: Signalmen Potts, Stokes, Arthur, Fursman, Chambers, Reading, Coxhill, Searle, Ascott, Caveneny and Jones-Humphreys. From H.Q., B.T.E.: Signalmen Clements, Burr, Freeth, Johnston and Parsons. To Polygon W/T Station: Signalmen Ross and Hargreave. To Moascar: Signalman Wallace. From Moascar: Signalman Duke. To Alexandria: Signalman Johns. Lance Corporal Ross to Company Office from Unit Office. Lance Corporal Roberts to pay duties for the Company.

Birth.—Congratulations to C.S.M. and Mrs. Hobbs on the birth of a son, Michael George, at the Military Families Hospital, on 1st March.

ONECOY.

"K.s" Mobile Stew Shop.

No. 3 Company.

February.

General.—On 14th February, "K" Section proceeded to Moascar to join the Canal Brigade for annual training, returning on 25th February. During the first week, the wireless cars gave R/T demonstrations to the infantry battalions that form the Brigade. The remainder of the Section were employed on desert driving over the Scheme areas.

This year, Canal Brigade training consisted of one Night Scheme on the night of the 17th/18th, and a five-day Scheme, which began on the 21st, and terminated on the 25th, taking place in the Gebel Iweibed area.

An incident which caused consternation to some, proved humorous to others, and drew forth praise from the rest, was the capture of two prisoners on the morning of the 24th. After their interrogation at Brigade H.Q., they awaited their opportunity, and then made their escape in a truck loaded with rations, petrol, etc., and upon which was mounted a machine gun. They were eventually recaptured on the Cairo-Suez road

"J" Section proceeded to El-Rebequi Camp on the 22nd to join the Cairo Brigade for annual training. News is not yet to hand as to what novel experiences they are meeting with this year.

In the Soup.

Fayid Camp. Through by R/T to Cairo.

Yon Cassius hath a lean and hungry air.

Arrivals.—On 10th February a draft of about 100 other ranks arrived. They were promptly allotted to Sections and initiated into the method of handling vehicles on the desert. This draft have become known as the " Beacon Boys." We wonder what name will be accorded to the next one.

Departures.—Nil. But they are still hoping.

Birth.—To Corporal and Mrs. Main, a daughter. Congratulations !

Who's Who, No. 5.—Hails from Liverpool, average height and build, an operator by trade, and represents his Section in both hockey and football. A good swimmer—in fact, an all-round athlete. His only drawback is one continuous " tick." Who is it?

We Want to Know.—Which " Beacon Boy " stroked his chin and said, " I'm going to the Dhobi's for a shave " ?

Agony.—Busty would like just one line from Signalman Boyd at Tientsin, provided that he is not too busy dodging bullets.

"X" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Cairo.

Data.—We have not yet found the exact range of the No. 1 Set using the " Wyndham " aerial, but communication was successfully established from El-Arish to Alexandria and Cairo to Akaba (approximately 250 miles), also Cairo to Hurghada (approximately 300 miles) during reconnaissances. Unfortunately, we were not successful when testing out with England. This was probably due to some technical hitch. Anyhow, don't let this damp the hopes of future enthusiasts.

Diet.—An evil brew was well demonstrated on the "Abbassia Argus " Scheme by " Grannie " and " Tich." After using water for the " pea warming " process, add four spoons of tea and one of sugar. Stand for five minutes and serve as " tea " ; sugar and milk to taste !

Our latest rissole recipe is " Galantine " (one bully and six eggs), or have you improved on it, Buck ? Mother Gray says, "Add a little grated cheese and you loose that ' M. and V.' flavour."

"Angus " gravy consists of boiling fat, water and flour. Can also be used externally. Directions as for Harlene.

Things to Come.—Part two inspection, sundry kits, stripped equipment, drill parades ; not to mention the Command Scheme.

Things to Go.—Amongst other things, our old sets—maybe.

Guess.—" Fall out on the right No. 1 Set operators and the special employed."

Arrivals.—The usual manicured hand to Corporal Hartard G., Signalmen Mawdsley E. and Russell W., Drivers (I.C.) Brown B., Cray A., McIver D. and Newton D.

Apology.—For failing to welcome our new F-of-S, C.Q.M.S. Homan. To C.Q.M.S. Jarvis also, the very best on his appointment as Egyptian Army Instructor.

Radio Notes.—Radio SU1GT is still flourishing, fellow hams, although conditions on the ether have been anything but encouraging. However, SU1GT is not worrying. During the past season we have worked our greatest dx., namely, New Zealand, and we only want both American Continents for W.A.C. With the approach of summer and the slack season, thoughts have turned to re-building and a little more power. We will have that W.A.C. The aerial system is also being altered slightly. A second pole is to be erected and a triangular array put up. The second aerial, we are hoping, will be directional for the American Continents. We have not heard any of the Signal Units in England yet, but are still hoping. As regards the Units in India, there is a different tale. VU2FX and VU2AU are coming in well—both of them 569.

We would appreciate a little data from those Blighty Units, with special reference to the calls and frequencies, etc. How about it you G's ? You can find us any night on 14,006 k/cs, except Sundays.

Comments.—Who thought a " Black Maria " was a Sudanese Bint ?

Who went into the engine room with a sardine tin ?

Buck has retired from the track because he is too old, and also intends to write a series of articles with the object of helping young enthusiasts ?

Please, oh please, find another place for that chewing gum !

Drama.—The room was silent and deserted ; its emptiness seemed to accentuate its proportions and give only an impression of high-raftered bleakness.

Seated on a rude iron cot in one corner was its sole occupant. His body was crouched and tense ; the white knuckles of his clenched hands seemed about to burst through the taut skin. The eyes that gazed seemingly at nothing, conveyed only agony and despair. His whole demeanour gave the impression of someone fighting a losing battle against some insidious drug. Dicky was Room Orderly, and " Cookhouse " had blown.

CHASMAN.

Delta Area A.A. Signal Section.

Sidi Bishr, Alexandria.

2nd March.

Introduction.—The Section left Blackdown for Egypt on 28th January. The trip out, except for the first day or two, was a pleasant one. Although very much in the minority, the Section took part in all the ship's contests. Signalman Bland was easily the best welter in the boxing contest, putting up a very good show. Signalman Carty also did well, but was unlucky with the verdict.

There was much regret when we did arrive at Alexandria. In fact, I think the lads had begun to believe they were on a pleasure cruise, especially when a certain Driver asked for the billiards room and other things of the same category. Indeed, I was beginning to believe it myself. I can certainly recommend the cabins on the *California*.

On arrival in Alexandria, on Sunday, 6th February, we boarded a train for Sidi Bishr, a journey of about ten miles. The Section then proceeded to dig themselves into the sand and settle down to soldiering. Three weeks have passed since all this happened, and now some of the lads profess to know more about Arabic than the Egyptians themselves.

General.—The rate of exchange—97.5 piastres to the £—is still the same as in 1921, so we have been informed.

We welcome as O.C., Lieutenant H. N. Crawford, of Display Team fame, and hope to do big things under his guiding hand.

We should like to thank " Mr. Records " for the two capable operators he has given us.

Someone once said it doesn't rain in Egypt. I'd like to meet that individual. We had only been here a week, when we had some of the heaviest rain possible. Two days afterwards we had another storm. Although this time it didn't rain, we had all our work cut out to hold the Section office tent to the ground. However, we survived it, but remember the sand we had for dinner and tea. Needless to say, we shall be prepared for the next.

Heard in Camp.—What is a Suplex and Dimplex ? How would you change over eternally ? Does the " I.C." after driver stand for " I can't " ? What happened to " Bertha " ?

Agony.—Mike, Blackdown. " Mary, Alice and Victoria are still waiting at the old address."

Taff to Eccles, Northern Ireland Signal Section. " What about a line ? Robbo."

Freddie 17E. " Julietta as usual. Jock."

S.J.M.

Palestine Force Signals.

Headquarters.

Talavera Barracks, Jerusalem.

Introductory.—Once again I pick up my pen in an endeavour to tell the world something about the Headquarters of this Unit. We are tucked away here in the Holy Land carrying on the good work that our predecessors commenced.

" Johnny Arab " is still causing considerable worry in the Haifa area (so our D.R.s tell us), but Jerusalem is comparatively quiet. We do not know whether it is the shortage of tins—Maconachie, petrol or biscuit—that is holding up the bomb supply, or whether our contractor, Monsieur le Bon Ghoolam Naby, has put in a good word for us, but these annoyances are on the decline. It is hoped that Scale "A" will soon be removed, as several individuals, notably from H.Q. barrack-room, prefer to go " sheikhing " alone. Personally, I'm rather bored at playing gooseberry.

Arrivals.—We welcome back to the fold members of the first leave party (remnants of the " Pioneers "), who arrived, per H.T. *Dilwara*, on 31st January. They all look very robust, and are full of smiles. It seems that Cupid has been very busy during December of last year ; in fact, quite a number of N.C.O.s are awaiting a tour at Scarborough.

Weather Reports.—The rains are still with us. The barrack-area nowadays reminds some of the " young hands " of Flanders in '14. Gum boots have been the order of the day, and all being well, some of the lucky ones may get an issue (on the day book only, mark you) of an oil-skin *avec* sou'wester—when the storeman is not wearing it.

Sport.—This will occupy very little space, as the weather has curtailed outdoor pastimes during the past few months. Still, on fine days, numerous games of football and a spot or two of hockey have been played. Reports on each branch of sport will, no doubt, appear in print in the near future.

Things We Must Know.—Which D.R. reported " sick " with deafness, and returned from the M.I. Room with "Attend ' C ' " and a diagnosis of " cold on chest " ? Oh, " Fanny " !

Which very young Driver (I.C.) said that he was going to vulcanise his cylinder head ?

Jews' Mail.—Will Signalmen Dawson and Downing please drop a line (not a brick) to 2323880 (" Tinger's " Squad ? Note : Air mail is now reduced to a modest 1½d.)

Conclusion.—Until next month, adieu ! We hope, and rather expect, a great change will have taken place by then ; sorry, but nothing official yet.

BUCK.

Headquarters Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

If my memory serves me correctly, these notes appearing under the above heading are the initial issue, since Signals became part of the Garrison. Well, readers, a real live Mess has commenced to function, and although in senior ranks our numbers are small, the Mess strength has now been considerably augmented by the attachment of Sappers and fiddlers of the " Nuts and Bolts." At the moment, our membership amounts to thirteen, and here they are : C.S.M. Tebby C. ; C.Q.M.S. Boon ; Sergeants Crouch and Miles ; Lance Sergeants Litchfield ; Corporals Beardmore, Perfect, Vigurs, Vize, Lane, Weller, Honor and Lavender. Sergeant Halls and Corporal Barwick are, at the moment, on leave in the U.K. The following are the attachments from the R.E.s : W.O.s, Class 1, Goodwin and Hayward ; Q.M.S. Lovell ; Staff Sergeant Pettitt ; Sergeants Carr, Clouther, Buckley and McKee. From the R.A.S.C. we have S.Q.M.S. Simpson ; Sergeants Robinson, Palmer and Elliott ; Corporals Williams and Dowson.

And so, for a fine crowd, we had to have a fine Mess. Considerable activity on the part of local labour has now produced a spick and span home for lonesome husbands. " Coo ! " sez Dick to " Reg."

With the Sappers came the indoor game of " Monopoly," and can't we just " Monop." Dealing in thousands, we buy and sell to our heart's content. Take a chance ; advance to " Go " ; and " Go to h——," says " Trev," as the dice decides his fate.

A word for the Messing Committee—one hundred per cent. gentlemen. As for our dusky chef—well—I can foresee trouble and strife if the absent wives of our married members cannot produce puff pastry of the same category.

Two words about the families. This is from Dick to " Vic " (somewhere in Blighty)—confidentially, mind you. They are coming out on or about 28th March. You should hear them around the fire. Oh for a spot of Hore-Belisha and your broad shoulder to lean upon.

Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Boon on attaining that rank, and a hearty welcome to Mrs. Boon and family—all from Egypt Signals late December. Social activities in the Mess will, no doubt, be enlarged upon once the remaining families join this Station.

Major R. R. A. Darling, Royal Signals, has recently joined Headquarters, via No. 3 Section, Sarafand. We hope, sir, to accord you a very hearty welcome in the Mess when the opportunity arises.

FOUR BY TWO.

No. 3 Section, Sarafand

Departures and Arrivals.—We are very sorry to lose Capt. F. R. B. Moore, Royal Signals, who was posted to Bulford. Major R. R. A. Darling, Royal Signals, arrived from Canterbury on 14th January.

On first arriving in Palestine, we scoffed lightly at the tales of those before us. However, we have learnt much, and will, accordingly, pass on their words of wisdom. Work has been the theme song of the Section, and I must needs speak of the deeds which are spoken of in hushed whispers from Hebron to Samakh—of the waiting and the watching—the sound of whistles—much rushing to and fro, and away to some outlandish spot with blankets, truck and Set. We could tell you little of the scenery, but many and colourful have been the descriptions of Palestine mud !

Football.—There have been few games of football, and those played have resulted favourably for us. Two matches played with our neighbours—No. 2 Wireless Company—resulted in a victory (5—0) and a defeat (1—2). In the first match our opponents were much under strength. We hope to have many more enjoyable games with them.

SMALL UNITS TOURNAMENT.—The first match, against the Ordnance Corps, was won by us with a score of 8—1 ; a sound victory. In the second round, we had a bye and are now hopefully awaiting the next match.

Rugby.—Rugby is a game that only few of the Section play, but we hope to raise a team and sally forth to meet the foe.

Next month we hope to publish a more detailed account of our sports activities.

Wurse.—

The whistles blew—
The standby group
With pencil, pad and gun,
Rode bravely on to they knew not what,
And the rain poured down from above.

Onward they went,
Their aerials bent
With the strain of the work being done ;
Not a murmur was heard o'er the muddy earth,
As the rain poured down from above.

The job was done,
The battle won ;
That week they'd had enough—
Unshaven, unwashed, with boots full of mud—
The rain stopped—and out came the sun.

Stop Press.—" Will the Ringer " is reported moving somewhere north of the New Forest.

Riddle.—Nero again—or a second Kreisler. Who is it ?

Training.—When we are not holding 'em back in the north, we indulge in individual training. We rise briskly at an hour when all is still, and, with optimistic outlook, set forth with greatcoat, flag and lamp stand.

Most of the Section have returned, wet and bedraggled from service under very bad conditions. They repair at once to the canteen and stagger to bed even more wet and bedraggled ! A great amount of work has been done and much experience gained in this last month ; in fact, we have seen very little of Sarafand at all. However, the rains are stopping and the sun rises higher in the heavens, and so we are prepared. Kismet.

Congratulations.—To Lance Corporal Creed A. (an ex-boy, who throws a good dart), and to Lance Corporal Lovatt R. (of football fame), who have placed a foot on the golden ladder.

Postings.—We regret to announce the departure of Major R. R. A. Darling, Royal Signals, who had but a short stay with us, and has been posted to Jerusalem. We are pleased to welcome Lieutenant P. H. Smitherman, Royal Signals, who returned from leave in February, and has taken over the Section.

Sport.—We must apologise for the absence of Sports notes, but a detailed account will be published in next month's notes.

LANCELOT.

Malta Signal Section.

Command Signal Office, Valletta, Malta.

8th March.

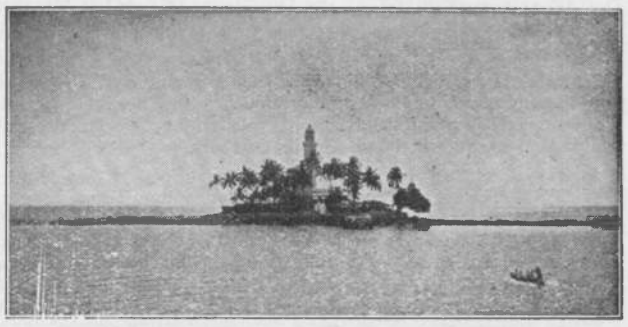
With the annual Carnival receding into the background, and the harbours innocent of any trace of the Fleet, Malta becomes a place of little event and sleeps quietly on until the next disturbance. As storms are fashionable this season, a really first-class effort was staged recently, resulting in a little extra work for our Empire builders. Poles in varying recumbent attitudes are a fine sight on a Monday morning, and it is better still to step out of bed into inches of water. Our house leaked considerably, which merely proves that a ventilator used as a dog kennel does not improve—as a ventilator. Even playing fields, four feet under water were, after much deliberation, declared unfit for play.

The tide seems to have turned, and we are anticipating an inward draft before the week is out. When the " skates " have completed the introductions we trust that they will settle on our block of stone and not miss the green fields too much.

The next change is the imminent departure to the United Kingdom of Lance Sergeant Keywood and family. We don't really believe this, but as his time gets shorter it seems to be true, so we must wish him *bon voyage* and happy landings.

Sergeant Clark is at present a very sick man in hospital, and we sincerely hope that our next report will be much more favourable. Speedy return, " Nobby," and let us see you getting " Younger " every day !

SKIP.



Malaya Signal Company.

Alexandra Detachment.

General.—Hullo, folks ! Alexandra Detachment calling from the jungle fastnesses of Malaya (shades of Tando). Sorry for missing last month, but have been taking advantage of the new air-mail service, which starts here on 2nd March.

An experimental " black-out " was held in the Alexandra area on the night of 27th January, and, being a Thursday, there was no escape to town. Anyway, we must thank the generosity of the canteen staff in sporting us one candle to lighten our darkness, so that we did not drink someone else's beer (or is it lemonade on a Thursday ?)

Well, well, well. What have we here ? Some terrible contraption rattling and clattering down the jungle trail ; probably some Chinese junk-wagon or else the ——. Oh, my ! If it isn't the pioneer wagon (sorry—" bus ") of the newly-formed Malayan Greenline Bus Company (Dixie and Co.). Regular services to Singapore or wherever you want to go, distance no object, so long as it isn't too far. Joking aside, we now have our own bus, and run regular services into Singapore during the week-end ; a great boon in this isolated place.

Arrivals.—The Company welcomes Major F. T. Pope, Royal Signals, who arrived here, per H.T. *Dunera*, on 22nd January. We hope your stay in Malaya will be an enjoyable one, sir. Major Pope has now taken over command of the Company.

Further Arrivals.—Still on their way, but we hope to give you more information next month. At present they are enjoying a cruise on that most luxurious of luxury liners—H.T. *Somersetshire*.

Departures.—We are sorry to announce the departure to U.K. of Signalman Seager, especially so now that the soccer season is just beginning. Last year he was one of the bulwarks of our defence, and his services will be greatly missed during the coming season. Won't you let us into the secret of how to wangle it, George ? Lance Corporal Maddison to Changi on an Upgrading Course with the R.A.O.C. Here's wishing you the best of luck, Bill. There are several waiting on their toes for 6th April (they had hoped to be away earlier). These include Sergeant Collins (medium-waves a speciality) ; Corporal (" Digger " of Atlantic crawl fame) Hubbard ; Corporal Taylor P. ; Signalmen Toogood and Mitchell. We are also losing Gunner Smith, R.A., who has been attached to us for W/T duties for over a year. The barrack-room will be the duller for your going, Smudge. Will you still tell of your travels when you get in the old village pub ?

Congratulations.—To Lance Sergeant Walker on attaining his third one. This has placed him amongst the " tuans " along the road, and lost to the canteen its most convivial member. To Lance Corporal Bellis (" Busty" of that ilk) on dispensing with the " U " and getting his name in the little Blue Book. Also to U/Lance Corporal Maddison on rising to that giddy height. Does that dog's leg drag much, Bill ?

Manœuvres.—The Annual Exercises were held from 2nd to 5th February, all the services taking part. Of course, Signals were well to the fore, especially during the preparations, which threw additional work on our already over-worked linemen. (They say it themselves, so it must be right.) Details of the

Scheme cannot be given, as the Official Secrets Act is much in prominence around here, but we can say that our fortress has again been proved impregnable. (We hope.)

Naval Base Opening.—This event took place on 14th February, the opening ceremony being performed by Sir Shenton Thomas, Governor of the Straits Settlements. Changi sent Signals representatives, so we will leave details to them.

Sport.—A return hockey match was played at Alexandra against Changi Signals on 14th January, and a very fast and thrilling game was witnessed. We must admit that Changi were by far the better team, keeping most of the play in our area, and around the twenty-five-yard line at that, but that was as far as they did get, and the full time came with no score. Extra time was then played, during which Changi broke straight through and scored. After this a ding-dong battle ensued, until within a few seconds of the end, our N.W.F. campaigner put in a smashing drive off a short corner, making a draw of 1—1.

The annual football match against Pulo Bukum was played by a combined "S. and D." team on 12th January; result, a draw, 2—2. On the outward crossing, a well-known member of the Royal Corps gave an excellent rendering of "A Channel Crossing," by Ikant Takit. Well done, Dixie! But what are you going to do when you go on a boat that really rolls?

Bits and Pieces.—One well-known scribe has already laid in a stock of material in preparation for the cheap air-mail. Tell us, Frank, what are you going to write about, and to whom?

Peckolini (B.H.B. la) can be seen with his chin out (hence the name) these days, but whether this is because his name has appeared in the local rag, or that it is the natural outcome of the "supermanity" Course he is on, we don't know.

The charging shop has at last been able to dispense with the services of "Flying Bertha." That monstrosity has been displaced by a high-speed alternator, which lulls us all to sleep by its steady hum.

We are glad to note the re-appearance of our old friend, Corporal Pearson, even though it is at the other end of our long-distance link. Say, Aggy boy, how about that letter you promised Paddy? And how does Catterick go down during the winter time? Wouldn't you just like to be "freezing" at about ninety above, or does the old carpet slippers attract you too much?

Things We Want to Know.—Which D.R. took an alarm clock with him on manœuvres?

Why does Frank want to re-muster as a D.R.? Was it something you saw in the Colonial Office?

SLIM (R.H.S. II).

Shanghai Signal Section

9th February.

General.—The Section continues to be fully occupied in carrying on the good work! During the last month the strength of the Section has increased tremendously, with the arrival of thirteen puppies (Peggy, six; and Duscha, seven). Those who departed from our midst in November should note that Signalman (Tiny) Abel received a Christmas hamper, which, we are sorry to relate, arrived a little overdue. Nevertheless, the English-made "Players" soon disappeared. Signalman Thomson completed his "pontoon" on 28th January. Congratulations, Spud!

Arrivals.—We have great pleasure in welcoming to the Section Lance Corporal Gibson (our new Supt.) and Signalman Clevely N. We hope that their stay will be a very happy one.

Marriages.—We congratulate Signalman French S. and Miss Ludmila Jivcovitch on their marriage, on 21st January, at H.B.M. Consulate-General.

Departures.—"Froggy" and "Joe," that is to say, Signalmen French S. and Lowe E., have left us, per H.T. *Dunera*. The former on repatriation (complete with bride), and the latter to complete his tour in Hong Kong, or, as he said, "To hold 'em back down there." Do you still think you'll get a "civvy" passage, Joe?

Agony.—Hoping the one concerned will read it! It was with deep regret that the writer of these notes heard from an ex-4th Divite, passing through on the way to Tientsin, that 2321698 Signalman Hindmarch A. E. (of "five-and-a-quarter-to-do" fame) was a married man. What happened, Jordy? Will exchange war news for the low-down. "Sunshine."

Special Note.—Our "swing" operator has purchased a new and, of course, very private key. Hong Kong can now prepare to hear some really hot rhythm over the air.

Sports.—Although the Section is not of sufficient strength to turn out full teams for all sports, we are proud to say that six members of the Section take their place in the Area Details hockey team. What is more, we hope that, with the assistance of our new forward (Signalman Clevely), we shall soon be occupying first place in the league once more.

Jews' Mail.—To Molly, Spike. "It wasn't Tientsin after all. But this is O.K., and ought to manage three after doing seven in that 'far-flung outpost.' All the best to you, Jack, and all the lads. Bill."

Radio.—During the last month, tests with Aldershot have been made with excellent results. As a matter of interest the transmitter used was of local pattern, the crystals being ground here to the various frequencies.

To Corps Hams.—Station XU8DI is on the air, and would be very pleased to DX India and Egypt. Skeds can be arranged through any XU8 radio station.

SIGS. SHAI.

Tientsin Signal Section.

December, 1937.

Introduction.—No doubt many of our readers, especially the former members of this Section, have wondered at the reason for our rare appearances in this Journal. As much as we should like to make a monthly appearance, lack of the necessary material to make a monthly contribution worth while prevents us doing so. However, we shall try our best to make these notes as interesting as possible, and hope that our readers will not be disappointed.

Topical.—The present unsettled state of affairs in this part of the world have probably set many of our readers wondering how we have been affected. It is rather a long topic to explain in detail, so we shall just give a brief account of the events.

The state of emergency lasted several months, and during that time we dealt with a very large amount of traffic; indeed, in one month we dealt with as much traffic that would normally have gone through in a six-months' working period. During the emergency, we appreciated very much the keen interest that our O.C.—Lieutenant G. Thomson—took in our work, and the long hours put in by our Foreman-of-Signals—Q.M.S. Paterson—in order to make our working conditions as easy as possible.

We were restricted to the British Concession for about ten days, but otherwise conditions were practically normal. There was a little excitement at the beginning of the trouble, due to aerial attacks at various points on the outskirts of Tientsin, but, taken all round, things were rather quiet, and, at the time of writing, conditions are quite normal again.

Before concluding this account of local affairs, we reproduce an extract from a letter sent by the G.O.C., China Command, with a few comments made by the Headquarters:

"Please inform the Signal personnel referred to in your letter CRTA No. 4883/S/Q, dated 26th July, 1937, that I am glad that they have carried out their duties so well, thereby earning the approbation of His Majesty's Ambassador's representative in Peking. I know that they can be relied on to continue to meet all demands made of them during this emergency."

Area H.Q., commenting on the above, wrote:

"The extract refers specifically to personnel in Peking, but owing to the frequent reliefs which take place between Peking and Tientsin, and the excellent work done by the Signal Section in Tientsin also, the Area Commander considers that the approbation referred to in the above extract is applicable to all Royal Corps of Signals personnel in this Area."

Technical.—It might interest former members of the Section to know that during the emergency period, we " worked " Hong Kong quite satisfactorily by the " Wall Set " on 19 metres.

Departures.—To the following, who sailed for the U.K. on the *Dilwara* on 9th December, we wish the best of luck, and hope that they will find every success at their new Stations : C.Q.M.S. Atkinson, Corporal Blanchard A. (Who said you could play darts, Tich ?), Lance Corporal Verlander F. (One more off " Ye Olde Gripp " list, Fred !), Signalmen Millar W. (On the straight and narrow now, Jock ?), Dempsey R. (No more kidnapping, Rip.), Stoner G. (You'll get your hands soiled now, Lofty), Throup C. (No qualms about your food now, we hope, Cecil), Foley T. (How about Chelsea now, Jim ?) and Green F. (Are you going to visit Albert, Dodger ?).

Arrivals.—We welcome the following to the Section, and hope that their stay will be an enjoyable and successful one : Sergeant Gresham H., Lance Corporals Murphy T. and Copsey H. E., Signalmen Blackman R., Brewster F., Charlish A., Lawson F., McDonald D. and Smith A. D. ; also to Sergeant McLachlan P., Signalmen Lander E. and Mullin J., who have been posted to the Peking Detachment. The welcoming hand is also extended to Signalman Boyd J., who arrived from Shanghai on 11th November.

Jews' Mail.—Austin (India). " Why is it that Pompey are doing the strong-man act in the league these days (holding all the others up) ? Tich and Jim."

Gripper. " How much now ? Mac."

Pip ("A" Corps). " Still busy ? Cop."

Conclusion.—Although rather belated, we wish all Stations, at Home and Abroad, a happy and prosperous New Year.

THE SENIOR VERLY.

[We apologise to our Tientsin correspondent for the regrettable delay in publishing the above contribution, which has been inadvertently overlooked.—ED.]

Soccer.—The Staff and Departmentals' soccer team is again heading for another successful season. The team won the 2nd Division League Championship last season and, so far, for this season, they hold the top position in the League, details of which are published below :

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals. F.	A.	Pts.
Staff and Departmentals ..	7	7	0	0	25	3	14
" D " Coy., 1st Lancs. Fusiliers	7	4	1	2	14	7	10
" B " Coy., 1st Lancs. Fusiliers	7	2	1	4	11	14	8
" C " (S.) Coy. ,, ,, ..	5	3	1	1	10	8	7
" H.Q." Wing ,, ,, ..	7	2	3	2	10	11	6
Tientsin Association F.C. ..	7	1	3	3	11	20	5
Russian Sporting Organisation	6	0	2	4	2	20	4

The League results so far are :

v. " B " Coy., 1st Lancashire Fusiliers	Won	3—2
v. " C " (S.) Coy., ,, ,, , ...	Won	2—0
v. " H.Q." Wing, ,, ,, , ...	Won	1—0
v. Tientsin Association F.C.	Won	5—0
v. Russian Sporting Organisation	Won	10—1
v. " D " Coy., 1st Lancashire Fusiliers	Won	2—0
v. " B " Coy., ,, ,, , ...	Won	2—0

Results of friendly matches are :

v. French Army	Won	1—0
v. H.M.S. *Grimsby*	Won	4—3

The Signals representatives in the Staff and Departmentals soccer team are : Signalmen Verlander E. J. (centre-half and captain), Banham D. (left back), Welchman (goal) and Hopcratf J. (forward), who has made several appearances in the team.

Hockey.—The season has just commenced, and, up to the present, the Staff and Departmentals team, although not definitely settled yet, show promise of being amongst the leaders in the League ; in fact, several ardent supporters think the team will win the League. This remains to be seen. Three friendly matches have been played with the following results :

v. Tientsin Club	Won	4—2
v. Tientsin Club	Won	6—1
v. 1st Battalion, Lancashire Fusiliers	Lost	2—3

By the time that these notes appear, the Hockey League will be in full swing, and we shall be able to publish some of the results in our next notes.

The Signals will probably be very well represented in the team this season. The following have already played in the friendly matches : Lieutenant G. Thomson (outside right), Sergeant Lockyer (goal), Sergeant Gresham (right back), Lance Corporal Murphy (inside right), Signalmen Verlander (certre forward), Welchman (centre half), Hopcraft (outside left), McDonald (goal) and Brewster (outside left).

Before concluding we should like to mention that in the U.K. draft, which left here in November, we lost several good all-round sportsmen, namely, Lance Corporal Verlander F. and Signalman Foley ; a big loss to both the soccer and hockey teams ; and Corporal Blanchard and Signalman Green, who will both be missed from the hockey team. We regret losing these sportsmen, and hope that they will find every success on the sports field at their new Stations.

February.

General.—Everything is so peaceful in this corner of the globe that it is going to be a job to try to fill up this gap. Still, where there's a will, there's a way ; so here we go.

Presentations and farewell parties have been much in evidence of late, due to the fact that the 15th U.S. Infantry are leaving Tientsin on 2nd March. Detachments of foreign troops and bands will be at the station to see them off, and probably half the female population, too. We shall not be quiet for long, as they are being replaced by two Companies of Marines from Peking.

We are steeling ourselves at the moment for an invasion by the crew of H.M.S. *Lowestoft*, which is anchored at Tanku. They have not yet sent word along, but there should be much of interest for our notes next month.

The Junior Staff Mess tried a new experiment in connection with their fortnightly whist drives. The whist was followed by twelve cards of " House " (with Nobby at the helm). The innovation proved a success. The only snag is that the seniors seemed to win all the prizes.

With the advent of a spot of warmer weather, fur caps have been discarded, and by the time that these notes appear we, shall be about in shorts, complete with tennis racquet.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Hughes and Marshall arrived from Canterbury. We extend a hearty welcome to them, although by now they are quite old hands. Corporal Hall, complete with dog and sleeping music. Signalmen Harrop, Keene and Little arrived here from Peking to spend their last months in China.

Departures.—Signalmen Smith and Hughes have proceeded to Peking, and by this time should be doing some work !

Veterinary.—Our zoo has been depleted by the loss of one duck, a canary and a dog. Strange to say, the day after we found that the duck was missing we had duck for dinner. Queer !

Sport.—We are reserving the sports notes for next month, when, once again, we hope to be able to say we have won anothe Cup.

Things We Want to Know.—Who is teaching who Mah Jong

Agony.—" Congrats, Ben, on the second Cop."

MATA HARI.

THE TERRITORIALS AND SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

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

On 23rd February the Annual Meeting of the Signals Association, Old Comrades, Westminster Branch, was held at these Headquarters. The meeting was preceded by a lecture on the "History of Signals" by the Commanding Officer, followed by a film display and a smoking concert. There was a record attendance and a most enjoyable time was spent. We were pleased to welcome so many Old Comrades, and we were honoured to receive a message from the Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal.

The Royal Flying Corps, Wireless Operators' Old Comrades' Association has been good enough to present a trophy to the Unit for competition among operatars, and we very much appreciate the spirit of comradeship which has promoted this action. We are always pleased to see them at our social functions.

A successful dance was held on 12th March, when the final competitions for the Cup took place.

Technical work is being continued in connection with the new apparatus, and interesting trials are ahead.

The Unit has again reached full strength after being practically doubled in establishment.

CENTIGRADE.

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals Cadet Company.

The Company continues to grow under the enthusiastic guidance of Captain Pitt Keithley, and Tuesday evenings are a feature at Headquarters, when the Cadets are drilling. Every encouragement is given by the parent T.A. Unit and we hope that the Company will soon be well on the road to full strength.

Recruits are welcomed between the ages of 12 to 18. The Scottish uniform is proving a great attraction.

P. K.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Manchester.

Recruiting.—We are now 20 per cent. over establishment and have a large waiting list. Perhaps the War Office will give us another 10 per cent.

Equipment.—We are now receiving new equipment, including the new cable layers, wireless sets, etc.

Divisional Dinner.—Twenty-five officers of this Unit attended the Annual Dinner of the 42nd Divisional Dinner Club at the Midland Hotel on Friday, 11th March. The guest of honour was the Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill, P.C., M.P.

Training.—A T.E.W.T. was held during the week-end 12th-13th March. On Saturday, a conference was held at which the C.O. (Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Delaney) explained the whole Scheme, going through all the points affecting the working of the Divisional Signals. On Sunday, we proceeded to the actual ground on which the Scheme had been based. Each officer then took up his respective position, and was given an opportunity of testing out in theory what would happen in actual practice. This was an instructive week-end, as this method of training had never been tried out so thoroughly. In addition, everybody was able to get an idea of the arrangements by attendaing each of the Conferences, where the working role of the imaginary C.S.O. right down to the Infantry Brigade Signal Officer was covered. The weather was beautiful, making the week-end one of the best for some time.

Congratulations.—To Colonel W. S. Ashley on his appointment to that rank on the Active List of the T.A.

Camp.—As mentioned previously, we are going to camp at Holyhead, and the time for our departure is now drawing closer. Training is in full swing, and everybody is looking forward to that event. We hope to be up to full strength in officers and men when we do go.

Agony Column.—Which officer got the Unit scribe into trouble by asking him to take home two dozen empties?

Where are the Unit maps? Is it true that a certain officer papers his garage with them?

OLD COMRADES' REUNION.

The sixth Annual Meeting and Supper was held at the Carlton Restaurant, Manchester, on 5th March, when over eighty members and friends met to renew old friendships, and to talk over their war-time experiences.

At the business meeting, Mr. H. Willcock, D.C.M. (Chairman of the Committee), and Mr. P. E. Parker (Secretary and Treasurer) presented their reports and the Statement of Accounts, both of which were unanimously approved.

The President, Col. R. S. Newton, M.C., D.L., A.M.I.E.E., and the Vice-Presidents, Major A. Roberts, M.C., Lieutenant-Colonel G. N. Robinson, T.D., Major P. C. Flether, M.C., J.P., and Captain T. G. Halsall, were re-elected, with the addition of Colonel W. S. Ashley and Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Delaney (Honorary Vice-Presidents). The Committee was thanked for its services, and the members were again elected.

Before the members sat down to an excellent Hot-Pot, the room was darkened, and the President recited the names of those of the 42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signal Company, R.E., who had lost their lives in the Great War. After a brief pause, a Royal Signals trumpeter sounded the "Last Post," "Reveille," and the "Cookhouse" call.

The task of proposing the health of the President was ably carried out by Mr. J. Rhodes, who referred to the President's long service in the Volunteers and Territorial Army, and also to the fact that the old Volunteer spirit of comradeship was still present amongst them all.

In his reply, Colonel Newton welcomed all old comrades, particularly those who had travelled from London, Yorkshire and from other long distances. "We all had," he said, "intense pride in our service in the old Signal Company, and, notwithstanding that nineteen years had elapsed since it dissolved at Charleroi, there remained an amazing bond of friendship between all the old members, whatever their rank." He congratulated their new Vice-President, Colonel Ashley, on the success of his five years' command, and also Lieutenant-Colonel Delaney on succeeding to the command of 42nd Divisional Signals, which had such a high reputation. The Unit strength was 20 per cent. over its Establishment, and was the first Unit in the Division to apply for permission to enlist up to 30 per cent. over Establishment. Colonel Newton expressed his sincere appreciation of the distinction accorded to him in his capacity as President.

The guests included: Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Delaney, Major E. R. Sutton, Captain T. A. H. Lea, M.M., Lieutenant (Q.M.) J. McVittie, R.S.M. Brooks A., C.S.M. Whittington G. and Sergeant Etheridge H. Their health was proposed by Mr. J. Mallalieu, D.C.M., and acknowledged by Lieutenant-Colonel Delaney, who spoke of the inspiration which the old Company was to the present Unit. He invited old members to visit the Unit at their Camp at Holyhead, adding that he would do all he could to entertain them.

R. S. N.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Editorial.—The main event during the past month was the annual Officers' Regimental Dinner, which was held at the South Western Hotel, Southampton. Twenty officers of the

Unit were present, and a very hearty welcome was accorded to the following guests: General Sir George D. Jeffreys, K.C.B., K.C.V.O., C.M.G., A.D.C.; Major-General B. B. Crozier, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.; Colonel A. C. Sykes, D.S.O., O.B.E.; Brevet-Colonel the Lord Basing (Hon. Colonel); and Colonel Humphrey, Secretary, Hampshire T.A. Association.

Training progresses steadily, and all ranks are eagerly looking forward to the longer evenings, so that full advantage can be taken of outdoor training. As we go to press, the first of two passing-out tests for recruits is taking place, and, in addition, the operators' trade tests are expected shortly. We hope for great results in regard to the latter.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

York Street Drill Hall, Devonport.

Training.—Operators are working up their speeds in anticipation of the Trade Tests. Lectures and other technical training have also been given them. On 14th February the P.S.I. gave another lecture on Procedure, and on the 21st 2nd Lieutenant G. D. Herbert gave his first lecture on Wireless, which was followed by a second one on 10th March. Both of these lectures were attended with keen interest.

Social.—A Territorial Officers' Ball, which was held in the Plymouth Guildhall on 24th February, proved a very successful and enjoyable event. Officers from the Company who attended were: Major W. J. L. Cornelius, Lieutenants P. W. Shaw and G. K. S. Edwards, and 2nd Lieutenants R. D. Nash, R. W. Fennamore and A. L. Farr.

Another successful social function was the 223rd Battery, R.A., Ball at the Tavistock Town Hall, on 2nd March, which was attended by Major W. J. L. Cornelius, Lieutenant G. K. S. Edwards and 2nd Lieutenant R. W. Fennamore.

We were pleased to see Signalman Close T. W., home on leave from Aldershot. He seems to be surviving the "rigours" of the Regulars successfully.

Through the kindness of the Public Relations Department, G.P.O., London, the Travelling Film Unit gave us an excellent show at the Drill Hall, on 7th March. The line-laying episodes were inclined to make "B" Cable personnel envious!

ONECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

No. 2 Company.

Drill Hall, Gloucester Road, Brighton.

General.—Well, dear readers, the time has arrived for the next edition, so sit back in your favourite armchair, feet on the mantelpiece (if the wife is not around), whilst I relate the activities of this Company.

Training.—The past month has been one of considerable progress in all branches of training. The various classes are now well under way, and one notes with pleasure the keenness displayed by the recruits. We shall soon have to sort out the chaff from the grain and concentrate on those who are most fitted to appear before the Trade Board, which takes place before camp. The Recruits' Classes are showing great promise, and it is hoped that by the time camp arrives, our strength of operators and linemen will be greatly increased. To encourage the recruits in their training, the O.C., Captain Freer-Ash, is going to present a Cup to the recruit who obtains the highest number of marks.

Entertainments.—On 10th February we held a smoking concert in order to encourage the family feeling amongst all members of this Company. Most of the lads were late in arriving, but they made up for it by bringing in a good many friends when they did. Everyone enjoyed themselves immensely. This is the first of a series of monthly concerts, and I foresee that we shall have a busy time in store for us. Our O.C., Captain Freer-Ash, and Lieutenant Ross were present, and I think they enjoyed themselves, too.

A Scheme followed during the morning after the night before, but I did not see anyone with that nasty effect which often follows these hectic nights. It was very nice to hear the pleasant remarks made regarding the Smoker. We want to make the next one a still greater success, so let's see a greater gathering next time.

Scheme.—A Paid Scheme was held on Sunday, 20th February. About 40 per cent. of the Company was present. The usual work was carried out. All recruits, under C.S.M. Trower, came for recruit training. After the work was finished, we all returned to the Drill Hall, where a presentation of the Efficiency Medal was made to Sergeant Fowler R. This medal is awarded to the N.C.O. or man who completes twelve successive camps. Sergeant Fowler is to be congratulated for this wonderful achievement. Well done, "Reg."!

Another Scheme is being held on the 13th of this month, in the vicinity of Lewes, and by the look of things, it is going to be put over in a big way. We shall have more to tell you about it next month.

Promotions.—We heartily congratulate Lance Corporal Dunn on obtaining his second tape. Another rung up the ladder of fame.

Obituary.—We extend our sincere condolences to Sergeant Williams A. on the death of his mother. He may rest assured that he has the deepest sympathy of his comrades in his great loss.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to Signalmen Spidey, Herriott A. L. and Golding. May their stay with us be a long and happy one.

Departures.—During the last month or so, the Regulars have obtained from this Company four of our members, Signalmen Burn, Feldwicke, Murray and Nash. We all wish them success in their new venture.

Musketry.—We have at long last commenced our Miniature Range firing practice. Owing to the fact that our Range no longer exists, we are now using the Artillery Range at Church Street. When our team has had more practice, we shall commence our competition firing with the various Units in Brighton. Our first will be a return shoot with the 4th Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment. They will be out for revenge as we had previously beaten them by over 150 points.

Howler.—When a Telephone Detachment were laying lines out in a rural district, one of the linemen noticed an elderly gentleman earnestly examining a piece of the wire. "Everything all right, Dad?" asked the lineman. The old chap replied, "Where's the hole that lets the sound through, mister?"

Calling Wana Signals.—So you have arrived safe and sound, Peter. All the boys wish to be remembered to you. Don't forget to let us know how you are getting on. All the best, Peter.

Lost, Stolen or Strayed.—Once upon a time, in a rural district of Sussex, a Section, known to all and sundry as the 226th A.F.A. Section, suddenly appeared in our midst. Now this Section recruited twenty good men and true, under the guidance of a certain old warrior named "Basher." Later on, dear readers, a "Shepherd" was appointed to tend to this flock. Owing to the increase of his flock, a new Section was formed, namely, 227th A.F.A. Section, under the careful eye of our "Mac." If anyone knows the whereabouts of their scribe, will they let us know?

NIMROD.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

We must apologise for the absence of our notes in the March number, which was due to them being handed in too late for despatch. We can only hope that the Editor will be able to find sufficient accommodarion for this month's notes, which are somewhat inflated in consequence.

The comments in another column of the February WIRE have not escaped attention. We are sorry if there exists a feeling that the D.R.s' activities have been given predominance over other Unit activities. We will endeavour to correct this in future, although it is not always possible for one to be kept adequately informed of every event that occurs. We suggest that a little co-operation in this direction would be helpful.

We heartily support Barleux's suggestion regarding the sale of the WIRE ; every member of the Unit should buy a copy. It might be mentioned that a move in this direction has already been made by myself during the past three months, and that in future THE WIRE will be obtainable either from me or from the R.S.M. at 7d. per copy.

Officers' Annual Military Ball.—One of the most popular events in military circles in Birmingham is the Royal Signals Officers' Ball, which took place this year, as in other years, at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham. The room was tastefully decorated in flowers in Royal Signals colours, which greatly enhanced the picturesque scene which presented itself whilst dancing was in progress. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Birmingham were among the 275 guests, and the assembly also included : Major-General S. S. Butler, the Divisional Commander ; Brigadier O. D. Smallwood, O.C. Troops in Birmingham ; General McCalmont, the Hon. Colonel of the Unit ; Colonel Sir Bertram J. T. Ford, the former Hon. Colonel ; and the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel P. H. Jones, M.C.

Sergeants' Mess Notes.—In future, Sergeants' Mess notes will be reported with the collaboration of R.Q.M.S. Barlow (Barleux), whom I have to thank for relieving me of part of the task of compiling adequate notes of all Unit topics.

Boxing.—Anyone visiting the Drill Hall on Thursday nights would be rather surprised to find it a hive of activity, to the accompaniment of dull thuds, heavy breathing and a reek of embrocation. That will be our newly-founded " Boxing Club " in action. Stuffed kit-bags do splendid service for punch-balls, and burly instructors, clad in white samite, and armed with towels and sponges attend to bleeding noses and other inevitable minor damages. Training is being taken as a serious matter, as is indicated by a marked drop in bar receipts in the Men's Canteen. The immediate object is to raise a boxing team, which could give a good account of itself in representing the Unit at Boxing Tournaments in the Command. We wish the Boxing Club every success, and congratulate them on their good progress. (See Sports Notes.)

Unit Dinner.—An important event which has never to our knowledge before taken place, will be the Dinner to all ranks which the Commanding Officer is giving on 19th March. This will be a very special occasion, and a 100 per cent. attendance is anticipated. To make the function a true family gathering, the entertainment will be provided by home talent under the title of " Discoveries," compered by R.Q.M.S. Barlow.

Answers to correspondents : No, this concert will not be broadcast by the B.B.C.

The " Suggestions and Complaints Box " in the Sergeants' Mess is not the original Joanna Southcott box. It will be opened long before the present committee are all dead. It is not intended as a contribution to the anti-litter campaign.

Bed-time story : " Peace in the Henroost." We read that an American Company is reported to be engaged in producing aluminium blinkers designed to fit over the beaks of hens, so as to prevent accurate aim when trying to pick feathers from the tails of their rivals. There is no truth in the rumour that this equipment was used by some of our musketry experts last year.

Officers' Invitation Supper to the W.O.s and Sergeants.—Evidence of the good fellowship which exists between the Officers and Sergeants of this Unit was again afforded at the Annual Supper, which took place in the Drill Hall on 29th January. This has undoubtedly become the one event in the year most eagerly awaited by both parties concerned, providing, as it does, an opportunity for informal discussion, which is not always possible on other occasions. On this occasion the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel P. H. Jones, M.C., had the satisfaction of presiding over a large and representative gathering of his officers, W.O.s and Sergeants.

In his address, the C.O. described the event as " a family affair," which gave him the only opportunity of the year of recounting the events, past, present and future. " We have all had our ups and downs," he said," and had arrived at a time when the T.A. had at last been emphatically put on the map, being now directly represented on the Army Council. The question was, were we now fit to take on this added responsibility. It was necessary to follow the example of the Regular Army, where every man was trained, if need be, to take the next step forward. It was no use having a job unless one was efficient enough to do it well, and this could only be achieved by great personal effort."

It was very pleasing to note that the Unit was placed 14th among all the T.A. Units in the country in the *Daily Telegraph* Cup last year, which meant that we had gone to Camp over 100 per cent. strong. We had also taken third place in the County of Warwick for the " Fairfax Lucy " Cup.

There has been a marked advance in technical efficiency among all ranks, thanks to the hard work by the Adjutant, Major Bartlett, and the Permanent Staff. He took the opportunity of congratulating the former on his recent promotion, and also Brevet-Major F. E. B. Jones, who, during the past twelve months, had been selected for the honour of commanding the Coronation Contingent.

In referring to the various new activities within the Unit, the C.O. paid tribute to Captain R. M. Chatterley, who, with the assistance of Sergeants Portman and Parsons, had succeeded in organising the Boxing Club. This was a feature which he had for some time been anxious to introduce, and it had now been given a splendid start.

Then there were the D.R.s. For years there had been great difficulty in enlisting D.R.s into the Unit ; now we had a body of men, keen enough, in spite of very little encouragement, to put on Displays, which placed the name of the Unit before the public. He commended Lieutenant Danielsen and Sergeant Goffe on this successful feature.

An interesting item of news which he had to reveal was the fact that this year, during the second week in camp, we were about to do something we had never done before, namely, to take part, in conjunction with the 3rd Division, in a War Office Exercise at Salisbury. This meant that we would be called upon to supply a complete "Ac," " Beer " and " Don " Section, as well as two Artillery Brigade Sections. Further, an experiment was to be tried on 5th February of holding a T.E.W.T. for W.O.s and Sergeants at Lichfield, which, he felt sure, would prove most enjoyable and instructive for all concerned.

In referring to the unfortunate absence of the Hon. Colonel, Brigadier-General McCalmont, he explained that the General had started out on his journey, but had evidently been held up somewhere, and was unable to get into touch with us. This afterwards proved to be the case. His absence was greatly regretted by all present. In response to the C.O.'s speech, R.S.M. Bardoe thanked the C.O. and officers for a very enjoyable evening.

The remainder of the evening was given over to an entertainment, which included a duet on piano and sax, by R.S.M. Bardoe and R.Q.M.S. Barlow. Both of them, we were pleased to note, enhanced their rendering by vocal effort. One of them says he will croon anywhere for the fee of three map cases and a drum of twisted cable.

Despatch Riders' Club Notes.—As an active element, the D.R.s certainly can claim to yield nothing to the rest of the Unit. A highly successful event was their Annual Carnival Dance held in the Drill Hall on Friday, 28th January. There were over 150 dancers present, and Sergeant Wilkinson J. F., as M.C., kept them energetically on the go. A glance at the accompanying photograph should convince anyone that they had a good time. The officers present were Major F. E. B. Jones, Lieutenant R. W. Danielsen (Officer i/c D.R.s) and Lieutenant P. G. M. Lee, all of whom are vice-presidents of the Club. Mr. Howard Drake of Norton Motors was also present.

On 6th February a party of twelve members supported a Trial arranged by the D.R.s of the City of London Signals. The party travelled to London on Saturday, and after sorting out the one-way traffic, they eventually reached Signal House, where a Dance was in progress. Accommodation for the night was provided by individual members of the London Club, and on the Sunday morning, a large field assembled at Tunnel Hill, Pirbright, for the start of the Trial. Ideal weather conditions soon dispelled all signs of " hangover " from the night before, and a very enjoyable and sporting Trial proceeded. The admirably selected and well-marked course was particularly interesting to us, and very different from that encountered near

(By Courtesy of the "Birmingham Gazette.")

A GROUP OF DANCERS AT THE DESPATCH RIDERS CARNIVAL DANCE.

Birmingham. After the Trial, we were treated to an excellent meal in a local hostelry, and then given a hearty send-off on our way home. Thus ended a most enjoyable week-end. We should like to endorse here our thanks to the London D.R.s, who went to no end of trouble attending to our comfort, and to congratulate the organisers on their efficient staff work. Also to Signalman Gasson, who accompanied us nearly to Oxford as guide, and never once lost his way. By jove, that fellow can read a map.

The results, as we expected, weigh heavily against us in the matter of team awards, due to classy riding on the part of the London team. We were, however, able to derive some satisfaction from the noble individual effort of Signalman Darrall, who carried off second place. One of our "hopes," Signalman Smith was unfortunately prevented from riding in the Trial, having jammed his rear hub whilst trying to keep within sight of a speck in the blue, known to be the tail-end of a certain gent on a "Scott."

We hope to return the Londoners' hospitality in the near future, when we shall hope to regain "the ashes," and give a better account of ourselves. It should be explained that the team award is at present in abstract form of "honour and glory"; we are only waiting for some good fairy to give us a suitable trophy for this purpose.

By the way, recent correspondence in Motor Cycle journals seemed to indicate increased sporting activity among the D.R.s in the North. If these notes should come to the notice of those concerned, we would like to suggest that there seems to be an excellent case for D.R.s of various Royal Signal Units to get together with a view to exchanging visits on the basis of the above. For our part, with the co-operation of the City of London Signals, we would be only too pleased to give a lead in this direction.

Smoking Concert.—A smoking concert was held at Headquarters on 25th February, as a farewell party to Lance Sergeant Bill, who is leaving the T.A. During the evening, Sergeant Bill was presented with many individual parting gifts of questionable usefulness. The most amusing was a live tortoise, presented with the advice that as long as he always kept behind it he would never have any trouble with the police. *Verb sap.*

Epilogue for old school ties (in Latin ?) :

Is ab ile eres ago
Fortibus es in ero
Watis inem, pes an dux ?
Nos es bile themis trux.

(Solution next month.)

GETCHER.

Sergeants' Mess.

There is little to add to our last notes, but we may as well put in an appearance. Our colleague on this magazine seems to be somewhat sensitive about his "young gents on wheels," but surely he knows that we all appreciate them. Our D.R.s are the right type and they have upheld the good name of the Unit. May they continue to live up to their excellent reputation.

What is this I hear about a gentleman, newly promoted, striking imposing attitudes in front of a large mirror ? "Oh wad some power the giftie gie us to see oorselves as ithers see us." We don't believe it, anyway.

C.S.M. Walker, H. has now settled down to the job as P.S.I., though there was much that shook him from stem to stern when he started. Someone tells us that our old friend Sergeant

Winter W. is off to India. A certain department asks if he would care to send along a pair of Gloves, Hedging, or the value thereof.

We do not propose to take up much space to-day, but would like to extend an invitation to any senior N.C.O.s who are in Birmingham to call in at the Mess. Mondays and Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings are suggested.

R. F. B.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals, T.A. and Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Leeds.

General.—Training is still in full swing, and at the end of this month we shall have completed an eight-days' Paid Course. This has been very popular and the attendance very high. The results have been very satisfactory, especially from the Operators' point of view, and there are many who are real experts.

Even the weather has helped, and on Sunday, 13th March, we were able to hold a small W/T Scheme in the country, a thing we have never been able to arrange so early in the year before.

On 5th and 6th March, Colonel R. E. Barker, Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command, arranged a Signal Exercise for the officers of the Unit to be held at these Headquarters. The weather was so good that it was decided to hold it in the country instead. A most instructive and enjoyable day was spent by all. Country week-end camps are being arranged for all throughout the summer, prior to going to the Annual Camp. The Air Contingent Signals, S.R., have now been informed that they will be required for manœuvres during September. Tnis is the penalty for doing so well on manœuvres last year.

Recruiting.—This Unit is now twenty-four over strength, and we are still recruiting. The D.R.s are planning ahead, and have now appointed Signalman Wells P. A. as the first Club Secretary.

P.T. Competition.—On Tuesday, 8th March, we competed against the 7th Battalion, West Yorkshire Regiment, T.A., in the preliminary rounds of the Divisional P.T. Competition. The Examining Officer from the P.T. School, York, would not give a decision as he is allotting points to each team, and he has yet to see the other teams in the Division. Our team did very well indeed and credit is due to C.S.M. Gatford and Lance Corporal Jones on getting such a good team together.

Annual Dinner, Sergeants' Mess.—The W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess are holding their Annual Dinner on Saturday, 19th March, and invitations have been sent to a number of Regular Units. We are hoping to see a few familiar faces amongst the guests.

Air Contingent Signals Annual Dinner.—This is a new venture, and, it is hoped, a very successful one. As the members of the Unit are residing in different parts of the West Riding, and see very little of each other during the close season, it was felt that a Reunion and Dinner held yearly would be very welcome. Accordingly, this has now been arranged and the first Reunion and Dinner will take place on Saturday, 26th March. So more anon.

M. S. R.

ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION (LEEDS BRANCH).

On Monday, 7th March, the usual monthly meeting was held at Gibraltar Barracks. This was preceded by a Hot-Pot Supper, at which over seventy members and their friends were present. Captain J. G. Parry, our Chairman, again appealed to all members who are out of employment to come forward. He said that he would circulate all the officers of the Unit, who are employers of labour, giving them the names of those members who are out of employment, and he felt sure that soon there would be no unemployed in the Leeds Branch. Much has been done in this direction already, and one member was found employment last month.

Our thanks are due to Mr. P. Downs and his staff for producing such an excellent supper, and also to Mr. J. Merritt, the Sergeants' Mess Steward, for presenting a case of fruit spoons to the Association to be raffled for the funds. The raffle, incidentally, produced a further sum of twelve shillings, for which we are very grateful.

M. S. R.

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50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

General.—Summer training, which is now in full swing, commenced at the beginning of March. Attendances have been 80 per cent. of the Company strength—not bad going! All ranks now know the spot selected for annual training, and great keenness is being shown by the members of the Company in their work so that when we arrive at Alnwick, in Northumberland, on 19th June, we shall be ready for all competitive work and play against our other Companies from Darlington and Gateshead.

On Thursday, 10th March, we had our second-in-command with us to conduct the tests following our winter training. He was assisted by R.S.M. Norcross N., M.B.E. Later on during the evening, Major R. Stevenson-Wight presented the medals for Efficiency and Musketry. Congratulations to Signalman Kelly G. W. on winning the Efficiency Medal, and also to Signalman Pearson R. H. B., who was presented with the Musketry Medal.

We offer a hearty welcome to the following recruits who have joined the Company: Signalmen Cuthbert F. W., Hornby R., Brown J. H., Barnbrook R., Haggerstone H. E., Prosser L. and Swinburne R., and wish them a happy time with us. We would also like to place on record our congratulations to Recruit Goodman L. of Headquarters, Darlington.

Departures.—We are sorry to lose one of our popular officers, Mr. G. Hammonds, who has resigned his commission owing to pressure of business. We hope, sir, that you will have all the luck going, and that we may see you sometime in the future at our annual training in camp.

Boxing.—After a most interesting and good display of boxing which was held in the Drill Hall at Darlington for the Dent Cup,

we lost to No. 1 Company by two points. We offer them our congratulations on their display, and hope to dispossess them of the trophy at next year's competition. We publish a photograph of our team who did duty at Darlington. Signalman Glancy J. was chosen from this Company to represent the Division at the Albert Hall, London. We tender our congratulations to him on his award of the Cup for the best loser. Better luck next time.

P.T.—The P.T. Squad, under the guidance of Corporal Alderson G. A., is going great guns, as evidenced by the displays given by them during training. Our hopes of bringing off the Divisional honour for a P.T. Display are very high, and if keenness and spirit is any guide, we do not fear the outcome. We wish Corporal Alderson and the team the best of luck. The results will be given in our next notes.

Badminton.—After a period of idleness in this direction, owing to pressure of winter training, etc., we resumed our activities on Monday, 14th March, when we entertained the team from Redcar Parish Church. After a most interesting and enjoyable evening we played a draw, each side claiming eight games. We hope to find plenty of opportunities for play during the remaining few weeks of the season.

.22 Shooting.—Shooting has rather been in the background for a few weeks, owing to technical training, but we hope to arrange a few more matches with our outside friends in the near future.

MIDBRO.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Fonthill Barracks, Aberdeen.

With the return of our Adjutant, Captain L. W. J. Dryland, from the Staff College Examination, which we all hope he has passed successfully, a strenuous week has just been completed. Trade Boards have been held in Kirkcaldy, Stirling and Aberdeen at which quite a number of candidates were successful in obtaining ratings. It is hoped that with the conclusion of the second Winter Courses, and the further advantage of individual training, still better results will be obtained in May.

Officers' Lectures.—A series of lectures is being given to the officers of the Unit by the Adjutant. The first of these was held on Friday evening, the subject being "Signal Clerks' Duties." This proved to be a most interesting and instructive lecture, and should be of great assistance to officers when they have to train the personnel of their Sections during the forthcoming training. The lecture also proved that even experienced P.S.I.s, with years of experience, can be taught.

Recruiting.—During the past week a "Territorial Recruiting Drive" has been held in Aberdeen. This was originated by the T.A. Association with the help of the various Units and the Press, and has proved to be a great success. The young men of Aberdeen have done well by their City, and no less than 656 recruits were enrolled in the various Units within the first five days. Demonstrations were given to the public at Drill Halls by different Units on each evening of the week, as well as at the Recruiting Office in Union Street. Up to Friday night, only 23 recruits were needed to complete all Units up to strength, and with an average of 130 a day, it is more than likely that the number will easily be obtained. As this Company only required a few recruits at the commencement of the "Drive," we were one of the first Units to be made up to strength. To those lads who have joined us, we offer a welcome, and hope that they will spend many happy days with this Unit. We also welcome 2nd Lieutenants J. R. Guy and R. M. Dawson to the Unit.

Recreation.—A very successful dance was held by the Company's Badminton Club on Friday, 11th March. During the refreshments, Major T. P. E. Murray presented the prizes to the winners of the season's tournament. A very large number attended and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Sergeants' Mess.—During the month of February, a social evening was arranged in the Mess to bid farewell to ex-R.S.M. Hillman (who has just completed his twenty-one years with the Regulars), and several other old members of the Mess. After our Commanding Officer had spoken a few appropriate words, R.S.M. Lewis presented a silver tea service, and wished Lieutenant and Mrs. Hillman, on behalf of the W.O.s and Sergeants of the Unit, the very best of health and prosperity on their retirement to civilian life. Presentations were also made to C.Q.M.S. Cumming, Sergeant Hall and R.O.M.S. Williamson.

An excellent evening's entertainment, arranged by the committee, was enjoyed by all.

The following message has been received from Colonel R. J. Nicol, O.B.E., on the commencement of his third tour of five years as Honorary Colonel, 51st (H.) Divisional Signals, T.A.: "I congratulate all ranks of my Unit on their efficiency and keenness. I hope that in the future the steady improvement in the standard of technical training will continue, and that my Unit may remain recruited up to establishment. I also wish to thank all ranks for their universal kindness to myself and their loyalty to my Unit."

ONECOY.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

General.—The month of February passed quietly by with only the Operators and Linemen's Courses to disturb the peace, but our tranquility was rudely shattered during the first week of March, when the following events occurred: Recruits' Training, the Company Dance, and a Trade Board.

Recruits' Training.—Twenty-four recruits paraded on 1st March for the first time in uniform to commence their training as soldiers. We are fortunate this year in having the assistance of Sergeant Campbell J., Depot, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, by the kind permission of Major E. H. Grant, the Depot Commanding Officer. Sergeant Campbell reports after three nights' training that he is very pleased with the keenness and smartness of the squad.

Annual Company Dance.—This notable event took place in the Drill Hall on Friday, 4th March, and it was acclaimed as the best ever. This is the big night in our social year, and we were very pleased to hear that every one of the 300 ladies and gentlemen present thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and are looking forward to next year's dance. The gathering comprised the guests of the Company, members of the Company, their wives and lady friends, and members' gentlemen friends and partners, amongst whom we were especially pleased to welcome the following Royal Signals officers: Lieutenant-Colonel E. Birnie Reid; Major T. P. E. Murray, our Commanding Officer and second-in-command, from Aberdeen; Lieutenant-Colonel C. Wheeler, Chief Signal Officer, Scottish Command, and Mrs. Wheeler; Colonel E. G. McHutchon, O.B.E., T.D., D.C.S.O., Scottish Command; Major A. H. Lennie, M.M., our ex-O.C.; Captain A. T. Wood (O.C.); Lieutenant D. J. Bogie and Lieutenant W. Mitchell from No. 3 Company, Kirkcaldy; Lieutenant (Quartermaster) J. Hillman; and 2nd Lieutenants Luke and Moyes from the Lowland Divisional Signals, Glasgow. Other military guests included: Colonel A. R. Bain, M.C., D.L., and Miss Bain; Surgeon-Lieutenant J. Ronald, R.N.V.R.; Captain Annandale, Black Watch; Lieutenants C. G. Wallace and Adair, R.A.; Bailie Coull, Stirlingshire T.A. Association; Lieutenants J. E. McEwan and T. Shanks, 7th Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders; and Captain J. E. Morrison, R.A.M.C.

We are deeply indebted to the following who contributed to the success of the evening: Grant's Dance Band from Dunfermline, for supplying an excellent programme of dance music; Pipe-Major H. Brand and two other members of the Unit Pipe Band for their rendering on the Pipes and Drums; C.Q.M.S. Given A., who acted as M.C.; and to the following committee, whose untiring efforts brought about a most excellent evening's enjoyment: Lieutenant W. R. Muirhead, 2nd Lieutenant P. A. Dewar, C.S.M. Todd J., Lance Sergeant Wilkie A., Corporal McCallum H., Lance Corporals Parker G. and Coyne T., Signalmen Stewart W. and McFarlan D. I quote the following extract

from a local paper for the information of the Secretary of State for War: "It may have been their capability as dancers, or it may have been their smart uniform that was responsible, but it is an undoubted fact that it was the Territorials that the ladies were quickest to select at the ladies-choice dances. In a recruiting campaign, the T.A. Command might well use the slogan, 'Join the Territorial Army and become the ladies' choice.'"

Trade Board.—This Company's second Trade Board took place at Stirling on Tuesday, 8th March. The following are congratulated on having passed the rates shown: GROUP "E," OPERATOR SIGNALS: Signalmen Ging M., McLaughlin E., Parker R., Stevenson J., Wiggins H. and Young T., Boys Coyne P. and McLachlan J. OPERATOR SIGNALS, B.III: Signalmen Miller D. and Stewart W. LINEMEN C.III: Signalmen Collins M. and Turner T. LINEMEN C.II: Signalmen Kelso R. and Paterson J.

P.S.I.—Our P.S.I. is having a busy time at present, gathering knowledge which, no doubt, he soon will be passing on to us. He has just completed a week's Course in anti-gas measures at the Depot, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, Stirling, and has now proceeded to Headquarters, Aberdeen, for a P.S.I.'s Refresher Course in Signal Training.

Arrivals.—We are pleased to welcome to the Company 2nd Lieutenant R. M. Dawson, who has just received his commission. We trust that he will be quite at home in his new appointment.

Annual Training.—We have just been officially informed that the Unit is to proceed to Aldershot for annual training. We shall be assisted there by 1st Divisional Signals in the carrying out of a Command Exercise and a Staff College Exercise. We are hoping that the Company will turn out 100 per cent. for the fifteen days of camp; but more of this anon.

TWUCO.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

General.—We have now been informed officially that the Unit is going to Aldershot for camp this year, and the members of the Company are asking the scribe what we are likely to do there, and where we are likely to go on arrival—in barracks or under canvas. It is fairly safe to assume that we shall go under canvas. After all it is the best; it wouldn't be a camp otherwise. As to what we are likely to do; well, it's sufficient to say that it will be something that we have not done before, and something that will be very interesting to all members of the Company. The scribe is certain that it is going to be hard work, and will entail an enormous amount of preparation to move the Unit from Scotland to Aldershot. It is to be hoped that all will avail themselves of the opportunity of working with the affiliated Regular Unit, and make it a 100 per cent. attendance camp. We shall, no doubt, learn much that will assist us at future camps, which may be held nearer our "ain hames."

Training.—The Courses progress. A Trade Board was held on 7th March, and six candidates out of nine were successful in obtaining ratings. The next Trade Board in May will see several attending for the higher classes, and as the tests are to be of a more practical nature, it will mean much hard work on the part of those hoping for success.

Individual Training has commenced. At present the Paid Course is still running, and so attendances are divided; but the end of the month will see Individual Training holding sway. After that, we shall settle down to Section training and the building up of Sections required at camp. Thanks to Mr. Hore-Belisha, there will be no difficulty on the score of out-of-pocket expenses for travelling to drills, as the "Terrier" is to have all travelling expenses paid for this purpose, so come along, lads, and make the most of it—and turn up regularly.

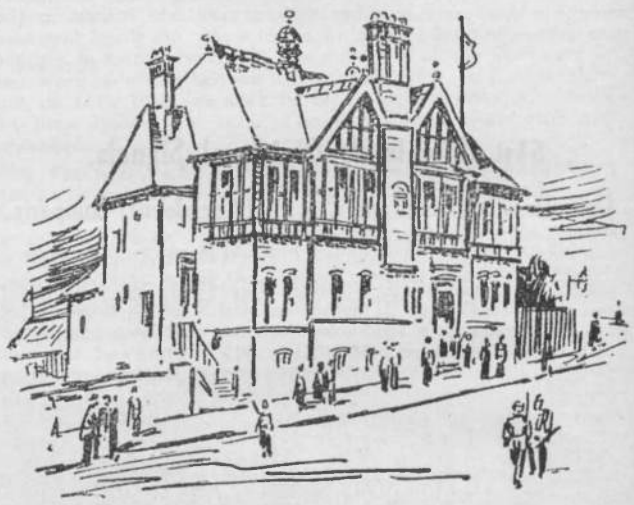
Social.—The annual whist drive, supper and dance, which was held on 18th February, was voted a great success by the 250 people present. There were rather too many on the floor to allow dancing to be a pleasure, but everyone made the most of the space allowed, and appeared to enjoy themselves. The committee are to be congratulated on putting on one of the best dances for several years.

Recruiting.—Headquarters and No. 1 Company are participating in a big recruiting drive in Aberdeen. From reports to hand, the drive appears to have been a great success; No. 1 Company has already completed their establishment plus the 10 per cent. over strength they are allowed. This Company could do with something like this to bring the recruits along, and we shall have to see if it can be managed. Congratulations, No. 1 Company!

The P.S.I. had some rusty knowledge brightened up on an Anti-Gas Course, held at the Depot, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, Stirling. The Course was most opportune, seeing that the Company is to be equipped up to 100 per cent. with respirators. The same poor fellow has attended a Refresher Course at Headquarters, Aberdeen, on Signal Training, and will shortly be leaving to attend a Small Arms Course at Woolwich. He wonders what the next Course will be!

Other News.—It is learned that apart from their military bearing and the badge that most members of this Company already wear when not in uniform, they will, in future, be recognised as "Terriers" by a badge to be worn by them. We hope that it makes the other lads jealous and desirous of wearing one, too.

THREECOY.



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

21, Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

The Officers.—The Officers February Dinner took the form of a farewell to Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Robertson, who recently vacated the command of the Units. The event was a memorable one. There was a large attendance of Colonel Robertson's brother-officers. Deserved tributes were paid to our former chief. Colonel Robertson did much for the Mess. Under his leadership, many improvements were carried out in the quarters and general lay-out. It is said that our officers are now to be housed in one of the finest Officers' Messes in the West of Scotland. This fact is due in no small measure to the work of Colonel Robertson. We join with the officers in bidding him a fond farewell.

Record Recruiter.—A special prize has been awarded to ex-C.S.M. Haggart J. for his grand recruiting work. Jock secured no less than fifteen excellent recruits. Needless to say the recruiting prize is well merited.

New Idea.—A completely new idea was successfully exploited when five hundred people gathered on 21st February for a film lecture, under the chairmanship of Lieutenant-Colonel T. M. Niven. The audience comprised all ranks and their lady friends. The innovation was a clever one. The object was to convey to

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. W. ROBERTSON, D.C.M.

the ladies something of what happens at Jardine Street, and to further encourage the ladies to make our training season successful. Colonel Niven, in some well-chosen remarks, made his points very nicely. A night of instruction resulted in a night of first-class entertainment, which is bound to react to the general well-being of the Units.

Welcome O'Connor.—We heartily welcome Mr. J. F. J. O'Connor, who has commenced his duties as Lieutenant Quartermaster with our S.R. Lieutenant O'Connor was at one time R.Q.M.S. with 1st Divisional Signals. We trust that he will be with us for a long time.

The Sergeants.—The W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess celebrated the end of the social season on 18th March. The venue was the Pavilion Theatre. The eighty people who attended the theatre were augmented by one hundred more at the supper and dance, which followed at Jardine Street. The Sergeants' Mess has done well this season. They have enjoyed themselves to some tune. It is difficult to recall a season of so much feasting and dancing. The success of it all is due in a large measure to Sergeant C. T. Stewart and his committee. Charlie has put in no end of work. We should be very grateful to him. The event of the 18th March provided a fitting climax to Sergeant Stewart's year as a provider of entertainments. There is talk of summer outings. Perhaps Charlie Stewart will do something about it.

Old Records.—We have been asked by several readers for some further extracts from old records. So here goes.

1888.—The members of the Sergeants' Mess, in connection with the Glasgow Engineers, have every reason to be proud of their turn-out last Monday evening. The dance, which took place at their Headquarters at No. 4, Albany Place, was one of the most successful they have had, and should be a source of encouraging the committee to go on. Such gatherings, without doubt, increase the popularity of the Corps and bring the "non-coms" into closer touch with each other. As I said in my notes last week, the recreation room was beautifully decorated, the officers leaving all their decorations untouched for the occasion, and not less than 80 couples were present.—*Glasgow Evening News*, 2nd January, 1888.

Quadrilles.—The Sergeants' Mess of the Glasgow Engineers held a brilliant quadrille party last night at Headquarters.—*Glasgow Evening News*, 29th December, 1888.

Piano.—The Sergeants' Mess of the Engineers have now purchased a piano. It is a very handsome instrument, and has a very rich tone. A smoking concert is to be held in the Mess-room on Saturday night, when the instrument will make its first appearance in public.

Cole's Band.—The now famous band of the Glasgow Engineers, and its conductor, Mr. W. H. Cole, have become known throughout the country. The band has fulfilled many important engagements at exhibitions and other functions in different parts of the United Kingdom. Mr. Cole is well known as the leader of the string band of the Fine Art Institute.—*"Quiz" Supplement*, 30th May, 1895.

Cigarettes.—It is suggested that cigarettes be exhibited for sale in the Mess.—*Sergeants' Mess Record*, 3rd June, 1898.

Visitors' Book.—It is observed that the visitors' book has not been signed for over six years.—*Sergeants' Mess Record*, 22nd August, 1896.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

15th March.

After a period of uncertainty, it is now decided that the Unit will carry out their annual training at Tidworth, from 31st July to 14th August. The Unit appreciates the honour of being selected to train with the Regular Army, and will most certainly uphold its excellent reputation.

Individual training terminates on 21st March and Section training commences on 1st April. And then, from apparent hibernation, the Sections will indulge in feverish activity, the respective officers zealously nursing their charges back to maximum efficiency.

The addition of six motor cycles to the equipment of the Unit (they are for the D.R. Section) has given the D.R. Officer, who hopes to be pretty well up to strength by camp, an optimistic outlook on life.

On 21st February, Major W. S. Catleugh (Quartermaster) gave an interesting lecture on "Trumpet Calls of the Army." He provided his own musical accompaniment at the commencement, but Bandmaster Wakeling eventually relieved him. This lecture brought back memories of Gower Peninsular Camp, 1934.

Captain R. H. Copeland (Adjutant) has returned from London, after his entrance examination for the Staff College. It is hoped that the result will be a successful one.

Sergeant Woodyatt J. and Corporal Parsons R. attended a Course of Weapon Training and Drill at the Depot, Welch Regiment, from 14th to 26th February, and obtained excellent reports. Well done!

On St. David's Day, 1st March, the W.O.s and N.C.O.s held a Dance at the Drill Hall, Park Street. It was a successful event, and all credit is due to the organisers, Sergeant Baxter H. P. and Sergeant Hawkins R. C., the latter functioning as M.C. There was a good attendance, which included Colonel W. G. Trice (C.O.), Major and Mrs. F. T. Arnold, Major and Mrs. G. J. M. Peel, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Moon, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Lloyd, and other officers and lady friends.

Congratulations to Captain and Mrs. R. T. H. Gelston, on taking a son on the strength. Tom will now appreciate much better the sentiment in "Phil the fluters bawl"; a couple of times round the Himalayas has a soothing effect during the teething period, particularly at 3 a.m.; we recommend it to him.

Shooting.—Nos. 2 and 3 Companies have qualified for the next round of the *Western Mail* Cup Competition; the date has not yet been fixed. There appears to be plenty of talent in the

Unit, and 2nd Lieutenant A. J. Blower, Officer i/c Weapon Training, knows how to get the best out of that available.

Three Unit shoots have been held to date during this season, resulting in wins at home against Dinas Powis and the Glamorgan Heavy Brigade, R.A.; and the loss of an away match against Dinas Powis.

THE LEEK.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

38, Mason Street, Liverpool.

General.—The most important event to many of us has been the annual Hot-Pot Supper, held at the Blue Coat Chambers, Liverpool, on 19th March. In addition to all the officers and the majority of the Unit, we also had with us Colonel F. Hibbert, M.C., T.D., M.INST.C.E., F.S.S., Chairman of the Financial Committee of the Division; Lieutenant-Colonel F. S. Ferguson, T.D., Commanding 55th Division; Colonel Wingrove; and our Hon. Colonel, Colonel W. T. Dodd, D.S.O., T.D., D.L. After full justice had been done to the excellent repast provided, the Commanding Officer, Brevet-Colonel R. Baron, T.D., called upon Colonel Hibbert to present the prizes to the "lucky and deserving" winners.

The "Lucky Ones" (Shooting)—

ALTCAR CHALLENGE CUP: No. 2 Company.
INTER-COMPANY MINIATURE RIFLE CUP: No. 2 Company.
ROOKER CUP: Major F. J. Behn.

The "Deserving Ones"—

BEST ATTENDANCES AT DRILLS. Trained Men: Lance Corporal Grenan, 140; Signalman Williams R., 138. Recruits: Signalman Quirk C., 133½; Signalman Mathews J., 121.

TERRITORIAL EFFICIENCY MEDAL: C.S.M. Keenan E., C.Q.M.S. Griffiths A., Sergeant Goodwin L. and Corporal Povey S.

After the presentation, the C.O., in a few appropriate words, thanked everybody for their co-operation during the past year. He commented on the fact that the Unit had been well in the running for the *Daily Telegraph* Cup for the highest percentage at camp last year, and that we could, with very little effort, make it possible to have the name of the Unit inscribed on that trophy next year, and in future years. The Unit was in the happy position of being up to full strength, in addition to a waiting list of probationers, who are in training pending the weeding out of the non-desirables and passengers.

Light entertainment was indulged in, and a pleasant evening came to a close in time for us to catch the last tram.

A successful Signal Exercise was held on Sunday, 27th February, when a full Infantry Brigade Section was employed. Some useful work was done, and everyone benefited by the knowledge gained, not forgetting the officers who manned the "A" Sets "alone and unaided."

We have been informed that our quarters at the new Drill Hall will be ready for occupation in the near future (?) This does not seem a very startling statement to make, except for the fact that a P.S.I., who recently left the Unit after a three-year tour of duty, was promised a Quarter there when he first arrived "in the near future."

Nevertheless, the official date for the opening by the G.O.C.-in-C., Western Command, Lieutenant-General Sir Henry C. Jackson, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., is 9th April, so things have at last been moving. We shall be able to give a full report of this important function next month.

Arrivals and Departures.—The Commanding Officer said *au revoir* for us all at the "Hot-Pot" to Sergeant Moore H. G., P.S.I., No. 2 Company, who is retiring on pension. We did not say good-bye, as Sergeant Moore is staying within easy reach. We again wish him all the best in "Civvy Street," and hope that we shall see his smiling countenance occasionally whenever he feels homesick.

We welcome to the fold Sergeant Jones F. A. as P.S.I., No. 2 Company, Prescot. A "Chota" reunion was held between him and Sergeant Springett, P.S.I., No. 3 Company, prior to the

Special Quotations for Mess Orders.

F. T. WOOD

Wholesale and Retail Tobacconist and Confectioner

PLUMER RD., BULFORD CAMP, WILTS.

High-Class Cakes, Biscuits and Sweets.

Teas Provided. Moderate Charges.

"Hot-Pot." ("K" Section, Kohat District Signals, please note. Jarman Ridge and Ublan Fort were captured again.)

Boxing.—The Unit took part in the 55th Divisional Boxing Championships which were held in Liverpool on 19th February. Unfortunately we were unable to raise a full team, but the ten entries, who fought as individuals, gave a very good account of themselves. Signalman Campbell F. was runner-up in the bantam-weights, and Signalman Driscoll W. was runner-up in the middle-weights. Signalman Scott F. was beaten in thes emi-final of the welters, after having won three of his fights. Hearty congratulations to all of them on doing so well. It is the first time that the Unit has sent representatives to take part in these championships, and next year we hope to put in a full team.

Congratulations.—To No. 3 Company shooting team on reaching the second stage of the 6th Annual Territorial Competition, run by the County of Lancaster Rifle Association.

To T/C.S.M. Davies H. G., P.S.I., No. 1 Company, on his appointment.

The London Corps Signals Cadet Company.

There is now great rivalry between us and the 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals Cadet Company. We are both non-school Units, and we meet regularly for various things in connection with Cadet activity. The growth of our rival is a great source of pleasure to us, and shows what can be done in so small a space of time. The London Corps Signals Cadet Company hopes to grow from strength to strength during the months that lie ahead, and to make 1938 a bumper year. As regards recruiting, we are not doing as well as we should like, and we hope to improve this situation very shortly. Our boxing team is going great guns, and hopes one day, in the not too distant future, to wrest the Prince of Wales' Shield from the Jewish Lads' Brigade.

Cadet 2nd Lieutenant H. Gold, from "B" Company, 1st West London Cadet Corps. has been posted to our Company, and regularly does duty with us. Cadet 2nd Lieutenant F. G. Baigent recently arranged a very successful dance for us at Cobb's Hall, Fulham Palace Road, and it is hoped that Company Funds will be augmented as a direct result thereof. We plan to have a series of such dances throughout 1938.

Our camp, as usual, will be at Sheppey, and we hope to send a record contingent there. In previous years, we have always been the strongest Company there, and we hope always to hold this record. The "old hands" have great memories of Sheppey, but the rookies also have "visions." But, until we taste the joys of Camp, 1938, we shall not know what exactly is in store for us. We see the Adjutant, Cadet Captain R. S. Pitt-Kethley, at Putney, but now that he has his own Company to run, we cannot expect so many lectures from him on military topics, or so many visits as we had in the past.

Camp will be commanded by our popular and genial Commanding Officer, Cadet Major E. G. Paulus, and we are all looking forward to it. Not many Units, we imagine, have huts. Most have to be content with tents. We also hold a strategic position, so to speak, in the defence of the Thames Estuary, and this point is not lost sight of in all the phases of our training.

SPORTS NOTES

Training Battalion.

Since our last issue of sports notes, the Battalion has done very well in sporting events in the Garrison. Outstanding successes were recorded by the hockey and running teams, to whom we extend our congratulations.

Rugby.—During the past two months, only three games have been played. This was due to the fact that only one ground is available for use by both the Depot and Training Battalion. It is expected that the new S.T.C. rugby ground will be taken for play next season, and this will enable us to enlarge the Battalion and Company fixture lists considerably.

Three games were played. We won two and lost one. The match with Richmond Grammar School was very good, and the score of eleven points to three was hardly deserved on the run of play. The game versus the School of Signals was also good, and the School fully deserved their win. We meet this team again shortly, and are hoping to put up a show good enough to change the decision.

Here are the results: 16th February, v. Cameronians, won; 23rd February, v. School of Signals, lost; 26th February, v. Richmond Grammar School, won.

Hockey.—Since our last report, the Battalion team has played two more rounds in the Army Tournament. In the second round of the Command Eliminating Tournament we played the Cameronians. Our team took some minutes to settle down, and during that period it looked as if the Cameronians were going to score first, but we managed to keep our goal intact, and eventually ran out winners by 6—0.

In the Command final we found the West Yorkshire Regiment a much stiffer proposition. The match was very keen and hard fought, and we were lucky to win by 1—0. Individually they were probably the better, but they lacked the combination on which we have concentrated.

By winning the Command final, we qualify for the Army Tournament proper. In the first round, we play against the 2nd Battalion, King's Shropshire Light Infantry from Pembroke Dock. This match is to be played at Catterick on 15th March, and we are hoping to provide a really good game.

Cross-country Running.—Our efforts in this direction have been amply rewarded, and we are pleased to inform readers that the Battalion has carried off the Catterick Garrison Cross-country Running Championship. Three runs were held; the first on 27th January, the second on 7th February, and the last on 21st February.

In the first run, the Battalion team, who were felling very fit after the Mackworth runs, were able to gain a comfortable lead. For the second event, the Camerons trained hard and improved tremendously, but were unable to make up all the lost ground. They succeeded, however, in giving us a nasty shock. Our team made a determined effort in the last run, but were unfortunate in having Lance Corporals Blades and Strutt and Signalman Roberts semi-casualties, and Signalmen Jeeves and Lockey complete casualties. The results were as follows:

	1st Run.	2nd Run.	3rd Run.	Total.
Training Battalion	343	466	448	1257
1st Battalion, Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders	479	445	431	1355
7th Battalion, Royal Tank Corps	1177	1078	1172	3427

After the third run, the Trophy was presented by the G.O.C., Catterick Area.

For the information of those Units who are keen on cross-country running, the following recruits ran in the Battalion team: Signalmen Lithauer, Fraser, Henley, Millar, Corpe, Jeeves, Howarth, Goodsir, Falconer, Williams, Walters and Roberts. They have all proved consistent and, with the exception of Jeeves and Roberts, who were injured, got home in the first thirty in the third Garrison run.

Thanks are due to Lance Corporals Blades and Strutt for their energy in training the team, and all concerned are to be congratulated on their performance.

Boxing.—Congratulations are extended to Signalman Lewis of "E" Company, who was one of the finalists at the Army Boxing Tournament, on his fine performance. Signalman Lewis was runner-up at the fly-weight limit, and we are hoping that he will be able to "bring home the bacon" next year.

L.B.

"E" Company, Training Battalion.

Football.—The Garrison Inter-Unit League is within our grasp. With only one remaining match to be played, we require two points to ensure success. The only match played this month resulted in a win for us by 4—2 against the league leaders—the West Yorkshire Regiment.

Hockey.—Our Mackworth team met their Waterloo at the hands of "D" Company. Extra time was necessary before a decision was reached. The final score was 4—3.

Boxing.—On behalf of the Company, we heartily congratulate Signalman Lewis G. on his commendable display in the Army Championships. Signalman Lewis was runner-up for the fly-weight title, losing narrowly on points in the final.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

Rugby.—At the time of going to press, we have played 24 matches, out of which we have won 13, lost 8 and drawn 3. This is a very creditable performance as at no time have we had more than twenty players in the Unit from which to choose a team; indeed, on occasions, if it had not been for the support from the 59th Field Company, we should have been unable to raise a team at all. The team worked well, under the leadership of Lieutenant Lonnon, during the first half of the season, and it was a great blow to us when he was put out of action and debarred from playing until next year. However, nothing daunted, we go from victory to victory. Let us hope that we will be able to field the same team next season. Results:

v. Canterbury "A" XV	Won	12— 5
v. Dover R.F.C.	Lost	3—14
v. "Shop" Wanderers XV	Won	14— 0
v. Rochester R.F.C.	Won	11— 3
v. Devon Regiment (Army Cup)	Lost	3—20
v. 59th Field Company, R.E.	Drawn	3— 3
v. "A" Corps Signals (Cobb-Nichols)	Lost	3—15
v. 59th Field Company, R.E.	Won	30— 0
v. D.B.R.E., Chatham	Lost	0—40
v. R.A.F., Manston	Lost	5—28
v. St. Augustine's College	Drawn	0— 0
v. Faversham R.F.C.	Won	6— 0
v. R.A.F., Hawkinge	Won	13— 6
v. R.A.F., Eastchurch	Won	6— 3
v. 22nd Field Brigade, R.A.	Lost	0— 8
v. H.M.S. *Wildfire*	Won	12— 5
v. R.A.F., Manston	Lost	3—22
v. 59th Field Company, R.E.	Won	6— 0
v. Short Bros., Rochester	Won	18— 0
v. 59th Field Company, R.E.	Drawn	6— 6
v. H.M.S. *Wildfire*	Won	6— 0
v. 9th Field Company, R.E.	Won	29— 0
v. Canterbury Thursday XV	Won	8— 6

J. E. A.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Hockey.—Hockey in this Unit during February and part of March has again taken the form of a Tournament, namely, " The Faqir Chand Memorial Hockey Tournament."

The first game played by this Unit was against the " Combined Medicals," who were beaten by 2—0 after a very good game. In the next game, against the 1/4th Bombay Grenadiers, we managed to snatch a victory of 1—0 after a very well-fought match. We were then drawn against the 4/12th Frontier Force Rifles, and we again managed to win a 1—0 victory. This left us in the semi-final versus " Khans XI," a team sponsored by the Khan of Mardan, who is a great hockey enthusiast. The team has a great reputation in the District, and one or two players in the team have been put up for trials with a view to obtaining a place in the All India side.

Speculation ran high as to who would emerge the winner, but at the last moment " Khans XI " gave us a walk-over, as they could not turn out their team owing to the above-mentioned players being away on trials for the All India team.

1. Lieutenant Goldsmith converting the last try of the match. Signalman Buirski placing the ball.

2. A clean Signals heel to Buchanan at fly-half.

3. Lieutenant Goldsmith receiving the Cup from Mrs. Strettall.

This left us in the final versus the " Frontier Club," a very fine civilian team. A great game was witnessed. We scored in the first few minutes of the game from a short corner ; the ball was struck by Lieutenant W. A. K. Stodart and bounced off the goalkeeper's pads, Lance Corporal Bristow met it coming out and flicked it into the net. Soon after that, the " Frontier Club " made a concentrated attack on our goal, and one of our players, in an attempt to save the situation, accidentally tripped one of the opposing players ; a penalty " bully " was awarded to the " Frontier Club " by the umpire. From this penalty our opponents scored. In the second half, the " Frontier Club " again broke away and scored a lovely goal, and despite the efforts of the Signals team this lead was retained until the final whistle. Some splendid trophies were presented to the teams after the match, the winning and losing teams each receiving a very nice Cup, and each individual player was presented with a small Cup as a memento.

The Signals team comprised the following : Signalman Rogers ; Lance Corporal Evans, Signalman Martin ; Signalman Tipton, Signalman Seager, Lieutenant W. A. K. Stodart ; Lance Naik Pritam Singh, Lance Corporal Moseley, Naik Basant Singh, Signalman Fazal Ellehi, Lance Corporal Bristow. Lance Sergeant Gibbons should have played as centre-forward, but, owing to injuries received in previous matches, he was unable to turn out.

" SILO."

[The three photographs published with these notes refer to the Rugby Final described in Peshawar District Signals Sports Notes in the March issue of THE WIRE.—ED.]

Egypt Signals.

No. 3 Company.

Football.—Once again No. 3 Company made news in reaching the final of the C. of E. Football Challenge Cup. Two years previously No. 3 Company were the winners, and history looked like repeating itself after we had disposed of Ordnance Workshops. Our hopes were shattered when we succumbed to " Z " Company, R.N.F.s, to the tune of 1—0. The final was reached as follows

v. No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals	Won	1—0
v. No. 30 Company, R.A.S.C.	Won	6—2
v. " M " Battery, R.H.A.	Won	5—1
v. Ordnance Workshops (semi-final)	Won	2—0
Final : v. " Z " Company, R.N.F.s	Lost	0—1

In the semi-final we fielded a re-arranged team, as we had two absentees. After a good struggle, we ran out the victors. The defence was superb, Signalman Hendry playing an exceptionally good game. Our first goal was rather lucky, the ball shooting into the goal after a hectic scrummage at the goal mouth. Signalman Shore then scored a good goal when he ran through in Bryan Jones style, and beat the goalie all ends up.

The final took place on the following Monday at the Wembley Ground. After such a good show against the Workshops, our hopes ran high. Victory seemed assured when we kept the opposition on the defensive right from the start, and it seemed that we might score half a dozen goals. But this was not to be, and at half-time there was no score. The second half was a repetition of the first, except for the all-important breakaway by the R.N.F.s, which resulted in their scoring the only goal. Despite all our efforts to obtain an equaliser, we were disappointed. We did manage to get the ball over the line, but the referee, after allowing a goal, disallowed it on referring to the linesmen. And so a game of missed chances for No. 3 Company and one of grit and perseverance by " Z " Company ended. Our opponents are congratulated on their deserved victory.

TEE-NUH.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Boxing.—The 42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional T.A. Boxing Championships were held at the R.E. Drill Hall, Old Trafford, on Friday, 18th February. The arrangements were well carried out, and the evening proved to be a very enjoyable one. A big

Winners of the Beach Cup for Boxing, 1937.

crowd attended; it certainly must have been one of the best for years as far as numbers were concerned. Now for some very pleasant news.

We were successful in winning the "Beach" Cup for the second consecutive year, and we heartily congratulate the team for the fine show which they put up. They have worked hard during training, and deserve every bit of their success. We congratulate the 5th Battalion, Lancashire Fusiliers, on obtaining second place, and also all the other competitors, who gave us such a wonderful evening's sport. Here is a brief account of the fights:

Semi-finals, Fly-weights.—Signalman Banks v. Pte. Wright (10th Manchester Regiment). An exciting match, in which Signalman Banks made a stout effort towards the end of the third round. Banks won his fight, but was unsuccessful in winning the final.

In the bantam-weight events, we had Signalman Jarvis v. Fusilier Jacques (5th Lancashire Fusiliers). The fighters appeared to be evenly matched, but in the third round, Fusilier Jacques made a determined effort, winning his fight on points.

In the feather and light-weight events we had no entries.

In the welter-weight events we were represented by Signalman Yates v. Pte. Medley (10th Manchester Regiment). Our entry was beaten by a k.o. in the second round. At the end of the welter-weight events we were leading by four points.

In the middle-weight events which followed, Signalman Eccles lost his fight on points to Pte. Blythe (42nd Divisional R.A.M.C.).

In the heavy catch-weight final, Signalman Wright put up an exceptionally good fight, but his opponent, Lance Corporal Taylor (6th Lancashire Fusiliers), who was the better man, won in the second round.

In the light-weight (officers) finals, 2nd Lieutenant Corser won his fight against 2nd Lieutenant Scott (6th Lancashire Fusiliers). This was an exciting fight, and in the third round both contestants, though exhausted, were still hammering away at each other with their lefts.

In the welter-weight (officers) final we saw 2nd Lieutenant Ingham v. 2nd Lieutenant Gillespie (10th Manchester Regiment). Lieutenant Gillespie won on points after a very good fight.

The middle-weight (officers) event was between 2nd Lieutenant Yates and 2nd Lieutenant Royds (6th Lancashire Fusiliers). In the first round of this fight, Royds made a rush at Yates, and, for a moment, things appeared to be in a muddle. In the second round, Lieutenant Yates won with a definite k.o.

The light heavy-weight (officers) event between Lieutenant Clegg and Lieutenant Bringan (5th Manchester Regiment) was a very close fight indeed, and everybody anxiously waited for the referee's verdict. The blue signal flashed, giving the verdict to Lieutenant Clegg.

In the Novices' final, we had only two entries; Corporal Ineson won his fight against Fusilier Moore (6th Lancashire Fusiliers).

In the welter-weight event, Signalman Woodworth H. lost his fight after a very fine show against Lance Corporal Barber (6th Lancashire Fusiliers).

The writer has not intended to give a full account of each fight, but has merely summarised them all; a full write-up would take up a considerable amount of space. The efforts of the team in winning the Cup for the second consecutive year deserves every congratulation. It is only fair to mention that Lieutenant Clegg has realised his ambition of being captain of the team for the second consecutive year. This has been an added pleasure for him, because, unfortunately, he leaves us on 18th March, when he sails for South Africa. I know that the team will wish him every success out there, and we all hope that he will strike gold every time.

In conclusion, we must not forget the Instructor, Sergeant Matthews P., who not only spent much valuable time with the team, but has also fathered them through their training.

A full report of the London finals will be given in next month's issue.

PUFF AND HUFF.

Winners of the Beach Cup for Boxing, 1938.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Novices' Boxing Competition.—This very interesting event took place in the Drill Hall, Stratford Road, Birmingham, on Friday, 18th February. There was a good attendance, but it is expected that on future occasions the Unit will turn up in force to support this worthy innovation. During the evening, the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel P. H. Jones, M.C., thanked all those concerned with the organisation of the competition, the competitors, the visitors, and the Shirley Sports Club, who very kindly loaned us the ring. Results:

FLY-WEIGHTS.—Boy Parsons J. v. Signalman Kenney. Parsons retired in the first round with a damaged nose.

FEATHER-WEIGHTS.—Signalman Awcutt G. was awarded the verdict over Signalman Bond F. Rather a quiet bout, with some energy used to no purpose in dancing round each other. Both could give a good account of themselves if they would make up their minds to "get on with it."

Signalman Hardman W. won on points against Signalman Ward. This was a very good fight, containing some hard and fast exchanges. Ward used a good straight left, but Hardman troubled him with an unusual left swing.

Signalman Kesterton v. Signalman Carter F. This was probably the best fight of the evening. All three rounds were full of interest and excitement, but Carter was slightly the better man. Kesterton stood up to some heavy punishment, and was still fighting back gamely when the gong sounded and Carter was given the verdict. The referee congratulated the loser on a very plucky fight.

Special Feather-weight Contest.—Signalman Carter A. E. v. Gunner Jackson, R.A. A disappointing bout with nothing of interest to record. Might have warmed up over a longer distance outside Service boxing. Jackson won on points.

Light-weights.—Signalman Birch F. v. Signalman Johnson R. Slow to begin, but livened up in the second and third rounds, in which there was plenty of good, hard hitting. Birch won on points.

Corporal Griffin was knocked out by Signalman Simpson H., after a fight that started quietly but warmed up after they had taken each others' measure. Few of the blows arrived at their intended destination until Simpson planted an unexpected one in the third round and ended the fight. The right spirit was present, and that, after all, counts for a good deal.

Welter-weights.—Signalman Collins A. beat Signalman Wheeler on points after a good, hard fight, in which some clever boxing was seen. There was a well-deserved cheer for the loser.

Signalman Williams was defeated on points by Signalman Richardson R. Williams adopted a peculiar stance, which appeared to puzzle his opponent at first. Richardson evaded some deadly right swings that would certainly have ended the fight had they landed, and retaliated by scoring points with both hands. The referee congratulated both on a very good effort.

Middle-weights.—Corporal Williams defeated Signalman Rose C. on points. An interesting fight and some skilful boxing on both sides. Williams used his left to great advantage. Neither appeared to pack a heavy punch until the third round. The verdict to Williams by a narrow margin.

Light Heavy-weights.—Lance Sergeant Portman v. Lance Sergeant Parsons. A fight full of hard hitting and exciting exchanges. The pair piled up points promiscuously and the skill of a by-gone day was visible. A closely-contested clash in which the verdict went to Portman. *Anno domini* hovered on the edge of the ring.

Officer i/c Tournament: Captain R. M. Chatterley, Royal Signals (T.).
Referee: Lieutenant A. R. V. Luke, R.A. (T.).
Timekeeper: Major H. Bartlett, Royal Signals.
M.C.: R.S.M. Bardoe V. J.
Dressing Room Steward: Corporal Clarke F. B.
Chief Seconds: Sergeant Williams and Lance Sergeant Portman.

R. F. B.

Signals in Tanganyika.

(*Continued from page* 157)

A start was made at 8 a.m. on 14th October, 1937, the party comprising the F-of-S, four Askari operators, an Askari driver and an orderly and bearer. The party was entirely self-contained except that two petrol dumps had been arranged along the route.

The first day found them camping at the foot of the Rift Wall, having travelled along and across the Rift Valley in the opposite direction to that taken on the previous run. Little of interest was seen, but it was noted how accurate the name Rift Wall was—it is almost sheer cliff. The next day only fifty miles were attempted, and the Government Rest Camp at the Ngorongoro Crater reached. Getting on to the top of the wall, and the final ascent to the Crater's edge reminded one of a journey to the Hills in India, except that there were no scenes of such splendour as in India, and that the roads were far worse than those experienced *en route* to the Hills. (It should be pointed out, perhaps, that the writer, when referring to the Hill Stations of India, can only refer to Naini Tal, Rhanikhet, and Jalapahar between the years 1930-1933.)

The Crater is about thirty-five miles in circumference, its bottom being about 2,000 feet below the general level of the surrounding country, which is approximately 8,000 feet above sea level. It has two lakes, one of which is reputed to contain fresh water, the other salt or, at least, brackish water. The water in the countryside around is all very brackish. As a "sight" the Crater was a disappointment, and so was the number of game it is reputed to contain. The guide book quotes an authority as estimating the number at 50,000 when food and water are plentiful elsewhere, and three times that number in the dry season. Through good glasses several blotches were seen which may have been game. The only recognisable game were one herd of perfectly harmless domestic cows and about a dozen small gazelle. All one got from inquiries was the inevitable native reply meaning, "It's over there," and a pointing of the chin in the direction of Africa at large! The Rest Camp at the Crater's edge is a good effort on the Government's part, and it is quite pleasant to stay there. Unfortunately, there were no visitors at the time.

The third day's journey took the party up the eastern border of the Serengeti Plain to Loliondo, the Administrative post nearest the Kenya border, and among the Northern Masai people. Soon after leaving the Crater, all semblance to a road finished, and we drove along two tracks. These became less and less distinct, and, eventually, our "line of march" was obtained by watching the far distance and heading for the country of slightly different colour from the general surroundings—it invariably proved to be the track.

Little game was seen; one lion, one ostrich, a half-dozen giraffe, and several herds of gazelle being the total.

Seventy miles from the Crater the lorry was brought to an abrupt halt by a bush fire—just a wall of smoke and flame extending for miles on both flanks, and approaching rapidly from the right front. After a hurried deliberation as to the action desirable, it was decided to retire for a few miles, then cut across country in the direction from which the fire was coming, that is, against the wind, and hope to find a point where it had stopped—or from where it had started. This was done and an opening found; the "road" than had to be found by driving just west of north over still smouldering countryside. It was reached after about twenty miles of extra distance had been covered.

There was no further excitement, and Loliondo was reached at 6.30 p.m., as daylight finished. That day's run had been 120 miles in eleven hours. On arrival at Loliondo there was half a gallon of petrol left. Considering the type of country which had so far been covered (sand and/or lava dust), the lorry was averaging 6-7 m.p.g., and it was fortunate that Loliondo was reached. Loliondo is approximately 7,000 feet above sea level, nestling nicely among the hills, and with an average temperature of 60 degs. F. The thermometer moved very little, night or day. A pleasant fortnight was spent there, keeping schedules throughout each day with three "P.O." stations, the Northern Brigade K.A.R. station, and the R.A.F. station at Nairobi, and also trying to demonstrate a Set's use and value to the Administration Department. The only Europeans at Loliondo were the Administrative official and his wife, a charming couple, who made the F-of-S thoroughly welcome during the stay.

Unfortunately, as an incident in itself, but quite good from a wireless demonstration point of view, the wife was taken ill and had to be driven to Arusha (two days' hard going away) for an operation for appendicitis. Without the wireless she would have had to go without being able to warn the M.O. at Arusha, and the husband would have had to have waited at least the two days after the operation for news of the result—provided a special car had been sent to him for the purpose. Normally, the mail and telegraphic service is by runner, and telegrams and letters take anything between four to fourteen days to get from Arusha to Loliondo. As it was, the M.O. was given adequate warning, and the Administrative officer had satisfactory news thirty-three minutes after the operation was performed.

(A further article and some excellent photographs concerning Signals in Tanganyika will be published in a later issue.—Ed.)

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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VOL. XIX.—No. 219 MAY 1938 PRICE—SIXPENCE

Editorial Notes.

Indian Signal Corps.—We publish hereunder an account of the speeches made by (A) His Excellency The Viceroy of India, and (B) His Excellency The Commander-in-Chief, on the occasion of the presentation of a signed photograph of the Royal Family, the gift of Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal to the Indian Signal Corps.

(A) " Brigadier Hitchins, officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Indian Signal Corps. It is a great pleasure to me to be able to come here to-day to present this photograph of the Royal Family, on behalf of Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, your Colonel-in-Chief, and to convey to you the message with which Her Royal Highness has charged me on this occasion. That message is as follows :

> ' My best wishes as Colonel-in-Chief of a Corps of which I am proud will accompany the photograph which will be presented to you to-day by His Excellency The Viceroy. It gave me great pleasure to see in England the representative members of my Corps who were present on the occasion of the Coronation of His Majesty The King-Emperor.'

" The photograph and Her Royal Highness's gracious message will serve as a happy reminder of the visit to England of those of you who went as representatives of India's Signal Corps and took part in the Coronation ceremonies. The close and constant personal interest taken by Their Majesties and by Her Royal Highness in the welfare of the Corps and all that concerns it is well known to you.

" I shall report to the Princess Royal that I have visited you here, and that I have presented this portrait on her behalf, and conveyed to you her gracious message. I shall tell Her Royal Highness that I found the Corps in every way worthy of the honour of her association with it, and I shall be glad to send to her, on your behalf, any message which you may wish to give."

(B) " The Colonel Commandant and all ranks of the Indian Signal Corps humbly tender their thanks to Your Royal Highness, their Colonel-in-Chief, for the gracious gift of a picture of the Royal Family.

" The picture was presented at Jubbulpore, on Your Royal Highness's behalf, by His Excellency The Viceroy, on 2nd March, 1938, and will remain a treasured memento of Your Royal Highness's interest in Your Indian Signal Corps."

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 :

Colonel P. Earnshaw, D.S.O., M.C., Major W. L. Laurie and Lieutenant R. L. Houston, Royal Canadian Corps Signals, c/o The High Commissioner, Canada House, London, S.W.1.

Captain W. M. Lockhart, Royal Canadian Corps Signals, Staff College, Camberley, Surrey.

Captain J. F. G. Morton, Royal Canadian Corps Signals, 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford Camp, Wiltshire.

Major R. Kendall, Australian Staff Corps, c/o Australia House, Strand, London, W.C.

Lieutenant G. A. King, South African Corps of Signals, No. 36 " Q " Course, Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorkshire.

The Signals Experimental Establishment, Woolwich. — The Signals Experimental Establishment will be "At Home" to all Regular Officers of the Corps (including those on leave from abroad) on 27th May, 1938. Officers will be able to see all experimental apparatus in the process of being designed, or due to go to field trials.

Officers should arrive not later than 11 a.m. The nearest Station is **Woolwich Arsenal.** A convenient train from London leaves Charing Cross at 10.28 a.m., arriving at Woolwich Arsenal at 10.54 a.m., and, if required, transport will be sent to meet this train. Return trains to London run at very frequent intervals throughout the day.

Those wishing to see all the demonstrations and apparatus should be prepared to spend the day at the S.E.E. up to 4 p.m., when tea will be served. Luncheon can be obtained locally at 2s. per head (exclusive of wines).

Any officers desirous of attending should notify the Superintendent, Signals Experimental Establishment, Woolwich Common, London, S.E.18, at least one week beforehand, either by letter or by telephone (WOOLWICH 0181), stating whether they are coming by train, and whether they require luncheon.

Mufti should be worn.

Attendance is voluntary, so no travelling expenses can be claimed. No direct personal invitations will be issued, and it is hoped that all Regular officers will take this as a personal invitation.

Exchange.—"Captain" wishes to arrange for another Officer to go abroad in his place, 1938/1939. Replies to "Captain X," c/o The Editor, THE WIRE, 95, Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

Passage to India.—Wife of N.C.O. serving in India offers her services as children's nurse-companion in exchange for passage to India during the coming trooping season. Prepared to attend for interview. Replies to Mrs. E. M. Port, 16, Charlton Avenue, Dover, Kent.

Personal.—Ex-C.S.M. Johnson W., D.C.M., M.M., "Vernesk," The Drove, Ludgershall, Andover, Hants, desires information concerning the present whereabouts of any old friends who served with him in the following Units: 2nd Battalion, West Yorkshire Regiment, August, 1914, to December, 1917 (regimental number 7839); 23rd Infantry Brigade, 8th Division, November, 1914, to December, 1917 (R.E. number 107394); 8th Corps Headquarters, December, 1917, to 1919 (Royal Signals number 2306899).

Important Notice—Re-direction of Magazines.—It has been brought to our notice that a considerable number of subscribers' copies of the Corps Magazine are being periodically forwarded to the Officer i/c Royal Signals Records, Chatham, for purposes of re-direction, many of which are not endorsed with the individual's "Army number." Will Unit representatives kindly discontinue this practice forthwith, **and arrange for such copies to be returned to this Office for necessary re-direction in future instead of to the Officer i/c Records, Chatham.**

Signals Association Notes

Annual General Meeting.—It is notified for the information of all concerned that the next Annual General Meeting of the Signals Association will be held at 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1., at 3 p.m. on Thursday, 26th May, 1938.

Members intending to be present on that occasion should notify the General Secretary not later than Wednesday, 18th May, 1938.

BOURNEMOUTH AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

The Bournemouth and District Branch of the Signals Association, which has been in existence about four months, held its first Annual Dinner at the Gervis Hall Restaurant, Bournemouth, on Saturday, 19th March, 1938. Major J. C. Bray, O.B.E. (Chairman) presided over the company, which included a contingent from the Salisbury Branch.

Proposing the toast to "The Corps," Major Bray reviewed the history of the Corps, stating that when he joined the first Telegraph Battalion in 1893, its establishment was six officers, 170 other ranks and 71 horses; while the second Battalion, employed under the Post Office, was 10 officers and 150 other ranks. In addition, they had as reserves a Company of the 24th Battalion, Middlesex Regiment, about 200 strong.

To-day, the Regulars consisted of about 470 officers and 7,000 other ranks; the Territorial Division about the same number; and the Supplementary Reserve 120 officers and numerous other ranks.

The old Telegraph Companies, he added, had produced some distinguished officers, including Lord Kitchener and Sir Brindon Blood; and many N.C.O.s had obtained important posts in Colonial service. Among the cases he quoted was that of one of their own members, Mr. G. Cresswell, late chief telegraph engineer of Sierra Leone.

"In regard to recruiting," he went on, "it seems rather difficult to understand why the Royal Corps of Signals should be so short of men. It certainly ought not to be. The type of men who are enlisted by the Corps are some of the best in the country. They have quite a good time, and very interesting work."

He referred to the successes of members of the Corps in sport; and speaking of scientific ventures in which members had been engaged, referred particularly to the Mount Everest Expedition, in which Sergeant Watts—who was present at the dinner—was engaged.

"It was with regret," he concluded, "that we old sappers took down the R.E. badge in 1920; but we cannot help being gratified at the way Royal Corps of Signals is carrying on the old traditions. We must heartily congratulate them, and hope that should the time come—which God forbid—they will do their duty with the same loyalty and devotion which is their inheritance."

The response was made by Major C. T. Hughes, who praised the present-day soldier. "You hear a lot of criticism of the modern soldiers," he said. "They are supposed not to be tough, and to think too much about dancing, and nothing about work. I have had the privilege of seeing the soldiers at work and play in the Corps during the last seventeen years; and you can take it from me that they are not too bad.

"They are different from the old sweats who had their sixteen pints and then worked it out of themselves; they drink tea and have ice-cream, but they are just as good as the old ones." He thought that it was because the Army, recently, had been overshadowed by the more spectacular Air Force, that a temporary shortage of recruits was being experienced; but there never was a time when they wanted the right sort of men.

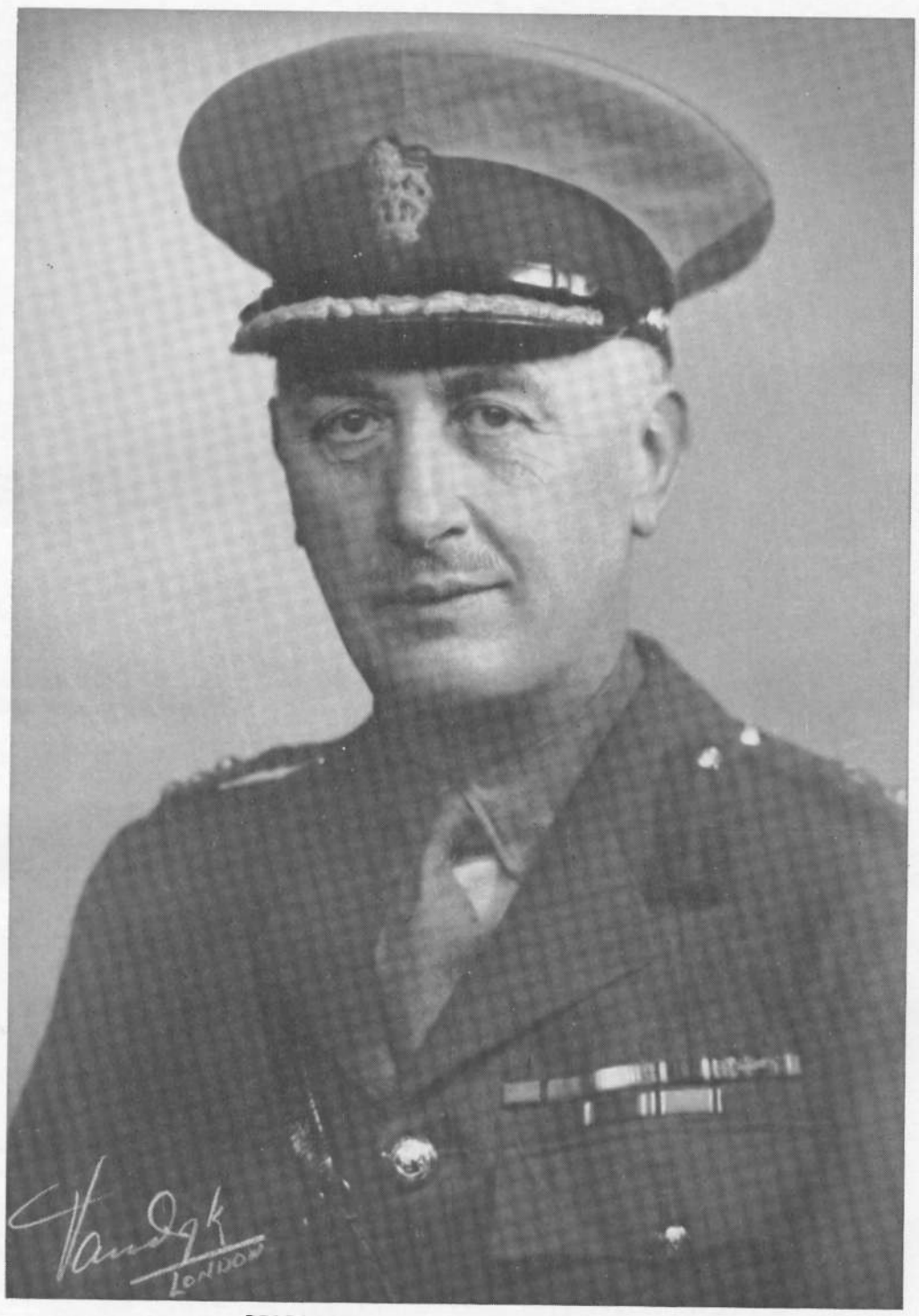
One thing they had suffered from was the tendency to cut down the period of service. They had tried to make technicians of men in six years, and then they had been shot into the Reserves. "I hope soon," he added, "that it will be possible to enlist men for a longer length of service. It is impossible to make technicians in a few years. That is the reason why the old R.E. long-serving soldiers knew their job so well."

Proposing "The Association," Mr. S. J. Rouse, Hon. Secretary of the Bournemouth and District Branch, paid tribute to the work which was done in finding employment for and making loans and grants to those members who were "up against it." He expressed thanks to the former C.S.O., Southern Command, Colonel Bradley, for the assistance and encouragement he had given to the Branch; and to Mr. Fred Cole, Secretary of the Salisbury Branch, for his help. Both had made it possible for the Branch to become, in the short space of four months, a very live affair.

Mr. F. Cole, Secretary of the Salisbury Branch, responded.

"Our Guests" was submitted by Mr. G. Cresswell, and replied to by C.S.M. Stevenson of Bulford.

An excellent entertainment was contributed to by Messrs. B. Wheeler (piano), A. Wall (accordion), W. Dean (entertainer), B. Mearing (light comedian), Mr. Rowe (monologues) and J. Richardson (tenor).



BRIGADIER F. A. HEYMANN, O.B.E.

Commandant, Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorkshire, 1934-1938.

EXETER BRANCH.

The Annual General Meeting of the Exeter Branch was held at the Signals' Drill Hall, Exeter, under the presidency of Colonel W. G. Michelmore, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., on Saturday, 2nd April. The attendance was good for a business meeting, but we should liked to have seen a few more there.

A letter was read from Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., who, on handing over his appointment, expressed his appreciation of our Branch's share in developing the work of the Association; and also sent his sincere good wishes for the future. We shall miss Colonel Bradley, and will never forget all he has done to encourage us in our efforts.

The Hon. Secretary (Major J. W. Western, O.B.E., T.D.) presented the third Annual Report, which spoke of encouraging success in every direction. Captain C. W. Knight had a smile of satisfaction on his face when he gave us an account of his stewardship. The accounts showed a small surplus, which is very satisfactory, seeing that we have had a busy year, and a rather expensive one, too.

Another pleasing feature was the splendid offer of the Salisbury Branch to send us £2 10s. 0d. towards our War Memorial Fund. This will now enable us to balance that account. We are grateful to our Salisbury friends for this splendid gesture.

We decided to have another Dinner, which will probably take place on the last Saturday in November.

Practically the same team will pull together for another year. It consists of Colonel W. G. Michelmore (Chairman), Major J. W. Western (Hon. Secretary), Captain C. W. Knight (Hon. Treasurer) and Major E. Heron Varwell, D.S.O., Captain H. D. G. Foord, Messrs. A. H. Allen, L. J. Cousins, F. Dunn, G. H. Stoneman, and F. F. West, M.M., as the Committee.

Regret was expressed at the departure from Exeter of Mr. H. W. Boulger, M.C., D.C.M., and Mr. G. E. Stone. They have both supported the Branch wholeheartedly, and we are much poorer for the loss of their services. We wish them well in their new positions and hope that they will come along to the Dinner every year.

The Hon. Secretary mentioned that if all members paid up their subscriptions promptly each year, we should be several pounds better off, but don't imagine that our Branch suffers alone in this forgetfulness on the part of some of its members!

After business had been concluded, those who were present enjoyed an hour or so with shooting, darts and billiards at the invitation of Captain F. H. Reeks, O.C., No. 3 Company. Captain Reeks always makes us feel welcome at his Headquarters, and the "old lads" appreciate what he does in this direction.

I was pleased to learn recently that, as an outcome of the last O.C.A. Dinner at Exeter, the D.R. strength has increased. Anything the O.C.A. can do to help the Unit is done with much pleasure. We wish good luck to the 43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals, and may they go from strength to strength.

OLD SPARK.

COPY OF COMMITTEE'S THIRD ANNUAL REPORT.

April, 1938.

The past year has been one of satisfactory progress and the Branch is now one of the most flourishing in the Association; membership has increased yearly since the Branch was formed, and at the end of the year numbered 109 paid-up members.

CORONATION.—Six tickets were received for Members and excellent seats were provided in Constitution Hill. Locally, a small party paraded for the Cathedral Service.

BULFORD REUNION.—As in former years, a party attended this function and the splendid arrangements made by 3rd Divisional Signals were greatly appreciated.

ALDERSHOT REUNION.—Mr. H. W. Boulger, M.C., D.C.M., attended and had the honour of being presented to H.R.H. The Princess Royal, G.C.V.O., G.B.E., Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Corps of Signals.

THIRD ANNUAL DINNER, EXETER.—The attendance, 88, constituted a record and many Members came from a distance; there was a strong contingent from the Salisbury Branch. It was a most successful gathering, and we are appreciative of the assistance rendered by Captain F. H. Reeks and members of No. 3 Company.

WAR MEMORIAL TABLET.—This Tablet, which is regarded as a worthy tribute to Our Comrades who fell in the War, was dedicated by the Ven. The Archdeacon of Exeter, and unveiled by Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., on the evening of 27th November, prior to the Annual Dinner.

EMPLOYMENT AND BENEVOLENCE.—Activity in these matters has been maintained and assistance given where needed.

COLONEL E. DE W. H. BRADLEY, D.S.O., M.C.—We tender our most grateful thanks to Colonel Bradley for all he has done for this Branch since its formation, and it is with deep regret that we have had to part with him on his retirement from the Army.

We also wish to express our warmest thanks to Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C., Commanding 43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals, T.A., as well as to Captain F. H. Reeks, O.C., No. 3 Company, and members of that Company, for their continued assistance in many ways.

NOTE.—Subscriptions for this year are now due.

SALISBURY AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

Bulford Signals Week, 1938.—It is notified for information that "BULFORD SIGNALS WEEK" will terminate with the Annual Sports Day on Saturday, 28th May and the Old Comrades' Church Parade on Sunday, 29th May. Arrangements for those coming from a distance will be made as on previous occasions, but it is requested that each individual will be good enough to notify the Hon. Secretary, Salisbury and District Branch, in good time, to enable him to submit the names of all who require accommodation on the dates in question.

A photograph of the new Salisbury Branch Flag was published in our January, 1938, issue, and it is hoped to arrange for its dedication on this occasion.

All ex-members of the Corps who are able to do so are cordially invited to attend.

Appreciation.—On behalf of the Salisbury and District Branch members, the Hon. Secretary desires to thank the Aldershot Branch for their kind expressions of appreciation published in the March issue of the Corps Magazine.

(Signed) F. COLE, Hon. Secretary.

10, Charnwood Road, Salisbury.

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, Stoke-on-Trent	Clerk
2	Ex-Signalman, Cambridge	Postman
3	Ex-Signalman, Bury St. Edmunds	Factory Worker
4	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	P.O. Engineering Dept.
5	Ex-N.C.O., Yorkshire	Labourer
6	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Warehouseman
7	Ex-N.C.O., Sheffield	Postman
8	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	P.O. Engineering Dept.
9	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	P.O. Engineering Dept.
10	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	P.O. Engineering Dept.
11	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
12	Ex-N.C.O., Sheffield	P.O. Engineering Dept.
13	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
14	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	P.O. Engineering Dept.
15	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Cinema Attendant
16	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
17	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	P.O. Engineering Dept.
18	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Telephonist
19	Ex-N.C.O., Derby	Postman
20	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Postman
21	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
22	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
23	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Postman
24	Ex-N.C.O., Yorkshire	Labourer
25	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
26	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
27	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
28	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer

29	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
30	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
31	Ex-N.C.O., London	Postman
32	Ex-Signalman, London	Fitter
33	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
34	Ex-Signalman, London	Messenger
35	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
36	Ex-Signalman, London	Cleaner
37	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
38	Ex-Signalman, Derby	Labourer
39	Ex-N.C.O., Newcastle-on-Tyne	Motor Driver
40	Ex-N.C.O., Exeter	Clerk
41	Ex-Signalman, Wilts	Wireless Operator
42	Ex-N.C.O., Catterick	Examiner
43	Ex-N.C.O., Middlesbrough	Lineman

41 and 42. Salisbury and District Branch.

GENERAL SECRETARY AND EDITOR.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

Important Notice.—It has again become necessary to call the attention of Honorary Branch Secretaries to the rules governing the administration of the Signals Association Benevolent Fund, and the correct method of procedure in all cases of emergency.

Particular attention is called to Rule 5 on page 6 of the new Association Rules, in which it is stated :

> "All requests for assistance by the Benevolent Branch will be addressed to The Secretary, The Signals Association, 95, Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1. Each request will be judged on its merits. All Old Comrades Branch Committees will communicate with H.Q. office before dispensing Association monies to applicants for financial assistance, except in urgent necessitous cases, when emergency relief not exceeding £2 may be granted immediately, and the matter subsequently reported to H.Q. office."

For the further guidance of all concerned, it is notified that no departure from the above ruling can be entertained, and that whenever an emergency sum of money "in excess of the £2 maximum above referred to" is required by any Branch Committee, for any individual, the full facts of the case MUST be submitted in writing through the proper channels, for consideration by the Administrator, WHO IS THE ONLY OFFICIAL WITH POWER TO DECIDE UPON A COURSE OF ACTION.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following :

BANKERS' ORDER INSTRUCTIONS from :
Colonel F. A. Drayson, M.C.
Captain W. F. H. Herdon.

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from :
2nd Indian Divisional Signals.
3rd Indian Divisional Signals.
Officers' Mess, S.T.C., Catterick Camp.
School of Signals.
Western Command Signal Company.
Mr. J. O'Brien.

GIFT OF CLOTHING from :
Brigadier C. J. S. Le Cornu, O.B.E., M.C.

APPEALS dealt with :

1	Ex-N.C.O., Luton	Loan	£5	0	0
2	Ex-Signalman, London	Grant	£3	15	0
3	Driver, Belfast	Grant	£2	0	0
4	Signalman, Aldershot	Loan	£3	3	0
5	Ex-Signalman, Northumberland	Grant	£2	0	0
6	Ex-Driver, Catterick	Grant	£1	0	0
7	N.C.O., India	Loan	£7	10	0
8	Ex-N.C.O., London	Loan	£3	0	0
9	Ex-N.C.O., Dublin	Grant	£2	0	0
10	Ex-Signalman, London	Grant	£1	3	0
11	N.C.O., Aldershot	Loan	£2	0	0
12	Ex-Signalman, London	Loan	£1	5	0

(Signed) T. H. L. SPRAIGHT, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Correspondence.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

D.O. 496. Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham, Kent.
13th April.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR,—The following is notified for publication in the May, 1938, WIRE, please.

Dates on which top individuals were registered on the Waiting List for the Married Quarters Roll :

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 14/10/1932.
(b) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 21/3/1932.

Yours, faithfully, G. E. SAMPSON, Colonel,
i/c Royal Signals Records.

THE WAR OFFICE,
LONDON, S.W.1.

20/Signals/583 (A.G.7. Signals.) 9th April, 1938.

SIR,

I am commanded by the Army Council to inform you that, in accordance with paragraph 17 of their letter number 9/General/2847 (T.A.F.) of 10th March, 1938, approval is given for the employment, with effect from 1st April, 1938, of one civilian instrument mechanic in each of the following Units :

Corps Signals, T.A.
Infantry Divisional Signals, Royal Signals, T.A.

Men engaged should be ex-Regular Royal Signals instrument mechanics, not less than Class II of their trade on leaving the Colours, or men able to qualify as Class II on Army Form B.171 (6). Army Reservists will not be engaged.

Men engaged will be required to join Royal Signals Units of the Territorial Army and will count against the establishment of instrument mechanics. These men will be required to attend annual camps and perform the other training required in Royal Signals Units in peace, and will thereby be eligible to earn pay, allowances and proficiency grant as members of the Territorial Army. They will be taken into account in calculating the percentage of attendance in camp.

The principle underlying the decision in paragraph 3 above is that the man who is responsible in peace shall be immediately available for similar duties on mobilisation.

During attendance at annual camp, they will draw pay and allowances ; issue of civilian pay will be governed by paragraph 138, Regulations for Civilian Employees, 1930.

Civilian instrument mechanics who join the Territorial Army under the terms of this letter will be permitted to do so even though they are over the normal age limits and may remain in their Units up to the age of 55 years.

In the event of any civilian instrument mechanic being already enlisted in the Territorial Army, he should be invited to continue to serve in the Territorial Army under the conditions set forth in this letter. A signed declaration from the men electing this course will be obtained.

Any civilian instrument mechanic who relinquishes or is dismissed from his employment as such will not be held to complete his engagement with the Territorial Army, but will be discharged under Territorial Army Regulations, paragraph 199, sub-paragraph 6 (a), immediately he terminates his employment without any monetary payment under Territorial Army Regulations, paragraph 936.

They will be employed under the Chief Signal Officer of the Command, who will be charged with the responsibility of engaging men qualified to perform the duties required. The Officer Commanding of the Territorial Army Unit into which they are enlisted must, however, approve of the enlistment.

The rates of pay of these employees will be :

LONDON AREA.—49s. 6d. (basic) plus Engineering War Advances (at present 22s.) % 71s. 6d. per week.

ELSEWHERE.—The rate approved by specific War Office authority for skilled engineering mechanics employed under the Royal Engineers at the particular station.

In the event of there being no specific authority at a particular station, provisional payment may be made at: 45s. (basic) plus Engineering War Advances (at present 20s.) 65s. per week.

The above rates are in all cases for a week of 48 hours, excluding meal intervals.

The employment of these civilians may be terminated by one month's notice on either side.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

A. E. WIDDOWS.

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

[The figures in the last column indicate the pages in the "Corps Promotion Roster" (published in April, 1938) 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.]

Promoted Warrant Officer, Class II (C.S.M.).

2306597	C.Q.M.S. Bardoe V.	28/1/38	8
2307303	C.Q.M.S. Nicolson N.	28/1/38	8

Promoted Company Quartermaster-Sergeant.

*5764741	Sergeant Smith W.	27/11/37	90
2306660	Sergeant Eynott C.	28/1/38	19
2311720	Sergeant Hague F.	28/1/38	19
1850421	Sergeant Pathyjohns C.	28/1/38	19
2312645	Sergeant Farmer F.	30/1/38	19
2311404	Sergeant Bland R.	30/1/38	19
3438039	Sergeant Boon F.	30/1/38	19

Promoted Sergeant.

2308384	L/Sergeant Badley D.	25/8/37	32
2315599	L/Sergeant Gibson G.	13/11/37	32
2312767	L/Sergeant Lourie A.	8/12/37	32
2316115	L/Sergeant Barlow J.	10/12/37	33
2311051	L/Sergeant Washburn S.	31/12/27	33
2312791	L/Sergeant Wiggins A.	14/1/38	33
2314988	L/Sergeant Lynch A.	23/1/38	33
2314678	L/Sergeant Walters L.	28/1/38	33
1857324	L/Sergeant McKinnon C.	28/1/38	33
2557746	L/Sergeant Gratwicke S.	28/1/38	33

Appointed Lance Sergeant.

2318523	Corporal Nicholson F.	10/12/37	45
2306629	Corporal Rafferty H.	9/1/38	45
2310701	Corporal Hunter G.	12/1/38	46
2212892	Corporal Mulcahy N.	14/1/38	46
5608870	Corporal Malvern H.	15/1/38	46
2316563	Corporal Weedon G.	23/1/38	46
2309424	Corporal Brunton-Douglas J.	28/1/38	46
5988076	Corporal Cook F.	28/1/38	46
2312509	Corporal King L.	28/1/38	46
2315879	Corporal Cairns J.	28/1/38	46
2318017	Corporal Whitefield C.	30/1/38	46

Promoted Corporal.

2319289	L/Corporal Smith C.	23/12/37	61
2322432	L/Corporal Lawrence R.	1/1/38	61
2317991	L/Corporal Butler C.	1/1/38	61
2318228	L/Corporal Hawcroft W.	1/1/38	61
2318534	L/Corporal Lundie R.	12/1/38	61
547228	L/Corporal White R.	15/1/38	61
2318333	L/Corporal Wilson T.	22/1/38	61
2318436	L/Corporal McCarthy E.	23/1/38	61
2215073	L/Corporal Sanderson W.	28/1/38	61
2321859	L/Corporal Newton W.	28/1/38	61
2320774	L/Corporal Robertson A.	28/1/38	61
2319902	L/Corporal Bundy C.	28/1/38	61
548057	L/Corporal Brooks J.	28/1/38	62
789197	L/Corporal Ryan J.	28/1/38	62

OFFICERS

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Appointed Lance Corporal.

2323268	Signalman Robinson H.	2/9/37
2321617	Signalman Kelley V.	6/9/37
2321491	Signalman Scott P.	14/9/37
2314576	Signalman Smith H.	14/9/37
2322066	Signalman Veitch J.	20/9/37
2322009	Signalman Piddington J.	21/9/37
4688815	Signalman Houghton A.	21/9/37
2317508	Signalman Chantry C.	22/9/37
2319325	Signalman Verlander E.	26/9/37
2321626	Signalman Cook A.	29/9/37
2321763	Signalman White V.	30/9/37
2568451	Signalman Megilley W.	30/9/37
2319497	Signalman Bennett E.	1/10/37
2322049	Signalman Sneddon W.	6/10/37
2321688	Signalman Judd W.	14/10/37
2318404	Signalman Woollett A.	15/10/37
2321312	Signalman Wood T.	15/10/37
2321874	Signalman Cooper E.	21/10/37
46178	Signalman Aston L.	22/10/37
2322377	Signalman Long E.	23/10/37
2320532	Signalman White J.	23/10/37
2319390	Signalman Spare D.	24/10/37
2214182	Signalman Martin J.	27/10/37
2315272	Signalman Bellis R.	28/10/37
2324150	Signalman Brooke A.	31/10/37

Discharged.

*1038454	W.O. II (C.S.M.) Hebberd R.	26/3/38	84
1856952	C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Chimes A.	10/3/38	
3435078	C.Q.M.S. Greenall J.	27/2/38	
2308803	C.Q.M.S. Pout A.	5/3/38	
1408699	C.Q.M.S. Radford S.	8/3/38	
2309429	Sergeant Foley P.	1/3/38	24
2310646	Sergeant Moore H.	7/3/38	24
*1416174	Sergeant Jones T.	8/3/38	
1037301	L/Sergeant Swann F.	5/3/38	43
2317580	Corporal Owens W.	1/3/38	59
2317588	Corporal Verney R.	3/3/38	52
1857011	Corporal Galbraith J.	5/3/38	55
5341650	L/Corporal Turpin F.	5/3/38	67

* Special Roster.

Transferred to the Army Reserve.

4447897	Corporal Taylor E.	13/3/38 ..	58
2320476	Corporal Johnson T.	13/3/38 ..	57
2317178	Corporal Corbett J.	29/3/38 ..	57
2320468	L/Corporal Chadwick B.	18/2/38 ..	
6396904	L./Corporal Pescod H.	17/3/38 ..	67

Plain Tales.

Balance Brought Forward.—There is much to be done these days, what with gardens to be tidied up, Territorial recruits to be clothed and Section Officers to be convinced that in the matter of Technical stores they draw a little less than Corps Signals, not a little more. Section sergeants, of course, will never believe that. The usual cry is " Well, that's what we had last year." However, with patience and perseverance the local lads are made acquainted with the peculiar ways of the service. The quite intelligent Signalman who when ordered to go and get two 110 Telephones, turned out the Unit lorry and asked for a fatigue party, was taken quietly on one side and given a private lesson in nomenclature. Curiously enough, that is the sort of man we like. No questions. Had he been told to bring a thousand 7 plus 3s he would probably have commandeered a wheel-barrow.

On the subject of gardens, you may have noticed a sort of shy reluctance on my part to hold forth. Nevertheless, I can sit back with aching limbs and a placid mind knowing that in due season my garden will produce one of the finest crops of buttercups and dandelions in the Midlands. There is also some mint.

Talking of the Midlands, can anyone tell me why the youth of Birmingham regards a white silk scarf as an essential part of the week-end equipment of " gent's daytime wear " ? Some Regular soldiers are guilty of this dreadful sartorial error. I must look into the matter some day.

Further Gossip.—Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Charlie Creosote, NYD, is staying down on his pig farm at Little Snifter-in-the-Wold until September. He usually has his lunch on a wooden plate in the middle of a ploughed field and is fond of mushrooms. A policeman on duty at the cross-roads in the village said, " 'E ain't arf a one 'e ain't." It is thought that the policeman is an old council school boy.

Lady May Savage, who will be remembered for her marvellous parties at the ancestral Maryhill home, Bagpipe Castle, deposited a further " chip-eight " in the bank last week. " It's easy," she said airily when interviewed by our special correspondent.

The Hon. Mrs. Ena Ayres, one of the greatest authorities on cold meat pies in the East, is reported to have slain a wild pig single-handed and to have eaten it with a doughnut. This is denied by the insurgents.

Essma Esstha Llacee, the celebrated Choko-Smakatian pianist, now touring India with a Dunkeley Special, is understood to be training a new soprano, when she is not washing very small garments, of course.

Mrs. H. Walker, now resident in the Midlands, says " Life is not so dull while we can watch our husbands gardening. Anything for a laugh." The word WHEN is important. A man who neglects his garden not only displays lack of soul but is failing in his duty. Grow more daisies !

Ukann Larfe.—The Countess Fibre, who, before her marriage, was one of the Expendabel-Storrs, looked her usual cool and dainty self as she moved closer to Ukann Larfe. The train thundered on its journey and in a very few moments they would be in the rush and bustle of Charing Cross, unless they got out at Waterloo Junction. You could never tell with people like these. Ukann Larfe shook himself out of the stupor into which the events of the past hour had thrown him. He made the Countess and Mademoiselle Colette known to each other.

"And now," he said, prodding the inanimate body with his umbrella, " what about the Hooker ? "

— R.SIGNALS CAR MART —

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1936	STANDARD TEN SALOON-DE-LUXE One owner low mileage	£87 10s	do.
1937	S.S. "JAGUAR" 2 LITRE SPORTS SALOON One owner	£265	do.

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Whatever they might have decided about the Hooker will never be known, for at that moment, with a hissing of steam or something and a screeching of brakes and things the train came to a standstill at Mornington Crescent or somewhere. Above the tapping of wheels and the hooting of taxi horns they could hear a porter shouting " Piccadilly Circus, Bank, St. Paul's and Elephant, not stopping at Goodge Street."

" Don't take any notice, Mr. Larfe," said the Countess, " that porter is an awful liar."

Mlle Colette stretched wearily. " I think perhaps it is a short-wave station *n'est ce pas?* "

The harassed detective grabbed his bag and, without a word to either of his companions, sprang from the compartment. In a few moments he had vanished through the crowd and reached the street.

" What is this place ? " he asked, clutching a newsboy by the lapel.

" Thursday," replied the lad, breaking loose.

" Well, dash it. I must get my other hat." With Ukann Larfe to think was to act. Hailing a taxi he dismissed it with an airy wave of the hand and walked off towards Cheshire. THIS PLOT IS BECOMING THICKER AND DEEPER. DO NOT FAIL TO MISS AS MUCH AS YOU CAN.

Stop Press.—Unavoidably held over from the January number.

All things considered, I am of the opinion that Battleship stands a good chance of winning the Grand National on Friday, 25th March, with possibly Royal Danieli second. I fancy Workman for a place, probably third. I have little hesitation in tipping Oxford for the Boat Race. They will almost certainly win by two lengths. Cambridge may be second. Regarding the Cup Final at Wembley on 30th April, in which Preston N.E. and Huddersfield are expected to be engaged, I say with all confidence that ——

Held over owing to lack of space.—ED.

Hey ! Whaddya mean. Lack of space.—B.

That's what we call it anyway.—ED.

Oh !

BARLEUX.

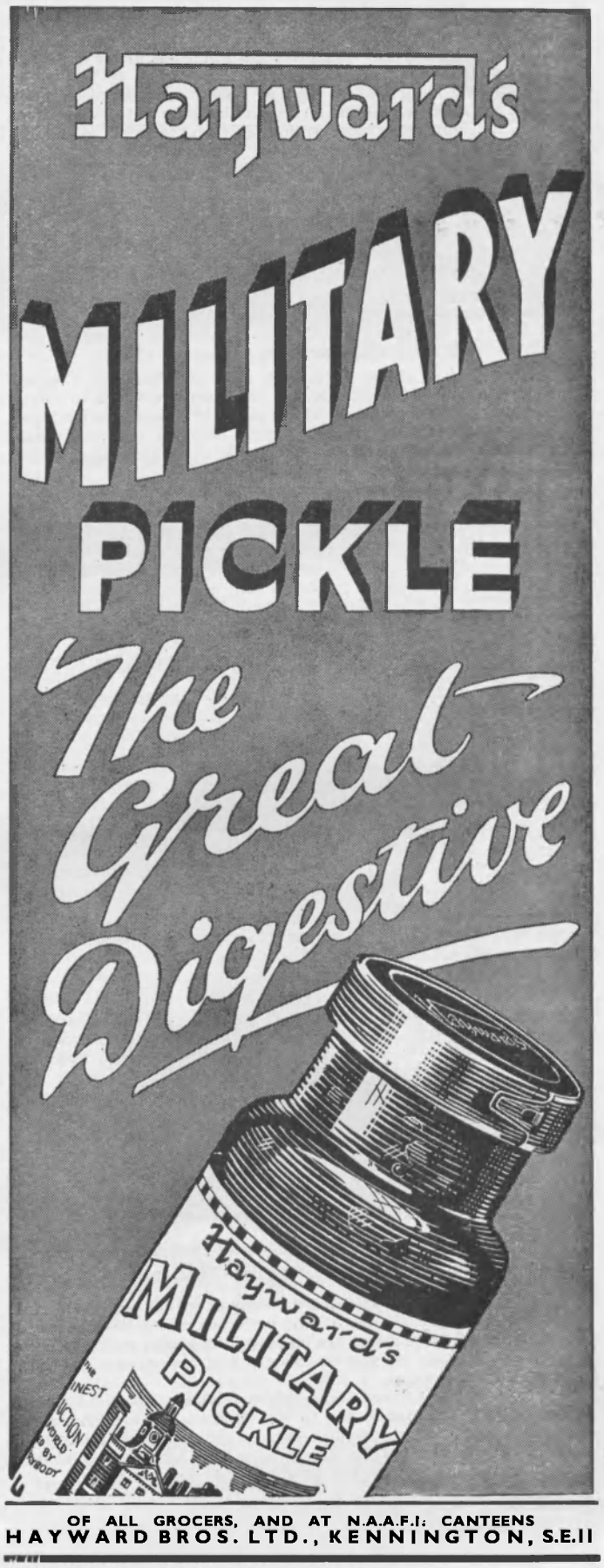
10th Divisional Signal Company, R.E., 1914-1919.

The Eighteenth Annual Reunion Dinner of the 10th Divisional Signal Company, R.E., was held at the Guildford Hotel, Leeds, on Saturday, 12th March. The event was held two months later than in previous years in order to avoid disappointments due to weather conditions, epidemics, etc., which have reduced the numbers hitherto.

In the absence of Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C. (formerly Royal Signals), owing to a long-standing prior engagement, Major M. E. Webb, D.S.O., M.C., presided over a record number of members for the dinner at Leeds. It should be mentioned that Major Webb, an M.A. of Cambridge and a distinguished architect, joined the Company in the early days of August, 1914, and was one of the first " buzzer pioneers." He was commissioned very quickly, and commanded the Company from mid-1917 until demobilisation.

Representatives were present from London. Yorkshire, Lancashire, Kent, Essex, Lincolnshire, Bedford, Rutland and Scotland. Letters regretting their inability to attend and conveying good wishes were received from Colonel Wemyss ; Lieutenant-Colonel P. A. Hitchcock, Royal Signals, Peshawar ; Majors C. A. Murray, Royal Signals ; R. R. A. Darling, Royal Signals, Jerusalem ; F. B. Barker, R.E., Malta ; C. C. S. White, R.E., India ; and many others. Several greetings telegrams were received during the evening.

The arrangements were admirable, and reflected very creditably on Jim Ecuyer, C.S.M., who was responsible. Ecuyer was an ex-R.E. N.C.O. at the outbreak of war, and a war-time Sergeant-Major. The fact that so many of his old Company attended at Leeds surely speaks well for Sergeant-Majors !



There are no objections, so far as the writer is concerned, to the recruiting authorities using this information in any future publicity efforts!

The next Dinner will be held in London on Saturday, 11th March, 1939. This year will be the Jubilee Year of the Company, and a small committee has been formed with the object of making next year's Reunion something out of the ordinary.

J. J. G.

Obituary.

No. 2320021 EX-SIGNALMAN THOMAS ROSTRON.

Our readers, particularly those who served in Peshawar District Signals between 1931 and 1936, will be sorry to hear of the death of ex-Signalman Thomas Rostron in a motor-cycle accident on Friday, 25th March, at the age of 28.

He enlisted in April, 1929, and, after the Recruits' Course, joined the 3rd Divisional Signals. He went to India in 1931, and was sent to Peshawar. A wider circle in his own Unit got to know him at the Course in Upper Topa in 1934. He was in the North-West Frontier Operations in 1935, and was awarded the Indian General Service Medal with the 1935 clasp. He came back from India in 1936, and went to "E" Troop. After a Vocational Training Course in electrical wiring, he was transferred to the Army Reserve at the end of his eight years' Colour service. He obtained work at once at the G.E.C. Telephone Works at Coventry, where I saw him happily working in the wiring-room last August.

He died as a result of a head-on collision with a lorry, which was moving slowly on its own side of the road. He was taking out a friend as learner, and they were both going slowly. The only explanation can be that he looked round to see how his pal was getting on. The lorry driver was exonerated from blame at the inquest.

(By courtesy of the Glossop Chronicle and Advertiser.)

The late No. 2320021 Ex-Signalman Thomas Rostron.

Rostron was a man who quietly went about his work, cheerful and painstaking. He was a good little boxer and took his share in games. He had made his place in the works and was very popular with all. He was the only son of his widowed mother, whom he was helping.

Our thanks are due to the staff at Coventry, particularly to Mr. Wells, the manager, and to Mr. Hannam-Clark, who served in the R.E. Signals during the war, for their interest in him and all ex-Servicemen, and for the trouble they took in helping his mother and making all the arrangements for the funeral.

J. S. Y.

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Temporary S.C. and T.s and Appointment.

By courtesy of The Post.

Despite previous statements in this letter that it is virtually impossible for male temporary S.C. and T.s to get appointed to the establishment, and that the normal channel of appointment for female temporaries is through the limited competition, not a week passes without requests being received here for assistance in getting appointments.

Branch Secretaries are particularly asked to note that temporary S.C. and T.s, on taking up Post Office employment, sign a paper recognising clearly that they have no claim to establishment. No matter how long they may be employed by the Department this fact remains, and as regards men the only ones who have any chance at all are actual ex-Service men (not "hostilities" men), and, normally, these are only considered for appointment as postmen. Women, under certain conditions, are eligible for the limited competition, and so long as they remain eligible the Department will not entertain the idea of special nomination, unless local *official* circumstances render this possible. It is useless, therefore, to send such cases to Union Headquarters for action unless the circumstances are extremely exceptional in all respects.

To illustrate how difficult such cases are the following instance will prove of interest:

A colleague served as a boy in the Post Office for about a year, and then enlisted. He was with the Royal Corps of Signals for almost eleven years, and spent most of his army career on "communications." He held a first-class in wireless and telegraph operating, and a first-class Army Certificate of Education. On transfer to the Reserve, and on employment as a temporary, he applied for appointment on the Telegraph side of the Post Office. This application was rejected, and he was reminded that his service as a temporary S.C. and T. gave him no claim to permanent employment, although he could register with the local Labour Exchange for employment as a postman.

(*Continued on page* 244)

HOME STATIONS

3RD DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, BULFORD CAMP

Panoramic Photograph Co. Manchester

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

School of Signals.

WIRE notes have but one saving grace—they cause the time to fly. Looking back, it seems incredible that a month can have elapsed since that last epic struggle, when this correspondent despaired for the School notes until he had hit upon the exceedingly novel idea of discussing the weather.

A whole month has elapsed, and the Unit is now upon tiptoe, every nerve taut, ready for an instant get-away—for to-day we go upon Easter leave.

Incidentally, and in connection with Easter, we have discovered a new form of sympathetic training. For the past week or so, the cookhouse has poured forth a constant stream of eggs. We don't mind, for an egg is preferable even to the enlightened "Kendall Rissole."

Congratulations to Signalman and Mrs. Hodgson W. on the birth of a son, David Wilson. Also to Signalman and Mrs. Mackinnon, a daughter, Sheila Elizabeth.

Sergeant Bird, who left us to rejoin his Unit, has been replaced by Sergeant Naish.

Congratulations to Corporal Joe Lauriere on obtaining a job in "Civvy Street." (Have you got your pension, Joe?). Also to Corporal Powell on discarding his dodgers.

S.O.S.—Christmas Card, Singapore. "Where is my Chinese Junk photo? Soap."

S.O.S.

Sergeants' Mess.

It is not usual that WIRE notes from our Mess should contain references to the prevailing weather, but 1938 is providing such an extraordinary change from the usual does of dampness that we feel sure that our allotment-holding friends expect something to be done, or said, about it. The rain has apparently missed Catterick Camp; it is probably still searching for it. The sun continues to shine daily, and the local sale of watering cans has gone up with a bound. Gardening experts are not quite sure whether they are glad or sorry. We had better change the subject as it looks like rain.

We welcome Sergeant Naish L., Royal Artillery, to the School, in place of Sergeant Bird A. H., who is at present probably dodging traffic in St. John's Wood, London. Your ghost still walks the Mess at night, "Dicky," and the dice haven't been the same since you left.

Another old friend has returned in the person of Mr. P. Dunn, who now occupies his old stall in the bar of the Mess—this time, we hope, for good.

Mentioning old friends, we must include members of 5th Divisional Signals, who honoured us with an invitation to a "House Warming" on Monday, 11th April. This event proved a great success, and our thanks are due to members of the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess, 5th Divisional Signals, for enabling us to meet so many old friends in the course of a really convivial evening.

Heard in School.—The School really does possess humorous talent. Just listen to this one, which can be vouched for as authentic. A fat old sow broke loose from Druggon Hill Farm, which is situated at the top of the School of Signals Lines. The animal was stopped by Signalman Blank, who, making what he fondly thought were animal noises, and waving his arms, drove the old sow back in the direction of the farm. A voice from the bath-house, however, destroyed all his good intentions, with "Hullo, where are you two blighters off to?"

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion

Congratulations.—To No. 2316950 Lance Sergeant Allen W. A. on being Mentioned in Despatches in connection with Operations on the North-West Frontier of India.

Arrivals.—We extend a welcome to Corporal Hollands, who arrived here as relief to our Pay Clerk—the bold Sid Clay. Unfortunately he has gone straight into hospital from furlough.

Departures.—Sergeant Spearpoint and family, Lance Sergeant Brunton (Billy) and family, and Lance Sergeant Nicholls left us this month for India. Also the usual batches of recruits to the Training Battalion and (a new departure this) three parties direct to Field Units.

Recruits' Training.—Corporal Crust G. passed his first Squad off with credit on 12th February. Signalman Mainprize won the C.O.'s whip as best man in the Squad, and Signalman Prestwich the P.T. Medal.

Corporal Collet passed off No. 85 Squad on 26th February, Signalman Coverdale winning the C.O.'s whip and Signalman Forsor the P.T. Medal.

Lance Corporal Driscoll D. passed off No. 86 Squad on 12th March, Signalman Brown H. winning the C.O.'s whip, Signalman Ellis J. the P.T. Medal, and Signalman Roach G. a spoon for musketry.

Corporal Jenkins W. passed off No. 87 Squad on 12th March, Signalman Owens R. winning the C.O.'s whip, and two P.T. medals were awarded to Signalmen Cochrane J. and Paul J. respectively.

Lance Corporal McGuigan J. passed off No. 88 Squad on 26th March. The Commanding Officer remarked that it was "a rattling good Squad." Signalman Butterworth A. won the C.O.'s whip, and Signalmen Dewsbury G. and Greenwood C. a P.T. medal each.

Health and Beauty Culture.—The fourteen weeks' Health and Beauty Course for Nos. 86 and 87 Squads ended on Saturday, 14th March. The average weight increase was as follows: No. 86 Squad, 10.66 lbs. per man; No. 87 Squad, 10.22 lbs. per man.

In No. 86 Squad, Signalmen Malcolm J. and Roberts J. tied for first place with an increase each of 20 lbs. In No. 87 Squad, Signalman Miles G. took first place with an increase of 21 lbs.

EL PEE.

"D" Company, Training Battalion.

General.—Our Officer Commanding (Major R. Sutton-Pratt) has now returned from his Ski-ing Course in Czechoslavakia and we hope that he has enjoyed his short period there. The knowledge you gained, sir, whilst in those wintry climes will probably be very useful to you in future winters in Catterick!

At the time of writing, the general topic is "The Girl in the Alice-Blue Gown" who is waiting for my home-coming in a few days' time. Easter leave is but a few days off, and everyone is intent on having a better time than the last.

Marriages.—Our Part II Orders are short of entries of this description. Owing to the fact that the War Minister has decided to raise the Marriage Allowance, we expected a few of our bachelor N.C.O.s to give in. Nobody has had the desire to take advantage of the increase—or do they smell a rat?

Discharged.—We extend our good wishes to Driver (H.T.) Broadhead H. on his entry into civil life once again after twenty-one years. "Harry" had a smile for everybody, and we hope that in his remaining years everybody will have a smile for him. Our good wishes also go to Signalmen Andrews and Rodwell, who have also joined the ranks of the "Civvy Street Light Infantry."

Vocational Training.—Signalman Oldroyd F. joined the Government Training Centre, Wadden, Surrey, on 10th March. We wish him all the best during the time that he is on his Course, and also afterwards when he receives his Certificate of Service.

Departures.—Owing to the number of recruits who have left us during the past month, we hope that they will forgive us if their names are not mentioned. Our good wishes go with the following on posting to various Units: C.S.M. Nicholson N. and Driver (I.C.) Spence V. to 4th Divisional Signals; Signalmen Allen D., Benoist H., Bedwell, Donlon J., Jackson S., White A. E. and Willan W. to "A" Corps Signals, Aldershot. Also to the ten recruit D.R.s who went to 3rd Divisional Signals, and the recruits, Clerks and Drivers (I.C.) who left us for 2nd Divisional Signals, and No. 9 Clerks' Class, who were posted to their various Units on 12th April. To those who have been omitted we also extend our good wishes.

Arrivals.—We welcome to our happy family Signalmen Gaskell, Pritchard and Robinson and Driver (I.C.) Keller, on their arrival from Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion. Driver (H.T.) Keeling R. joined us from 5th Divisional Signals on 1st April. He was quite lucky, because he only had to walk from the Richmond end of the Camp to our "happy home." Owing to the lack of arrivals during the past month, our accommodation problem is not quite so bad, and our chances of sleeping on the moors are getting less.

Attack on the S.T.C.—It was at 8.20 a.m. on 19th March when the alarm was first raised because of advancing troops. Lieutenant J. D. L. Morris (O. i/c Workshops), who was commanding the Goodland troops and defending the S.T.C., rallied his men together and told them to keep the Badland Troops from capturing Druggon Hill. From the direction of Gandale came Lieutenant A. T. Sladen (O. i/c Line Training) with his mighty men, who were daring to launch the attack on this great communication centre. Here and there could be heard the commands "Five rounds—Rapid Fire," "Gas," "Forward on the Left Flank." The air was now getting tense, the enemy aircraft was expected any minute now, and when it did arrive all would be finished. After one hour's fierce struggling for supremacy, both armies decided that it was time to report to the cookhouse for their tea and biscuits. So you see that we even have a bit of war in Catterick now and then. We should like to have a good battle with "E" Company, and show them what we can do.

For Music-Lovers.—For the information of the music-lovers of our happy band, we have published the following titles of new records shortly to be issued: "Symphony on the Range," Opus 303, in four movements—Practice, Rapid, Snapshooting, Application. This record is played by the Bellerby Symphony Orchestra. "Tramp, Tramp, Tramp," played by the N.C.O.s' Drill Hall Band.

Draft.—This item of news was just too late for our last issue of notes, but is too good to be left out of this one. Corporal Rose was taken off draft during the last few minutes—so to speak—and re-joined the Company from "F" Company. In this instance, perhaps, we can quote a line from one of George Formby's songs:

"If Records at Chatham like men like you,
Why don't Records like me?"

We Want to Know.—On looking through the WIRE notes of last year, we found a notice to the effect that the "Gripper" was willing to give information as to where bachelor buttons could be obtained very cheap. We would like to know if he can tell us where to get some good kit very cheap.

ACK PIP BEER.

"E" Company, Training Battalion.

General.—With the advent of summer comes the additional excitement of that great sporting event, "The Mackworth Trophy Athletics." Although training is the order of the day, our thoughts often wander in pleasant anticipation. The latent talent has been diligently unearthed, and we hope that many of our aspiring "Jesse Owens" will carry the day. By the time these notes are in print we shall have lived the day.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to Corporal "Dick" Burrell (ex-4th Div.) and hope that his stay will be a pleasant one. The latest influx of recruits from the Depot are too numerous to mention.

Departures.—These again are too numerous to mention, but we wish them every success in their new Units.

Discharges.—Sergeants Jeffers and Jervis, having qualified for a pension, are now reaping the benefit.

Casualties.—Lance Corporal "Pip" Spence decided that a hospital menu might be to his advantage, and we regret to report his admission thereto. We wish "Pip" a speedy recovery.

Conclusion.—That's all, folks.

DENDO.

"F" Company, Training Battalion.

General.—With Easter leave in the foreground, it should be quite unnecessary to account for the manifest excitement we are at present experiencing. This year it is not confined to those actually proceeding on leave, because the remainder are to spend theirs under canvas at Wathgill Camp. If the weather continues as at present, we should be quite safe in predicting a splendid time for both parties.

Since our last notes, all the bungalows have had their interiors decorated this year by civilian contractors.

The Company gardens are beginning to blossom forth now, and should soon be quite a picture. We hope to be rewarded for our labour in the Garrison Garden Competition.

Departures.—Nil, but the posting in the near future of Corporal Robertson A. to Aldershot, will rob us of an old comrade.

Athletics.—Training is now well under way, and our recent trials brought some very promising results. Our Ogpu (armed with stop watches) under the capable leadership of "The Perfect Gent."—No. 2319945 Corporal Dickinson A., has done excellent work. They returned with a very favourable report, and we have great hopes of maintaining our prestige in the Mackworth Trophy Athletic Meetings.

Football.—Although suffering a severe handicap, due to illness, "B" team put up a splendid fight in the final of the Garrison Boys' Cup, only to lose 3—1 to the Camerons.

Things We Would Like To Know.—Which boys went to school expecting M.G.M. to put them on the threshold of stardom; and did they receive a film test? Ask our harmony sisters (Barton and Flungy).

Who gained the degree "Conk the Crab?"

VICEMMA.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess Training Battalion.

Departures.—We bade adieu to Sergeants Jeffers and Jervis on 1st April. They have left us for "Civvy Street," after completing their "allotted span." Also to C.S.M. Nicholson N. on posting to 4th Divisional Signals. Our loss is definitely others' gain. Best of luck to them in their new spheres.

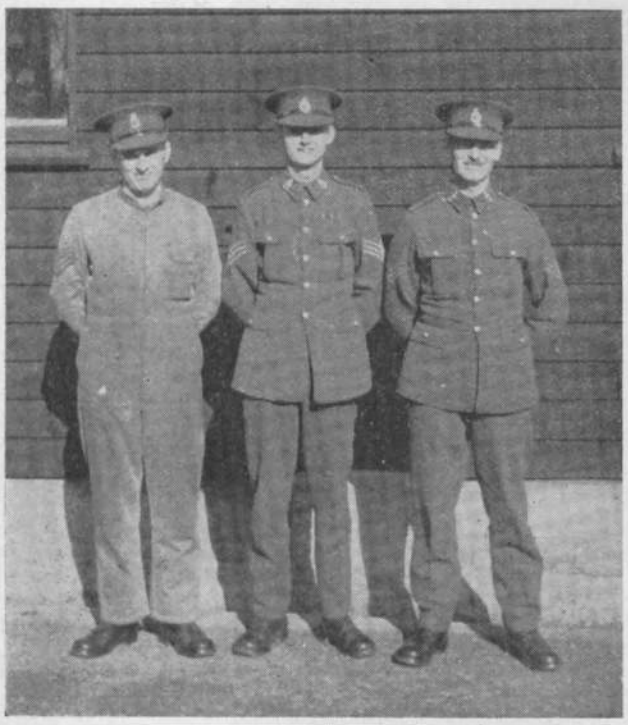
Promotions.—Congratulations to Sergeants Hancock E. and Ashford on attaining that rank.

Social.—We held a Carnival Dance on St. Patrick's night in the Newbiggin Hall. Brigadier R. Chenevix Trench, O.B.E., M.C. (Commandant), Lieutenant-Colonel R. T. O. Cary, M.B.E. (C.O.), and a good number of officers of the Training Battalion attended. The dance went with a swing, to the capable playing of the Corps Dance Band. The evening was voted a complete success.

Presentations.—On 1st April the Mess was well patronised on the occasion of a combined farewell and presentation party to Sergeants Jeffers and Jervis on leaving the service, C.Q.M.S. "Eddy" Edmunds who is expecting a "Voc." at any minute, and C.Q.M.S.s Ratcliffe and Storr on the occasion of their marriage. As none of the presents took the form of a Cup, we did not get a free "swig." Each recipient made an appropriate speech, one of them being forewarned to cut it out, or he might be faded out. No prize is offered for guessing the answer.

Mess Shoot.—In next month's notes the names to be inscribed on the Cup and Spoon will be made known. The writer has nearly qualified for the Spoon on the last two occasions, and is leaving it as long as he can this year.

Mess Personalities.—It is regretted that the names of those submitted last month were omitted. They are: (1) C.S.M. Pearson, C.S.M. Johnson and C.S.M. Harrison; (2) Sergeant Ashford, C.Q.M.S. Storr and C.S.M. Holmes. The personalities shown in this month's photograph are: Lance Sergeant Fletcher E., Sergeant Offord and Sergeant Andrews E. Sergeant Andrews has now left us for a tour in India.



Mess Personalities.

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U LINES, CATTERICK CAMP

Mess Photograph.—This photograph was taken in front of the Officers' Mess, just prior to the retirement of Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., our former Commandant. The weather at the time was everything but ideal.

ASH

Corporals' Mess Training Battalion.

General.—We now have a supper bar, much different to the "Duck Pond," and also a corridor. It is surprising what a few planks of wood will do. Now we await the new furniture and carpet. With all this happening in the Mess, members had to borrow a room in the main canteen for break period and the dinner hour. To those who would have things remain "steady," remember that time marches on.

Social.—During the month of April, members of the Catterick Village Social Club paid us a visit. The Mess was hardly ready for visitors, but Bill Gee obliged, and with the aid of the "Bunting Wallah" managed to make the room look very comfortable, Our worthy President, Corporal Melmore, had things well in hand and as regards the refreshment side, there was sufficient, and more so. The visitors were kind enough to say they had a really enjoyable evening, and judging by the expression on the faces of some of our own members the next morning, the "battle" must have been fierce and long.

Special mention must be made of the songs rendered by Sam Hoar. He has a truly powerful voice, and appeared to know the full value of the songs he rendered. I am now convinced he could be taken anywhere. A disappointment was the fact that Corporal Melmore refused to sing; some say it was because he lacked moonlight and inspiration. Thanks for a good evening, and once again thanks to those who worked hard to make it so.

After Easter we have another "fixture." This time we hope to entertain members of the Richmond Hotel Darts Club.

Excelsior.—Lance Corporal Holdsworth can now make an allotment—apart from this, promotion beer is getting flat, but hope dies hard in the unpaid heart. The rise of pay has been published, and we are truly thankful to receive. I have quietly enquired of my neighbour what difference it makes to his pay, and the green eye flickers.

Influence.—Can be both good and bad. Some say that Sam Hoar leads Mutt astray, and others that Sam is only fighting a losing battle. The good weather in early April sent these lads out into the country—and people say that country air is so bracing. We can tell just how bracing the country is after seeing the effect on those two worthies.

Chimes.—Cannot be helped, but blame Cupid. Now that Spring is here, the "fence" she fly out the "vindow." A lamb skipping about is nice to see, but when it comes to 14 stone of manhood, then it is very different. This mad season takes them in various ways—only the other day a lad was seen talking to an empty beer bottle.

A close watch is kept on those members who are affected by the moon, because a full moon, Spring weather and a rise in pay are too much all at once.

Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., Officers, Warrant Officers and Senior N.C.O.s. (See Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess, Training Battalion Notes).

Cross-Country.—To those who think that they know Albert Yeadon must know of his attempt to break the record for two miles across country. His first appearance in sports kit, and very distinctive. Leg action perfect, arms flopping in all directions and breath missing on all cylinders. Words of advice to athletes—beware of the two-stroke, side action, speed wobbling Albert Yeadon—the young daredevil.

For Sale.—Two buckets and a spade with wheels. Known locally as the " Rankin Special." That is what comes of sending a man on an Upgrading Course.

DANDELION.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

1st Divisional Signals.

March.

" It seems but yesterday." Time certainly flies between one set of notes and the next. Part II Orders have scarcely time to dry. Luckily, Broadrib generally comes up to scratch, although at the moment thoughts of leave have given him the itch to travel.

More names for the Hall of Fame. Corporals Malvern and Cook to be Sergeants. Signalmen Simpson, Johnson, Scott, Philmore, Moase, Treloar and Atkinson to be Unpaid Lance Corporals. Congratulations, boys! Where there's one, there's always two.

I am afraid that the following is somewhat belated: 2nd Lieutenant Hunter to be Lieutenant. Matrimonial troubles rather drove it out of my head last month, sir, but I hope our congratulations, although late, are acceptable.

A thump on the back also to Signalman Fairweather for obtaining a very good report from the School of Cookery, and one for Signalman Jock Barbour on passing his Course at the School of Hygiene. Harking back to the other one, Jock; which do you agree with? " What you can, or what you should? "

Arrivals this month are few, but none the less welcome. Signalmen Booth, Hannam and Bowler from the Training Battalion; Sergeant Kavanagh from the Southern Command Signal Company; Lance Sergeants Sherrington and Turner, Lance Corporal Walker, Signalmen Brown R. M., Jones, Rowley and Roscoe—complete with anvil and chorus—from India. Grip on! A hopeful glint comes into the eyes of Lieutenant Harrison, our T.M.O. and football representative, each time a new arrival is mentioned. " Footballers," says he. This time he has managed two.

Our best wishes for the future go with the following: Lance Corporal Lawes and Signalman Dempsey, who are now learning to punch a clock at Waddon; and Corporal " Toby " Parker, who is doing the same at Slough. Sergeant Hoyland, when not watching the troopers, is becoming acquainted with civilian life at Southampton. " Lofty " Mills returned to the manœuvre area—round Letchworth—for his " Voc." It is a pity that map-reading is not a part of the Course. Signalman Marks just could not leave the district for his Course, so his " Old Vocational" tie will bear the Aldershot crest.

Signalman Trotter was transferred to the Army Reserve on 19th February. Signalman Richardson completed his " Voc.," and, like a true old soldier, faded away. Signalman Coole, who was attached here from Catterick, has also gone with Corporal Payne to put theory into practice. Catterick papers please copy. We hope that " Civvy Street " comes up to their expectations. The world is now their oyster.

Corporal (now Lance Sergeant) Cooke, Lance Corporal Mansfield and Signalmen Carter and Gamble, intrigued by " Tando's " description of Pulau Brani, have decided to make the trip and see for themselves. You had better get a good strong postman on that run across your burning desert, " Tando." We " gamble " that he will be fed up when Claude gets going. We hope that Signalman Stubbs is settling down in Gibraltar. Never be too sure about the sea-sickness.

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Engagements and Re-engagements.—This item proved extremely popular (?) last month. Fellows are coming to me asking for their engagements to be announced, whilst others have warned me that I am heading for a pretty warm one. " Viv hum by tom pett it," or " two minds with but a single thought." Anyway, felicitations to Signalman Neal B. on his engagement to Miss Joyce Nell of Brighton. He tells me that although her name is " Nell," she is really a peal! Come to think of it, ships don't sail from Brighton harbour, do they?

I know of one chap who proposed and was accepted three times in one night. This was caused by the Army Estimates. It is not fair on a poor bachelor, is it, Dicky?

Heard in the " Q " stores. "A 6¾ in. hat is no good, Sergeant; I must have a 6 6/8th."

And a snorter from the Orderly Room. " If you don't remind me about this to-morrow, I'll make you finish it to-night."

The concert party goes from one triumph to another. The day after each show always finds a couple of agents on the doormat waiting to sign it up. There are, I believe, still three dates to be completed, and Andy is now discussing an entirely new show.

The night at the Cambridge Hospital was a great success, although at the last minute substitutes had to be found for Billy Panton and Mrs. Coulter. Luckily, they were able to appear at the Cove Social Club, and it seemed that Billy Panton's tonsils were better out, because he was in great form. The great question now is, What happens to a player who forgets his lines? I am sure that Mr. Newman should speak up about Bill Shakespeare. Sort this out for yourselves. " May we pick the flowers, Corporal? "

Before concluding, please note that news, agonies, births and marriages are all welcome. If you have anything for the WIRE, call in at the Pay Office. Thank you.

TOMMIE.

[Owing to pressure on space a cartoon has been unavoidably omitted.—ED.]

Headquarters.

Our programme for April is vast (?). Here are some extracts from the Unit diary. Officers' and Sergeants' training commences; Junior N.C.O.s' Drill and Small Arms Course continues until the 10th. Then follow the Officers' and Sergeants' Schemes. Other ranks are scheduled for a spot of drill. Then for the big Range. Finally, revolver practices, and from then onwards comes the more serious side of collective training.

On 18th March we welcome to the fold a batch of sixteen recruits, who are posted to us to complete their operators' training.

Unit Directory.—Officers.—Add Captain C. Childs, Royal Signals, who joined us on 8th March. Also Major E. L. Farnall, Royal Signals, who joined us on 1st March. 2nd Lieutenant J. B. Birkett, Royal Signals, arrives from Catterick on 16th March. Lieutenant D. R. Yearsley, Royal Signals, much to the delight of all concerned, will not now proceed to India.

W.O.s and Sergeants.—We welcome from various distant Stations: Sergeant Todman A. E., who will join us from London Corps Signals on 21st March. Lance Sergeant Kavanagh, fresh from the Foreman-of-Signals' Course, is patiently awaiting the "big rise." Lance Sergeants Turner and Sherrington from overseas. The last two are still on leave, but will be back just in time for the events foreshadowed in the programme already mentioned.

It is rumoured that there will be a Mrs. Shilton from about 1 p.m. on 30th March. (Starting point: Winchester.)

C.Q.M.S. Greenhall discharged, and now residing in the Manchester area. Sergeant "Joe" Cotterell to London Corps Signals in relief of Sergeant Todman. Last, but not least, we welcome Lance Sergeant Cooper from Bulford.

Junior N.C.O.s.—Add to the ladder of those promoted the following Signalmen, who are now U/Lance Corporals, with effect from 25th February: Simpson J., Johnson H., Treloar H., Moase H., Scott L. and Philmore.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters.

General.—The Individual Training season has just come to a close, and the Unit is "looking forward" to the Collective Training period. Although it is not higher training this year, we will take part in various Exercises. The first takes place just after Easter—a Road Movement Exercise. It sounds exciting, and our readers shall hear all about it in our next edition, after the good work has been carried out.

We have the task of training Recruit Clerks. Four arrived on 4th April, from the Depot Battalion: Signalmen Forward, Cowley, Pugsley and White, and at the moment everything is running smoothly. This means extra work for all, but as long as they learn their job thoroughly, all the hard work will not be a waste. Possibly we might get some posted to us! It would help to adjust our heavy shortage. Who knows?

A series of concerts, produced by Sergeant Andrews, 1st Divisional Signals, and given by those Royal Signals personnel in Mons Barracks who have any talent at all for entertainment, has been heard in the Mons Barracks N.A.A.F.I., and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. It was a pity "Carrol Levis" was not in the vicinity during the shows, because his discovery programme on the radio would have been complete for weeks to come. The entertainers were all N.C.O.s and men of the Royal Corps of Signals, assisted by one or two ladies, who sang and danced. To describe the show minutely would take hours; let it suffice to say that the programme, from beginning to end, was great.

Arrivals.—Signalman Keating, who arrived from "B" Corps Signals, Karachi, has entered the Orderly Room, and "punches out" orders, much to his delight (?), as we only have "Royals," and Keating has been used to "Remingtons."

Departures.—Corporal White, who has obtained a Vocational Training Course, proceeded to Waddon on 7th April. He has been with this Unit for the past three years, and it is wondered how he will take to civilian life after twelve years in the Army. He will not be permitted to swing lorries, steer with one hand and hold the gear lever in place with the other. Anyway, best of luck, "Blanco"!

Query.—Our Pay N.C.O. received a letter the other day from some learned scholar, begging for a "large pay." The Pay N.C.O. scratched his head, thought a while, went through the Company Accounts, then paused, scratched his head again, then decided to give it up. The following is an extract from the letter he received. What would you do?

Union Jack Club,
91, Waterloo Road,
London, S.E.1.

Ronald "Duck" Coleman, W.O.L. Cumpany, 2 Div.,
R.Signals, Aunts.

DIR, SIR,

I, the Ronald, submit this my applercation to be granted a huge pay, i.e., viz., e.g., that is to say, £25 in excess of. Failing this I will take action and pilfer the pay roll, ad lib. Haping same meats with your idees,

I Yaur Suh,
THE COLEMAN,
B. Cable, S.Will.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Once again there is a lull in the routine of the office; hence the time for a little concentration, and, who knows, maybe a little of that information for which ex-No. 1 Coyites are waiting.

Leave.—Just now everyone, with the exception of those select few staying behind to guard our happy domain, is walking on air, with faces radiant at the thought of a few days' leave. Never mind, Jock K., you have got "it" to come back to.

Recruits.—We have to extend the hand of good fellowship to no less than eighteen recruits who have joined this Company for training instead of going through the Training Battalion. Fourteen of these are I.C. Drivers; the remainder are Clerks. The question now is, "Will we be able to make use of their services when they have 'passed out,' or will Records have other ideas?" Please be kind, Mr. Records; our family is still in the "under-strength" category.

Lance Corporals Huggett and Tietjen have been placed in charge of the rooms occupied by the recruits, and now it is noted that No. 40 East have rivals worthy of consideration. Oh, where has "Blanco" gone!

Command.—Once again the command of the Company has changed. This time it is to Captain C. A. H. Chadwick that we say "may your stay with us be long and cheerful." To Lieutenant M. G. Ridley-Martin, who has left us for the Tank Brigade Signal Section, we say, "Good luck in your new sphere, sir."

Arrivals and Departures.—There are so many that we cannot mention them individually. To those who have joined us, we say "Welcome"; to those who have left us *au revoir*

Training.—After the Easter leave period we have a Road Movement Exercise. We shall probably be able to give a vivid account of some of the "incidents" when the next WIRE notes are due.

Cross-country Running.—The season has now closed, and we are looking forward to the track; that is, when our soccer players have finished with it. We welcome Signalman Roberts to the fold of distance runners.

Sergeant Shardlow, although not running in the Army team, was chosen as coach for the Inter-Services Championships.

TASHY AND LOFTY.

No. 2 Company.

General.—We beg to offer a thousand pardons for our absence last month, but there will be a double issue this month. We have just completed our Annual Musketry Course, and our average, I believe, was very high, in spite of one individual who, when asked to record his score, said, "One Range Warden, two in

the bank, one almost hitting the target, and a direct hit on the 'Char Wallah.'"

A Unit Drill and Duties Course has just been completed. The majority of the Company N.C.O.s took part, and whilst on the subject, we deny the statement published in the weekly Bull and Grip (price 1 anna) to the effect that a young and dashing N.C.O. was seen walking on the Ash Ranges muttering "(Sec. 14 to 26) Engineer Training, Vol. 1; as the left foot passes the right, etc." It was not the Ash Ranges, but Cove Common.

Courses.—Corporal Ditchfield to and from an Anti-Gas Course at Winterbourne Gunner. Obtained Q.1. We are pleased to state that his swallow has not been affected.

Things We Should Like to Know.—Which Indian Wallah, after marching all over India (?), could not face marching to the Ash Ranges (approximately three miles)?

Gardening Notes.—(By Mr. Raspberry, our B.B.C. expert). I have just been looking at my sweet peas. Both have never looked better. Good chemical manure is the thing, and will remove all parasites from the garden and all neighbours from the vicinity. Cucumbers will be early this year; a small alarm clock attached to the vegetable is a sensible move. Dandelions are a menace. These flowers grow so fast over night that the only way to stop their growth is to creep out of the house after midnight with a small wooden mallet. When the dandelion pops through the earth give it a shrewd tap and knock it back again.

Do not step on the rake; it is painful. (Continued next month.)

Arrivals.—Driver (I.C.) Vesty from the Training Battalion; Lance Corporal Plummer and Signalman O'Connell from No. 1 Company; Signalman Tietjen from Tank Brigade Signals. We hope their stay here will be a long and pleasant one.

Departures.—C.Q.M.S. Pout to civilian life. The best of luck from all who know you, "Jim." Signalmen Nutt and Bromley to India.

Sport.—Congratulations to the Company cross-country team for their success in the Inter-Company cross-country run. Also the personnel of the Company who helped to bring success for the Unit team.

Monthly Grip.—Who say the following, and why?: (1) Foim foise. (2) What's your game? (3) I have no further comment to make. (4) You're the boss now, but I am not through yet. (5) Ohyeeh.

Rules for the above competition.—Entries should be submitted by 9 a.m. on 19th March, 1960. The Company Clerk's decision is binding and gripping, and no brawl of any nature will be entered into between the competitors and the judges.

Prizes.—The first 2,000 opened and found correct will receive 8 oz. Pedler's Pie (Haversack Pattern).

Jews' Mail.—Mac Senior, School of Signals. "Mac Junior is still in residence here."

Young Tich, Bulford. "What about it, Moss? Maxie."

Mac very Junior, 54th E.A. Signals, Stratford. "How my doing? Mac Junior."

[Why all the Macs?—ED.]

MAC JUNIOR.

No. 3 Company.

General.—The second period of individual training having ended we are now busy getting down to Section training and M.T. instruction. The Junior N.C.O.'s Drill Course is now finished, and the training given was reflected in the final pass-out tests. Smartness and keenness were outstanding.

Congratulations.—To Corporal Snell, Signalmen Payne, Ramsbotham and Williams R. on convincing the Trade Board that they knew their stuff. Also to Driver (I.C.) Wilkinson on obtaining a Third Class Certificate of Education and squeezing an extra threepence per diem from the Paymaster. To Sergeant Wiggins on his promotion to full rank.

Departures.—Lieutenant Curry has left us for No. 2 Company as R.A. Brigade Section Officer.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to the following: Lieutenant Travers (complete with his poodle), Lance Corporal Wright, Signalmen Roberts, Elmes, Boulton and Marvin, and Driver (I.C.) Stephens.

No. 4 Squadron, Mobile Divisional Signals.

March.

General.—By the time that these notes appear in print we shall have said farewell to "D" Section of this Unit. They proceed to Egypt per H.T. *Nevasa*. The names of this draft appear in the departure list.

An inspection of the Unit lines, and personnel at work, was carried out by the Brigade Commander, Brigadier J. C. Tilly, D.S.O., M.C. According to reports, everything was very satisfactory.

On 25th March, the usual bi-annual dance of the Salisbury and District O.C.A. takes place at Salisbury. We are all anticipating a really good time, as in the past this function has been very successful.

Departures.—We weep for the loss of the following: To Malay. per H.T. *Somersetshire*, Signalman (Gertie) Girt. Signalman Burrows (Ben), our noted pen pusher, to Gibraltar, per the *Dorsetshire*. Lance Sergeant Jerram and Lance Corporal Terry, F.A.L. (Bob) to India per H.T. *Lancashire* on 8th March.

Here are the personnel of "D" Section, attached to the 1st (Light) Battalion, R.T.C.: Section Officer, 2nd Lieutenant A. J. M. Atthill; Sergeant Tompkins; Lance Corporals Brooks and Farnsworth; Signalmen Thompson, Bonds, Cullen, Stokes, Rogers, Roberts; Drivers (I.C.) Metcalfe, Benny, and Webster. The "waiting men" are Lance Corporal Murray D., and Signalman Milner S. We wish you all the best "Don." May all the troubles that confront you be easily overcome.

Courses and T.A.—We wish all the best of luck to Sergeant Foley on leaving the Corps for civilian life on 1st March. The same applies to Signalman Pescod on transfer to the Army Reserve on or about the end of February. Signalman (Chippy) Petherick J. B., has left us for Chisledon, where he will attend a Course of Carpentry. He should be very competent at this, after six years' experience in the cookhouse. All the best to you, John, from the lads.

Arrivals.—We extend the usual welcome to the following: Signalmen Bates and Wilmot, and Driver (I.C.) Smith from Palestine; Signalmen Allen, Bracegirdle, Brown, Bennett, Casey, Healy, Price, and Wright, from India. At a later date, also from India, Lance Corporal Barrett, Signalmen Attfield, Huddlestone, Jones, Pickering, and Tietjen. From the School of Signals we welcome Captain L. A. E. Tozer, and hope that his stay will be a long and happy one. Signalmen Baldwin, Barford and Button from the Training Battalion. Signalman Garrett returns to the Unit from duty as C.S.O.s batman.

ALI MUSKET.

Sergeants' Mess. (Attached 5th Battalion R.T.C.)

During the past month things have been rather hectic in the Mess. We have had the members of the Sergeants' Mess, 1st (Light) Battalion, R.T.C., attached, preparatory to their proceeding to Egypt, and, in consequence, chairs and tables are at a premium. There appears to be a card craze at present, and it is a common sight to see "phat," "solo" and "euchre" played in such close proximity that a solo player is often euchred, and a euchre player has been known to "push it."

The billiard room is still the danger zone, where the cue of a certain W.O. named Edmunds (no names no pack drill) is well in evidence. We don't wish to infer that he is always playing, because other people have been seen at the table either just before Check Parade or after 11 p.m. Lamp shades and decorations are not even safe, and if you ever meet a member of the R.T.C. minus an ear or eye, it should be at least evident that for some period of his service he was with the 5th Battalion, R.T.C.

It is regretted that reference to the hearty welcome and hospitality we received from R.S.M. Spindler and the members of the Royal Signals Sergeants' Mess at Aldershot on the occasion of the Army Cup Match (R.A.M.C. versus Royal Signals, S.C.) was omitted from these notes last month. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves, and hope that if we are ever in a position to return such hospitality, we shall not be found wanting.

We have said good-bye to Sergeant Tompkins, who left us for Egypt with the 1st (Light) Battalion, R.T.C. Have a good time, Darkie, all good things come to an end. We hope Reg. Crouch and George Lichfield have settled down in the land of milk and honey.

K.R.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Training.—March and April come into the silly season for training. Individual training is finished and collective training may be said to begin after Easter.

A good sign of the times was the arrival of fourteen recruits from Catterick for D.R. training. It is wonderful to think that we are now getting so many recruits that the S.T.C. is not big enough for them. It is rumoured that we shall get some more recruits in May. It would be interesting to know when this abnormal rush will make itself felt in Field Units by bringing the number of trained soldiers nearer the mark of establishment. We welcome the day when the Unit will be 10 per cent. over establishment in order that it may take its part as a complete Unit in the field, and also undertake its various extraordinary peace-time duties.

Sport.—No. 2 Company did well to get into the final of the Garrison Inter-Company Soccer Cup; more about this should appear under the Sports notes.

We hope that the semi-final of the Garrison Inter-Company hockey will be No. 1 Company v. No. 2 Company.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

Any Old Thing.—It is always pleasing to write of something important. I think it is important when I say I have heard the cuckoo. It might have been a crow croaking on my bedroom window sill, or again it might be that I am "cuckoo"; be that as it may.

On 26th March there fell upon the peaceful serenity of the green fields and wooden hutments of Bulford a tribe calling themselves the "Doubleyouowes and Sergeantmessites" of Aldershot. They challenged our small tribe to do battle with twenty-two sticks and a ball. The small tribe resorted to strategy, and put their Chief—one of large bulk and of kindly face—between two posts which were covered with netting; but alas and alack, the tribe, which was fleet of foot and possessing players known throughout the land, did seven times miss the Chief of large bulk and of kindly face, and entered the two posts covered with netting.

On the arena of battle, stood two lesser members of the tribes, one too lame and the other too old to do battle in this fight of fury, but they did "pipe the pea" and stop the battle at intervals. Although we had a bit of "luck" in our arena, the other "piper of the pea" was no other than the arch-rogue "Wensleymick." We do hope that in the near future we shall do battle again, when we shall produce our chief arch-rogue "Gingerad" to be our "piper of the pea."

Now let us be sensible and natural. After the hockey match we entertained the Aldershot gang in the Mess, and made merry with "Horsey-Horsey," "Housey-Housey" and "Ring the Bottle" until the dance band arrived at 8.30 p.m., when everybody began to shake a nifty leg. The company thoroughly enjoyed themselves. R.S.M.s Herbert and Westwood expressed the appreciation of the two Messes for a most enjoyable day.

On 29th March Brigadier R. C. Prance, D.S.O., presented the Garrison Billiards and Snooker Cups to the Mess. At the presentation of the individual prizes he tried to turn the evening into an "In Town To-night," but the individual prize-winners must have been too full for words, and would not play; although some did attribute their success to a "mis-spent youth" and some admit that they hid themselves after the 2 o'clock parade; but they were ex-boys.

We had quite a crowd in the Mess, as members of other Messes turned up for the prize-giving. After the presentation we challenged the visitors to a Games Tournament, and had a very close fight, the result ending in a one-point win for the visitors. But—halt! Wait a minute! The Mess team was challenged by the rest of the Garrison, and we proved our superiority by winning seven games to one at billiards and snooker.

LEAGUE WINNERS v. REST OF GARRISON.

BILLIARDS.

C.S.M. Wattley ..	100	v.	B.S.M. Friend	84
Lance Sergt. Woodbury	100	v.	Staff Sergeant Trim ..	96
Lance Sergeant Teal ..	100	v.	B.Q.M.S. Light	64
Sergeant Luck ..	100	v.	B.S.M. Butler	42

SNOOKER.

R.S.M. Herbert ..	62	v.	Sergeant Godfrey ..	22
Sergeant Kitchen ..	37	v.	S.S.M. Purcell	32
R.Q.M.S. Adcock ..	50	v.	B.S.M. Mynett	48
Lance Sergeant Rafferty	40	v.	Sergeant Brown ..	50

Promotions.—We wish to congratulate the following for their next step up: C.Q.M.S. Eynott C., C.Q.M.S. Prior W., Sergeant "Tubby" Lay and Lance Sergeant Roberts C.

Arrivals.—We welcome C.Q.M.S. Eynott and family, Sergeant Cosstick and Lance Sergeant Phillp and family from India, and Sergeant Southwell from the T.A., Exeter.

Departures.—Lance Sergeant King to 43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals, T.A., Exeter.

ERGIE.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Apologies are tendered to our readers for the non-appearance of notes for last month.

Gas training has now drawn to a close, and the wearing of respirators has come to be accepted as part of an ordinary day's event.

Blessed with such glorious weather and Company Schemes—and yet more Schemes—the Sections are making excellent progress, and it is hoped that by the time the last entry is recorded in the O.C. Company's book on "Criticisms and Useful Hints on Schemes," N.C.O.s will have derived much benefit.

All thoughts are now turned to Easter leave, and it is hoped that the present weather will continue.

Departures.—C.S.M. Minion R., Corporal Burrell H., Driver Lambert E. and Signalman Ringland M. all to Catterick.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to the following on joining the Company: C.S.M. Nicholson N. and Sergeant Lockyer F., ex-China; Lance Sergeant Hunter G., Lance Corporal Lilley F. and Signalman Boyd J., all ex-India.

Promotions.—Congratulations to the following on their appointments: Lance Sergeant Hunter G., Corporal Baker F., Lance Corporals Wood T. and Brook A., and U/Lance Corporals Whitehead C., Lynch C., Redmond T., McKend W., Wilce W., Packman P. and Lowe W.

Births.—Our congratulations are extended to Lance Corporal and Mrs. Wood on the birth of a son, Shaun Patrick Anthony.

No. 3 Company.

General.—This is "Threecoy" calling with all the current news and items of topical interest. To all ex-"Threecoy" and 4th Divites, wherever you are, greetings! Good hunting, and, might I add, fishing and shooting! Up the old school tie!

Before the news, there is one S.O.S. It is for "Lionel Edward." He was last seen leaving "K" Section barrack-room (presumably for "J"). It is thought that he may be trying to board the *Queen Mary* at either Strood or Sturry (both ports are being watched). He left the Unit with secret plans and blue prints, without which the new Unit grass-cutter and roller (designed by Heath Robinson) will not work. Will anyone knowing his whereabouts communicate with Sherlock Nickells? Telephone: Badgee 1938. (Apologies to the B.B.C.)

Section training is still in full swing, and map references and frequencies are main barrack-room topics, not forgetting, of course, the main one which crops up. (No prizes for guessing.)

The weather up to now has been kind to us, and we hope that it remains so.

We have been asked to state that, owing to the amazing popularity of the "spelling-bees" over the radio, "K" Section are entering a team (if no one else does). All queries to Lance Corporal Froud. (Apply Ramsgate Office.)

Flying instruction may be obtained at reduced rates for Signals personnel from Lance Corporal Pipe (Palestine, Yiddish and Matruh papers, please copy). The specification of the bus

is as follows: Super-super Austin 7 (developing 6 7/8 h.p.), square wheels, rectangular tyres, kick-start handle bars, insured by Freeman, Hardy and Willis.

The Month's Palm.—Goes to the football team for being top of the Military and Thanet Leagues, and showing both soldiers and civilians that we can do it. We take our hats off, and boots, too, if necessary, to the team and the excellent team spirit shown throughout the season. We must not forget the man behind them, who long ago produced such things as Army Cup finalists. We hope that in the near future we may see the Army Cup in the canteen. (Full, of course.)

The Month's Titbit.—The physical fitness campaign. (Ask Signalman Jones.)

Births, Marriages and Deaths.—Births—(1) To Sergeant and Mrs. Matthew, a big, bonny, bouncing girl (weight not known), Marie Patricia. Sergeant, count your blessings one by one. Congratulations, and we wish good luck to the new arrival. (2) To Lance Corporal and Mrs. Wood, a little chip—sorry, a son—Shaun Patrick Anthony. (A little loud speaker.) Nice work. Lance Corporal Wood we congratulate you.

Marriages—Just one. At Canterbury, on 2nd April, Signalman Irwin W. took unto himself the proverbial millstone round his neck—but he can take it. The lucky young lady was Miss N. Oxley, and we all wish them the best of luck.

Deaths—Just one. A rissole, surrounded by his beans. (The locals will like that one.)

Departures.—The following have left for pastures new: "Geordie" Hindmarch A. E. to the Depot Battalion; Signalman Hoyle F. (Popeye) to the School of Signals (watch them both Catterick!); Signalman Norbury R. to Perham Down; Signalman Lovegrove W. on a "Voc."; Signalman "Micky" Walker on a "Voc." (Egypt take note); Signalman Brown J. J. on a "Voc."; Signalman Potts, discharged; Lance Corporal Taylor and Cutter to the A.E.C., Shorncliffe; C.Q.M.S. Coleman and family and Corporal Chadwick to India.

Arrivals.—Signalman Green F. N. from Perham Down; Corporal Hughes G. from India; Signalmen Lithauer, Orton and Pigden from Catterick; Corporal Funnell H. J. from Woolwich. (For further details, see "Hot News.") Also a brand new grass cutter and roller, and spring.

Wanted.—A second-hand stop watch for timing cycle speedster with a secondary circuit for timing greyhounds. Will buy outright, or will exchange for a second-hand football pools predictor. Apply to "Olly," c/o "K" Section.

For Sale.—Second-hand topee with sliding sunshine roof and khaki umbrella to match. Apply Signalman Jenner.

Agony Column.—Hong Kong. "What is a 'Wall' Set? B.B.C."

Higham, Egypt. "Wot abaht a line? E. J. C."

Weeping Willo. "Nerts. C. H."

"Well done, George; Fritzy couldn't miss winning another Cup. Must be 'piping up' about it somewhere. Busty."

Monthly Household Hint.—You thought your holdall was white until you saw Signalman Smith's "Pilsil"-washed short pants. (Apologies to a well-known advertisement.)

Stop Press.—The new R.P.D.D. motto is: "Weight while you wait."

Heard in the mess-room (sorry, dining-hall). 1938 version—the Grill Room (?):

Orderly Sergeant: "Any complaints?"
Signalman: "Yes, Sergeant."
Orderly Sergeant: "Well, what is it?"
Signalman: "The 'duff' is rather small, Sergeant."
Orderly Sergeant: "Would you like two pieces, my man?"
Signalman: "Oh, yes, please, Sergeant."
Orderly Sergeant: "Well, cut that (censored) piece in half."

Hot News.—To C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Funnell, the "glad hand" from all. Many of us remember him in the old 4th Div. days and we congratulate him heartily. Members of the old Colchester Corporals' Mess will appreciate this as he was the founder of the "Reed Hall Arms." More congratulations.

Tail End.—"Threecoy" says au revoir to you all. If you have enjoyed our small contribution, let us know; the only condition is, send your appreciation on the back of a five-pound note. If you did not like our notes—aw pipe down.

Easter leave is in the air,
Farewell, Signals, everywhere.

ROYCON.

"J" Section.

Section Schemes have started again, and we are pleased to say that most of them have been a success. An all-day run to Brighton was enjoyed. Forty vehicles which started out, eventually arrived back safe and sound. This in spite of the fact that one had a slight argument with a ditch, and the desire of a certain N.C.O. who wanted to strike a match in order to see where the petrol was going.

We are pleased to say that the two wandering boys have arrived back from their stay with the G.P.O., Lincoln. ("Jordy" of 5½ fame, please note.) When asked what they had learned on their Course (six months) they replied, "We saw some good football; you should have seen Jimmy nodding them in." It was a Line Course, and we hope that Signalmen Macklin and McCall did really learn something.

We congratulate Sergeant and Mrs. Matthew on the birth of a daughter. We understand he is selling his wireless set, complete with loud-speaker.

We understand (from a good source) that Lionel Edward has developed writer's cramp. He has been sent to this Section to obtain some hints on how it is done. All we know about him is, "How he held them back in China."

Congratulations to Lance Corporals Dale, Hicks and Wood on their appointments.

Agony.—"Jordy" (5½ fame). "How are the tins going on? What about a line? Tich and Daisy."

P.S.—"Duke" has retained his horizontal title. He just "slept" away with it.

BALL BOY.

"K" Section.

Section training is now in full swing.

Owing to the departure of Lionel Edward to that collection known as "J" Section (in order to show them how it really is done), I have volunteered to fill the breach temporarily. No doubt ex-Helmiehites will recognise the style, but there are no prizes for guessing. Criticise if you like.

The Unit organised an M.T. run to Brighton for instructional purposes. It was enjoyed by all concerned, and closely resembled the Monte Carlo Rally. Afterwards in the barrack-room: "I just missed it," "Didn't even notice the lights change," "Of course she will do more," "Then I put my foot on it," and other "automobilic" (?) expressions.

Sport.—Nothing of note. We are resting on our laurels (which are many). We should like to congratulate the Unit soccer team on securing top place in both the Military and Thanet Leagues. Good show, chaps! Here we hide our blushes for our Section Sergeant, also Signalmen Jenner and Ainsworth, all big cogs in the 4th Divisional Signals team (the nursery of internationals).

Unit Altitude Record.—Reached by the Orderly Officer, when a man in the mess-room said, "The finger bowls are dirty."

Marriages.—Signalman Irwin took the plunge into the matrimonial sea, and is now advertising for a good second-hand push bike and ration bag (blood-stained preferred), also a serviceable accumulator, with wireless set attached. We wish him luck, and advise him to buy an alarm clock. Signalman Allen W. has been registered on the "Waiting List." (We think it will be in July.)

Scandal.—Who holds the "K" Section record for "ticking"?

What is the meaning of "Chota Thunder"?

Q.M. at a kit inspection: "Where are the tapes off your socks, gloves, cap comforter, etc.?"

Bright Young Thing: "At the wash, sir."

Driver Staite has purchased a streamlined cycle in order to either wrest the existing record from Canterbury to Strood from the Strood Wrangler, or a prelude to matrimony. (You are going to the "dogs," "Olly," old boy.)

A certain driver (very old) of this Company has been christened " Popeye's Papa." Why ? If this is a good name, then who can we christen " Olive Oyl " ?

How did Bisto get his name ?

Appointments.—Congratulations to Signalmen Walker and Sutton on getting a grip on the baton. Delete " Signalman " in each case and insert " U/Lance Corporal." You know what Gladstone said in 1066 ? Or was it Nelson ? We don't mind who it was, and wish them both the best of luck.

Departures.—Lance Sergeant Knowles proceeded to the S.E.E., Woolwich, to return, we hope, complete with horn-rimmed spectacles. Remember, Sergeant, someone must replace Marconi.

Signalman Lovegrove to the height of his ambition—a " Voc.'

ROYCON.

Eastern Command Signal Company.

Sheerness Detachment.

General.—Very little has happened since our last appearance in these pages. Work is still the order of the day.

Arrivals.—We welcome Corporal Welbourne D., from Malta, to the Section.

Departures.—Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Aslett J. to " Civvy Street." We are very sorry to lose him. The departure of one of the " old and bold " makes us realise how time marches on. We wish him the best of luck in his new venture.

Signalmen Beeden W., Bolton A. and Pope D. to our neighbours at Dover. May their stay there be a long and happy one.

Promotions.—Congratulations are due to Lance Corporal Megilley W. on removing the " U," and to U/Lance Corporal Walsh P. on putting the ladder against the wall. May he also soon collect the " shekels."

Re-engagements.—Signalman Harris W. has decided to sign on the dotted line for another four years to complete twelve.

Personal.—Greetings from " Blokey " to Malta Signal Section. Pat : " Is Christmas the usual time for ' Chippies ' to get ' spliced ' ? Tich."

In Passing.—Owing to the fact that we are unable to meet many of the Corps, we would be very pleased to welcome any serving member or old comrade, should they be in the vicinity of Sheerness at any time.

If our " Pool " comes up before the end of the season, they will be doubly welcomed.

5th Divisional Signals, Catterick Camp.

Way back in the " twenties," when serving in India, it was always impressed upon me that the finest sight in the world was Bombay from the back of a trooper. Well, that may be so, but, as a contrast, I think that the worst sight in the world is Scarborough from the back of a " gin palace "—especially when it is known that the move is permanant.

Such is the fate of 5th Divisional Signals, who are now enjoying the delights of Catterick, sharing the barracks of Ypres Lines with the Royal Ulster Rifles.

The soldier is renowned for enjoying his " grouse," and the privilege is being exercised to the full in this Unit. Those of our readers who have soldiered in Scarborough will realise what a wrench it is to leave one of the finest stations possible.

The good people of Scarborough have shed many tears over our departure, especially the employees of Woolworths, and Marks and Spencer's. Alas—our sheiks have departed ! We had a hope that the loyal inhabitants would raise a petition to Mr. Hore-Belisha, on the grounds that the Signals had married their women, drunk their beer, and filled Peasholm Park after dark; but all our hopes were dashed, and here we are, eking out a miserable existence on the Yorkshire Moors. There is one bright prospect on the horizon—drafting next trooping season !

The families of the Unit wish to take this opportunity of thanking R.S.M. Sherman of the Training Battalion and his Mess members for the excellent welcome and fare provided for them at the C. of E. Institute on the day of the arrival of the Unit in Catterick.

Burniston Barracks are now in possession of the " Ovaltinies," as the troops fondly call them. The correct designation is " No. 2 Recruits Physical Development Depot." It is to be hoped, for the success of the idea, that some restriction will be placed on their activities. Speaking from experience, I should say that staggering along Burniston Road in the wee sma' hours, trying to get into barracks before reveille, is not conducive to physical fitness. Furthermore, the bracing air of the Catterick moors is just as healthy as that which Scarborough can produce. These things considered, why not let us change Stations ?

It is anticipated that the road from Catterick to Scarborough will enjoy an increased volume of traffic in the near future. Some of our locals are even attempting to hike it. Corporal Stowers and his " pashwag " will be conspicuous each week, loaded to capacity.

A special bouquet is handed out this month to our one and only "Alfie " (Lance Corporal Ambury) on risking the storms of matrimonial life. The deed was accomplished at Ilkley (not on the moor) on 19th February. (Gertcha !) Alas, our Alfie did not enjoy married bliss for very long, for after a short honeymoon and a Trade Board, he departed for the burning sands of Sind Tough, to say the least.

Signalman Williams E. A. was married to Miss Hilda Barling at Canterbury on 16th February.

Wedding bells are working overtime in the Scarborough district. Signalman Skinner was wed, on 21st March, to Miss Edith Lawton. Signalman McLaren enticed Miss Dora Rushforth to the altar on 6th April ; and one, " Felixstowe," is now on leave doing his stuff ! Lance Corporal Chatfield anticipates visiting a certain church in Scarborough in the near future (and he is not interested in ancient buildings, either).

Although the Divisional Signals now ceases to exist in Scarborough, the Signals Association is flourishing in the town. One of the shining members is ex-Sergeant Rose, who will be pleased to welcome any old comrade who should happen to venture near his address—12, Briardene Avenue.

A warm welcome was extended to the Unit on arrival in Catterick ; it took the form of the Annual Dental Inspection. Further visits to the Dental Centre (Chamber of Horrors) are anticipated.

The Unit is getting used to being buffeted about by the powers that be, but the latest blow of the Officer i/c Records will take a lot of getting over. Our R.S.M. (Mr. Bevan) has received orders to embark for India in the near future. R.S.M. Bevan has not been with us very long, but both he and Mrs. Bevan have made themselves very popular with all ranks and families. We wish R.S.M. and Mrs. Bevan and family the very best of luck in their new Unit.

The Unit football team are to be congratulated in providing us with a trip to Scarborough. They have entered the final of the Scarborough and District Hospital Cup, which we hope to bring back to Catterick with us. The team have recently suffered a great loss in the departure of Signalman Steer G. to Southampton for Vocational Training. Signalman Steer has been a pillar of the team for many years now, and, apart from sporting activities, he was an excellent soldier and will be sorely missed. He will be well remembered in Jubbulpore and Karachi.

The hockey team have played one game since arriving at this Station, defeating Bradford by 5—2. Well done !

Congratulations to the following : Corporal Machin on promotion to that rank ; Lance Corporals McCartney and Hurley on receiving pay of appointment ; Driver Whitwood on re-mustering as Signalman and obtaining a trade rating ; and also to the remaining N.C.O.s and men who recently qualified on the Trade Testing Board.

A welcome is extended to 2nd Lieutenants D. R. Horsfield and J. de D. Yule, who have recently joined the Unit from the S.T.C. Also to the following : Lance Sergeants Brown and

Breeze, Lance Corporals Cordner and Harrod from India; and Signalmen Adamson and Riley from the Training Battalion.

Agony.—" M.O.A.M." wishes to know what has happened to " Oggies' " Five-Year Plan.

No. 1 Company.

General.—The powers that be, having carefully perused several back numbers of the WIRE, were disturbed at the ever-thrilling marriage columns, and so decided that our tour at Scarborough should terminate.

No time was lost in effecting the move, and this finds us back in the jungles of Yorkshire.

Burniston Barracks are now occupied by a staff of muscle makers, who intend to make recruits bigger and better than ever.

Arrivals.—Operative " 68 " was the last to arrive here in " Smoky " Stowers' newly-acquired " Passion Waggon," complete with deadsack and bald patch, and is now doing secret service work within the Unit for a big steel and iron magnet. He doesn't give much away.

Marriages.—Signalmen McLaren and Stowe have remustered to married rank before shutting themselves off from the civilised world.

Departures.—Signalman Steer caused our football team to suffer a severe setback at a critical period when he vacated the Unit to attend a Vocational Training Course.

Items of Interest.—The collective training season is almost upon us, and it is anticipated that this year's " Mystery Tours " should prove more mysterious than ever (if such a feat is possible).

Statistics show that 3,000,000 wireless sets are in daily use in Britain, while licences total 2,000,000. What about it, pirates?

" Battler " Hatcher can be seen daily rigorously training for his coming fight with " Man Mountain " Smith. He desires to know where he can purchase a second-hand gum shield.

Jews' Mail.—" Cannon Ball " earnestly desires to find the whereabouts of " Tommo."

CANNON BALL.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

General.—Apologies are offered on behalf of the Unit for the absence of notes in the last issue of the WIRE. Our scribe has been away from the Unit for some little time, but has now returned to take up the pen, full of the knowledge that it is mightier than the sword. There were also numerous social engagements associated with our " Change of Permanent Stations," to say nothing of the extra work involved when such changes are brought about. We hope that we shall be excused our lapse and neglect.

Arrivals.—Salaams to the recent arrivals from sunny climes. We hope they will soon settle down to enjoy the work of the Unit.

Change of Permanent Stations.—All good things must come to an end. Our stay at the " Queen of Watering Places " came to a close on 1st April. We leave many old friends, both military and civilian, who have been connected with the fine spirit and comradeship of the Mess since it opened with the arrival of the Rhine Army.

Entertainments.—From the results of a quadrangular tournament of indoor games, which took place at Catterick on our arrival at the new Station between members of the Depot Battalion, Training Battalion, the School of Signals, and ourselves, we gathered that serious training is essential for the team if we are going to hold our own against such opponents.

THE FROG.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Headquarters.

7th April.

While I have no doubt that other and more industrious WIRE correspondents already have their notes in the post, this is very early for me. The result is, of course, that out-stations have not yet sent in their contributions to our monthly effort. When they do come in I expect big-hearted Arthur will do his stuff and send them along with these. At least, I hope so, for I shall be revelling in the rain, which seems to find its way over to the east coast of Scotland after Ireland has finished with it.

While I am on the subject I should like to record my thanks to the new correspondent at Lenan, who woke me up to my job by getting off the mark early and sending in some very amusing notes early this week. Thanks, Lenan, I am sure your notes will cover the short-comings of my own.

Things in general have been humming around here this month. What with the Grand National and the Trade Board, there has been no lack of subjects for conversation and worry. On both counts, the worry is now past. The prize of the month is divided between the Mess orderly and our perambulating lamp-post. For what they are worth here are the yarns.

We ran a small National Sweep among ourselves. After the draw, the Mess orderly said, " What horse have I got? "

Sweep Promoter: " What have you? "

Mess Orderly: " That's right. What have I? "

Romance is responsible for the next episode. It would appear that the " P.L.P." (see above) met a lovely lady one night and, very rightly, obtained her 'phone number. On ringing up the number next day, a feminine voice answered, but refused to be addressed as " Winnie," and denied all knowledge of any one of that name.

P.L.P.: " Isn't she in some other department? "

F.V.: " There is no other department, and I don't know any Winnie."

P.L.P.: " Well, do you know where she works? "

We surmise he thought that she was a Belfast directory.

Incidentally, will the M.T. chap on leave please note that he is being blamed for the " Safety First " correspondence which an enterprising Birmingham firm has been sending our budding D.R. The fact that he had a bit of a nasty skid the day before seems too much of a coincidence.

As there are a lot of moves and trade improvements to report I had better leave the gossip and get on with the various headings. I shall have to return here after my leave, so dare not write any more or " Winchell " wouldn't have a look in when it came to dodging wrathful " news-items."

Marriages.—To Miss Edith Brierly, at Belfast, on 1st March, Signalman Brierly. Good luck, Jim, and welcome to Mrs. Brierly. We hope that you both enjoy married life as much as you expect to.

There are other marriages rumoured, but " some time in the summer " is as definite a date as we can get. If this keeps up we shall have to hang the " N.I.S.C. " board outside the M.Q. Block before next winter. Come to Belfast, all you wistful bachelors!

Promotions.—On the twenty-fifth the tailor got busy again. Signalmen Brierly and Reece (Derry) were appointed U/Lance Corporals. Congratulations, and may you soon lose the " U."

Arrivals.—Catterick must almost be empty now, as we received quite a large and very welcome reinforcement from there this month. The dates do not matter here, but here are the names: Signalmen Busby, Hunt, Bartlam, Carter, Francis, Goodsir, and Henley. They have settled down and like their new Station very much. I should think they would, even if the night life is still a closed book to them.

Signalman McCulloch arrived on the 2nd and Signalman Cartlidge on the 16th, from Ballykinler. As Belfast was the terminus, the latter did not pass his station this time.

On the 10th Signalman Richardson came in from Armagh, prior to proceeding on draft. Signalman Peckham joined us from Derry on the 11th for the same reason. Sergeant Peters, M.B.E., arrived from Dunree on the 18th, having handed that station back to Sergeant Masters, when the latter returned from furlough. Judging from the glowing accounts of rabbit shooting at Dunree, Sergeant Peters seemed almost sorry to leave.

Departures.—What a list! We are sorry to lose them. Football suffered a loss when Lance Corporal Pilkington decided to try his luck in "Civvy Street," leaving us on the 2nd for his "Voc." Course. Signalman Lee went straight out on the 9th with a "Time-ex" smile all over his face. Lance Corporal Watson left us on the 16th for a "Voc." Course. We wish the three of them all the best of luck as "civvies," and hope that they will not forget us in their new surroundings.

Drafts took away a few of our promising lads in the persons of Lance Corporal Houghton, Signalmen Barry, Peckham, and Richardson. We hope that Egypt and Palestine find them as useful as we did either on duty or on the sports field. They left on the 12th, and at present are attached to the Training Battalion. Signalman Cox F. went to Omagh on the 22nd in relief of Signalman Whalley. We have heard that there is a very charming attraction near that Station.

I am sorry that I did not mention it before, but Signalman Whalley left us on the 23rd for a "Voc." Course. We have not had the benefit of his company very long (he only came to us on 1st January), but quite long enough to know that we have lost a first-class operator and a "stout fella." Our wishes to the other three go for him, too. "Hail and farewell" was about all we had time to say to Signalmen Henley and Francis, as they arrived on 4th April and left on the 6th for Lough Swilly. Good luck, fellows!

Old Soldiers' Corner.—Signalman Couch signed on the dotted line again on the 29th, this time to complete twelve years. Glad you have decided to stay, Reg.

Trade Board.—Much to the joy of our ambitious members, the Trade Board heard their claims for more pay on the 28th, and took three days over the job. After a rather comprehensive examination, Signalman Cox A. became an A II Fitter; Signalman Dawson a B III Operator; Signalmen Picken, Rogers, and Slavin, B II Operators. Driver (H.T.) Scoffin bloomed forth as a D.R., D III. They deserve their rewards after all their hard work, and we offer our heartiest congratulations.

As he was unexpectedly warned for draft, Signalman Peckham had a special Board a little earlier than the others, and left us a B II Tradesman. Congratulations, too.

Tail-piece.—Even if I do get killed for it, this one is too good to leave out.

A lonely D.R. was on duty one night. During a conversation with the operator, who was due to go off duty at 6 p.m., he remarked that he was expecting to meet his lady friend, who was coming in on the 7.15 p.m. train at the G.N.R. Station.

At 9 p.m. he squandered twopence on a 'phone call in order to find out if the lady was peeved at not being met, only to be informed that she had not arrived at her home.

Question. Where was the operator?

SPUD-CAN.

Londonderry Detachment.

8th April.

Very little of an extraordinary nature has happened during the past month to lend excitement to these notes.

We were favoured with a visit from the I.P.C. on 25th March, as he went through to the Forts. He also brought us a broadcast receiver, which is appreciated.

Signalman Peckham left us very hurriedly to proceed to Catterick via Belfast *en route* for Sarafand. We wish him the best of luck. Many people have enquired for the "big fellow." The day of his departure should provide excellent subject matter for a good cartoon, unfortunately, none of us is endowed with the gift of an artist. Almost every one was engaged in poking spare pieces of kit in odd corners of already bulging cases and bags. He sighed, looked at the famous "Peckham Key" and said, "I leave you all that, plus the sweepings!"

One of our operators has been appointed a Lance Corporal, a fact duly celebrated in 1938 fashion with free teas at Sandes' Home. Our congratulations to Lance Corporal Reece; we hope that he will like Magilligan.

Signalman Slavin proceeded to H.Q. for a trade test as a B II operator. We have been told that he passed. Well done! Signalmen Lamb, Biggs, and Slavin were examined in subjects towards the Special and 1st Class Certificate of Education. We hope that they have passed.

We wrote of cats and dogs in our last notes, but the latest is tadpoles. A nice glass jar containing same can be seen in the bath room. It looks as if the Indian sun acts in a similar way to the famous monkey gland.

Well! Well! Well! We hear that we are going to have a visit from one of our old operators, who is being married about Easter. Congratulations.

HEC ME.

Fort Lenan Detachment.

General.—Ex-Lenanites will be pleased to learn that Lenan is still the same old Lenan, complete with rain, wind, barren rock, "wogs," the sea, and the wireless cabin, where many happy hours are spent in getting in touch with the "outside world." Part of the time is spent in speculation regarding the next day's weather; I don't think any one has been correct yet but, perhaps, if we are patient, the sun will shine some day. Who knows? While there is life, there is hope.

For our leisure hours there is an instrument of torture, pleasure, annoyance, amusement, which we fondly term "The Lenan Straight Three." Since its creation, its career has not been all that we could wish. For instance, one day someone went trustingly to the switch, and pushed same to the "ON" position. The speaker emitted one agonised shriek, and then lapsed into stony silence. Alas, thought we, the "Lenan Special" has at last given up the ghost. We looked at it with reproach in our tear-dimmed eyes, poked it with a screwdriver, and shook it, but silence reigned supreme. One heartless cad suggested kicking it—kicking it, mark you—but we could not be so cruel to the poor thing; it might have been appendix trouble or some such thing, and you must be careful with that.

After a while the head surgeon took it apart and found that the trouble was in the wave-switch. After a rather delicate operation this was put right, and back in place. Then it was switched on.

Every one stood back at a respectful distance. For a while nothing happened. Suddenly, as though many miles away, music was heard. Every one cheered. The "Straight Three" was back on its feet again. It is very good when chamber music is being broadcast, but if a comedian starts to entertain us it always packs up. We are willing to exchange it for a 1940 Rolls or an old pack of cards, or what have you.

Replacements.—The "Duggy" will soon be leaving us for good, as a new charging plant is to be installed. This will be run off the mains, consists of a huge panel with a lot of clocks on it, and three motors, one behind the other. We are wondering now what the petrol lighter fiends will do for juice. Watch all your cars and motor-cycles for they will stop at nothing. You have been warned.

B.s, D.s, and M.s.—Nothing to report as yet but we are still hoping. Even "Tam" is getting waves in his hair and growing a moustache.

Tail-end.—Owing to crooning, debating, and spelling bee societies, which have been recently organised, the Local Lads' Club has turned out to be nothing but a "Cheeky Little Brats' Society." (Apologies to Superintendent Derry). "Square pegs, you cads, square pegs."

Personal.—Once again "Tam" missed the courier, "Dutchy." Same old excuse as well.

To Gunner Walters, formerly 40 Squad. "How about a line? Trooper."

SEA DE SEA.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India).

7th April.

We are now nearing the end of the trooping season, and our last batch for the United Kingdom are busy packing their kits—some for the last time. R.Q.M.S. Brown, C.S.M. Lewis, and Sergeants Keegan and Napier have completed their allotted span in the Service, and are now going to try their fortunes in civilian life. We wish them every success.

Other fortunates are Sergeants Tucker and Tidey, Lance Sergeant Edge and Corporal Cox, who also will soon be included in the Home Establishment. Good luck and good Stations! But then, there are no bad Stations in England, are there?

Last month we had pleasure in congratulating two members of the Unit on being included in the "Honours and Awards" list. This month we again offer congratulations to the undermentioned on being "Mentioned in Despatches" by H.E. The Commander-in-Chief: Lieutenant C. L. Ommanney, Sergeant Tidey E. and Signalman Lunn S.

Congratulations also to Lance Sergeant Dadswell on dropping the "L"; to Corporal Chambers on picking up the "L"; and Lance Corporals Spiers and Banham on getting both feet on the promotion ladder.

Our interest in the various soccer and hockey tournaments has been somewhat reduced by the elimination of the Unit teams. In the Porter Cup we were defeated by the odd goal by the Hampshire Regiment (the ultimate winners), and in the Wallace Tournament we were accounted for by the 3rd Field Battery, R.A., by three goals to nil.

In the Garrison Hockey Tournament we were again claimed as victims by the Gunners, who defeated us by 3—2, after extra time.

On 2nd March, His Excellency The Viceroy visited the Signal Training Centre to present to the Indian Signal Corps, on behalf of Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief of the Indian Signal Corps, an autographed photograph of the King Emperor and the Royal Family. His Excellency addressed the parade and then presented the photograph. The illustrations show the chief features of the presentation. Many will recognise in the bearers of the photograph the four senior Indian Officers, who represented the Corps at His Majesty's Coronation—Subedar Major (Honorary Lieutenant) Sowar Khan, Bahadur, O.B.I., I.D.S.M.; Subedar-Major Jiwan Singh; Subedar-Major Panchanadan and Subedar Ram Singh, I.D.S.M.

Last month we mentioned the P.T. Display given at our Annual Mounted Sports by the Indian Boys of "F" Company. We now publish illustrations showing their proficiency, together with illustrations of another well-known feature of the S.T.C. (I.)—the Pipe Band.

From 1st April, a re-organisation has taken place, by which the Commandant, S.T.C. (I.), will, in future, be a Colonel, combining this with the appointment of C.S.O., Southern Command. This, we are pleased to note, means that Colonel Pollard will be staying with us as Commandant. Lieutenant-Colonel W. M. Miller has taken over command of the Signal Training Battalion. The command of the Signal Training School has been assumed by Lieutenant-Colonel T. B. Gravely, to whom we offer a hearty welcome.

Sergeants' Mess.

31st March.

The Garrison Tennis League for "A" and "B" teams is now in full swing, and our teams are holding their own fairly well. Full details will be given when all fixtures have been concluded.

Our billiards teams are now engaged in the Inter-Mess Annual Competition for the Neaves Trophy, and our hopes are running very high.

We take the opportunity to welcome C.S.M. Taylor and family to Jubbulpore.

Social functions during the month included a Cocktail Party, organised by Mrs. W. M. Miller, to which all married members and their wives were invited. It is hardly necessary to say that all enjoyed the evening very much indeed.

[Owing to pressure on space an excellent photograph has been unavoidably held over.—Ed.]

"A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

10th April.

General.—As our regular scribe, "Cave Canem," is leaving us in a few days' time, I am left with a last-minute rush to compile notes for inclusion in the current issue of the Wire. I feel that it is better to submit short notes than none at all, so will endeavour to remember the events of interest which have occurred during the past month.

Officers.—The Unit warmly congratulated Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. H. Vulliamy, our C.O. (who is at present on leave in the United Kingdom) by telegram on having his name brought to notice by His Excellency, The Commander-in-Chief, for distinguished services rendered in connection with the Waziristan Operations, 1937.

A hearty welcome is extended to Lieutenant A. V. Benton, of Peshawar District Signals, who joined us at the end of last month to take over the onerous job of Station Staff Officer in Upper Topa during the summer months.

We are expecting to welcome Lieutenant C. W. M. Young very shortly on his arrival from the United Kingdom. May your service in "A" Corps Signals be very pleasant, sir.

Promotions and Appointments.—More again this month. Congratulations to Lance Sergeants Skiffins and Vollans and Corporals Glover, Milligan, Rymer, Legge and Hamilton on their promotions and appointments; also to Lance Corporals Hills and Rowden on losing the "U" before their names. Congratulations to U/Lance Corporals Wood P. and Smith F. H. on reaching the dizzy heights. Several "deckhands" are very optimistic, but are still hoping.

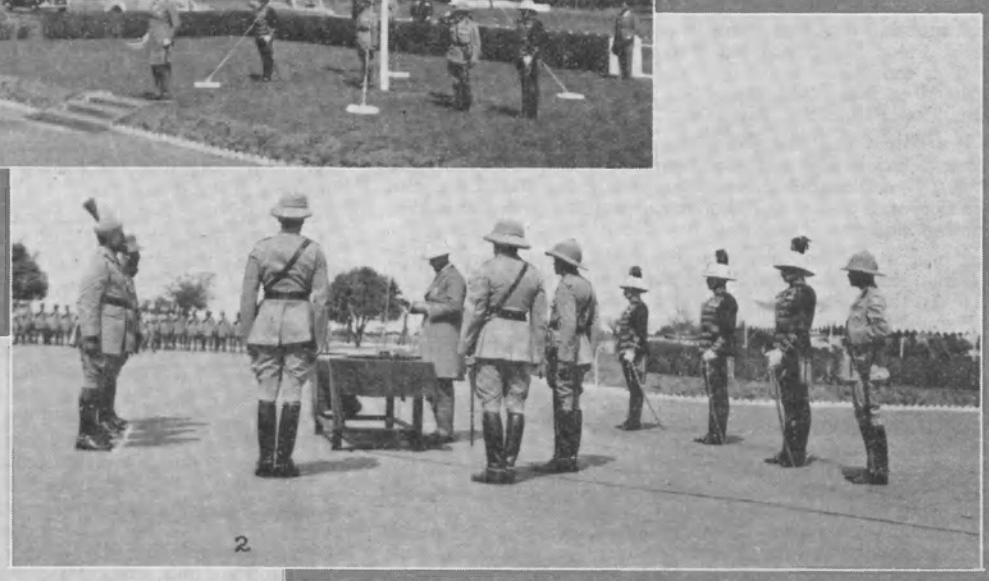
Re-engagements.—Two brave men decided to aid Mr. Hore-Belisha and signed on the dotted line. They are VU2FX, Signalman Thomas L. (of short-wave fame), who has decided to retire on a well-earned pension in 1948, and Signalman Porter L., who has extended to complete twelve years, and at the same time applied to remain in 'Pindi for another year (phew).

Arrivals.—Welcome to Corporal McKeer, Lance Corporal Terry, Signalmen Hodges, Lee and Thompson, who joined us on 31st March. We hope that their stay in the Unit will be a pleasant one, and that they will enjoy their summer in Topa.

Departures.—Another draft left us this month, when we said good-bye to Sergeant Clark (our former Orderly-Room Sergeant), Lance Sergeant Eason, Lance Corporals Lowman and Cook, Signalmen Bradbury ("Tichomer" and Nebby are still pining, "Bwad"), Wilde, Shipley and Barlow. Corporal Gill and Signalman Mills were invalided home, and we hope that they will both be soon on the road to complete recovery. Signalman Charlesworth, who wants to be an artist, packed up his guitar (sighs of relief) and took it to Simla, where he is attending a Draughtsman's Course. Corporal Clayton (our former scribe) is leaving us for Jubbulpore; we hope he will soon settle down at his new Station.

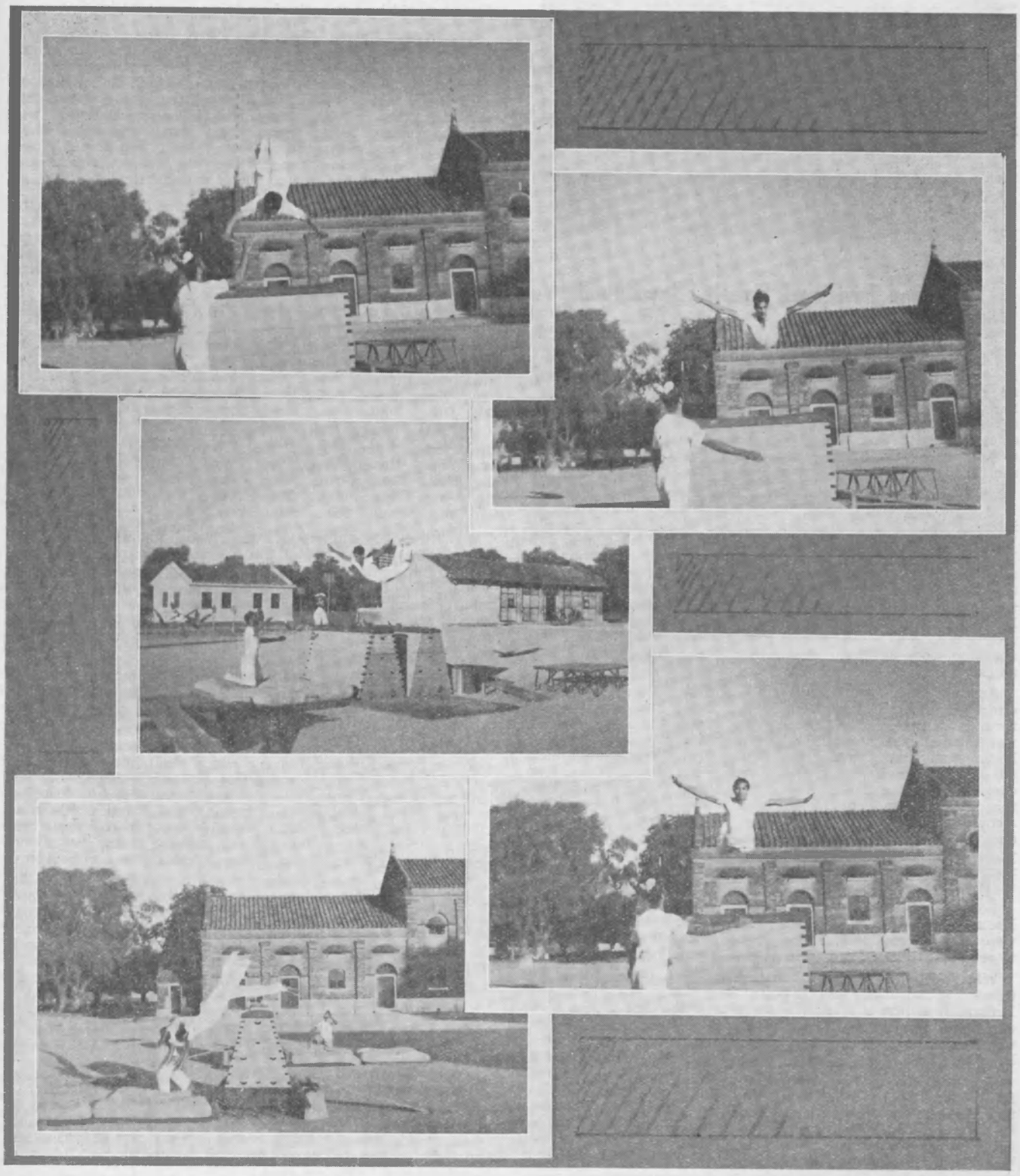
Marriages.—By the time that these notes appear in print, Signalman Tyler will have taken the big step, and will have left barrack life behind him, urged on by the lure of an extra 17s. a week marriage allowance. Congratulations, Ken, and don't forget "Tich" Parker has a very rusty bike, which will be very

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE (INDIA.)



1. His Excellency The Viceroy taking the Salute.
2. His Excellency The Viceroy addressing the Parade.
3. The photograph of the Royal Family, and the four Indian Officers referred to in the notes.
4. The Pipe Major.
5. A Piper.

PHYSICAL TRAINING BY INDIAN BOYS, SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE (INDIA).



suitable for getting you up to barracks just in time to miss the morning parade.

Sport.—A soccer team, composed of players from "A" Corps Signals and 1st Indian Divisional Signals, journeyed to Lahore in search of the elusive De Montmorency Cup, for which they were runners-up last year, and after a gallant struggle they lost to the Highland Light Infantry (the team who beat them in last year's final) by 3—2 in the semi-final.

A very successful athletic meeting, in which the various Sections competed against each other, was held early in the month, and resulted in a win for the " Fighting Packs," followed by Headquarters and " M " Section. A further meeting is to be held against 1st Indian Divisional Signals before we leave for Topa, more of which next month.

Trade Boards.—Congratulations to all who were confirmed in their ratings (obtained in Waziristan under the Special Procedure Pamphlet) at the recent Trade Boards held in Rawalpindi.

Agony.—Ack Rowlands, Hong Kong Signal Section. " Has your pen run dry ? How long now ? Robbo."

PEDLAR.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

March.

NIL SECUNDUS.

I had a queer dream the other night, chaps. In this dream it appears that WIRE notes were called for, and that I had them all ready for despatch. It is very funny what queer dreams we have sometimes after eating a big supper. All sorts of impossible things are done. I remember once having another nightmare in connection with WIRE notes. I imagined that I had sat down to write them, and ideas came so fast that I had to write in shorthand to keep up with myself.

Let's Do a Bit of Congratulating.—To 2317004 Signalman Hall R. H. and 2569910 Signalman Beckett P. on now becoming interested in the rapidity of promotion. To Lance Corporal Boon W. on dropping the " U " and to Sergeant Holden T. on losing the " L." To Captain E. F. J. Heap on his promotion to that rank. To John Garroni on being awarded the " Rooty Gong." To Lance Corporal Donaghy P. on qualifying at a Short Course at the A.S.P.T., Ambala. It must run in the Donaghy blood, and brings to mind how old Steve used to nip up trees at Meerut. And to all those other people who have won anything, done anything or said anything clever since the last notes.

Annual Grip No. 1.—Most of the Unit have been out shooting during the past two weeks, after having been in rigorous training for a long time. I didn't witness the big shoot myself, but my war snoop states that in all his long and devoted years of service he has rarely seen anything like it before. All the bullets came out of the right end of the gun, which in itself is really remarkable, considering the terrific number of civilians who are joining up these days, and most of the bullets went in the direction (within a couple of yards) in which the guns were pointing. No Dhobi's donkeys or camels went to their happy hunting grounds this year. Up to now the " Call me champ." laddy has not been nominated, but we will try to get the statistical expert to fix that before very long.

Following the annual " Do," No. 1 Company fired against No. 2 in a shoot for the Corps Shield. Sad to say, No. 1 Company were not too good, and lost by 321 points to 386. I shall have to get down to it and tell them how. Never mind, let it pass.

Why ?—The C.S.M. of No. 1 Company has a notion to make Cambridge Barracks a far, far better place. Why, I cannot say. Perhaps it is just one of those ideas that Sergeant-Majors get during the wee small hours which they devote to thinking out new horrors for torturing innocent troops. Anyhow, the lads have been doing big things around No. 5 Bungalow way.

They have dug up everything they could see, taken away hills, filled up valleys, stuck up posts, painted them, pushed chains through them, planted flowers, white-washed bricks, and altered the outlook of the place so much that on emerging from the bungalow in the morning for check parade, with that well-known hazy feeling hanging around, one is immediately stung by the thought that they have just woke up in a cemetery. On recovering from this foul thought, the rock gardens at Southsea seem to be the only solution until this dream is rudely shattered by the cry of " Form Up," and then one realises that in a few more minutes more hills and rocks will have to be shifted. When finished, the place should look fine, but I have my doubts as to whether anything will ever grow there ; the air gets so blue that it would be a miracle if anything ever lived in it.

The Present Champ.—Now that Harry (what about Drake ?) Rowley has gone home, Kenneth (L. R. C.) Milligan has automatically become arch-grip No. 1. Rowley's memorable " grip " at Topa last year of a supper sitting until half-past eight was very easily beaten by Milly Last by fifteen minutes and five seconds. The " grip " would have gone on much longer and the record beaten by a bigger margin, only the rest of the party were exhausted, and had to go home to bed. Well done, Milly ! You have waited a long time for the title, but watch James, he is going to be red hot in a couple of months' time.

Welcome to India.—To Signalman Soloman, who must doubt the ex-India wallahs' tales of what a decent time you can have in India. He hadn't been out there long enough to get a pagri on his topi before he had to undergo a full course of anti-rabic needles. I bet that he won't let a dog of any kind lick his hand again, least of all a rabid one.

Walk March.—Another B.O.R.s' ride starts to-morrow, under the supervision of Lance Sergeant Dirs—locally known as " Bring 'em back in pieces." I feel rather sorry for the lads on it, as I was talking to " Bring 'em back " about it the other day, and he was fuming over the fact that this horsey business starts somewhere about six-thirty in the morning, and he won't be able to get his breakfast until about nine forty-five.

Knowing the Bold Dickie's ideas about the food question, I feel extremely sorry for his ride. His liver is bound to be out of sorts until the food question is settled. Being in the Q.M. branch of this Army, I should be very pleased about his possible liver, as it is obvious that the wear and tear of " Stirrups Steel " will be very small for a few weeks.

? ?—It would definitely be a good plan if the months of March and April were cut out of the calendar. So much seems to happen during these months that the normal fellow doesn't like. We should, of course, have to keep at least four days in each month for pay, but the rest could very easily be spared. I wonder why it is that the War Office, or whoever is responsible for these things, chooses the months when it is just beginning to stoke up to start all the horrors ?

The horrors ! What a collection for two months ! Shooting, riding, anti-gas training, more shooting (pistol), route marches, stocktaking and account rendering.

Whilst on the subject of pistol shooting, it would be just as well to obtain the readers' views on whether Sergeant " Froggy " (let him remain in disguise) is really a good shot or not. The facts of the case are this. Before his barrel bulged, he was hitting the target now and then (simply because someone was moving the target about). After his barrel bulged, and under the same conditions, he got a possible. Now do you think this was good shooting, within the full meaning of the Act, or do you think that there was an archangel sitting on his shoulder ?

Reverting to the question of whether those two months should be abolished, I wish some of you who have also noticed the viciousness of the aforesaid months would write to your local M.P. or P.U.B. about it, as I think something should be done. At the present rate of exchange, I can't afford a stamp, or I would take the matter up myself.

P.S.—During that time, we also had the Signal Officer-in-Chief's inspection.

Bad Luck.—Our Adjutant, Mr. C. D. Gardiner, has just had a bit of bad luck. Whilst out shooting, the bolt of his rifle blew back, and badly smashed one side of his face. At the time of his admission to hospital, it was a toss up as to whether he would lose his sight, and it was a hundred-to-one-on chance that he would be very badly disfigured for life. The doctors are now of the opinion that his eyesight will not be affected at all, and that only a small scar will be visible on his face. To add to his bad luck, on the day of the accident he had just started two months' leave. What a start !

The Arrival and Departure.—Situation has not changed much since our last notes. Without consulting Part II Orders, I'll try and remember a few of them. Our C.O., Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. C. Penney, to a spot of U.K. leave; Sergeant Stickley, Sergeant Baldoch and family, Lance Sergeant Choulerton and family, Signalmen Nash, Ashworth and Nursaw to the Home Establishment (Nash and Ashworth as invalids). Major E. P. C. Collin popped in and out before we knew anything about it; he came here to take over officiating command of the Unit, but after a few days he went on leave, prior to proceeding to China.

Lieutenant P. A. Watts and 2nd Lieutenant N. D. Shaw have joined us from Blighty since our last effort, and Sergeant Spearpoint and family and Signalmen Nicholson and Keeler arrived a few days ago from the same place. Before these notes are printed, C.S.M. Oakes and family will have left for the Home Establishment.

Stop Press News.—Lance Corporal Woolls to be Corporal.

AUSTIN.

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

March.

We open these notes by extending the freedom of the 1 Bar C to T.S.M. and Mrs. Gould from "A" Corps Signals, and expressing our sorrow at the loss of T.S.M. Taylor and family to Jubbulpore.

T.S.M. Taylor, during his sojourn on the 1 Bar C had become an institution, and his popularity, we make bold to say, has probably never been exceeded by any other Sergeant-Major in a Signal Unit. During the week preceding his posting, we held a sort of sports week and sundry "jirgas" as a farewell gesture. On Friday, the 18th, a smoker was held, attended by T.S.M.s Taylor and Gould, the handing over of office being effected by the time-honoured ceremony of splitting a bottle, or, in this case, barrel(s).

After the singing of a few songs, we tackled the serious business of wishing T.S.M. Taylor and Mrs. Taylor as good a time in Jubbulpore. A presentation to T.S.M. and Mrs. Taylor followed, and the smoker then shook off the cloak of formality and gave itself over to the round of singing and good fellowship that always exists at these affairs. The week was rounded off with a dance, held in the Institute, which was suitably decorated and "be-barred" for the occasion.

Owing to another dance being held in the Station, the attendance was small, but, I am told that it was the best we have held from the dancing and financial points of view.

Sports have also entered into the round of events. At Peshawar, as is our wont, we entered a B.O.R.s' team for the Peshawar Vale Hunt Point-to-Point Races. The team comprised: Sergeant Madeley on "Ivy," Lance Sergeant Bull on "Jocelyn," Corporal Bale on "Ekso" and Lance Corporal Bolam on "Bogey." As the holders of the Cup since last year, we were optimistic, but the law of averages tells, and some bad luck robbed our team of any chance of victory. "Bogey" and "Ekso" both put their feet into it, as it were, and came down over trifling pot holes which they failed to see. Two members of the team had perforce to change their method of progress to a tonga, and succeeded in catching their mounts along the Michni Road. They must have felt decidedly unhappy sitting in the back of the tonga bringing back the bacon.

The Troop Mounted Sports were held during the week-ending 12th March, and provided some clean, energetic fun for all. We commenced with the serious events, to wit, the jumping and handy hunters, and these provided some unlooked-for entertainment.

In the Troop Handy Hunter, Corporal (Jack) Hargreaves completed a leisurely round of the course to the accompaniment of "Widdecombe Fair," sung lustily by the spectators. The recruits' ride of newly-joined members of the Troop were rather out of luck in not being able to join in the full programme, so a mounted tug-of-war and cock-shy were included for their benefit. The tug-of-war provided the high spot of the day, and everyone attempted to join in the fun. Even the senior N.C.O.s braved it, and the illustrious Johnny Way has had the satisfaction of boasting that "Johnny rides again," while our C.O.,

1. Handy Hunter.
2. B.T.T.H.
3. The Prizes.

Captain P. B. G. Gambier, solemnly surveyed the proceedings from his lowly perch on the ground, having been discharged thither by an erratic horse.

The last day saw the "Holland" jumping event, and the exceptional keenness of the competition resulted in a jump off for first place between four men, two British and two Indian. Lance Corporal White succeeded in carrying the event with a clear round, closely followed by Signalman Ali Gauhar and Corporal Strong, who had to jump off again for second place. Tea was then served to all ranks and the families.

This was followed by the Ladies' Race—on flower pots—and the cock-shy event. The riding and throwing in the cock-shy

event was very erratic, and a special display, from two of our attached members, on how to " pick a chip " was loudly cheered.

Mrs. Gambier, who had taken a keen interest in all the events, and had obviously enjoyed the entertainment, kindly consented to present the Cups and prizes. So for another year the Troop Mounted Sports are over. The following is a list of prize-winners :

B.O.R.s' JUMPING.—1, Signalman Egerton ; 2, Signalman Lester ; 3, Lance Corporal Bolam.

I.O.R.s' JUMPING.—1, Lance Naik Mohd Zaman ; 2, Naik Mohd Ashraf ; 3, Lance Naik Bostan Khan.

B.T.T.H., B.O.R.s.—1, Sergeant Lourie ; 2, Lance Sergeant Cowell ; 3, Sergeant Madeley.

B.T.R.H., I.O.R.s.—1, Lance Naik Bostan Khan ; 2, Signalman Mohd Raza ; 3, Jemadar Sardar Khan.

H.H., B.O.R.s.—1, Lance Corporal Bolam ; 2, T.S.M. Taylor ; 3, Sergeant Madeley.

H.H., I.O.R.s.—1, Jemadar Sardar Khan ; 2, Signalman Mohd Yakub ; 3, Lance Naik Bostan Khan.

PACK DRIVERS.—1, Signalman Ali Gauhar ; 2, Signalman Qurban Khan.

MOORE H.H.—1, Sergeant Lourie ; 2, Lance Sergeant Bull ; 3, Signalman Stewart.

HOLLAND JUMPING.—1, Lance Corporal White ; 2, Signalman Ali Gauhar ; 3, Corporal Strong.

INTER-SECTION SHIELD.—Wireless Section.

The evening of the conclusion of the sports was spent with a Whist Drive and Tombola, when an agreeable opportunity for enjoyment and " gripping " was obtained. On the whole, it was considered a week of contentment, and the stable personnel had an enjoyable outlet for their boisterous enthusiasm.

We have to record a visit to the Nowshera Signal Section for a tennis match, and their return to us for a hockey match. In both cases the matches were keenly contested and resulted in a fine display of sportsmanship.

In the local " Van der Byl " cricket tournament we mahaged to survive the first match, against "A" Squadron, 13th/18th Royal Hussars, but we were completely routed in the semi-final versus " C " Squadron of the same Regiment. They knocked up a total that was too much for our abilities and proved the superiority of their batting over our bowling. Still, we are consoled with the knowledge that it is a long time since we had a team worthy of contesting in this tournament, and we always have hopes of a few rising young cricketers being posted to us.

Having dealt with social and sporting events, it only remains to deal with that of work, and although last in these notes is by no means least in the normal run of events.

During the month we were inspected by our Brigade Commander, and later by the Signal Officer-in-Chief, who was accompanied by the Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command. The high light of the S.O.-in-C.'s inspection was the performance of the Wireless Section in erecting the wireless sets from pack. Practice was required to make us perfect and a new method of transport was inaugurated during one of the practice parades, when a pack horse, the usual No. 2, kindly relieved himself of the Set. A wheelbarrow had to be brought into commission to bring the Set back to barracks ; and did the N.C.O.s in question have red necks ?

Signalman Danfer had his Class II D.R. rating, which had been obtained provisionally during the Waziristan Operations, confirmed by a Trade Testing Board. A complete change in our M.T. and D.R. personnel has taken place this trooper, and no longer shall we see the redoubtable Sam bumping and rattling in the wake of H.Q., and turning up unexpectedly with that forlorn look we knew so well.

A.S.A. Depositor.—To 325 Signalman Patient G. R. " How about a line to No. 324 at this address ? "

CHIKKABLANKA.

Sergeants' Mess.

During the month we have said farewell to T.S.M. and Mrs. Taylor and have welcomed T.S.M. and Mrs. Gould. T.S.M. Taylor has been posted to the S.T.C. (I.), Jubbulpore. To him and Mrs. Taylor we wish the best of luck, and to T.S.M. and Mrs. Gould we wish a very pleasant stay in Risi.

A couple of tennis "At Homes," followed by a social evening, have been held, and very enjoyable times spent.

The cream of the month's entertainment was a dinner, held for the purpose of bidding farewell to eight members of the Mess. All members and their wives attended, and we were honoured with the presence of Captain and Mrs. Gambier, Lieutenant and Mrs. Yule, and with the two officers of the 35th Field Troop, S. and M., Captain and Mrs. Blenkinsop and Lieutenant Griffith. Three other guests, who, by the way, were good entertainers, completed the festive board. They were : Sergeant Wiss, R.H.A., Sergeant Cook, 13th/18th Royal Hussars, and Sergeant Ross of the Royal Air Force.

In all, forty-two sat down for dinner. An excellent evening was spent, and although several speeches were the order of the evening, fortunately, nobody " gripped " too long. The eight members in whose honour the dinner was given were : T.S.M. Taylor to Jubbulpore ; Sergeants Longhurst and Way and Lance Sergeant Wright to the Home Establishment ; Condr. Shackleton, M.G.F. ; T.S.M. Humby, R.E. ; Sergeant Frost, I.A.C.C. ; and Lance Sergeant Bull to the United Kingdom on leave. To all departing members we wish the best of luck.

Two days ago we played the Junior N.C.O.s at hockey, and we regret to say that we lost for the first time.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

31st March.

Once more the day for WIRE notes has arrived, and I am sitting here biting my finger nails trying to think of something which will be of interest.

General.—At the moment, we are in the throes of the Annual Inspection by the Signal Officer-in-Chief (India), and everything is looking spick and span. We are all hoping that he will be pleased with everything on the day of the inspection.

The individual training season is nearly upon us again, and everybody is talking about the extra " pice " they are hoping to receive on the Up-Grading Courses, which are to be held at Landi-Kotal and Upper Topa. Very soon the worried look will be seen once again on the faces of hopeful candidates for higher ratings, and we shall be hearing those mutterings about intricate formulæ.

Arrivals.—The undermentioned B.O.R.s arrived from U.K. per H.T. *Lancashire*, on 1st April : Lance Sergeant Atkinson W., Corporals Abbott W., Spencer C., Signalmen Paterson J., Nicholson L., Kinge J., Macnab R., Bedden R., Curtain W. A hearty welcome is extended to all of them.

Departures.—Major D. L. Carnegie, R.Signals, to Poona, as Staff Officer to the Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command. The best of luck, sir, in your new surroundings. Major E. P. C. Collin, R.Signals, to 1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi, on posting to that Unit. Our loss is your gain, 1st Div. Lieutenant D. E. L. Gardiner, R.Signals, to Blighty on three month leave. " Busty " hopes you will have a " champion " time whilst on leave.

The following departed for U.K. per H.T. *Lancashire* ex-Karachi on 5th April : C.S.M. Gavey G. and family, for a Vocational Course prior to discharge ; Corporal Milligan and Lance Corporal King E. to the Home Establishment, and Lance Corporal Humby S. for discharge by purchase. May the best of luck always be with you in your new surroundings.

Promotions.—Lance Sergeant Edwards promoted Sergeant ; Lance Corporal Jordan promoted Corporal ; U/Lance Corporal King E. promoted Lance Corporal, and quite a few people I know are hoping.

Hockey.—Except for a few friendly games, no hockey has been played by this Unit during the past month, as the Unit team is preparing for the Hot Weather Tournaments, which are due to take place in the near future.

Football.—At the moment, the Unit team is playing in the " Red Cross Football Tournament," but as no matches of any

note have yet taken place, I will leave it until next month before reporting upon them.

Cricket.—The second round of the " Jamasjee Cricket Tournament " was played at Peshawar on 3rd, 4th and 5th of March, between 13/18th Hussars, Risalpur, and Peshawar District Signals. The game resulted in a win for the latter by four wickets. A very good game was witnessed, and some of the play was really brilliant. The third round of this tournament was played on the 12th and 13th March in Peshawar versus No. 20 (AC) Squadron, R.A.F., and resulted in a win for Peshawar District Signals by six wickets.

The semi-final of this tournament is to be played in Kohat versus Kohat District Signals. If we win there we shall be playing in Rawalpindi in the final versus the winners of the Rawalpindi and Lahore Districts.

Rugby.—The rugby season now being over, this Unit has nothing to report regarding any matches played, but next year we are hoping to have a team even better than the one fielded this year.

Golf.—Major E. P. C. Collin and Lieutenant W. A. K. Stodart were runners-up in the Army Golfing Society (India) Inter-Regimental Foursomes, played recently in Peshawar. Some really sparkling golf was witnessed.

SILO.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Generally Speaking.—The continual cry of the late scribe still reverberates in our ears. Sport and its associated ideas occupy the minds (?) of the Unit, and it is simply terrible to witness the zest with which potential players in Unit games regretfully decline to take part in exercise. We would like to reiterate the plea made in previous notes, and ask that when you are asked to play in a " Bran-mash," please, oh, please, do not say that you do not fill the bill. That, we regret to say, does not pass as an excuse. And now, having purged our conscience, let us turn to brighter things.

Training.—If this can be termed a " brighter thing," then we are of the opinion that dynasties will soon be falling, and that the end of the present era is at hand. One is continually afflicted by mutterings from the " graduates " of the training class, while anxious looks and anguished thoughts spread havoc among the " elite." Still, we should like to remind all people that the extra money received as the result of labour can still be spent in the Canteen. It is understood that this exemplary form of amusement is to continue throughout the hot weather; facetious enquiries will be dealt with by the W.P.B.

Still, we wish all personnel who are struggling with the higher forms of " technical enquiry " all the best, and assure them that the result of their trouble will be appreciated, if not by others, at least by them. The weekly pay-bill for Kohat District Signals should rise at least 100 per cent. at the close of this year.

Arrivals and Departures.—We have great pleasure in welcoming an old friend in Lieutenant H. Worrall, from 3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut. He has taken over the onerous duties of Adjutant, and we combine in wishing him all the best of luck and a pleasant stay in Kohat. We also welcome Sergeant Smith T., Lance Corporal Hazard J. and Signalman Harvey from the United Kingdom. They seem to have settled down quietly and satisfactorily; time alone can now heal the pangs of parting from that celestial abode, England.

The Unit has suffered the loss of Signalman Hayter G. (our George), who, knowing that he had but little time in which to instruct, delighted to inform all and sundry that the boat sailed in —— days. May he find that England and Vocational Training is all that he anticipated. By the same trooper we lost Corporal Rice J. (the price of sago should now be lowered in England), who also hopes to learn a little on a " Voc." Sergeant McBride J. has only been transferred to the Home Establishment; doubtless we shall hear more about it in the near future. We wish them all the best of luck and *bon voyage*. Anent the passing of Sergeant McBride from our sheltering arms, it is rumoured that the price of M.B. has now risen, owing, doubtless, to the lesser sale of this unique commodity.

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The following members of our little band, who decided that they could not continue in Kohat any longer without a spot of leave, also sailed, per H.T. *Lancashire*, to England on 5th April. May they all have as good a time as they boasted they would: Lance Corporals Evans and Howard, Signalmen Hunt, Johnson W. and Campbell F. Our D.R. Corporal (" Tubby " Pask) has also decided to enjoy a stay in England. He also decided to sign on for a further period in India. It is understood that two eminent alienists are to meet the boat at Southampton.

Promotions and Appointments.—We have great pleasure in congratulating the following on attaining the rank and appointments shown. May they long continue to climb the ladder: Lance Corporal Jacob F. to be Corporal; Signalmen Brown R. and James J. to be U/Lance Corporals. U/Lance Corporal Pask C. has the distinction of being the only one this month who is entitled to drop the quite unnecessary " U ".

Inspections.—The usual crop of inspections have come and gone, and we have reaped the benefit of our labours. The Signal Officer-in-Chief paid a visit to Kohat on 1st April. We are given to understand that the inspection was to his liking and that the Unit upheld its good name (we sincerely hope so).

Rumours of further inspections are continually heard, and the Intelligence (?) Service has not yet disputed them. We are quite capable of ensuring that they are dealt with as efficiently and easily as those which have so far occurred.

Things We Would Like to Know.—It is understood that the blancoing of " Hats, pith, soldiers, for the use of " is not allowed prior to an inspection. No prize is offered for the correct solution to the puzzle, " Who said it was ? "

Why does the C.S.M. continually tell his clerk, " Only a few more months to do. Roll on the boat " ? Surely, after such a long (?) stay in the country, he has no intention of returning to his native land.

The Hills.—News has reached us that the families will soon be going away for their annual stay in the Hills. Surreptitious

visits to married personnel have been the order of the day, and the cry eternal "Will you please take my dog with you?" has been ringing around the lines. We are pleased to state that all dogs have apparently been accounted for and should soon be rationed by their new "Units."

STYLO.

Sport.—The Unit had the privilege of meeting Peshawar District Signals in the semi-final of the Jamasjhee Cricket Tournament on Saturday and Sunday, 2nd and 3rd April. Great things were not expected of the local team, it being understood that Peshawar were "Top-notchers" at the game, but both the visitors and the home team had a great shock when Kohat District Signals won the toss, elected to bat first, and finally reached the score of 138 (Lance Sergeant Clackett going great guns with a total of 56 before he was bowled by Signalman Buchanan, the deadly bowler of the visiting side).

A still greater shock occurred when Kohat District Signals' deadly bowling and fielding, aided, no doubt, by their proverbial luck, managed to dismiss the Peshawar team in the first innings with a total score of 108. The break for lunch had, apparently, done wonders with the stamina of the Kohatites and there was no possible chance of stopping them. As already reported, the luck was proverbial.

The second innings of Kohat District Signals did not fulfil the expectations of the spectators, for after a short spell our luck deserted us and Kohat was dismissed for a total of 50, the "Gripper" being not out 2.

The luck that had so far held us had definitely changed, and Peshawar's second innings passed our total easily, leaving them with five men still to bat. Still, we are glad that the defeat was no worse, and are sure that the visit was enjoyed by Peshawar District Signals as much as we enjoyed their company.

Anent this visit, many and varied were the "grips" that took place, and reminiscences of So-and-so, who took the gym. shoes from So-and-so, would be heard during spare moments.

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

"B" Corps Signals, Karachi.

April.

This Unit is at present undergoing its annual inspections, and one hopes that everything will go off with a swing. The preliminary drill parades and kit inspections have passed over, and we hope eventually to settle down to a little relaxation. Of course, we still have I.T., but that is a different proposition altogether; we are never too old or experienced to learn a little bit more of our trade.

The Annual Camp, which was held this year at Dabeji, was in every way a big success. It is impossible to give a full account of the concert which was held during the Camp, but unknown talent was certainly discovered from crooners to yarn spinners.

By the time that these lines appear in print we shall have said *adieu* to our Adjutant—Captain K. H. Treseder, who is leaving us for a spell of duty in Blighty. We wish him all the best at his new Station. Lieutenant C. C. Worrall has taken over the reins—permanently, we hope. This past month has also seen the fading out of another stalwart—namely, C.Q.M.S. Watford, who has gone to 2nd Divisional Signals at Quetta. In his place we have C.Q.M.S. Coombes from Meerut. We wish them both the best of luck.

Ex-Karachi "wallahs" will be interested to learn that plain clothes may now be worn by other ranks when off duty. It is certainly going to be most exciting aspiring to the honour of being termed the best-dressed man. I understand that one optimist has even got plus fours. However, the privilege has been gained, and though our pockets may be a little lighter at the moment, our minds are all the more contented.

I am afraid that there is no news to report concerning the social activities of the Unit. I had hoped to be able to give an account of an All Ranks Dance, but apparently the idea has flopped. Still, why worry—we have a dart board, and when short of something to do, we can always attempt the impossible—counting the dart holes in the board.

Congratulations to Corporal Marshall on his recent promotion.

CHARZI.

SOUTHERN COMMAND ..... ***INDIAN ARMY***

4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

18th March.

General.—On 26th February the Troop paraded for Inspection by the new Signal Officer-in-Chief in India—Brigadier E. N. F. Hitchins, D.S.O., M.C. Both men and horses were excellently turned-out, and the Troop, in general, was congratulated on its smartness and all-round efficiency. A demonstration in the erection, tuning and dismantling of a Pack W/T Set was given at the conclusion of the parade.

During the evening, Tabloid Sports were held so that the Signal Officer-in-Chief in India could see both Units at sport as well as on parade. Four teams were provided by 4th Indian Divisional Signals, and two teams by this Troop, each team comprising one British N.C.O. and five I.O.R.s. A successful athletic meeting was the result.

On 15th March the Troop stables were inspected by the Major-General of Cavalry with good results.

An All Ranks Dance was held in the Combined Signals Sergeants' Mess in farewell to Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Pocock, R.E. (I.A.), Commanding 4th Indian Divisional Signals, on the evening of 15th March. At about 10 p.m. there was quite a stir when the Colonel drove up to the Sergeants' Mess on a cable wagon, drawn by six horses. The three officer drivers gave a good demonstration of how a cable wagon should be drawn and halted, and from remarks passed by the R.A. members attending the dance, it could not have been bettered. Captain J. N. Barker, our Commanding Officer, drove the lead pair, followed by Captain J. M. C. Hoblyn and Lieutenant J. P. North, M.B.E. Flashlight photographs were taken of the team, and it is hoped that they will turn out all right.

The popularity of the Colonel was proved by the way everyone joined in giving three loud cheers followed by "He's a jolly good fellow." Speeches were made later, and then the Colonel was presented with an engraved photograph of his Unit. For more details, please see notes by 4th Indian Divisional Signals.

Colonel Pocock left Trimulgherry for Bombay the following day *en route* for the United Kingdom on retirement. He was given a great send-off by all ranks of the Signals from the railway station at Begumpet.

Sport.—The Inter-Section hockey is still keenly contested, with a result that the games are producing talent for our Troop team, and we are now able to turn out a very good first eleven.

The Combined Div. and Troop Soccer team have just got through to the third round in the Small Unit's Football Competition, by defeating "A" Company, Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders, 2—1, after extra time. Our next match on 21st March is against our old rivals, "C" Company, West Yorkshire Regiment (P.W.O.). Troop representatives in this team are Corporal Brennan, Lance Corporal Knight and Signalman Hare.

Our two recent arrivals, Sergeant Dilworth and Signalman Hare, are showing promise on the sports fields, especially Sergeant Dilworth at hockey. This is rather a windfall for the Troop, as we lose our two able sportsmen—Corporal Brennan and Lance Corporal Snowball on 15th April; the former to six months' free furlough in England, and Lance Corporal Snowball to the Home Establishment.

Agony.—To "Bonnie Dundee": "How did you enjoy your first ride up there?"

4 BAR C.

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Egypt Signals.

No. 1 Company.

General.—The annual inspection by the Area Commander took place on Friday, 1st April. The turn-out being satisfactory, we were granted a holiday the following day.

Training.—On 3rd March, the Company sent an expedition to Bahariya Oasis (*see* photograph No. 1) in the Western Desert, about 200 miles south-west of Cairo, with a view to testing out navigation of the desert by means of the sun compass, training in desert driving, and range test for the No. 1 set with the Wyndham aerial.

On the whole the weather was kind to us, but on the second night out from Cairo, just after dark, a sudden sand storm laid flat all but one of our tents.

As manœuvres were only a few days off, we were rather short of time, and so it was found impossible to take the whole column to the Oasis. Only two Morris 15-cwt. trucks did the last 30 miles to Bawiti, the " Capital " of the Oasis (photograph No. 2). We were met by the Mamour (the Mayor) who turned out to be an Egyptian Army officer. The Postmaster then offered his services as guide. He seemed to have plenty of time to spare, as he has only one collection and one delivery to deal with each week.

First we were taken to see the Roman Well. As we reached the edge of the cliff (6th photograph) we discovered a native lady having a bath, and our guide quickly asked us to look at the date palms for five minutes while the lady made a bolt for cover. Then we were taken down to the well and found two springs emerging from the rock within two feet of each other, one was cold and the other quite hot. We little expected to find " h. and c." laid on in such an uncivilised spot. After that we went to see an ancient temple, 2,500 years old, and which had only just been rediscovered (photograph No. 3).

Two days later we found ourselves back on the Cairo-Alexandria road. We had done nearly 500 desert miles in five days. We stopped for some beer (photograph No. 4) and a short talk by our Company Commander, Major Kennett (5th photograph). The names of those shown in photograph No. 4 read as follows: Left to right (back row)—Staff Sergeant Bennett, R.A.M.C., C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Anderson, Major B. B. Kennett, Lieutenant N. de la P. Tate, Corporal Pape, Signalman McLaughlin, Lance Corporal Knight, Signalman Cox.

Left to right (front row)—Signalman Chadwick, Signalman Waplington, Signalman Charlesworth, Corporal Williams, Signalman Wilson, Corporal Hall, Signalman Buckley, Signalman Dymond.

Then we went on manœuvres!

1

2

3

4

Drafts.—The following leave us for U.K. on 11th April: Drivers Walker and Jeffrey, Signalmen Thompson, Woodhouse, Barker, Taylor, and Pritchard. We wish them the best of luck in their new spheres of life.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to Sergeant Stone and Lance Sergeant Hall on their promotion and appointment respectively.

Agony.—Dixie (Redditch) calling Lester (642) China. "How about a line?"

Sport.—Inter-Section K.O. Football Competition, 1938.—The final of the above was played between "M" Section and "W" Troop on 31st March. After a very good game, "M" Section ran out winners by two goals to nil. The two goals for the winners were scored by Joe Longhurst (late of Preston N.E. ?). Well done, "M"!

No. 3 Company.

April.

On 25th February, "K" Section returned from training with the Canal Brigade in the Gebel Iweibed Area. Despite a sand storm on the last Exercise, which lasted for about twenty-four hours, and was rather a severe trial to communication in general, they managed to deal with all traffic in the usual efficient manner of Signals.

"J" Section remained with Cairo Brigade this year until the termination of the Command Exercise, which was held this time on a much larger scale in the Western Desert, and ran from the 11th to the 14th of March. This year, the other ranks were fed on iron rations, which were produced in such a way as to make them slightly enjoyable, but we noticed that several older hands produced Rockfort and rolls several times daily.

On 26th March we supplied forty O.R.s for the Unit detachment at a farewell parade held at Abbassia Siding to say good-bye to the departing G.O.C.

Annual Inspections.—From the termination of collective training until 1st April, life was one continual round of "Journaleen." Stores, barrack-rooms, etc., were decoked, and whitewash and paint, which appeared in large quantities, was duly plastered wherever it was necessary. The "dhobi" painted his drying posts in Corps colours, and someone executed a study in "still life" that was duly exhibited on the Order Board for our inspection, and which involved the C.Q.M.S.' staff in a flat spin in their endeavour to locate the articles of barrack furniture which had been used for the study. Really, the artist should have put more hairs on the brushes.

Musketry.—During the month Signalmen Barnett and McGowan fired their Course; the former scored 56, and the latter 46.

Alterations.—The two forage barns have been converted into an M.T. office and workshop for No. 2 Company. Work has also begun on the erection of a petrol pump on the Unit parade ground. It is also proposed to convert part of the stables into garages, and later, garages are to be erected on the south side of the parade ground.

Married Personnel.—The "R.A.H.R." appears to have enabled several to become mechanised. Two "Triumphs" of 1916 vintage, an "A.J.S." of 1924, and an "O.K." of the year dot, have appeared in our midst, whilst a "Sunbeam" of "B.C. something" has long been heard.

Considering the noise these machines produce, they appear to have the same motive-power producing machinery as the famous Stephenson's "Rocket." They are, indeed, a benefit to the single chaps in barracks, instead of straining their ears to hear "quarters" blown, adequate warning is given by the noise of these mechanical marvels, wafted to us on the breeze as they leave their secluded quarters in Heliopolis.

Departures.—On 1st April, Corporal Trivas P. to Alexandria as Assistant P.T. Instructor. On the 11th, Signalman Weatherall, Drivers Brooking and Wiggin for Vocational Courses. Signalman James W. is leaving us per H.T. *Dorsetshire* for England, home and beauty, and can now be heard reciting the following poem, which was written by an ex-member of the Corps.

HOMECOMING.

I always used to think when a tiny kid,
I'd like to do great noble deeds, the same as big men did.
I'd sit and yearn and dream all day of places o'er the sea,
That seemed mapped out, or maybe carved by destiny for me.

And later, when the good ship came and to home I had said good-bye,
Travelling out afar to where the wavelets meet the sky,
Those glorious deeds came nearer then than they had ever been,
But I ne'er forgot ould Ireland and the wearin' of the green.

Long years have stepped out steadily and punctuated time;
My hair's turned white in Africa's sun and Oriental clime.
No deeds will history e'er receive recorded to my name.
I'll simply croak like some old moke without achieving fame.

But care I? No, not half a jot; I'm asking nothing more—
Than to lay my bones in peace, and rest on Mother Erin's shore.

The good ship's journey's ended. The sweet old dame's in sight,
She's smiling and she's beckoning with all her generous might;
Desertion is forgiven, my misdeeds all erased,
I'm resting on her bosom, pardoned and amazed.
Ireland, Mother Ireland, excuse your erring son,
Is all the prayer that I can find; another word, not one.

History Repeating Itself?

" Me son," says Mother Ireland, " There's nothing to forgive,
You've voyaged far and conquered, that we at home may live ;
I'm ould, me sight is dimming, yet clearly I can see,
A gentler, happier future struggling home across the sea."

TEE-NUH.

"W" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Cairo.

April.

Apologies.—Firstly, for the lack of notes from this Troop in the past. Secondly, for this, the first effort of the scribe, just in case I happen to prove to be Group " E."

Introductory.—Members of this Troop in years gone by knew us as the Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop. We are now part of No. 2 Company, and merely " W " Troop. The familiar supporters' cry of " Come on the Troop " is no longer entirely our own. It now becomes " Come on ' W ' Troop " or " Come on THE Troop." Same thing ; the players understand.

General.—We should like to welcome our new O.C., Captain M. S. Wheatley. A welcome also to Mrs. Orton and Mrs. Brooke to Egypt, even though it is rather late. We have to be careful when talking to Mrs. Orton as this is her second tour.

Training.—We finished up our own Section training with a Scheme which took us to Ain Sukna, a hot spring on the coast, thirty miles south of Port Suez. We started out in the rain on 4th January, and when about thirty miles out in the desert, met a sand storm which continued throughout the night. The next day we passed through the mountains via Ramilya Gorge, and at 11 a.m. reached Ain Sukna in warm sunshine. In a remarkable short space of time, equipment and dusty clothing were discarded, and bathing costumes appeared. In the case of many bathers, costumes did not appear. " Burgon " the shark piquet, gave a false alarm once or twice.

The Scheme, which was to assist the police in tracking dope smugglers, was successful, the gang leader—one " Scarface " being captured and destroyed with great ceremony by Mr. De Lisle.

The season is now over, after a heavy programme of Brigade Schemes with a completely mechanized Cavalry Brigade. We are given to understand that when communication is supplied by us for a Force, victory for them is never in doubt. We came back from the last Command Manœuvres with a five days' growth of beard, empty ration boxes, and a certain amount of dust and glory.

G.O.C.s Inspection.—This annual event falls this time on 1st April. At present, we are passing through a bewildering number of preparatory inspections and drill parades, and there are four days to go. We are working feverishly. Everything is being repaired, cleaned and painted. I shall tell you next month just how pleased the G.O.C. was with everything he is going to see.

It Might Happen To Anyone.—An F-of-S., in response to the report of a breakdown, placed a pair of pliers 4in., and one screwdriver, Elect., 3in., in his pocket, and departed for the scene with that air of cool confidence peculiar to Foreman of Signals. On arrival, he found a 30-cwt. Morris with two broken front springs.

Congratulations.—To Lance Corporal Hancox on dropping the " Unpaid." To " Byng " Byron, a fine Troopite, on his appointment to Unpaid Lance Corporal.

STUMPI.

ANOTHER SCHEME FOR " W " TROOP.

Thro' the night we all must sit,
Sleeping—never think of it ;
Sets stay open throughout the night,
Operators—all sit tight.
Just suppose a message came,
Would the " Op " be put to blame
Just for missing one code name—
There are hundreds just the same ?

Bolo's speech is not too good,
He can't be quite understood ;
Again and again we repeat and say—
Word after—" Pack Today."
Up on high power, down on low power—
One amp in the aerial ;
Atmos' nines, signals seven.
R.A.F. not ten yards away,
Colonels cursing, B.M.s yelling,
Umpires seem to have most sway.
Polish your rifle—pack your bedding—
BOLO is at war to-day.

Sooner or later the fitter will say,
Will we need to charge to-day ;
As the engine refuses to start,
We are dropped right in the cart ;
But if " No," we chance to say,
Then the fitter's mood becomes quite gay—
And the engine starts up right away ?

Drivers all their gears will crash,
Gears must soon appear to smash.
To the very " Diff " in sand—
Won't someone lend a hand ?
Push the channels 'neath the wheels,
Grab the shovel—someone squeals.
The going's never grand—
Curse the desert, and its sand !

At map reading we are all so dud,
And can never find our way ;
That precise knowledge we all lack,
To follow that straight camel track ;
Four miles East—two miles West,
Our Commander, who knows best,
Leads us o'er the desert wide—
This must be the " Great Divide."
No ; just the Western Desert bare—
With nice soft wadis here and there.

Iron rations, " M and V,"
All washed down with lukewarm tea ;
Desert bread, the Service issue,
Good for destroying the stomach tissue ;
Bully beef, and eggs of rubber,
Spuds that make all strong men blubber ;
We are on the desert wide—
Heaven protect our poor inside.

Back to barracks we all creep,
On the desert little sleep ;
Sets all broken, batteries flat,
Chins all stubble ; faces black ;
Spirit willing, flesh all sore ;
Bumps and bruises all galore.
The war is over, thank the Lord !
Duties stop us becoming bored,
The Guard Room strikes a different chord.

The war is over—both sides have won ;
Lessons learned and jobs all done ;
Raspberries plenty, bouquets few ;
Who cares, now that it's all through.

O.K. OFF.

"X" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Cairo.

Technical.—As this column contains a little more shop than usual, a few hints are in order before proceeding with the heavy stuff. When dealing with the subject of electric motors, a great deal depends on back E.M.F., in fact, the general well-being of the armature windings rests on this important factor. Ampere turns, another well worn expression, should always be taken into consideration when dealing with field density. Anyway, if the gist of our ramblings become hard to follow, refer to Vol. II. Good old Vol. II !

Neat heaps of " Kiwi," at least an eighth of an inch thick has appeared on all leather work. Bandoliers, that loop of leather designed to restrict the breathing and sometimes carry cartridges or paper ; and belts, ironed by the dhobi to remove wrinkles,

have been " buffed " to an unprecedented standard. They glisten in the watery morning sun, the strong noonday sun and the soft evening twilight ; in fact, at all times they produce one big " glisten."

No pen can paint a verbal picture of our footwear and do them justice. Mr. Barrett or Dr. Scholl may have a lot to say about the insides, but the outsides. No ! Dealt with by highly skilled hands, and subjected to that old, old formula—spit, rub, dab ; the toecaps and spur tabs are a poem of scintilating brightness. That part of our dress, usually likened unto the indigestible part of bacon, although of little use for their original purpose, have been mistaken for strips of patent leather.

Strait-jackets, made of stout canvas and leather, are designed to restrain violent persons. We have revolutionised this idea. Made in two pieces of Service drill, brass, blanco, and lots of starch, they are guaranteed to hold the wearer in an upright position for a period not exceeding two hours. One of our clan was even suspected of wearing corsets. The acme of praise. Oil rags and engines are forgotten in this glorious (?) hustle to prepare for . . . Bang ! There are spies about.

A book was recently published which dealt with the glory of war. War is an unpleasant contemplation at any time, but there is a glorious side. Just think of the mangled equipment. A bullet-ridden mess tin with its peeling powder-blackened nickel, truly a sight for the gods—and us. Water bottle carriers with saddle soap (saddle soap, mind you) hurriedly rubbed on. And surely at some period the " Kiwi " would wear off the bandoliers, leaving the whole article in its raw state. Another sight for us and the gods.

EXAMS.

Encyclopædia, please tell me
What four times " x and 3 " should be.
I'm going mad, I swear I am,
All on account of one exam,
Which I must undergo very soon.
I've sat and looked for inspiration
From every member of this Station.

But no one seems to give me aid,
Perhaps it's 'cos they're all afraid
To make themselves appear so dumb
By failing with this awful sum:
On Schemes I've tried to sort it out,
And I shall find it's " cake " no doubt
When the " Teacher Sergeant " works it out.
For after all it's got to be
Simply four times " x plus three."

BLACKIE.

Radio Notes.—" Contacts were many and contacts were few." That, in a few words, gives a good idea of the ether conditions during the past month. We've managed to keep our tail up, however, contacting VQ2 (Southern Rhodesia) and U9 (Russia in Asia). The latter is the second contact of SU-U9 in S.U. Congratulations " Bottle " ! That makes our DX fifty countries, and twenty-eight have QSL'd. We note from last month's WIRE that E15M is busy rebuilding. We have not heard you yet, but here's hoping. We are busy that way ourselves, and the final line-up is as follows : CO(2A5) FD(6L6G) PA(P25/450) giving us 25 watts. Our frequency, however, is unchanged, 14006 k/s and 7003 k/s. We are hoping also to be going down to 28 m/cs shortly, so if any " Sigs Ham " is doing things down that way, we are all set for a testing sked. What say ?

Arrived.—In the home of Sergeant Pearce on 28th February, one more mouth to feed. Gerald Charles, when will you be able to help in the office ?

Back to where " X " marks the spot. Corporal Harry Norman Brookes with the Tank Signal Section. Don't have too much to do with the aerodrome, Harry, the altitude is terrible.

More money for week-end " lates." Lance Corporals McGinn, Moore, and Reynolds have received pay in exchange for the " U " in " U/L/C."

Victor Ludorum (**" A " Squadron**).—Good show, Sam ! His success was due to meat pies, Pilsener, and an occasional brisk rub down with the *News of the World* sports page.

Heard in the Garage.—" Clean that exhaust manifold ! "

" What ? "

" Clean that blank exhaust manifold."

" I'll have to learn this 'ere Arabic."

Heard Somewhere Else.—" What do the colours stand for ? "

" Land, sea and air, sir."

" Oh, I thought it was Oxford, Cambridge, and Borstal."

" . . . and what is the horse power of this machine ? "

" One and a half kilowatts, sir."

Agony.—Claude Cray 035 would like a letter from Sam Young, stationed somewhere in India. Get weaving, Sam !

Chippy (Sarafand) : " Got letter O.K. Coming up sometime I hope, Mac."

" Mo " would like to hear from George Beghie, somewhere in India.

CHASMAN.

No. 2 Wireless Company, Sarafand.

I am convinced that we shall get a regular scribe for this job in years to come ; others have tried and failed, and I can at least do the same.

Promotions.—Quite a number for such a small Unit. Congratulations go to Lance Sergeants Hamilton and Trudgett and Corporals Brightmore and Whitaker on attaining the ranks stated. I have heard from a most reliable source that a ten minute novelty laughing number is now given every night in the Senior N.C.O.s' Mess by one of its new members.

Home Town.—We lose Lance Corporal Percival and Signalman Spice on 11th April, and Lance Corporal Robinson and Signalman Phillips on 16th April—all for U.K. They have had a good run here, and I am sure they have enjoyed themselves as much as we have enjoyed their company. We wish them all the best of luck at their new Stations.

Harbour Lights.—Lance Corporal Reedman and Signalman Smith A. left them behind when they left Blighty to rejoin this Unit from leave on 19th March. By the time that these notes appear in print, Corporal Cairns and Lance Corporal Walters will also be back from three months' leave. I am sure that they will agree with me that it was well worth it.

Lance Corporal " Lou " Bangalor Moran and Signalman Billingsley E. are sailing in the right direction on 11th April for three months' leave. Thanks to our Commanding Officer this has been a very busy season in regard to that welcome three months' break.

Hockey.—The final of the All Palestine " Flowers " Hockey Cup was played on Friday, 1st April, the teams participating being the Royal Air Force and Palestine Signals. The Royal Air Force won after a very good match by three goals to nil. The Palestine Signals were the smallest Unit to enter this competition, and it was an excellent performance for them to have reached the final. This Unit supplied seven of the team, Lieutenant Western, Lance Sergeant Hamilton, Corporals Hawkins and

The Hockey Final.

The Hockey Final. Presentation of Prizes.

Smith R., Lance Corporals Moran and Waterston, and Signalman Warner. The Cup to the R.A.F., and medals for both teams were presented at the conclusion of the game by Mrs. Hill, the wife of Air Commodore R. M. Hill, M.C., A.F.C., the Air Officer Commanding the Royal Air Force, Palestine and Transjordan.

Arrivals.—Owing to the absence of notes, here is a list of arrivals since the beginning of 1938. We extend a hearty welcome to all of them: C.S.M. Newman R., Sergeant Cole W., Lance Corporals O'Rourke P., Potts J., and Rixon D., Signalmen Cook T., Chilcott G., Flooks J., Hall K., Scarrott H., and Webb G., Drivers I.C. Fox W. and Sharp W.

Things We Want To Know.—Who said "Get listening"?

Who gets cakes and parcels? No, it is not poor blind Nell.

Who got four "D.s" and then said that he might have just scraped through?

YIMKIN.

Malta Signal Section.

Command Signal Office, Valletta, Malta.

6th April.

General.—Colonel Earnshaw, D.S.O., M.C., Director of Signals of the Department of National Defence, Canada, paid quite a long visit to this Island and was very interested in our work. We had the satisfaction of showing him many things which were new to him, and we hope that the experience gained by us will be useful to him when he returns to Canada. Mrs. Earnshaw accompanied her husband, and it is understood she found Malta extremely interesting, and enjoyed her visit to this very historical island.

We also had a long visit from two other well-known officers of the Corps. They, too, thoroughly enjoyed themselves and did much good work.

After several false starts, it seems that warmer weather has really arrived, and swimming, cricket and tennis are about to occupy the football and hockey enthusiasts. Several friendly hockey matches have been enjoyed, and football has almost expired. Only one recent game can be recalled and that was somewhat in the nature of a local Derby. Having previously met the R.A.S.C.—our neighbours—we played a return match which resulted in a draw. The Grand National was run on the same afternoon, and since the nearest radio was situated in a handy bar, attention was somewhat divided. Nevertheless, only a few spectators confused the issue of race and match.

Arrivals.—We are pleased to record the arrival, safe in wind and limb, of the following N.C.O.s and men: Lance Corporals McConnell, Beard and Ward, and Signalmen Carter, Murphy, and Taylor. Lance Corporal McConnell and Signalman Taylor have already sampled the delights of our little island, but we still hope to show them something new. To all of them we extend a hearty welcome, and trust that their stay will be a pleasant one. Heartened by these arrivals, Signalman Williams has taken heart and marked his kit-bags U.K.

Ramble.—Answering the call of the sun, the Section mustered one fine day and took a country stroll. The numbers reminded one of a pay parade, every one was there. Buses took us out to Verdala Palace, some eight miles from home, and then heartlessly deserted us. An alfresco lunch was taken after which a start was made for home. The route followed was a dried water course, and although somewhat rough going, introduced most of us to a

The Section in the woods near Verdala Palace (see Malta Signal Section Notes).

new angle of Malta. The average fuel consumption was four miles to the orange. The route was well selected, because the first bus was only sighted when almost within sight of barracks. At this stage further refreshment was also available, both bus and bar finding supporters.

Scanning the late pass roll it was evident that few were too tired to forego the usual evening's entertainment, so we presume there were still a few miles left in the bag. We intended to comment on the varied forms of hiker's kit which appeared, but we refrain except to mention that no dancing pumps were noticeable. These were probably the only omissions.

Transmission Problems.—We have heard of messages being distorted in transmission, but a recent example somewhat shook our belief. A certain Signalman was rather startled when asked how many gallons of olive oil would be required to paint a mile. Being of a studious nature, he enquired the specific gravity of the oil, which caused consternation all round. It transpired that the original query referred to the cost of certain lengths of a type of cable pro ratio to its cost per mile.

Stop Press.—We extend congratulations to Signalman Melville D. H., on successfully passing the November, 1937, Graduateship Examination, Technical and Educational for the A.M.I.E.E. He wishes us to thank Lieutenant J. H. E. Panton, late of this unit, for the assistance given him towards attaining this object.

In Conclusion.—We are always pleased to see members of the Corps passing through Malta, and regret that their time is always so short. In this respect we would suggest that they seek us early and so give us a chance to do our stuff.

SKIP.

Malaya Signal Company,

Alexandra Detachment.

5th April.

General.—Before proceeding further, I must apologise if these notes resemble Part II Orders, but with so many people coming and going, one cannot do otherwise.

Feverish activity was noticed on Sunday, 13th March, when the lads were fishing out all the old kit they had intended to throw away for years. Weird mixtures of vivid colouring were daubed all over old clothing, and one chappie (no names, no McDonald) was seen dipping a suit of whites in water, and then trailing it all over the floor. Needless to say, this treatment undid all the dhobi's good work. Another bright spark even utilised the office red and violet ink in order to obtain a dash of brightness. After watching this seeming madness for several hours, it became apparent that these hurried preparations were for the new draft's arrival the next day.

A Reception Committee met the new draft by Hongs Store, and headed them back to the bungalow. The "Band," in endeavouring to keep some sort of tune going, certainly succeeded in making plenty of noise. In the evening, a comic football match was held and enjoyed by all; unfortunately there was not enough liquid refreshment to make it really interesting from the players' point of view.

A smoker was held in the canteen from eight until eleven, and several good performances were given. Cookie (the molar merchant) had everyone splitting their sides. Major Giblin, Major Pope and Lieutenant Mozley paid a surprise visit. The biggest surprise of the evening was the song that Major Giblin gave us. Thank you very much, sir. "Tando" also gave us his well-known poem on Malaya; sorry we cannot publish it.

Arrivals.—The following arrived, per H.T. *Somersetshire*, on 14th March, and were posted to Alexandra: Sergeant Abraham, Corporals McAuliffe and Keeling, Signalmen Gamble C., Girt F., Carter E., Laker L., Whitelaw E., Sanderson R., Northall W. and Barron T. We wish them all (including those at Canning and Changi) a long and pleasant stay in the land of perpetual (?) sunshine.

Signalman May E. arrived, per S.S. *Rawalpindi*, on 25th March. Some people have all the luck. Any complaints about squeaking fans?

Community Singing before the match.

Signalman Smart joined us from Pulau Brani looking very hale and hearty after his long stay there. The sea air seems to be good for you, Taff.

Departures.—Signalman Notley to Pulau Brani as W/T Operator. We hear rumours that an extensive course of the Jewish variety has been mapped out, but we will believe that when it comes off.

Corporal Dean (Dixie), who decided that Malaya is no place for him, hurriedly packed his kit and boarded H.T. *Somersetshire* just as she was pulling out. Gee, it sure is the quickest move I have seen you make for some time, Dixie. Units at home will be well advised to watch out for this N.C.O.'s arrival; he is a good all-round sportsman—football (centre-half) and hockey, especially.

Trade Boards.—The following, who successfully passed Trade Boards, were upgraded to the following classes: Signalmen Cocking A. and Salisbury R. to Operator Signals, B.1; Signalman Mitchell to Lineman, C.1.

Sport.—The following are the results of soccer matches played during the month:

4th March.	v. *Scharnhorst*	Won	6—1
6th ,,	v. Railway Institute	Drawn	1—1
10th ,,	v. H.M.S. *Birmingham*	Won	2—0
12th ,,	v. Marines, H.M.S. *Birmingham*..	Drawn	2—2
24th ,,	v. 11th Battery, R.A. (Small Units League)	Drawn	1—1

A return match was played against the German luxury liner, *Scharnhorst*, on 4th April, by an all-Signals team. The result was a win for *Scharnhorst* by 5—3. Afterwards a very enjoyable social evening was spent aboard the boat. Oh, boy, is that German Lager good?

Agony.—Gammond (Schnozy), Egypt Signals. "We have the cheap air mail this way now, so how about a line? Peck."

To All Units at Home.—"Watch out for Signalman 'Ticky' Toogood, the dashing outside-right. Understand that Arsenal, Pompey and Chelsea are after his signature. Sailor."

Challenges.—One only, but here it is. The captain of the rugby team throws down the glove to Changi Signals and challenges them to turn out an all-Signals team at any time or place. How about it, Changi? Phone the Sports N.C.O. whenever you like.

Stop Press.—What again? Why, yes. As usual, Changi had an idea that they could beat us up again, this time at football. But did they? Oh, no; despite the fact that our team was a poor one, we just had to keep putting the ball into their net. The final score of 4—1 was keeping it mild. We must admit that our rival half-section put up a stern fight, led by that old-timer, John Farley, who leaves on Thursday for cooler climes. C.Q.M.S. Nix, left back, and "Snowy" at centre-forward, were also

The Two Teams—after the Comic Football Match.

notable players. We noticed that "Tich" Cunningham was trying to make a name for himself when he put a snappy one past our star goalie, McDonald. On the "Alex." side, one or two of the new arrivals showed quite good form. Prominent in the team were Smyth, Dean and Johnny McAuliffe. Goals for "Alex." were scored by McAuliffe (2), Keeling and Harris.

A Smoker was held during the evening, which all ranks of the Unit attended. Major Giblin and Lieutenant Mozley came and stayed awhile. A short speech was given by the C.S.O., and replied to by "Tando" (Signalman Chatfield). Pipers of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who were in attendance, played some popular airs. Signalman Cocking presided at the piano during a short break in his duty. We must say that a very enjoyable evening was spent, and we join in wishing the old draft a very pleasant voyage and happy Stations.

SLIM.

Changi Detachment.

16th February.

Greetings everybody! Changi Signals are on the air again. Singapore has been in the news lately, what with the Combined Operations, opening of H.M. Naval Base and the visit of American warships.

Combined Operations.—These manœuvres were held on a far greater scale than in previous years. Signals had quite a lot of work to do beforehand, but during the actual Operations the linemen had practically nothing to do, a fact which spoke well for the hard work which they had put in during the preliminary period. The operators worked at night and slept during the day; the linemen slept through the day, and all through the night as well. Everything was a success as far as communications were concerned.

The O.C. Detachment, accompanied by the F-of-S., visited the various Sectors at unexpected moments, but the "jungle telegraph" always forestalled them; scenes of bustling activity greeted their arrival in every case. Signalman Goldfinch, when awakened by the Guard orderly with hot tea every two hours, would shoot up from his bed and exclaim hurriedly "All lines through and correct, sir." He was even heard muttering the words in his sleep.

Work.—A great deal of activity is still noticeable around Changi Area. The linemen, who always have plenty of work to do, are very rarely seen within the precincts of the Signal Office; they are usually rushed off elsewhere at an early hour for work. The operators, as usual, have their wail about the sheer waste of time their sojourn in Malaya means to them. (ii AB ii PP ii CI GB). Another hard days' work done!

Congratulations.—To Lance Sergeant Walker P. on attaining that appointment. (Now when I was just a Corporal!).

Opening of His Majesty's Naval Base, Singapore, 14th February, 1938.—For the benefit of those readers who have been fortunate enough to serve a period of their service at Singapore, the following condensed description of the ceremonial opening of the Naval Base on 14th February may be of interest.

For days previously, the Straits of Johore had seethed with activity as vessels of the East Indies, Indian, China and American Fleets took up their allotted positions. On the actual day of the ceremony, crowds flocked to Seletar, but as admission into the Base was strictly by invitation, only about 10,000 witnessed the actual function.

The *Sea Belle*, the Governor's private yacht, escorted by H.M.S. *Duncan* and *Diamond*, the Straits Settlements patrol vessels *Panglima* and *Pahlawan*, and, overhead by sixty-four Service aircraft, threaded her way through the lines of anchored naval vessels near the approach to the Base. At approximately 5.30 p.m. the bows of the *Sea Belle* parted the ribbon stretched across the new Graving Dock, an act which signified the opening of the Base as a whole.

On board the *Sea Belle* were His Excellency, The Governor of the Straits Settlements—Sir Shenton Thomas; H.H. The Sultan of Johore; the Civil Lord of the Admiralty—Colonel J. J. Llewellin and Vice-Admiral Julius Townsend, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Cruiser Squadron visiting Singapore. On board the escorting destroyers were the rulers of the Federated and Un-Federated Malay States, the Japanese Consul General —Mr. I. Okamoto, and about sixty other distinguished visitors. Foreign pressmen (Dutch, Japanese, Norwegian and American) were also present.

Having disembarked, the Governor inspected the Naval Guard of Honour, and then the principal Dockyard officers, workers and contractors, who had been engaged in the building of the Base, were presented to him. He then mounted a dais and after a brief speech, unveiled a tablet naming the Dock "King George VI Graving Dock." At the same time buglers sounded the "Attention," guards saluted, and the Union Jack was broken from the flag staff opposite the dais.

For one hour after sunset the graving dock, aircraft carrier, cruisers, destroyers and submarines were illuminated, whilst American marines and sailors intermingled with their British contemporaries, drinking each other's health.

This Month's Best.—(It is another snake story, but it comes from Fort Canning). Signalman Barrett D. J. was walking

briskly along Coleman Street, immaculate in the " Gray " as usual. A few yards ahead of him loitered a half-naked Indian, a small basket slung carelessly across his back. Suddenly, Desmond stopped and uttered a warning bellow. A Malayan hooded black cobra plunged viciously at the impeccable flannels of the Chief Clerk (Signals), Fort Canning, but shooting out his strong right hand he grasped that deadly snake beneath the hood and slowly strangled it. Tossing the ten-foot terror to one side he dusted down the " Gray " with a spotless handkerchief, handed the native a ten dollar bill by way of compensation, and boarded a taxi for Changi to inspect the Detachment there.

Sport.-The hockey season has now ended, and we are glad to report that we have thoroughly enjoyed quite a successful season. We have played some of the leading local teams, but truthfully, we cannot say that it was our skill which prevented us from suffering more defeats. Somehow or other, we have just scraped through, slashing out left and right with our sticks. The following players are to be congratulated on their fine consistent play throughout the season : Signalmen Mottershead, Farley, and Reaney. Signalman Farley, in particular, has played extremely well, and it was most unfortunate that he did not have a trial for the State side.

Whilst on the subject of hockey, we recently met our sworn enemies, the Singapore Town Signals (Alexandra Signal H.Q.). We were confident that " Alex " would be swept completely off the field ; indeed, we had even purchased and engraved a wooden spoon to be presented to " Alex " by the C.S.O. after the match. But Corporal Dean had a few trump cards up his sleeve, and fielded a few old timers, who had, apparently, been taking a course of " Regain your youth." Lance Sergeant Walker and Corporal Hubbard astounded the Changi critics by their display of superb stick work and craftsmanship. The former, who is an old Sheffield " Blue," with a great reputation to live up to, must be particularly mentioned. Time after time he was seen to scurry round the field, whispering words of encouragement here, checking there, and slashing out wildly with his stick whenever one of the opposing team came within a few yards of him. Frequently he was heard to threaten Changi Signals with a " dog's life " if they didn't allow him to score a goal. Nevertheless, Signalman Farley risked the " dog's life " and zealously marked the over-confident player, occasionally indulging in a trial of strength with him. When the final whistle blew, much to our chagrin and the delight of Alexandra, there was no score. After a hurried consultation between the umpires, it was decided to play extra time. Seeing that the star defender of " Alex " (Hiram K.) was stuffing more " Regain your youth " pills into his mouth, we took advantage of his temporary fatigue, rushed down the field and scored a goal.

During the remainder of the match we stormed the " Alex " goal, but to no avail. Things looked very black for " Alex," but Corporal Hubbard saved the situation. He rushed into the fray, placed the ball on the end of his stick, and rushed out again. The local supporters roared with delight as their ex-Indian Sahib sprinted down the field. The Band struck up " The old man of the jungles," and Digger, after a hectic fight with the Changi defence, scored the best goal ever seen in Singapore. When the final whistle blew the score was one all. The results of the season's matches are as follows : Played 21, lost 1, won 11, drawn 9. Goals for 24, against 7.

That's all for this month. Cheerio, every one.

TANDO (T.B.C.).

12th March.

" Changilah," the Utopia of the East, calling ! Here we are again, folks, complete with distant tom-toms thundering forth their messages of love, hate and war. Man the stockades, Mandore ; and untwist this python from around the table legs—I wish to write the WIRE notes.

Comings and Goings.—Signalman Dixon recently paid us a visit, overstayed his welcome, and was forcibly ejected back to Blakang Mati (The Isle of the Dead). During his stay in Malaya he has experienced working conditions in various parts of the Command, having spent considerable periods at Alexandra, Pulau Brani, Blakang Mati and Changi. (He has yet to experience a trip to Fort Canning where they work—unconditionally ! !).

THE FAMOUS HOCKEY ELEVEN.

Changi Signals again were victorious, etc., etc.

Lance Corporal Maddison is at present attached to us, undergoing a Course of Instruction at the R.A.O.C. workshops prior to taking his A.1 trade test. File ! File ! And still keep filing !

Lance Corporal Lambert (Maurice, bless him !) recently fractured his collar bone, and is at present in Tanglin Hospital.

The following recently arrived in Malaya per H.T. *Somersetshire*. They are welcomed to Changi, and warned to beware of the thousand and one lurking dangers which infest this area : Sergeant Gordon, Lance Sergeant Penney, Lance Corporal Gatford, Signalmen Clarke, Dackman, and Allen.

R.E. Malays—Fear Not Malaya.—An R.E. Malay Company has recently been recruited and, at present, comprises most of the members of the " Sanpan Society " of Pulau Brani. Former Malayans will, no doubt, smile when they realise that the former " Sanpan " wallahs who used to row them o'er the rapids are now smart looking, but slightly flat footed, Sappers, wielding rifles instead of the familiar paddles. " Panyan ! Ahoy ! ! "

Sport.—A detachment cricket and soccer team has recently been formed. Read the local papers, Alexandra and Fort Canning, for news of astounding victories. Defeats are not published. (I'm going to cancel my order for the *Tribune*, there never was anything in the paper, anyway !—" V.").

Or So We Believe.—This month's best story comes under the heading of the " GOOSE CHASES MAN."

A certain Sam Browne member of this detachment was recently seen struggling up the steep, jungle-clad slopes of one of the out-stations administered by the Changi Detachment. Except for an occasional grunt or groan and his regular stentorian breathing, the deathly, eerie silence of the Malayan jungle prevailed. He kept a wary eye open for snakes and such like as he wearily plodded on his way. (It is to be noted that the district is in a Malay State reputed to be the wildest in the world).

Suddenly, but noiselessly, the undergrowth parted, a small head followed by an elongated neck thrust itself forth and made a vicious stab at the stockinged legs of the owner of the Sam Browne, whose mind, forever fraught with the dangers lurking in the shadows of the jungle, took one glance at the "enemy " and, throwing British prestige to the wind, rushed helter-skelter back down the slope, disturbing all within his path.

Later, after reinforcing himself with a few " gin slings " and B.O.R.s, he once again tackled the path leading to danger, and was soon near the spot of his former encounter. The enemy was discovered lurking beneath the friendly shade of a tropical leaf and was duly " shot "—with a camera—for future reference. Was it a deadly cobra, or even a boa-constrictor ? No ! It was just a common, harmless, frightened goose. Poor goose !

I hope I will not be here when these notes appear in print. Possibly someone will start chasing me ! (Perhaps he will, Tando !—V.).

TANDO (T.B.C.).

THE TERRITORIALS AND SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

The London Corps Signals, T.A. and Affiliated Supplementary Reserve Units.

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

13th April.

General.—In official parlance, " the absence of our notes from the April WIRE is regretted." Nuff said.

This month brings to an end individual training and the commencement of Section training, preparatory to annual training. Those who have joined us since last camp and posted to Sections with which they have never paraded, will soon begin to know one another and, we hope, get down to the much-desired " Section spirit."

We told our readers some time ago that we were going to Myrtle Grove, near Worthing, for our 1938 annual training. The site for camp has been changed, and we are to proceed to Burley, in the New Forest—an ideal training area for a Corps Signals.

Since we appeared in the March WIRE, our number of recruits has simply leaped on the up grade, and we are now pleased, and proud, to be able to tell the world that we are well on the way to completing our 10 per cent. over Establishment.

On Sunday, 3rd April, the first batch of recruits were " fired off " on the open range at Purfleet.

Congratulations to the following on their appointment to Lance Corporal (Unpaid): Ball J. W., Bell E. J. C., Biddlecombe W. S., Harriss S. A., Fisher G. and Davey L. R. Well, boys, it is the first step to fame, so stick it and go all out for bigger things.

Saturday, 19th March, saw our Drill Hall in an unusual setting. An Inter-Company Boxing Tournament, under I.S.B.A. rules, was held under the very able refereeship of Major H. A. Spencer, M.C. Some really exciting boxing was witnessed, and not a single bout was lacking in movement and spirit. Each pair went all the way to do their best to put up a good show, and they certainly succeeded. The result of the seven final fights were as follows: S.R., 1 win; No. 1 Company (T.A.), 1 win; No. 2 Company, 2 wins; and No. 3 Company, 3 wins. (Numerical consistency?) No. 3 Company therefore won the Cup. The Cup and medals were presented by our Honorary Colonel, Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., R.S.M. Evelyn acted as M.C., and we understand that he is wearing blood-proof clothing on the next occasion. Great credit is due to Sergeant Childs C., P.S.I., and others for the excellent arrangements made for the meeting, and to Sergeant White G. and Co. for the very efficient lighting scheme.

On Saturday, 19th March, we entered a team in the T.A. Inter-Divisional Cross-country Run at Northolt Aerodrome. We did not win (we did not expect to), but we can say that all our fellows stayed the course. We feel sure Sergeant Cotterell W. M., P.S.I., who sponsored the team, and who is a bit of a runner himself (!) felt justly proud of that achievement.

We met a team from "A" Corps Signals for our annual football match at Old Deer Park, Richmond, on Saturday, 26th February. A large party came up from Aldershot to see the game, which opened up with good fast play. There was a very strong wind blowing practically straight up the pitch, and "A" Corps, winning the toss, promptly and naturally, enlisted the breeze on their side. It was very hard work for the T.A. against the wind, and it was not very long before the visitors popped one through the posts. In the second half, even with the draught as our ally, the home team could not do much in the goal-getting business, and when referee C.S.M. Dormon T. blew up for time, the score was 6—1.

Our visitors then proceeded to Fulham House for tea and a dance. They certainly appeared to enjoy themselves at the latter.

We are playing them at Aldershot on Good Friday, and hope that it will be " good " for us.

Sergeants' Mess.—It is with deep sorrow that we have to report the death of Mr. George D. Elms, formerly C.Q.M.S. of this Unit. He left us as recently as October, 1937, on reaching the age limit, but he had been a frequent visitor to the Mess since then. We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Elms and family in their sad loss.

His funeral, at Fulham Cemetery, Sheen, on Tuesday, 5th April, was attended by a large party of S.R. and T.A. members. A representative bearer party of two P.S.I.s, two S.R. and four T.A. members bore the coffin, draped with the Union Jack, from the Chapel to the hearse, and from the hearse to the grave. Captain H. C. B. Rogers, our Adjutant, and R.S.M. Evelyn, together with trumpeters, wreath bearers and the remainder of the party followed. At the close of the service, trumpeters sounded the Last Post and Reveille.

Mr. Elms had seen very long service with the Volunteers and Territorial Army; the December, 1937, WIRE contains a detailed account of his services prior to discharge, and we will not repeat them here. He was a very popular member of the Unit, and his many acts of kindness, and a generous nature, proved him to be a great-hearted man. He will be missed very much indeed, both by the Unit and the Mess, apart from those in civil life, who have so much to thank him for.

On Sunday, 3rd April, we met our officers at Purfleet for a shoot—and we shot 'em. At a very enjoyable tea at the Royal Hotel, Purfleet, our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel C. L. H. Humphreys, T.D., presented spoons, kindly given by Major W. H. Lloyd, M.C., to the member having the highest score in his respective team. Captain P. Mann and Lieutenant E. E. Wilkins tied for the officers' team, but Lieutenant Wilkins won the toss, and was duly handed the spoon. Sergeant Hayward H. A. was the recipient for the Mess team. The result of the match was: Officers, 249; W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess, 346.

Each Wednesday sees various games in progress in connection with a Games Tournament between our officers and ourselves. The final figures will not be available until after these notes go to press, so we cannot tell you to which side a very handsome pot will go.

We heartily congratulate Lance Sergeants Hutchings R. A. and Frankland A. E. S. on being appointed to that state of three-stripedness, and sincerely trust that they will have a very happy time with us.

M.T.—A Problem.—Let " V " be velocity of a car, and " U " be the driver of the car. If " U " be taken high enough, it will tend to approach P.C. (the limit of which " V " becomes zero). For low values of " V," P.C. may be neglected; but if " V " be high, it is necessary to square P.C., after which the value of " V " is completely determined by " U," for by a whole theorem P.C. plus L.S.D. = $(P.C.)^2$, and the value of L.S.D. being made sufficiently great, P.C. will vanish, and " U " may be measured indefinitely. Should, however, the difference between " U " and P.C. be very great, J.P. may be substituted for P.C., in which case the problem becomes very difficult of solution, becasue no value of L.S.D. has been found to effect the elimination of J.P. In fact $(J.P.)^2$ is unknown.

EFFEMMA.

The London Corps Signals Cadet Company.

We are to be represented on the Hammersmith Juvenile Organisations Committee in the future. Besides filling a patriotic purpose, we are, of course, a youth welfare organisation, and, as such, can take our place with any other movement for social work amongst adolescent youth.

All ranks are now saving hard for camp. As usual, this will be held in the Isle of Sheppey, in the Artillery hutments there. We shall have tactics, drill, kit inspections, etc., as well as bathing

and riding. Few Cadet Units go riding, so that we look rather snobbish. Also, we camp in huts, instead of tents, and, altogether count ourselves rather lucky.

The Adjutant, 1st West London Cadet Corps—Cadet Captain R. S. Pitt-Kethley—will be down at camp with his own Company, the 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals Cadet Company, so, this year, we shall have another Signals Company with us, besides the Kensingtons Cadet Company, and the London Divisional Engineers Cadet Company from Chelsea. The Signallers in point of numbers, and otherwise, will have overwhelming superiority.

Cadet-Major E. G. Paulus, the Commanding Officer of the 1st West London Cadet Corps will, as usual, command the camp. And, if our official lorry driver comes with us again as he did last year, we shall certainly live up to the Royal Corps of Signals motto *Certa Cito*! The Padre will be down, too, with his cine-camera and car. In order to augment the funds, we have recently held a series of very successful dances, which were all arranged by our Quartermaster, Cadet 2nd Lieutenant F. G. Baigent, who has done so much for the Unit in the way of raising funds.

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

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

Major-General Sir Frederick A. Pile, Bart., C.B., D.S.O., M.C., and Staff visited Headquarters on Wednesday, 6th April. There was a large attendance when we welcomed our Divisional General and showed him the various types of work on which we are engaged, including a demonstration of the new A.A. apparatus now under experiment.

The Cadet Company was also on parade.

Sir Frederick Pile congratulated the Unit on again reaching full strength after being practically doubled in Establishment, and he informed the parade of the locations for annual training.

The Signals will take part in the Air Exercises during the first week in August with No. 1 Company at Tilbury, No. 2 Company at Chatham, and Headquarters with recruits at Shoeburyness. In the second week the Unit will be available for combined field training at Shoeburyness.

Many visitors have recently come to Headquarters to see the experimental work on signals for anti-aircraft gun control. This work, and further experiments in April, may have far-reaching effects, and the Unit is very glad to be able to take part in this practical effort to assist in improving anti-aircraft communications.

Recruits are still coming in steadily, and we welcome them at this particularly interesting stage of our career.

We were pleased to welcome, and to have a lecture from, our Chief Signal Officer, Colonel O. P. Edgcumbe, M.C., on "Modern Signal Development." There was a large audience, and Colonel Edgcumbe gave a survey of Signal organisation which is of great value, particularly in view of the technical development now taking place in methods of communication. Following the lecture, there was an exhibition of technical films by the General Post Office Film Unit.

A very successful dance was arranged by the Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess on Saturday, 2nd April, and the Old Comrades' annual dance was held on Saturday, 9th April.

A.A.

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals Cadet Company.

Our Church Parade was a great success, with 99 per cent. of our uniformed strength on parade. We hope to arrange a special parade for St. George's Day, and to secure the Band and Detachment of the Navy League Sea Cadet Corps from Chelsea, as we did last time. We are very grateful to Sea Cadet Lieutenant-Commander A. Bootes for his co-operation and help. We were pleased and proud, too, to have representatives of the Senior Service with us at our first Church Parade.

The wearing of kilts has been sanctioned for "walking-out," but we shall stick to our trews for all parades. We have the most distinctive, cheap and attractive kit of any Cadet Unit in London, and intend to keep down the costs as much as possible. There is no necessity for any lad to purchase a kilt unless he wants to, as the other kit—diced glengarry, cut-away tunic, web belt and tartan trews—is sufficient for *all* purposes, and it costs only 8s. a head.

Our Parent Unit, Territorial Army, continues to show the greatest interest in all our activities, and is ever anxious to assist us in every way. We use all technical equipment for instructional purposes, and our Cadets are becoming good Signallers. One lad has already joined the T.A., and another the Supplementary Reserve as a vehicle driver. The flow of recruits is steady and even. We still have a splendid leaven of sons and nephews from serving members of our parent Unit, 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals, T.A., and trust that many more will come from this source in the months that lie ahead. The present Company strength is: one officer, two W.O.s and 33 Cadets.

We are looking forward to being able to take part in some technical work during the Easter holidays.

P. K.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Manchester.

General.—A Unit Scheme was held on Sunday, 3rd April, at the Drill Hall, and attendances were very good. "D" Section worked inside the Drill Hall, and communication was provided to the three Infantry Brigades in the field adjoining. A line provided communication from the I.B.s to the Artillery Brigades. No. 1 Sets were sent out about a mile from Headquarters, and acted as Battalions. Cable Sections went into Cheshire and tested out the Mechanical Cable-layers. Traffic was not the important feature of the Scheme, which was intended to give everybody a clear picture of the working of Divisional Signals. Afterwards, our C.O. (Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Delaney) summarised the points of interest that required watching.

Courses.—Captain A. McNair (Adjutant), Captain C. N. Stafford and Capt. T. A. H. Lea, M.M., left on Sunday, 8th April, for a week's attachment at Aldershot. We are hoping that they will come back full of news and information.

At the time that these notes are being compiled, a lecture has been arranged for Wednesday, 20th April, to be given by the Divisional Commander at the Drill Hall of the 8th Battalion, Manchester Regiment.

The 126th Infantry Brigade are having an Exercise on Sunday, 1st May, at Carnforth, and we are sending a Signal Section to take part.

We are pleased to see Captain F. A. Walter back at Headquarters after his operation, and hope that it will not be long before he is leading his riding school again.

Major E. R. Sutton. We congratulate you, sir, on your engagement to Miss D. Jones, and trust that you will pass on to your lady our congratulations.

Lieutenant R. H. Clegg. This officer has now left the country, and should by now be in South Africa. We take this opportunity of wishing him every success. He has been with us for three years, and during that time has formed the boxing team, who have been successful in winning the "Beach" Cup twice.

Two Pips.—We congratulate Lieutenant C. F. Kerr and Lieutenant D. G. Allen on receiving their second pip.

Trade Board.—Congratulations to all those who passed the Trade Board, which was held on 9th-10th April. Fifty-three other ranks presented themselves for examination, and, out of these, forty-four were successful in obtaining a trade rating. This now shows the Unit with well over 50 per cent. of trade-rated men.

Agony Column.—It is true that A.R.B.D. is communicating with the Mayor of Buggleswich with the idea of matrimony.

PUFF AND HUFF.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

April.

Editorial.—Life has run fairly smoothly during the past month. The Operators' Paid Classes have ceased, and those who were keen enough to attend during the full period have reaped the reward. The number was less than anticipated, but the shortage is mainly accounted for by a good number having to perform overtime in their respective jobs for several months past.

Recruits are shaping well, and it is expected that a fair percentage of those enlisted between last Camp and now will be fit for posting to Sections prior to annual training.

Valedictory.—There are occasions when one has to use this word with a full heart. The time for bidding farewell comes to all of us in turn, and it is the more felt when we have to say farewell officially to two members at the same time. I will leave the record of service particulars to others better able to chronicle such details.

We are losing the services of R.S.M. Stone G. E. and R.Q.M.S. Boulger H. W. R. The former has served as P.S.I. for three years with our Devonport Company, and a full tour as Unit R.S.M. The latter has served as Unit Orderly-Room Sergeant throughout the whole of his T.A. career with us.

Mr. Stone joined at Devonport from India, and his excellent qualities as a P.S.I. were soon noticed and felt. Briefly, he has been a wonderful asset to this Unit the whole time, and he has

R.S.M. G. E. Stone (George).

R.Q.M.S. H. W. R. Boulger and R.S.M. G. E. Stone. (Bert and George.)

undoubtedly set a very high standard for his successors to emulate. Of a kindly and cheerful disposition, he has been ever ready to help, and to all ranks his services have been available at all times. His military bearing has inspired many of us as an example, and the Unit has greatly improved in consequence. He has been called upon to solve many and varied problems, not all of them within his duties, but he has never been ploughed on any subject. The Service is fortunately not losing him, as he goes to the East Anglian Divisional Signals as their Lieutenant Quartermaster. We can pass him on to them in the sure knowledge that they, like ourselves, will soon discover his value. The Regular Army has surrendered him, but he leaves a son in it to carry on the family tradition; this son is the fourth generation in direct line in the Army. One hears splendid reports of this younger edition already.

With Mr. Boulger in his chair in the Unit Orderly Room, everything has worked smoothly the whole time he has been there. I have never seen him ruffled on any occasion. Many times one has looked in on him at H.Q., and at camp, and a cheerful countenance has always greeted us. His great value to the Unit has been recorded behind the scenes. With Unit H.Q. and a Company at Exeter, and the other two Companies at Southampton and Devonport, the amount of correspondence has naturally been colossal, but, somehow, Mr. Boulger has achieved the miracle in getting everything through with a margin to spare for any odd matters that might arrive out of turn. The maintenance of such a happy state of affairs called for first-class ability and efficiency. Bert (to use a more familiar name) had little need to refer to manuals, and this speaks volumes. Like Mr. Stone, he was called upon at times to solve riddles outside his province, but he did so, and I have yet to learn that he was ever stumped. His courtesy at all times was a password, and his chair will be most difficult to fill. He now becomes the complete civilian, and I understand he has found another billet,

away " East " of us, but not in East Anglia. However, he will be near enough to " George " to lend a hand if required.

An account of a farewell ceremony which I attended appears elsewhere in these notes, so I will only mention that the inscription on the respective tokens was " For services rendered, you'll be remembered." I think these words very suitably summarises the T.A. career of each of these outstanding characters in the history of the Unit.

To Stone and Boulger we say, " cheerio, good luck, and thank you very much indeed for all you have done for us."

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

York Street Drill Hall, Devonport.

Training.—Spring is in the air! With the trees in bud, and the sun promising warm support, thoughts are already turning to week-end camps and outdoor Exercises. The advent of Section training, when we are all grouped, for better or for worse, with those stalwarts who are doomed to be our constant companions during the testing time of the year's training, is reminding us also that our time before camp is speedily shortening.

In view of the commencement of Section Training, the Company Commander gave the men a lecture on this aspect of the training on 4th April. The Adjutant and R.S.M. have also been down during the month on several occasions, giving lectures and training in discipline and drill for the senior N.C.O.s.

Trade Tests.—These were conducted on 21st March by the Adjutant and R.S.M., and congratulations are due to all those who successfully got through. Unfortunately, some members of the Company were unable to get to the Drill Hall on the night of the test, but they are hoping to be able to have a chance later on, before camp. The results were as follows: B.II—Lance Sergeants Northam C. R. and Judge A. J.; B.III—Signalmen McDonagh A. and Pawlby A. G.; Group " E "—Lance Corporal Brock S. E., Signalmen Colmer J. W., Harris F. J. T., Hodge H. H., Mitchell G. H. and Mitchell H. L.

Social.—We have had to say good-bye to two members of the Unit who have seemed " part and parcel " of us for many years. Hard though it is to realise, R.S.M. Stone and R.Q.M.S. Boulger have left us. However, we feel less regret in knowing they are both going to good " berths," and in knowing that they will always keep in touch with the Unit (perhaps, even to the extent of perusing these notes in order to acquaint themselves with our activities).

A very happy evening was spent with them as our guests at an informal dinner held at Goodbody's Cafe on Saturday, 2nd April, and which was attended by the Commanding Officer (Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Walsh), the Company Commander (Major W. J. L. Cornelius), and most of the officers and N.C.O.s of the Company.

After the dinner, those present made their way to the Drill Hall, where the festivities of the evening were continued.

As a small memento of the Company's feelings and appreciation for all they had done, R.S.M. Stone and R.Q.M.S. Boulger were presented with inscribed silver ash trays. Major Cornelius, in making the presentations, spoke with feeling of the excellent service which both men had done for the Unit, and for No. 1 Company, as part of the formation. He recalled, too, that R.S.M. Stone had formerly been P.S.I. of the Company, who owed him a special debt in consequence.

Lieutenant P. W. Shaw spoke of the typical fairness and willingness to help in every direction which Mr. Boulger had always shown, and mentioned how helpful R.S.M. Stone had been to him as a young officer.

Lieutenant G. K. S. Edwards added a similar tribute, speaking of the helpfulness and interest which Mr. Stone had shown towards him as P.S.I. when he was first gazetted to the Unit, and in speaking of Mr. Boulger said that his cheerfulness had always seemed to pervade the whole camp at annual training.

Major Cornelius, representing the officers, presented one of the trays, while the second tray was presented by C.S.M. Gibbings, as the representative of the N.C.O.s.

It is unnecessary to refer in great detail to the service of R.Q.M.S. Boulger, whose long and distinguished career with both the Regular Army and the Territorials is well known. He enlisted in the R.E. in 1898 and served continuously overseas during the Great War, gaining the D.C.M. at the first battle of Ypres, and the M.C. in the 1918 retreat from the Aisne. On his discharge in 1924 he enlisted in the Territorial Army, and became R.Q.M.S. in 1928.

R.S.M. Stone, although a younger man, has also seen plenty of service. He joined the R.E. in 1913, and was serving in Russia during the war. After a period of service in India, he came as P.S.I. to the Plymouth Company in 1932. In 1935 he went to Exeter as R.S.M. of the Unit, the position which he is now vacating. It may be mentioned that his son, now serving in the R.A.O.C., is the fourth in generation of the family to enter the Regular Army.

The Company wishes Mr. Stone and Mr. Boulger the best of luck in the future, and hopes that they will visit us again as often as they can.

A happy event of the evening's proceedings was the presentation by Colonel Walsh of the Territorial Efficiency Medal to C.S.M. Gibbings, who has completed twelve years' service with the Company. It will be remembered that the C.S.M. was one of those who received the Jubilee Medal in 1935. He is the second member of the Company to receive the Efficiency Medal, Sergeant Ford E. having been presented with his at the Company dinner in January last.

ONECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Stanford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, W.6.

General.—The Unit moves to Canterbury for Easter training on 15th April, under the command of Captain L. H. Harris. At a Scheme held in the vicinity of Chobham on 20th March, "D" Section tried with great success a new system of handling counter traffic, particularly with regard to D.R.s. Further tests at Easter may prove that we have " the goods " for our particular purpose.

A week-end Training Scheme for Officers only was held in March. Inter-communication was by means of No. 1 Sets carried in private cars. The battle situation was considerably enlivened by the villanous activities of a beer-pinching pirate, who was eventually run to earth in the gardens of Headquarters.

Colonel O. P. Edgcumbe, M.C., Chief Signal Officer, visited the Unit on 30th March.

The Trade Tests held on 3rd April showed a very great increase in all standards, reflecting great credit to instructors and the new training programme.

The Reid Trophy for the best-dressed recruit for 1937 has been awarded to Lance Corporal Humphreys P. B. E., as the most efficient recruit. His record is: Enlisted 15th December, 1936; Operator Signals, B.III, 8th July, 1937; Drills, 67 in eight months; Camp, full period.

The Unit will be "At Home " to visitors, military or otherwise, on 8th May, when a demonstration and exhibition of the Unit's work will be given. Each Section will be responsible for the display of its own particular work, and tea will be available for all visitors.

Promotions and Appointments.—Lieutenant J. H. E. Baker, promoted Captain, 1st February; C.Q.M.S. Woodman J. T., promoted W.O. Class II (C.S.M.), 7th February; Lance Corporal Haley F. P., promoted Corporal, 10th February; Lance Corporal Dunn D., promoted Corporal, 7th February; U/Lance Corporal Harding W. F., appointed Lance Corporal (Paid), 10th February; U/Lance Corporal Marjoram A., appointed Lance Corporal (Paid), 14th February.

Commissions.—W. A. Woods to be 2nd Lieutenant, 22nd February; S. Isaacs to be 2nd Lieutenant, 11th February.

Boxing.—Signalmen Wallace and Moorhouse, after a very gallant effort, fought their way into runners-up in the Divisional Championship.

Musketry.—" B " Cable Section, having graduated from bows and arrows, have issued challenges to all other Sections at

Stamford Brook during the past month. In competition against No. 25 Construction Section, "K" Section, "M" Section, "D" Section, D.R. Sub-Section, and the recruits, have not yet been beaten. They have still to fire against Headquarter Section, when they may, perhaps, meet their Waterloo.

Officers' Ball.—Held on 5th March. It was, as usual, a charming and successful evening.

Sergeants' Ball.—For the first time the Sergeants' Mess held a Ball with guests by invitation only. Each member of the Mess to bring his own friends. Some 500 invitations were issued and the attendance was about 300. The success of the evening exceeded all expectations, and has given us every excuse to repeat our efforts as soon as opportunity permits.

JOSIE JUN.

No. 2 Company.

Drill Hall, Gloucester Road, Brighton.

General.—The Company continues to be fully occupied in recruit training. The attendances in the classes are very good indeed, but a little more pressure could be made upon those who have failed to attend in order to obtain 100 per cent. attendance. Our aim is to be able to raise our standard of efficiency before Camp.

The interest taken by the members of the classes is indeed praiseworthy, and we hope that by the time Camp arrives we shall be able to increase the number of Operators in each Section. By the time these notes appear in print we shall have completed our Easter training, which is to be held at Canterbury.

Scheme.—A model Scheme was carried out on 13th March in the vicinity of Lewes. On the whole, it was a success, but there is still more room for improvement. A move was made about noon, and on the allotted time for the re-establishment of communication it was found that a certain Section had lost itself in the wilds of Kingston Ridge. They eventually turned up none the worse for their adventure.

Cable Cup.—"E" Section are to be congratulated on winning the Cup. At the scene of inspection we could see the eagle eyes of the C.C. and C.S.M. Church prying here and there, and, after a thorough examination, the C.C. awarded the Cup to the above Section. Congratulations!

Departures.—Another of our fold has joined the Regulars. We all wish you the best of luck in your new venture, Bryant.

Arrivals.—We extend the hand of welcome to Signalman Hemsley. May your stay be a long and happy one.

Boxing.—A very pleasant evening was spent on Saturday, 26th March, when the Annual Boxing Tournament, between representatives of the Regular Army stationed at Preston Barracks and Units of the Territorial Army, took place in our Drill Hall. This is an annual affair for a Cup presented by our late local sportsman, Sir Harry Preston. As the Cup was already in our possession, the lads were determined to retain it.

The boxing, generally, reached a fairly good standard and there was plenty of good honest fighting. The contest which proved most popular with the crowd was a middle-weight bout between Gunner Caddighy (32nd Field Brigade, R.A.) and Lance Bombardier Crump (159th Heavy Battery). Caddighy, a long, loose-limbed fellow, adopted an extraordinary stance. His elbows always seemed to be in front of his fists and he revolved his gloves rapidly round each other. In fact at times the contest looked like a burlesque, but it developed into the fiercest fight of the evening. The Territorial eventually won.

The light-weight contest, between Driver Chambers (32nd Field Brigade, R.A.) and Signaller Leaney (44th Divisional Signals) provided a triumph for science over brute force. In the first round Chambers forced the fighting, which made Leaney cover up and duck out of trouble with very nearly disastrous results to himself. Following a word of advice from his second, Leaney stood up to his man in the second round and drove solid, straight lefts and rights through Chambers' defence, with the result that the Artilleryman sank gracefully to the floor and stayed there.

The rest of the bouts were of similar nature and plenty of claret was seen to flow.

A special exhibition contest was staged between Sergeant Williams and Corporal Ripley (both of the 44th Divisional Signals). This contest was one of science, rather than of brute force. In the first round, Williams was content to let Ripley do the work, but in the second and third rounds Williams brought into play some of his old-time craft, and the fight was good to watch. Williams was declared the winner, after a very good and interesting bout. By the way, readers, Sergeant Williams was the Northern Counties' Champion in 1928. He goes under the appropriate name of "Basher."

(With Acknowledgments to the Brighton and Hove Herald.)

Special Contest : Sergeant Williams (left) versus Corporal Ripley (Both 44th Divisional Signals N.C.Os.).

The prizes were presented by Lieutenant-Colonel W. B. Mackie, M.C., O.C. 32nd Field Brigade, R.A. The officials included Colonel F. H. Greedwood, C.B.E., D.S.O., O.B.E., T.D., Hon. Secretary, T.A. Sports Board, Major A. E. P. Bridge, Captain E. C. Sheppard and Captain Bedford.

At the closure, all the boxers formed up inside the ring and the crowd stayed on to hear what the Colonel had to say, and to see the presentation of Cups and medals. They applauded every boxer, whether winner or runner-up, and when the Colonel handed over the Cup to Captain Bedford of the R.E.s (T.A.) for safe keeping, the applause nearly brought the roof down. Well, readers, after a very interesting night out, the Territorials proved the winners.

Conclusion.—Well, that's all for the present, dear readers. We have received no news of the lost scribe from "Hurst" yet.

NIMROD.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham, 28.

12th April.

General.—The training season opened on 4th April. The plan this year is for the first part of the season, up to 1st June, to be confined to individual training. After that date, Section training will commence, as it is hoped that by then the inevit-

able " rust " accumulated during the winter months will have worn off, and N.C.O.s and men will be thoroughly fit to take their places in their respective Sections.

Schedules of training have been carefully prepared, and, assuming that the new regulations regarding obligatory drills and increased travelling allowances will lead to regular attendance, it will be possible to adhere rigidly to these time tables. This would greatly help the instructor in his task, and at the same time make the instruction more interesting and progressive.

Handbook.—The Unit Handbook for 1938, which gives detailed information of training and other useful information, will shortly be on sale.

Congratulations.—To the following, who have just received their appointments to Lance Sergeant : Lance Sergeants Ironmonger, Osman, Williams G., Clarke F. and Cockbill.

All Ranks' Dinner.—The first All Ranks' Dinner in the history of the Unit was held in the Drill Hall on Saturday, 19th March, when the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel P. H. Jones, M.C., presided over a gathering of about 300 officers, N.C.O.s and men.

Speaking of the present unsettled conditions of Europe, the C.O. said that we were living in stirring times, and whilst it was not necessary to be unduly alarmed, it was necessary to be prepared. Defending one's country did not mean attacking another. We, of all the Great Powers, were alone able to boast of relying on voluntary service, and this was something to be proud of. No one doubted that if an emergency arose men would flock to the colours, but when one considered the lightning speed of modern warfare, the advantage of having trained men, such as afforded by the Territorial Army, was obvious. The C.O. stressed this point and appealed to all members of the Unit to do all in their power to get their friends to join. The number of vacancies in the Unit was now very small, and, as far as possible, preference would be given to friends of serving members. He also appealed to those members who were considering joining the Regular Army to insist upon going into the Royal Signals. In conclusion, he reminded members of the Annual Church Parade on 22nd May, which would be followed by tea for themselves and friends.

The Unit was also addressed by the Honorary Colonel, Brigadier-General McCalmont, and also by Colonel R. Danielsen, who commanded the Unit after its re-formation as the Royal Signals after the War.

The Honorary Colonel, in his remarks, emphasised the points brought out by Colonel Jones regarding the tense political situation in Europe, and the important role played by the Territorial Army in the defence of the country. He then went on to trace how he had come to be associated with this Unit as its Honorary Colonel. Twenty-one years ago, he said, he was sent to command a Brigade in France, where he found an efficient but small Signal Section commanded by a long, thin boy, whom he forthwith christened " Boy." Twelve years ago, when appointed to command the 144th Infantry Brigade of the 48th Division, he re-discovered " Boy," who had now become " Pip," and it was through this war-time association that he now had the honour of becoming the Honorary Colonel of a first-class Unit with a first-class Commanding Officer. He then went on to say that in spite of a long search through many text books he was still uncertain as to what the precise functions of an Honorary Colonel were, but if there was anything he could do towards maintaining the *esprit de corps* he would be satisfied that he had done something to keep the Unit as a well-disciplined, happy family. There was a fine tradition handed down to us from the Great War, and as a professional soldier he always regarded the Territorial soldier with great admiration and respect. Finally, he said that he looked forward to meeting us on many future occasions.

Colonel Danielsen said that he had been connected with the Unit for a great number of years, and it was with great regret that he now found himself forced to take a back seat. He still, however, followed the activities of the Unit with great interest, and remarked upon the improvements in the Unit. His words of advice were to be prepared, and for individuals to make themselves as efficient as possible, and as quickly as possible. In mentioning the camping place for this year's annual training, namely, Salisbury Plain, he said it was a place that everyone grumbled about, but it was very noticeable that everyone seemed to enjoy themselves there.

After the dinner an entertainment was provided, which included the following items : Val de Lacey, piano, accordion, vocal numbers, and Fred Barlow, phono-fiddle, both B.B.C. artistes. Mr. Bert Hurran, comedian. Sergeant Goffe C., monologue. R.S.M. Bardoe, R.Q.M.S. Barlow and Lance Sergeant Ironmonger provided their usual melody and rhythm on the piano, saxophone and drums. Lance Corporal Stubbins, bare-legged vocalist. Signalman Smith H., piano-accordion.

There were no real discoveries, but perhaps on a future occasion, ambitious entertainers will pluck up courage and hand in their names.

D.R.s' Club Notes.—The Annual Spring Trial for which the premier award is a medal presented by the Commanding Officer, was held on 2nd April. Although the entries were not well supported, twelve competitors took the field, among them once again a number of D.R.s from the City of London Signals. The latter rode over from London on the Saturday night, in very unpleasant weather. Unfortunately, through breakdowns, they arrived so late that we had given them up, and they were forced to spend a very uncomfortable night on New Street Station. We are sorry this happened, and thank them for their sportsmanship in riding in the Trial, in spite of a very trying time.

The weather for the Trial turned out very well, and even the previous night's downpour failed to wash away the dye with which Lance Corporal Hadnett, who planned the Trial, had marked the course. The marking was child's play to follow, and everyone enjoyed themselves. The Trials culminated with lunch at an inn.

We hope to meet them again in the autumn.

The Display Team has seven or eight fixtures on its books, four of the performances at various Midland functions ; the first is at Solihull Carnival on 6th May.

Results of Spring Trial :

1.	Signalman Darrall P.	Lost	6 marks.
2.	Sergeant Goffe	,,	8 ,,
3.	Signalman Johnson	,,	9 ,,
4.	Signalman Kennard (London) . .	,,	10 ,,

City of London "A" team lost 29 marks ; 48th "A" team lost 26 marks.

Sunday Training for D.R.s.—A Map Reading Exercise for Despatch Riders took place on 20th March, under Lieutenant R. W. Danielsen and 2nd Lieutenant J. F. Timings.

By way of a change, the route lay through the Kidderminster and Clee Hill districts, an unfamiliar neighbourhood for most of those taking part, and comprising some rather difficult bye-roads. However, nobody got seriously lost, and the Scheme proved both instructive and enjoyable.

Sergeants' Mess.—The first thing that comes to mind is the Annual Dinner for members and ladies. This was held in the Drill Hall on Saturday, 26th March, and was the usual unqualified success. Our normally austere Drill Hall was transformed by snowy linen and glittering glass, the latter so soon to become dulled by the products of the hopfields and vineyards.

Ex-R.Q.M.S. Jimmy James and Mrs. James were our guests. Unfortunately, ex-C.S.M. Bill Langham was unable to attend owing to duty elsewhere. Mr. James accepted a clock, presented by the P.M.C., C.S.M. Robins, on behalf of the members, and thanked everyone in a snappy and characteristic speech. A set of trays for Mr. Langham was on view, and is being sent on to him. We are also sending a tankard to our old friend, Sergeant Winter W., formerly P.S.I., and who has left us for Bulford.

The Simpson Snooker Cup was won by Lance Sergeant Stevens H., and the Martineau Shooting Cup by C.Q.M.S. Fellows J. Each received a replica.

The Loyal Toast was proposed by R.S.M. Bardoe V., and, shortly afterwards, the party re-assembled at the other end of the Drill Hall for a most successful cabaret and dance, in which " Knees up, Mother Brown " appeared to be a very popular, though somewhat unusual, number. Val de Lacey on piano and accordion, with Fred Barlow and his phono-fiddle, provided music and song, and were assisted with the hot rhythm by

Sergeant Ironmonger R. and a man with a saxophone, who refuses to give his name. He says " They know it."

A hearty welcome to the following, who have joined the Mess on appointment to Lance Sergeant : Ironmonger R., Osman G., Williams G., Clarke F. B. and Cockbill S. J.

A word of sympathy for the sergeant who will lead his Section on a motor-cycle decorated with a hefty letter " L." Another for the unfortunate member who has not yet been released from the doctor's order forbidding the lowering of a pint, or even a half.

ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION, BIRMINGHAM BRANCH.

The Annual General Meeting of the above Branch was held in the Drill Hall, Stratford Road, on Friday, 8th April. Colonel J. W. Danielsen, D.S.O., T.D., who was elected Chairman of the Branch, assured us that although he was a busy man, he would make every effort to interest himself in the business of the Association. The response from the meeting indicated that there was no doubt about that.

Colonel Danielsen proposes to get in touch with the various independent associations in this city with a view to persuading them to join this Branch. At least two associations with very close relations to the Corps are in quite a flourishing condition, and whilst not wishing to break up these obviously happy bands, it is hoped that the majority will support the main body also.

The resignation of Colonel W. Martineau, M.C., T.D., was accepted with very great regret, although we realised from his letter that he has a vast amount of public work to perform in Birmingham. Colonel Danielsen paid tribute to the work of Colonel Martineau and Major H. Bartlett. They had revived the Branch from practically a dormant state in about two years. Much has been accomplished in a short time, and it is hoped now that members will continue to give their valuable support to the Branch, and also bring in any former members of the Corps who do not already belong to it. Major H. Bartlett, Royal Signals, was unanimously re-elected Hon. Secretary. The Balance Sheet having been read and discussed, was adopted and passed. It shows the Branch to be in a comfortable position.

Mr. W. Thom asked members to give the social functions their support, and pointed out that these affairs were a very important source of income to the Branch. Next winter's programme includes a dance, probably on 11th November, and a dinner in February, 1939. Members will be notified of the actual details at a later date. Remembering these gatherings last season, we expect a record attendance.

The Annual Church Parade, in which the Old Comrades will take part, will be held on 22nd May. Colonel Danielsen expressed the hope that there would be a 100 per cent. rally. The parade will assemble at Cateswell House, Stratford Road, at 3 p.m., and march to St. Christopher's Church, Springfield.

The question of running an outing to the Aldershot Reunion was enthusiastically discussed, and was described by Mr.W. Thom in glowing terms. Those who have never attended one of these remarkable gatherings can have no conception of the occasion. To meet so many old friends after many years and to live for a day in the past is a unique experience, and one that an Old Comrade owes himself. Arrangements are being made to run a representative party from Birmingham, and those interested should get in touch with Major H. Bartlett at Cateswell House, Stratford Road, so that the organisation may be carried out smoothly. Members with cars are particularly requested to communicate.

The " White Swan " in Edmund Street has been selected as a rendezvous for members of this Branch. From 7 p.m. on the last Friday of the month you may expect to meet friends there. Will members and serving friends please make a note of this ?

Serious business was concluded by Colonel Danielsen notifying those present that the Hon. Secretary was ready to receive subscriptions.

The remainder of the evening was given over to a very enjoyable smoking concert by well-known artistes. R.F.B.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals, T.A. and Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Leeds.

General.—Individual training is now over, and all are getting ready for the Section and Company training.

A most ambitious programme has been arranged, comprising Schemes in the barracks and country. Personnel and Staff from the 69th and 70th Field Brigades, R.A., and from the 146th and 147th Infantry Brigades have promised to co-operate, so these Schemes will have a more realistic atmosphere. In July, H.Q., 49th (W.R.) Division are setting us a Unit Scheme, employing the whole Unit. The Staff will be looking on, so this will be our supreme test prior to Annual Camp.

Another new feature has been introduced into these barracks. This is a Unit Roll Board, sub-divided into Companies and Sections, and showing the rank and name of everyone in the Unit. This will be placed in the Drill Hall, and no longer will there be any excuse for anyone not knowing their own Section personnel, and every other Section as well.

Officers' Signal Exercise.—On 9th and 10th April the C.S.O., Northern Command (Colonel R. E. Barker), held a Signal Exercise at these Headquarters for officers of this Unit and the Air Contingent Signals, the officers of the 50th (N.) Divisional Signals, Darlington, and the officers of the North Midland Corps Signals, Derby. Staff Officers from H.Q., 49th (W.R.) Division also attended. The officers from the Signal Units were formed into three syndicates, namely, Corps Syndicate, and Nos. 1 and 2 Syndicates.

A map, eighty feet by forty feet, was chalked out on the floor of the Drill Hall, with roads, rivers and towns prominently marked. It was planned that the attacking troops should advance in a northerly direction, at intervals, in four bounds. As soon as one of these bounds was captured and the position consolidated, it was the job of the Syndicate to get together and plan out the communications.

To help the officers, the C.S.O. had all the attacking troops represented by wooden models. It was a most instructive Scheme and gave the various syndicates a lot of hard thinking.

Air Contingent Signals' Annual Dinner and Reunion.—This event took place at the Golden Lion Hotel, Leeds, on Saturday, 26th March, and over one hundred members and guests attended. It was the first ever held by the S.R., but everyone agreed that it ought not to be the last.

Amongst those who attended were : Colonel J. Campbell, O.C., Air Contingent Signals ; Colonel R. E. Barker, C.S.O., Northern Command ; Colonel W. Boyle, Honorary Colonel, 49th (W.R.) Divisional Signals ; Colonel W. F. Jackson, O.C., 49th (W.R.) Divisional Signals ; Colonel T. P. Hobbins, Regional Director, G.P.O. ; Colonel A. C. Haddon, R.A.M.C. ; Major Ellenberger, G.S.O.1, 49th (W.R.) Division ; Squadron Leader Rogers, R.A.F. ; Major H. Richardson, 49th (W.R.) Divisional Signals ; Major Brennon, D.A.D.O.S., York ; Captain C. C. Danby, Adjutant, 49th Divisional Signals ; Captain G. F. Houghton, Adjutant, Air Contingent Signals, S.R. ; and many other officers, Warrant Officers, N.C.O.s and men of the T.A. and S.R. There was also a very good sprinkling of Post Office officials.

Colonel R. E. Barker, who responded to the toast of " Our Guests," said some very nice things about Colonel Campbell and the Unit, and everyone present agreed that they were well deserved.

A very pleasing ceremony took place during the Dinner ; this was the presenting of Efficiency Medals to members of the S.R. by Colonel W. Boyle. The recipients were : Sergeant Rochford M., Corporals Highton M. and Drabble J., Signalmen Cunningham F. and Brown F. E. Congratulations to them all !

Sergeants' Mess Annual Dinner.—This function was held in the Sergeants' Mess on Saturday, 19th March, and over 130 members and their guests attended. Representatives from other Units, Regular and T.A., were very conspicuous, and judging from their remarks, they thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Telegrams were received from the Training Battalion and the School of Signals at Catterick Camp, wishing us a very happy evening.

For this pleasing courtesy we thank them very much; they were indeed appreciated. Among the guests were: Colonel R. E. Barker, C.S.O., Northern Command; Colonel W. Boyle, Honorary Colonel, 49th (W.R.) Divisional Signals; Colonel W. F. Jackson, our Commanding Officer; and Colonel J. Campbell, O.C., Air Contingent Signals.

During the dinner, a wireless set was presented to ex-C.S.M. Hobby W., formerly P.S.I., Air Contingent Signals, by the Honorary Colonel, who wished him the best of luck in his new job with the Post Office.

M. S. R.

ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION, LEEDS BRANCH.

A busy month has just passed, during which we held the first O.C.A. Dance ever given at these Headquarters. The dance, which was held in the Drill Hall on Friday, 1st April, was a huge success, and it is hoped will considerably increase our funds. More and more members are joining, and they are all keen to do something. A word of praise is due to Captain J. G. Parry, C.S.M. Joynes W., Sergeant Fleming, Mr. Pearson and Mr. Burns on working so hard in making this branch the real success it undoubtedly is.

M. S. R.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

General.—Training is progressing very favourably; all ranks are making every endeavour to earn the bounty that the extra drills entail. The first of our Sunday trainings took place in the Drill Hall on 10th April. The object was for all tradesmen who could attend to brush up on the winter training effort so as to enable candidates to sit on the Trade Board which is scheduled for 28th April. It is hoped to produce a further increase in the number of tradesmen in the Company as a result.

P.T. Class.—We offer to Corporal Alderson G. A., who is in charge of the instruction of the P.T. Class our hearty congratulations on winning the Zone final of the Northern Command P.T. Competition, and by a good margin, I understand. The judging for the final of the Command took place on Friday, 8th April, in the Drill Hall at Lytton Street, before the G.S.O. in charge of P.T. The result is not yet to hand, but if available will be published in next month's issue.

Miniature Range Shooting.—On the same evening (8th April) we again entertained our old rivals from the Turf on the Miniature Range, and a jolly good show was put up by both teams. The results left us slightly ahead. Good shooting, Turf! Here's to the next time. A new innovation was introduced into the social atmosphere by our P.S.I.—C.S.M. Widgery—and was called the Sinking Relay; but more anon, you rivals of Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, till we meet at annual training.

Congratulations.—To Captain and Mrs. C. C. Fairweather we offer our congratulations on the birth to them of a daughter.

MIDBRO.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Fonthill Barracks, Aberdeen.

General.—Our Commanding Officer has just returned from a fortnight's stay in Norway, looking remarkably fit and, no doubt, ready to grapple with training and camp problems. He was accompanied during his trip by Captain J. Cochran and Lieutenant J. Gray. We were sorry to hear that Captain J. W. Levack, who also intended to go, had to cancel his arrangements owing to business reasons.

Training.—Now that our annual camp has been definitely decided upon, training has started with a swing. Complicated programmes have been evolved to enable each and every man to be master of his particular job by the time we proceed to Aldershot to take part in the Command and Staff College Exercises during July. One can only hope that the same standard of keenness will be maintained throughout the training season.

Lecture.—During the month a very interesting lecture on Gas, and Anti-Gas precautions, was given by the Adjutant to officers and N.C.O.s in Aberdeen.

Courses.—A Refresher Course for Linemen and D.R. Cadre Instructors was held during March. We have to thank 1st Divisional Signals for their co-operation in sending Lance Sergeant Page from Aldershot to instruct on this Course. The results attained were exceptionally good, and a credit to the instructor. We hope that he enjoyed his short stay with us, and managed to arrive home in time for his Sunday dinner.

Three officers and seventeen warrant officers and N.C.O.s proceeded to Aldershot for attachment from 4th to 16th April to our Affiliated Unit—1st Divisional Signals. They are to attend a Signal Officers' and N.C.O.s' Duty Course, and, at the same time, obtain information on the procedure and instruments at present being used in Regular Units, with a view to training for this year's camp at Aldershot. We hope they enjoy their stay, and return full of knowledge and ready to impart it to the less fortunate members of the Unit.

We understand that several of them were able to see the international football match, and no doubt had a great thrill when Scotland won.

Sport.—With the arrival of the training season, the Company miniature rifle team is getting down to serious work. Nos. 2 and 3 Companies had better look to their laurels as our lads seem very determined.

ONECOY.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

12th April.

General.—There is not much in the way of news this month. Things are still going smoothly along.

Departures.—We regret the departure of two Company stalwarts in C.S.M. Ferguson D. and Lance Sergeant Beveridge J. T. They find that moves in their civilian employment prevent them from giving the necessary time to the T.A. After fifteen years of their company, we shall miss them a great deal, particularly in the Dunfermline Section. Still, men must come and men must go, and we wish them every success in their new spheres, hoping that they will come up and see us some time when they are in the vicinity of the Drill Hall.

Training.—Training is taking place at present on entirely new lines. It is based on the principle of one man, one job, each man specialising in a particular duty in a Signal Office. The idea is taking on, and we hope to produce some red-hot operators, etc. We shall see the result when Section training commences.

Courses.—Sergeants Davidson A. and Cook A., Lance Sergeant Beveridge A., Corporal Marshall D. and Lance Corporal Williamson P. are at present at Aldershot, attached to our Affiliated Unit, 1st Divisional Signals. We hope that they are picking up lots of tips on what we shall be expected to do when we go to Aldershot this year for our annual camp. We hear that some of the N.C.O.s of this Unit took part in a "shoot" against the Regulars, and came out on top. That will "larn 'em" that the Terrier knows how to do it.

Recruits.—We welcome some recruits this month, hoping that they will settle down to the life of a "Terrier," and that they will bring along some of their friends; we still need many more to bring us up to strength.

Finale.—"I probably will not be able to attend camp this year, Sergeant."

"Why not?"

"I am having an operation for the removal of varicose veins."

"That's bad. Where are the varicose veins? In your blood—and do they cause noises?"

"Yes, Sergeant."

THREECOY.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals and G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

21, Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Press Visit.—Representatives of Glasgow newspapers visited Jardine Street on 8th April. The pressmen were shown round by Lieutenant-Colonel T. M. Niven. The Territorial Units appeared to be the chief attraction. The smart bearing and obvious efficiency of the Units brought forth appreciative comment. The D.R.s, with their new service machines, made a brave show. There was a splendid turn-out of all ranks. Much care and forethought had been exercised in the lay-out of equipment. It is no wonder that the newspaper men were greatly impressed.

Camps.—The S.R. will go south again this year. The T.A. camp is to be at Berwick. The latter camp should prove specially attractive. We are informed that the camping ground is a site *par excellence*. The towns of North Berwick, Dunbar and other resorts will be easily available. So there should be no lack of variety. Incidentally, the T.A. Units are breaking new ground in visiting Berwick. It will be their first visit to this part of Scotland.

The S.R.—There are to be big changes in connection with the S.R. New headquarters are contemplated. The accommodation at Jardine Street is being severely taxed. Since the formation of the Glasgow S.R. Units, Jardine Street, with all its resources, has been generously placed at the disposal of the S.R. The co-operation with the Territorials has always been a thing to be admired. Many of the S.R. men are not too keen on leaving Jardine Street. It would mean the severance of many happy connections with our Territorial comrades. The S.R. has come to look on Jardine Street as their home. Authority has been granted for the formation of a Supplementary Reserve pipe band, and arrangements are proceeding apace. The formation of the band is not a very easy task, especially in view of the difficulty in securing expert pipers. However, headway is being made, and the S.R. band should be an accomplished fact before long.

The Officers.—Lieutenants Mitchell and Johnstone, S.R., spent fifteen days at Aldershot during March. Lieutenant Johnstone informs us that he had to answer many enquiries as to our well-being. We have many friends among Signal Units down Aldershot way.

Two Good Lads.—In the recent Drill and Weapon Course, which was held at Maryhill Barracks, Glasgow, our representatives earned very high marks. The Course, which was open to all T.A. and S.R. Units in the west of Scotland, was fairly arduous and exacting. Sergeant Williams, S.R., took first place in the final allocation of marks. The second place was taken by Lance Corporal Gilbert, S.R. The distinction earned by our two comrades is exceptional, especially as they were competing with representatives from many Infantry Units.

Evans and Heasman.—It is with regret that we say good-bye to Sergeant Evans J., who has left us to do P.S. work with the S.R. at Edinburgh. We have nothing but good to say of friend Evans. He was popular and highly respected at Glasgow. We can only say that our loss is very much Edinburgh's gain. Sergeant Heasman E. has arrived for P.S. duty at Glasgow. We heartily welcome Sergeant Heasman and wish him every success.

Post Office Shooting Club.—The Glasgow Post Office Shooting Club, which has been revived after a lapse of many years, desires through these columns, to express to Adjutants Captain Shawcross and Captain Patterson, the Club's keen appreciation of the help and encouragement which the Adjutants gave to the Club during its first revival season. The keen interest shown in the Club by the Jardine Street management had much to do with its recent successes. It is interesting to recall that the Queen's Prizeman of 1890—Sergeant Reid—was a member of the old Glasgow Post Office Shooting Club.

Proud, Proud.—Adjutant Patterson is a proud man. He has traced his Scottish ancestry to Broughty Ferry.

Silent Spud.—The WIRE correspondent called on R.S.M. Murphy. "Spud" had no news. Has the millennium been reached?

Houston Here.—One night recently Houston arrived in full regimentals. He beered and boasted. He paid for nothing.

McNeill Meditates.—This is about the time of the year that Jimmy McNeill computes his many years of service. Last year he left off at the Battle of Hastings.

Tommy Saunders.—Welcome new Sergeant! You were a long time in earning those three stripes. This makes you all the more welcome. But you do cut a dash in your blues. Who was the naughty fellow who referred to you as "the laundry man"?

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

The recruiting position of the Unit at the moment is satisfactory. Not for some years has such a high all-round standard been reached. A steady flow of recruits is being obtained, while those on their preliminary drills are shaping splendidly. Section training has commenced and drill attendance is good, and so we have the "makings" of a good year's training, to culminate in August with the Regular Army on Salisbury Plain.

Members of the Unit were given the opportunity recently of testing the gas respirators when the Command Gas Van was installed in the Drill Hall yard for one week. C.S.M. Goble F. R. (P.S.I., No. 3 Company) saw to the correct fitting of the respirators, and Sergeant Woodyatt J., who obtained such a good report at the Command Gas Course, piloted the men through the business end.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Trice (Commanding Officer) and officers held a S.E.W.T. in the neighbourhood of Bridgend during the week-end 26th-27th March. The object of the Exercise was to study the handling of Divisional Signals and Brigade Sections in the attack, practising the giving of verbal orders, and to study the effects of gas spray attack on H.Q.s and on signal communications. Good weather, combined with the interesting nature of the Exercise, made an enjoyable week-end. Colonel R. C. Seel, O.B.E., M.C., T.D. (D.C.S.O., Western Command), came to see us on the Sunday, and, in dealing with the solutions, gave us the benefit of his experience.

During the previous week, the N.C.O.s had carried out a similar Exercise over the same ground.

On 2nd-3rd April, Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Trice (Commanding Officer), Captain R. H. Copeland (Adjutant) and Captain V. W. Hawkins (O.C., No. 1 Company) attended a Divisional Exercise at Shrewsbury; the subject was "Defence."

Captain R. H. Copeland (Adjutant) is spending the Easter vacation in Millbank Hospital, where he parts with his appendix ("A" presumably). This is not an excuse for extra leave, but a necessity, and we hope to see him about very soon.

Congratulations to Mr. T. D. Jones on being gazetted 2nd Lieutenant (23rd March), and to 2nd Lieutenant A. G. David on promotion to Lieutenant (29th March).

Once again No. 2 Company have won their way into the final of the *Western Mail* Challenge Cup Competition. Their opponents are No. 244 Company, 53rd (Welsh) Divisional Royal Engineers (Swansea), winners of the Cup for the last two years. The date of the final shoot has not yet been fixed, but good luck to No. 2 Company, anyway.

The Companies have entered for the Victory Shield Competition at Porthcawl at Whitsun, and are producing good results at practice on that range.

THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

Training.—The 1938 Training Year is now in full swing, and all ranks are "getting stuck into it," as the poet would say. Tuesdays are devoted to technical training, and Thursdays to drill, weapon training, etc. Drill, carried out under cover of darkness, has so far been successful, but should any of our friends see an unattached squad roaming about will they kindly send them back to Bay Lodge. "A" Section have now something to get their teeth into. This does not suggest that they are not efficient with their hands, it merely indicates that they now have a No. 2 set.

Departures.—" One man's loss, etc." is the thought with which we say farewell to our skipper, Capt. W. L. Beck, A.M.I.E.E., who leaves us to take over the reins of No. 2 Company. Good luck, sir, and every success in your new post, and may all your troubles be smaller items than voltmeters and microphones !

Sergeant George Heard has also left us for No. 2 Company, but is still able to put his elbow on the same counter as us, so at least one familiar sign will remain.

Arrivals.—In the same breath that we say farewell to Captain Beck, we welcome Captain W. J. Wardle from No. 2 Company who henceforth will lead us in the way that we should go. A hearty welcome, sir, and may your stay be a happy one.

Lance Sergeant " Stan " Cook arrived from No. 2 Company, and has commenced well by endeavouring to persuade our recruits that a home is a necessary evil in which meals are consumed, and that all other spare time should be spent at the drill hall. He is also trying to make the Company " Malteser-conscious." We also welcome Lance Sergeants Evens and Cohen, formerly with 1st Divisional Sigs., and Grenadier Guards Signal Section respectively.

Annual Dinner.—The Annual Dinner was held at Headquarters on 19th March, and a very enjoyable evening resulted. " B " Section, as usual, became jealous of the excellent concert party, and at midnight were still trying to convince themselves and the whole of Stratford of their superiority. The pianist, Signalman Alf. Griffiths, who eventually became morbid, drifted into some Russian stuff which brought about an abrupt closure.

The Company Efficiency Cup for the best all-round Signalman of the year was won by Signalman Pick L., who put in a 100 per cent. attendance, and also obtained two trade ratings. The only sure means of preventing him attending the Drill Hall is sickness, which made it impossible for him to receive the trophy. Other trophies in our possession which were on display were : WALEY COHEN CUP (for the Company obtaining the most passes at Trade Boards—proportionate to strength) ; EDWARDS SECTION CUP (won by " D " Section. Best all-round Section in the Unit, Trade Boards, attendances, etc.) ; WIRELESS TROPHY ; BOXING CUP.

Amongst our distinguished guests, we welcomed our ex-Company Sergeant-Major—Jock Simpson, once again proving the old adage that " Old soldiers, etc."

Promotions.—We take this opportunity of congratulating the following on their promotion to the ranks and appointments stated : Sergeant Cook S., Corporal Griffiths E., Corporal Thompson D., Corporal Parish G., Corporal Atkins W., Lance Corporal Shepherd J.

ONE COY.

Sergeants' Mess.—The deserted look of the Mess between 8 p.m. and 9.30 p.m. denotes that the training season has started in earnest. The dart team, now sitting back, are in the process of " getting their backs up " with the aid of Brown and Cook ; sorry, I mean " brown and maltesers."

We welcome Lance Sergeant Evens, from No. 1 Company, who comes to us after a short spell in " Civvy Street " from 1st Divisional Signals. We wish him all the best, and hope that his stay will be a long one. Our second notable arrival is Lance Sergeant Cohen, from No. 2 Company, and formerly of the Grenadier Guards. We now look forward to a first hand explanation of those words " Up Guards and at 'em." We shall also probably give him the opportunity of proving whether they really do have chests or pads in lieu of.

Agony.—Was the settee hard, Aubrey ?

Telephone No. 2406. Telegrams: " Fruit."

J. J. THOMPSON & SON

Fruit, Flower and Potato Merchants

DARLINGTON.

The London Divisional Signals.
(City of London Signals.)

Signal House, 20, Atkins Road, Clapham Park, S.W.12.

No. 3 Company Supper.—This event was held on 19th March and attended by 105 members of the Company and their guests. In his speech, the Officer Commanding Company—Captain A. V. D. Hort—spoke of the increase in strength of the Company, which had enabled them to form three full-strength Infantry Brigade Signal Sections. The Company included a very large proportion of newly-joined recruits, of whom he was pleased to see so many present.

Captain Hort also spoke of the example of service shown by Sergeant S. E. Oliver, who had recently left the Unit. A one-time P.S.I., then C.S.M. of No. 3 Company, he had relinquished the rank of C.S.M. to assist in the formation of the Band, and has now retired only to make way for younger men. Captain Hort proposed the healths of the Commanding Officer and other guests.

In reply, the Commanding Officer spoke of the seriousness of the task of all who had joined the Territorial Army, and of the necessity of each member of the Unit to do his best to become efficient as soon as possible.

Despatch Riders' Display—Press Performance.—The display team gave a performance for the Press on 2nd April at Ham Common. This performance resulted in a certain amount of well-deserved publicity.

Easter Training, 1938.—As these notes go to press, ten officers and 149 other ranks are the guests of 2nd Divisional Signals at Aldershot. The usual excellent arrangements made by the Regular Unit have resulted in three very good days' training being possible. An innovation this year has been the discovery by the linemen of the mechanical cable-layer, which is a very great advance on anything we have seen so far.

As usual, the arrangements made by 2nd Divisional Signals for our training, entertainment and welfare were as perfect as possible. Our very grateful thanks are due to Colonel R. H. Neale, Captain C. A. H. Chadwick, and the W.O.s, N.C.O.s and Signalmen who gave up their Easter holiday to help us in our training.

Football Team.—On Easter Sunday afternoon the football team played a scratch team from Mons Barracks. With the wind in their favour, City of London Signals scored two goals in the first half, and then commenced a dour struggle to maintain their lead. The Regular Army team were slightly fitter, but good work by the goal-keeper, Signalman Brooker, saved the day. The game during the second half was not one-sided, and during play near the Regular Army goal a penalty was awarded. Result : City of London Signals, 3 ; Royal Signals, Mons Barracks, 1.

We were delighted to find that Sergeant Hammond was captain of the Regular Army side.

Here are some results of other matches played recently :

12th March.	v. 63rd Field Brigade, R.A.	Away.	Lost	3—11
19th ,,	v. ,, ,, ,, ,,	Home.	Won	7— 1
26th ,,	v. Forest Club	Away.	Won	3— 2
2nd April.	v. 63rd Field Brigade, R.A.	Away.	Won	7— 1

Considering that the team only came into being shortly before Christmas, the record of : played 14, won 6, drawn 2, lost 6, goals for 42, against 53, is quite a fair record. It is hoped that this will be greatly improved upon next season.

Awards.—C.S.M. Angell E. J. is congratulated on the recent award of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

C.O.L.S.

SPORTS NOTES

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Hockey.—Many games have been played during March. Our chief opponents were "A" Corps Signals—and "A" Corps still win!

Football.—With an increase of new and dashing talent—Signalmen Mobberly and Waterton—we are now on the turning point. The Unit congratulate all members of this valiant XI on the following performances: v. 2nd Divisional Signals, won, 4—2; v. A.A. Group Signals, won, 3—2.

Cross-country Running.—Our hopes were dashed to the ground in the Mons Barracks Run, when we were beaten by 2nd Divisional Signals. It was very pleasing to see Sergeant Cotterell W. M. complete the course as first man home, followed later by Sergeant Shardlow, 2nd Divisional Signals, as second man. Sergeant Shardlow also must be congratulated on his effort by making the thirteenth place in the Command Run.

Miniature Range.—Result of the Powell Cup Miniature Rifle Shoot: 1, A.A. Group Signals, Blackdown, 1,355; 2, "A" team, 1st Divisional Signals, 1,262. A.A. Group Signals put up a great score. "A" team, 1st Divisional Signals, have the consolation of knowing that they head the list in Mons Barracks.

Writing from experience, there is more in this "shoot" than is probably known by those not conversant with the facts. The firer has to combine accuracy with endurance, and this does not always re-act to the comfort of the firer. The target is not a Service pattern, and any firer who makes a score of 170 or over in the competition deserves to be congratulated.

Army Sport.—Now turn to past history and cheer those Units who are still making history in the various sections of sport.

CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING.

Command Championships.—Winners: 2nd Battalion, The Buffs.

Army Unit Team Championships.—Winners: 2nd Battalion The Buffs.

A splendid achievement by this Unit. The D.C.L.I., always the bugbear of the 3rd Divisional Signals, came second to this event.

RUGBY.

Final, Army Rugby Union Cup.—2nd Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment, beat the 1st Battalion, Welsh Guards, by a penalty goal (three points) to nil.

This brief description should be sufficient to indicate the kind of match played.

FOOTBALL.

Army Cup.—The first semi-final, between the R.A., Shoeburyness, and 4th Battalion, Royal Tank Corps, resulted in a goal-less draw. In the re-play the R.A., Shoeburyness, won 3—2. The second semi-final will be played on 23rd March, between the 1st Battalion, Royal Welch Fusiliers (Blackdown), and the Depot, R.A.O.C., Hilsea.

HOCKEY.

Army Cup finals.—The semi-finalists are: 1st Battalion, East Lancashire Regiment, v. 4/7th Dragoon Guards; Training Battalion, Royal Signals, Catterick Camp, v. 2nd Battalion, K.S.L.I.; 1st (Light) Battalion, R.T.C., v. R.A.P.C.

The 24th Field Brigade, R.A., winners of the Aldershot Command Hockey Tournament, qualify for the semi-final in the Army Championship. Our hopes are all on the T.B. XI.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Cross-country Running.—Owing to drafts, our "Group" running team was depleted for the annual Mons Barracks Trophy Run, but our tail wagged to such an extent that we turned the tables again and won the Shield for the first time with the following results: 1, 2nd Divisional Signals, 167 points; 2, 1st Divisional Signals, 206 points; 3, "A" Corps Signals, 327 points.

The Inter-Company Race, decided at the same time, was won by No. 2 Company with 154 points; Nos. 1 and 3 Companies tied with 257 points. We entered in the Aldershot Command Inter-Unit Team Championship, but as the first three teams also filled the same positions in the Army last year, we considered ourselves as competing for experience only. As expected, the Buffs, D.C.L.I. and South Staffs. finished in that order, and the figures make it look as though there will be another battle for the Army, between the Buffs and D.C.L.I. again.

Sergt. Shardlow, the first man home from Mons Barracks, by virtue of being in the first nine individuals, as apart from the first three teams, is now picked to compete in the Army final as an individual. Next season we are getting down to it early and hope for something better than a group win, so we extend the welcoming hand to Catterick for runners to count.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Unit Soccer.—The Unit soccer team went to Winchester on 30th March and played a match against King Alfred's College. We sallied forth in a bus from Bulford, and after chasing half round Winchester, we arrived at the College. They entertained us royally, and, by way of recompense, we managed to give them a really first-class game.

Up till then they had been an unbeaten team, and so when at the final whistle the score was 4—3, we felt we had done justice to them. It was an excellent game, and although they were a much better team as a whole, we managed to keep ahead of them almost up to the end. After an excellent tea, we all went to see the "Prisoner of Zenda" at the local cinema, returning home after a very enjoyable afternoon.

Company Soccer.—No. 2 Company has been doing great things in the soccer world this season, and with the coming of Spring came the revival of our form.

We played the 17th Company, R.E., in the Bulford Garrison Cup, and although we really expected to win, we could not hold them, and they won 6—3.

The staff reporter and photographer of the Company has been busy, and with any luck and a certain amount of skill we should have a fine selection of action photographs ready for next month's WIRE. It was a good game, and we are compelled to admit that, at the end, the better side had won.

The team was: Signalman Hanlon; Signalman Leburn, Corporal Henwood; Signalman Adcock, Signalman Delicate, Signalman Bowles; Lance Corporal Hastings, Signalman Sutherland, Corporal Johns, Signalman Phimister and Lance Corporal Milligan.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Nothing but bad news this month. We finished last in the District Cross-country. We lost in the first round of the District Hockey. We did not win in the District Boxing. We lost in the final of the District Soccer. We lost in the semi-final of the Montmorency Soccer. What a tale of woe!

But it is not as bad as it seems.

The cross-country runners turned out on the spur of the moment against well-trained teams, and ran until they had no run left. The hockey team, through a misunderstanding, turned up short-handed, and you cannot do that against teams in this part of the world. The boxers made a very good show against far more experienced opponents. The soccer team lost to the H.L.I. in the semi-final of the Montmorency Cup, 3—2, after a roaring game. The H.L.I. are about the best soccer team out here, and they have already won the same Cup three times, and look like winning it again this year.

In my opinion, the only bad marks we earned was in the final of the District. It was a bigger cinch than Pompey for the Cup and League (on paper). We lost to the S.W.B., 5—0. I am still wondering how on earth it happened. Ten minutes from time the score was 0—0, with the game running in our favour, and then ——.

AUSTIN.

Egypt Signals.

"W" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Cairo.

April.

Football.—In the Section League our team varied with each game, but we managed to obtain third place by beating our old rivals "X" Troop from Helmieh.

Section Knock-Out Competition.—"W" Troop versus "J" Section. Won 2—1. "J" were unfortunate as they only played ten men. "W" Troop versus "K" Section. Won 5—2. "K" were favourites with many Company and Unit players. We were on form that day, and hard play brought a well-deserved victory. "W" Troop versus "A" Section. Won 2—0. A very hard game from start to finish. Both goals were scored in the first half, and our defence was supreme in the second half. The final is only three days off, and hopes are running high. We shall report victory or otherwise next month.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Boxing.—On Tuesday, 29th March, the Unit team met the Shirley Boxing Club in the Drill Hall, Stratford Road. The ring was again loaned by the Shirley Sports Club. The crowd on this occasion was much larger than at the first meeting, and although the 48th Divisional Signals only won three of the ten fights, they were by no means disgraced. Every member of the team put up a good show, and some valuable experience was gained. The first bout of the evening was a boys' contest between H. Usher and K. Styling, both of Shirley. The crowd thoroughly appreciated a fast and interesting fight by two good lads. Usher won on points.

LIGHT-WEIGHT.—Signalman Lane (Signals) put up a very plucky fight against F. Jones (Shirley), but Lane's seconds decided that their man had taken enough in the second round.

WELTER-WEIGHT.—Signalman Wheeler W. v. Young Horton. Wheeler possesses a good style and a most damaging left. Although the Shirley man fought hard, he was in a bad state when the referee stopped the fight and awarded the verdict to Wheeler in the third round.

BANTAM-WEIGHT.—Signalman Kenney G. lost on points to D. Jones, after trying very hard. Jones had a longer reach, and found many gaps in Kenney s defence.

MIDDLE-WEIGHT.—Signalman Collins A. defeated J. Powell on points, after a most exciting bout. Both men fought to a standstill. The pace throughout was terrific, and another round would have been impossible.

WELTER-WEIGHT.—Signalman Rose C. v. P. Hands. Two good men who put up a fast and interesting fight. Hands was a little too good for the Signalman and the verdict—on points—went to the Shirley man.

A no-decision bout between Signalman Tomkinson, Supplementary Reserve, runner-up T.A. championships, and C. Stanforth (Shirley), three years light-weight champion, United Provinces, India, provided the professional atmosphere. Obviously a pair of old hands at the game. An excellent exhibition and thoroughly appreciated.

LIGHT HEAVY-WEIGHT.—Lance Sergeant Williams G. v. Chas. Powell. Williams took a lot of punishment and was down twice in the first round. He fought back gamely against a stronger and cleverer opponent, but the towel went in during the second nd.

BANTAM-WEIGHT.—Signalman Kesterton lost on points to H. Davies. Kesterton tried hard, but Davies used a remarkably fast left, and piled up points in each round.

FLY-WEIGHT.—Signalman Carter F. was knocked out by J. Nicholls in the first round.

LIGHT-WEIGHT.—Signalman Williams L. knocked out T. McCleod in the third round after a hard-fought bout.

WELTER-WEIGHT.—Signalman Nash lost on points to J. Clarke, after what was probably the best and most exciting fight of the evening. All three rounds were fought at a terrific pace, and the Shirley man just managed to secure the verdict.

Major E. A. James apologised for the unavoidable absence of the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel P. H. Jones, M.C., and thanked the visitors and all those concerned in the organisation of an excellent meeting. He expressed the wish that a return contest might be arranged in the future. Major James then presented prizes to the contestants.

Referee: Mr. Selwyn Davies. Time-keeper: Captain R. M. Chatterley. M.C.: R.S.M. Bardoe V.

R. F. B.

Golf.

A Corps golf match against the Staff College was played at the West Surrey Club on Sunday, 3rd April, and resulted in a win for the Staff College by six matches to four. Royal Signals led by four matches to three at the end of the morning round of singles, but lost three and halved one of the afternoon foursomes.

ROYAL SIGNALS.		STAFF COLLEGE.	
Major M. Duke	0	Captain A. W. A. Malcolm	1
Major C. Thursby-Pelham	1	Lieut.-Col. E. T. L. Gurdon	0
Captain E. S. Cole	1	Captain G. A. D. Young	0
Captain C. A. H. Chadwick	1	Captain J. Y. E. Myrtle	0
Lieut. H. B. de M. Hunter	0	Capt. R. P. de Winton	1
Capt. C. P. Denholm-Young	0	Capt. W. H. Stratton	1
2nd Lieutenant A. G. Paris	1	Capt. J. D. Welch	0
	4		3
Duke and Denholm-Young	0	Malcolm and Gurdon	1
Thursby-Pelham and Hunter	0	Young and Myrtle	0
Chadwick and Cole	0	Oulton and de Winton	1
Paris	0	Stratton and Welch	1
	0		3

The Staff College won by six matches to four.

(Signed) H. S. LEWIS-BARCLAY,
Major, Royal Signals.

Temporary S.C. and T.s and Appointment.

(*Continued from page* 204)

His qualifications seemed so exceptional that we made representations from here, and the reply below re-emphasises how difficult it is for even a specially qualified temporary S.C. and T. to obtain an established appointment:

P.O. Ref.: 6,794/38. Personnel Department,
4th March, 1938.

Sir,—

With reference to your letter of 21st January, I am directed by the Postmaster-General to state that, in accordance with an arrangement made with the War Office, only those non-commissioned officers and men of the Royal Corps of Signals who have received adult training in the Post Office, and have been certified as suitable for employment as civilian telegraphists, are normally registered for employment as Telegraphists or Sorting Clerks and Telegraphists in the Post Office on discharge from the Army.

Mr. —— does not come within this category, but, in all the circumstances of his case, it has been decided to consider him for the next suitable vacancy at ——, for which there are no candidates with a prior claim.

W. A. SYMONS.

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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VOL. XIX.—No. 220 JUNE 1938 PRICE—SIXPENCE

Editorial Notes.

The following copies of telegrams, despatched and received on the occasion of the birthday anniversary of Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, are published for information:

H.R.H. The Princess Royal,
Harewood House, Leeds.

All ranks Royal Signals join in offering their respectful greetings on the occasion of the Birthday of Your Royal Highness.

Colonel-Commandant,
War Office.

32, Green Street, W.1.
28th April, 1938.

The Lady-in-Waiting is desired by the Princess Royal to express to all ranks of the Royal Corps of Signals Her Royal Highness's sincere thanks for their greetings on the anniversary of her birthday, which are much appreciated.

Aldershot Week.—The 1938 ANNUAL REUNION OF ROYAL SIGNALS OLD COMRADES is scheduled to take place at Mons Barracks, Aldershot, on Saturday and Sunday, 25th and 26th June, to which all Old Comrades of the Corps are cordially invited.

A limited number of personal invitations will be sent out at an early date to Old Comrades residing in the Aldershot and London areas, and Honorary Secretaries of all LOCAL BRANCH FORMATIONS will also receive similar communications on behalf of their provincial members.

The week's programme of events will include the following items:

Sunday, 19th June: Band Concert for Aldershot married families, 12 noon to 1 p.m.

Monday, 20th June: Cricket Match—Band versus Corporals.

Wednesday, 22nd June: Cricket Match—Officers versus Sergeants, and "All Ranks" Dance.

Friday, 24th June: Band Concert for Aldershot married families, 3.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m., and "Sergeants'" Dance.

Saturday, 25th June: Royal Signals Sports, followed by Smoking Concert for Old Comrades visitors.

Sunday, 26th June: Church Parade, followed by luncheon for Old Comrades visitors.

Further particulars can be obtained on application to:

(A) Hon. Secretary, Signals Association (Aldershot Branch), Mons Barracks, Aldershot.

(B) The General Secretary, Signals Association, 95, Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

(C) Hon. Branch Secretaries, Signals Association, at BIRMINGHAM, BOURNEMOUTH, CHESTER, EXETER, GLASGOW, PORTSMOUTH, SALISBURY, SOUTHAMPTON, WESTMINSTER (London) and YORK. (Addresses for the above as published in the March, 1938, issue of the Corps Magazine, page 100.)

Obituary.—We regret to announce the death of Lieutenant-Colonel P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C., at Kashmir, India, on 7th May, 1938. Further particulars will be published in a later issue.

1st Signal Company, Royal Engineers.—Will anyone who proceeded to France with the above-named Unit in August,

1914, kindly send their names and addresses to Superintending Clerk J. Wigglesworth, M.B.E., Royal Signals, Command Headquarters, Aldershot, Hants.

Established Situations for Ex-Soldier Clerks (Grade B) in Military Branches of the War Office.—

(1) A competitive examination will be held by the Civil Service Commissioners on 19th July, 1938, to fill 25 appointments to established posts as Ex-Soldier Clerk (Grade V) in the War Office.

Candidature in this examination will be restricted to men who

(a) have been discharged not later than 1st July, 1938, from the Regular Army on (i) termination of engagement after not less than 12 years' service with the Colours or (ii) have been invalided out;

(b) have left the Colours not more than two years;

(c) are in possession of at least a First Class Certificate of Education and an Army Certificate of Character marked "Exemplary" or "Very Good." Candidates otherwise eligible, in whose cases exemption from obtaining a First Class Certificate of Education was granted with due War Office authority, will be regarded as eligible under this clause.

(d) are not over the age of 49 years on 1st July, 1938.

2. Full details of the conditions of entry, together with a form of application to sit at the examination which will be held in London and at such provincial centres as may be notified by the Civil Service Commissioners, may be obtained by intending candidates on written application direct to the Secretary, Civil Service Commission, Burlington Gardens, London, W.1. Particulars of the pay, etc., of the posts will also be supplied. The closing day for receipt of the completed form of application to sit at this examination is 26th May, 1938.

Candidates who are still serving with the Colours on the date of application but will have been discharged from the Army before the 1st July, 1938, are not debarred, but their applications should be forwarded to the Secretary, Civil Service Commission, through their Commanding Officers.

Signals Association Notes

YORK (NORTHERN COMMAND BRANCH).

The Honorary Treasurer gratefully acknowledges the receipt of ten shillings from Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., as a donation towards Branch Funds.

CORRESPONDENCE.

London, S.E.7.

The General Secretary. 18th April, 1938.

DEAR SIR,—I am writing to thank you personally and on behalf of my family for placing me in such an excellent job. I feel very pleased to think our Association can offer such openings to men of my age. It makes entering into civilian life half the worry it appeared to be, and I need hardly say that, as when in the Service, I will always do my very best, firstly to uphold the position you have so kindly found for me, and secondly the good name of the Association and the Corps in general.

My discharge is to date from 10/4/38, and I take up my employment 11/4/38.

Again, on behalf of my family and self, I thank you and wish you all the very best of health to carry on the good work for those who have to come after me.

Yours truly,
(Signed) _____
Ex-Sergeant.

London, S.E.18.

The General Secretary. 20th April, 1938.

DEAR SIR,—It is with much gratitude that I write expressing my very best thanks for the efforts you made to secure me suitable employment. Thanks to your introduction, I was successful in obtaining the post for which you recommended me, and commence work on Monday, 25th April.

I sincerely hope that the Corps Association will continue to prosper.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) _____
Ex-Sergeant, 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, Sheffield	Labourer
2	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Labourer
3	Ex-N.C.O., Sheffield	Lorry Driver
4	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Lorry Driver
5	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
6	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
7	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	P.O. Engineering Dept.
8	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	P.O. Engineering Dept.
9	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Electrician
10	Ex-Signalman, West Riding	Labourer
11	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Telephonist
12	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Labourer
13	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Labourer
14	Ex-N.C.O., Stoke-on-Trent	Canvasser
15	Ex-Signalman, Chester	Lorry Driver
16	Ex-Signalman, Chester	Labourer
17	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Postman
18	Ex-Signalman, London	Factory Worker
19	Ex-Signalman, London	Timekeeper
20	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
21	Ex-N.C.O., London	Fitter
22	Ex-N.C.O., London	Telephonist
23	Ex-Signalman, London	Cleaner
24	Ex-Signalman, London	Motor Mechanic
25	Ex-Signalman, London	Motor Mechanic
26	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer
27	Ex-N.C.O., Coventry	Assistant Laboratory Engineer
28	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
29	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman

GENERAL SECRETARY AND EDITOR.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following:

BANKERS' ORDER INSTRUCTIONS from:
Lieutenant H. E. F. Middleton.

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:
Aldershot Branch.
"B" Corps Signals.

APPEALS dealt with:

1	Mother of Ex-Signalman (deceased), Manchester	Grant	£5	0	0
2	Signalman, Aldershot	Loan	£2	0	0
3	Signalman, Catterick	Loan	£2	0	0
4	N.C.O., Bulford	Loan	£6	10	0
5	Ex-Signalman, Dunstable	Grant	£2	0	0
6	Driver (I.C.), Catterick	Loan	£4	0	0
7	Ex-N.C.O., Caterham	Grant	£3	10	0
8	Driver (I.C.), Catterick	Grant	£3	0	0
9	Ex-Signalman, London	Grant	£2	0	0
10	N.C.O., Aldershot — Grant £2 0 0	Loan	£1	0	0
11	Ex-Signalman, Southampton	Grant	£2	0	0
12	Signalman, Catterick	Loan	£5	0	0
13	Ex-Driver, Colchester	Grant	£1	0	0
14	Ex-Signalman, London	Loan	£2	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.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR,—The following is notified for publication in the June, 1938, WIRE, please.

Dates on which top individuals were registered on the Waiting List for the Married Quarters Roll :

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 14/10/1932.
(b) Home, Abroad, and India—Rank and File, 21/3/1932.

Yours faithfully, G. E. SAMPSON, 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, 1938) 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.]

Promoted Warrant Officer, Class II (C.S.M.).

2308799	C.Q.M.S. Lombard W.	30/1/38	8

Promoted Company Quartermaster-Sergeant.

2310575	Sergeant Richardson J.	27/2/38	21
2309040	Sergeant Prior W.	28/2/38	21

Promoted Sergeant.

5721522	L/Sergeant Elmes A.	12/1/38	33
2317983	L/Sergeant Holden T.	22/1/38	33
5822869	L/Sergeant Green D.	28/1/38	33
6336253	L/Sergeant Dadswell H.	28/1/38	33
6391205	L/Sergeant Weeks A.	30/1/38	33
2315761	L/Sergeant Edwards F.	30/1/38	33
2309777	L/Sergeant Stone J.	8/2/38	38
2314669	L/Sergeant Hancock E.	12/2/38	38
2315224	L/Sergeant Lay F.	14/2/38	38
2315984	L/Sergeant Greig T.	18/2/38	38
393604	L/Sergeant Kenny H.	23/2/38	38
2316835	L/Sergeant Ashford W.	23/2/38	38
2309269	L/Sergeant Jerram F.	24/2/38	38
2315560	L/Sergeant Wardley L.	27/2/38	38
2309554	L/Sergeant Walsh M.	27/2/38	38
2306864	L/Sergeant Hart W.	28/2/38	38

Appointed Lance Sergeant.

544377	Corporal Wainscoat D. N.	27/11/37	45
2317221	Corporal Chambers E.	11/1/38	46
2316494	Corporal Steele H.	22/1/38	46
2316076	Corporal Durand A.	28/1/38	46
2314181	Corporal Skiffins A.	28/1/38	46
2315684	Corporal Tupper T.	28/1/38	46
757006	Corporal Coles R.	28/1/38	46
2317622	Corporal Vollans L.	1/2/38	44
2564557	Corporal Connor G.	8/2/38	46
547471	Corporal Brassfield V.	12/2/38	46
2318693	Corporal Gay E.	12/2/38	46
2317030	Corporal Beardmore T.	14/2/38	46
754344	Corporal Roberts C.	18/2/38	46
2310906	Corporal Swinson L.	23/2/38	46
2315959	Corporal Pawsey H.	23/2/38	46
2561192	Corporal Hall R.	23/2/38	46
2316941	Corporal Best W.	24/2/38	46
2314133	Corporal Hamilton A.	27/2/38	46
2319428	Corporal Trudgett E.	28/2/38	46

Promoted Corporal.

2321729	L/Corporal Jordan J.	2/1/38	61
2322240	L/Corporal Glover E.	9/1/38	61
2322478	L/Corporal Milligan H.	11/1/38	61
2319441	L/Corporal Spiers C.	14/1/38	61
2319654	L/Corporal Cox A.	27/1/38	61
2310603	L/Corporal Jacob F.	28/1/38	61
2320949	L/Corporal Cox I.	28/1/38	61
2320826	L/Corporal Preston R.	28/1/38	61
2320564	L/Corporal Tweedley J.	28/1/38	61
2321462	L/Corporal Banham D.	28/1/38	61
2320172	L/Corporal Bradshaw B.	28/1/38	61
2319890	L/Corporal Ashford R.	30/1/38	62
2320921	L/Corporal Evans S.	1/2/38	67
2320325	L/Corporal Machin D.	3/2/38	67
2320727	L/Corporal Wood R.	5/2/38	67
2318518	L/Corporal Rymer F.	8/2/38	67
2318758	L/Corporal Baker F.	10/2/38	67
761933	L/Corporal Lawes R.	12/2/38	67
2320897	L/Corporal Hatton A.	12/2/38	67
2313288	L/Corporal Blaikie R.	12/2/38	67
543488	L/Corporal Brightmore A.	14/2/38	67
2319785	L/Corporal Whitaker E.	18/2/38	67
2314798	L/Corporal Legge B.	23/2/38	68

Appointed Lance Corporal.

2321165	Signalman Wright L.	2/10/37
2322415	Signalman Hancox N.	31/10/37
2321389	Signalman Hearn W.	1/11/37
2321496	Signalman Wileman G.	1/11/37
2321122	Signalman Copestake F.	1/11/37
2566529	Signalman Clarke P.	1/11/37
2320895	Signalman Hagan F.	1/11/37
2322052	Signalman Kippin A.	1/11/37
4742915	Signalman Jackson A.	1/11/37
2321354	Signalman Satchwell A.	4/11/37
2321364	Signalman Turvey C.	5/11/37
2323086	Signalman Calver R.	5/11/37
2321938	Signalman Murray B.	13/11/37
2566677	Signalman Barrett J.	13/11/37
2321652	Signalman Hallworth A.	13/11/37
2321839	Signalman Brooks J.	13/11/37
2321013	Signalman Beenham G.	13/11/37
2323843	Signalman Barks B.	13/11/37
2323459	Signalman Lines W.	13/11/37
2321678	Signalman Coombes A.	13/11/37
2323704	Signalman Gibson R.	13/11/37
2323325	Signalman Patient G.	13/11/37
2319656	Signalman Powell E.	13/11/37
2323771	Signalman Donnelly T.	13/11/37
2323098	Signalman McGinn J.	13/11/38
2323132	Signalman Green L.	13/11/37
2565773	Signalman Holbertson N.	13/11/37
2322290	Signalman Hague E.	13/11/37
2320523	Signalman Holmes H.	13/11/37
2320529	Signalman Moore A.	13/11/37
6396412	Signalman Venner F.	13/11/37
2323481	Signalman Reynolds K.	13/11/37
2321720	Signalman Tietjen C.	13/11/37
2322458	Signalman Stewart R.	13/11/37
2323689	Signalman Peacock A.	13/11/37
2321346	Signalman Fall F.	13/11/37
2323513	Signalman Shanley L.	13/11/37
2321391	Signalman Peacock W.	13/11/37
2561338	Signalman Dewdney W.	13/11/37
2321306	Signalman Copinger E.	13/11/37
2315591	Signalman Morgan D.	13/11/37
2324333	Signalman Napier J.	13/11/37
792008	Signalman Hill J.	13/11/37

Discharges.

2310788	Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Aslett J.	3/4/38	10
2307163	C.S.M. Millross F.	9/4/38	7
2306486	C.S.M. Stone G.	30/4/38	7
*1854141	Sergeant Goodyear W.	1/4/38	93
1858913	Sergeant Shreeves L.	2/4/38	25
2308855	Sergeant Oliver W.	10/4/38	21
2309342	Sergeant Jeffers W.	15/4/38	24
7811348	Sergeant Jervis J.	15/4/38	31
2311580	Sergeant Askew W.	20/4/38	26
4792569	L/Sergeant Lauriere J.	27/4/38	47
2562435	Corporal Ware A.	13/4/38	57
2310901	Corporal Wilson C.	14/4/38	52
2307838	Corporal Wilson F.	19/4/38	58

Transferred to Army Reserve.

2320467	Corporal Lomax W.	9/3/38	55
2565704	L/Corporal Ingram R.	25/4/38	78
2320156	L/Corporal Fielding R.	11/4/38	67

* Special Roster.

Glasgow University Officers' Training Corps Signal Unit.

Headquarters, Glasgow.

11th May.

Training.—The Annual Musketry Courses are to be completed at Dechmont on the 28th of this month. Courses have already been conducted on 19th March and 7th May. The results of these have been quite satisfactory. Points scored count for the Contingent Shooting Cups and the Signal Unit Efficiency Cup.

On the 14th it is intended to hold an all-day Cable-laying Exercise. As this will be the first time we have used our cable-laying apparatus, it should prove an interesting day for all of us, though, perhaps, a trying day for our P.S.I.

A Section Scheme is being arranged for the 21st, in order to give us an opportunity of trying out in practice the various duties we have been learning in the more comfortable conditions of the lecture room.

It is hoped that the fine weather conditions we have been experiencing during the last month will prevail on these dates.

Church Parade.—The annual church parade of the Glasgow Senior and Junior Divisions of the O.T.C. was held in the Bute Hall on Sunday, 1st May. The service was conducted by the Rev. Professor Archibald Main, D.LITT., D.D., University of Glasgow, Hon. Chaplain to the O.T.C.

Driving Instruction.—During the last few weeks, members of the Unit who have been receiving driving instruction from the P.S.I. are showing varying degrees of progress. Driving is an essential part of our training, and we hope soon to have quite a number of experienced drivers.

Wireless.—It is proposed to establish a system of wireless inter-communication between various colleges in Scotland. Though the details have not yet been settled, great keenness is shown at Glasgow for this project.

Annual Camp.—It has been finally decided that the Signal Unit will hold its annual camp at Peebles with the Artillery, Infantry and Medical Units. This must be a blow to those who have been living for the last ten months on memories of Scarborough. However, from the training point of view, one place will be as good as another, and it is essentially for the purposes of training that we go to camp.

School of Signals.—Our four N.C.O.s have returned from Catterick full of enthusiasm, and, we hope, of knowledge. From the few intelligible remarks they have made since their return, we have gathered that a Course is definitely "a good thing." Through this medium they wish to express their thanks to the Sergeants' Mess of the School of Signals for the hospitality of its members during the Course. Seriously, it is agreed that these Courses help tremendously towards a fuller knowledge of the work which is undertaken by the O.T.C.

Officers.—2nd Lieutenant Thomson has returned from Aldershot, where he spent some time with 1st Divisional Signals. We are looking forward to the lectures he may give on the working of a Divisional Signals.

Entertainments.—The Signal Unit held a social evening on 26th April. The officers very kindly provided refreshments, and we spent a pleasant evening at billiards, ping-pong and pool shooting.

College Humour.—The only thing humorous we have to say just now is that we all mean to work very hard this term.

Late News—Additional Training.—Mid-day parades from 12 noon to 1 p.m. have been started this week, in order to provide additional opportunities for reading and sending practice which we all badly need.

STONE AGE.

Signal Unit, Queen's University, Belfast, Officers' Training Corps.

Ballykinler Camp.—The Annual Musketry Course on 18th and 19th April gave the Signal Unit an excellent opportunity for exercises. After a square meal on Monday morning, which helped to thaw those participating, the Unit put in two hours' hard work at flag drill, wireless communication, cable work and signal office routine.

After lunch, the Musketry Course was fired. It would appear from the scores that many of the Signals were issued with "dummies."

A Wireless and Visual Scheme interested the recruits on Monday night, and, in spite of interference from cows and atmospherics, good communication was maintained between stations. At one of the visual stations during the early part of the Scheme, Lance Corporal —— was making good progress at "reading" St. John's Point Lighthouse. The only flaw in the Scheme was stopping-time (Time, gentlemen, please!).

On Tuesday, the Unit took part in a Battalion Signal Scheme near camp, when, in the absence of Captain Patton, a new method of communication was established—T/T or tongue telegraphy. A demonstration of cable-laying and signal office work by the Northamptonshire Regimental Signallers seemed to bear out the opinion that our Signal Unit had been issued with "slow" cable, probably Mark X (amended 1066).

On Monday, 2nd May, many of the eccentricities of cable-laying were discovered in a Brigade Signal Scheme held near Purdysburn Mental Hospital. It is not true, however, that Sergeant McDonald (P.S.I.) had to be held in the lorry when passing the hospital on our return.

On arrival at the Drill Hall, 2nd Lieutenant D. B. McNeill invited the Unit to a private show of "They Won't Forget," starring members of Cambridge, Bristol, Glasgow, Queen's and Manchester O.T.C.s. Luckily no Hollywood scouts were present, otherwise various Units might have lost their good-lookers. The shots of flag drill certainly corroborated our P.S.I.'s remarks about the rear of a Chinese laundry.

The Unit is looking forward to camp at Aldershot this year, when it hopes to show all concerned just how efficient the O.T.C.s can be.

NOSEEN.

Plain Tales.

One Pace Step Back.—Sharpening a pencil the other day, with a worn and battered pen-knife, I fell to thinking about the man who sold it to me. His name was Lennox, and I think he was a Corporal. That was at Maresfield, about 1921 or '22. I recalled others in that large and cheery family and was amazed at the long list of notable people who enjoyed life in Sussex during those years immediately following the War. Mr. Lennox has journeyed a very long way from his Slacks and Boots ankle since the day he produced a dozen German pen-knives in Headquarters Office. I wonder if mine is the only one still working.

Wandering along Memory Lane, I found Mr. George Bass, who was supposed to be the Registration clerk at Headquarters, but found that it interfered with his cross-word puzzles. The week before he was discharged, he won £500 which seems to prove something. So far as I know he still allows nothing to interfere with his solutions. I have often wondered what became of a very likeable rough-riding Sergeant-Major, one Tommy Hewitt, who prayed long and earnestly for the souls of raw recruits.

What an interesting account of Maresfield days could be written; but not yet. Too many of the characters are still serving.

Did you ever hear of the sentry who ignored the Commandant when he passed in mufti? "I'm sorry, sir," he said, "I thought you was one of them YMCA blokes." And the Commandant let him get away with it. He was like that—bless his heart. One of these days I will tell you about the irrepressible "Banger," who slowly and deliberately emptied a pint of beer over a very senior officer's head after a Mess dinner.

I think it must have been 1922 when one of the Officers' Messes was destroyed by fire. It was a very good fire, too, and the troops were highly entertained. The fact that a search was made through most of the Company lines for empty whisky bottles, cigars and cigarettes must be regarded as just a matter of routine. I never heard of anything being found.

But all this is quite a long time ago and I suppose there are readers of the WIRE to-day who were not even born when the Training Battalion took their morning break in the Chequers.

Blue Book.—Some of us who have handed in our haversacks and things still take a mild interest in the slow progress of our friends. I was delighted to observe that had I remained in the Corps I should by now be "sweating on the top line" for CQMS! The sensation was so real, that I borrowed a tanner and stood myself a pint.

Ukann Larfe.—The rain dripped dismally from the thick foliage as Ukann Larfe pushed his way into the woods bordering the main road. He was hungry, tired and quite fed up after his long walk from Paddington. He sat down on the running board of a discarded steam-roller and reviewed the situation. The plans were still safe. That was something anyway. The most important thing now was a drink and some food. Hardly daring to hope, he searched half-heartedly in the driver's cab of the steam-roller, wondering idly how the machine ever came to be in such a spot. His groping hands encountered a bottle which proved, on inspection, to be full of beer. He swallowed it, bottle and all.

"H'm," he muttered, "perhaps I shouldn't have done that."

Fortunately, he had remembered to remove the cork and the beneficient fluid worked wonders. He set off once more, and after half an hour's trudging through wet ferns arrived at Ye Olde Crooked Crumpet.

"And now," said Ukann Larfe, putting down his empty quart pot, "some food."

"Yes, indeed, sir," said the landlord, a fat, jolly rogue with one eye. "What shall it be?"

"Well, now, what about a fresh salmon?"

"To be sure, sir."

"Then a duck, roasted, with bacon, peas and new potatoes."

"Yes, sir."

"And I think, a small joint of beef with Yorkshire pudding, mushrooms, mashed potatoes, spring cabbage and celery."

"Certainly, sir. Anything to eat with it?"

"Oh, yes. Say a leg of lamb, baked potatoes, asparagus, strawberries and treacle with a new crusty loaf."

"I'll see about it, sir."

"Also some suet pudding, cheese, biscuits, porridge and an orange, and, by the way, have you got something I could eat while I'm waiting?"

"Sausage and mash, sir."

The door closed quietly behind mine host and the dripping of the rain blended with the crackling fire as the detective dozed over his refilled quart tankard.

LOW CLOUD AT 1,000 FEET. 8/10ths.

Loud Pedal.—Gather round you chaps with flutes and things and take this as a Dreadful Warning to bands of every kind.

It was definitely a military gathering and a Regular Army Band came a very long way to supply the music. They started with somebody's Triumphal March. To my untutored ears, it sounded like a child's test piece and was so depressing that my wife had great difficulty in persuading me to confine my comments to whispers. Following this was a beautifully rendered duet about Snowdrops. SNOWDROPS, I said, you great hulking gunners and linemen. Cram me with paving stones. Why not acid-drops, blood, steel or thunder? I cried quietly into my trilby. Then the Bandmaster tapped his stand and I looked up expectantly. At last we would hear some real stuff from a Military Band. All these civilians would feel the blood running in their veins at last. It would provide an antidote to the flabby pacifist stuff they had been forced to read outside. The band started and I looked at my programme. A clammy hand closed round my heart. "Mickey goes a-whistling." Having brought themselves and particularly their instruments a matter of one hundred miles, they sat and whistled! My wife led me out into the night air, a broken and disillusioned pensioner.

"Never mind dear," she said. "It was free."

BARLEUX.

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Running a Cadet Signal Company.

By CADET-CAPTAIN R. S. PITT-KETHLEY,
Adjutant, 1st West London Cadet Corps.

There is no reason why every Signal Unit, T.A., should not have its affiliated Cadet Signal Company. Such formations, properly run, are a good source of recruitment. Given the right type of officer, a capable N.C.O. from the parent Unit for the technical training, and a small leaven of the sons and nephews of the serving Territorials as a start, great things can be expected in the future. But, in order to make a good start, these three things are an absolute *sine qua non*.

The modern boy is mechanically-minded. For this reason Signal training appeals to him more than the ordinary Infantry programme would do. In a Signal Company, of course, he gets a certain amount of Infantry drill, but the major part of the evening should be devoted to Signal training. Young boys —in the Cadet Movement we cater for those between 12 and 18 years of age—seem to be brighter and more intelligent than the older lads.

At the present moment I am running the 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signal Cadet Company, and we drill at the Headquarters of our Parent Unit each Tuesday from 7 to 10 p.m. During this period we have lectures, demonstrations, arms drill, etc. The period from 8 to 9 p.m. is exclusively confined to technical instruction. The boys also receive invitations to attend all Territorial functions, and have earned golden opinions from their elder brethren for the quick way in which they have picked up the essentials of Signal working. "Catch 'em young" seems to be the best motto for the Cadet Officer in charge of a Cadet Signal Company.

Few officers, though, possess any technical knowledge or training in "Signals" work, and it is here that the gap must be bridged by a suitable N.C.O. from the Territorials. Without his aid and specialised knowledge, the boys are not likely to become familiar with Signal work and training, or to be of use to their parent Unit when they grow older. As things are, and given this instruction, the Cadets will be able to join their Territorial Units as "trained men"—conversant with Signal training and procedure. But, if the technical training is lacking, they will be somewhat "green."

St. Augustine's Church, Kohat.

On Friday, 28th January, 1938, at the early hour of 3 a.m., an outbreak of fire gutted the little Garrison Church of St. Augustine, Kohat. The fire raged fiercely, and all efforts made to save this delightful little church were unavailing; only the walls, standing stark and silent, and a few timbers of what was once the roof, now remain to remind us of the beauty and quiet peacefulness of that little sanctuary.

The Rev. A. K. Strips, at the close of his chaplaincy at Kohat in 1932-33, wrote an account of the church for the Lamp, the Toc H. Journal for India. It is felt that at a time when the church so tragically stands in ruins, there are many who would like to peruse this account, and the Kohat "Toc H. Group," therefore, take this opportunity of publishing it in these columns.

"It is always difficult to visualise accurately how a project is going to turn out in the long run; circumstances may alter, and your project may acquire an appearance and value, for better or for worse, very different from what was first anticipated. When, in 1862, the Government built a church in Kohat, it was probably looked upon as just another ecclesiastical building on the new Indian Frontier. I can hardly believe that anyone could have foreseen the future beauty of this little place of worship, nor the undying associations that would cling to it.

"St. Augustine's Church, Kohat, is dear to the hearts of all who have had anything to do with Kohat, and is one of the most beautiful churches which can be seen anywhere. From whatever angle you look at it, St. Augustine's is picturesque; you may look at it from the Mall, and the lych-gate at once carries your thoughts back to the English countryside. Or, you may look at it from the huge expanse of green 'Miadan' called the 'Brigade Parade Ground,' and you will see the church nestling amongst giant trees, with the Frontier Force Cenotaph to the left, and their Mess behind it; and—behind all—the blue Kohat hills.

"The Church stands on one edge of this green expanse (which sees a parade only about once a year), which normally is the biggest of Kohat's playing fields; on certain days of the week in the winter, it is possible to see at one time the ancient game of polo in progress, the perverse golf ball being addressed literally and linguistically, the 'willow' being wielded, and soccer and rugger in full swing; and the little church seems to say to all 'Come ye yourselves apart and rest awhile, and learn God's way in the greatest game of all, the game of Life.'

"Opening the west door of the church, you see an unobtrusive east end with a quiet marble reredos, an altar, clothed according to the colour of the Church's season, supporting a dignified Cross and candlesticks in brass, with a 'Lamp of Remembrance' hung in the centre; the lamp is kept burning by the Kohat Group of Toc H as a permanent job. The lectern, in brass, supports a large Bible, which bears the following interesting words on the flyleaf: 'This Church was looted by some Jowakki thieves in the summer of 1877, and, amongst other things, the Bible was carried off, more from bravado than any other reason. It was found by the Expedition which went into the Jowakki country in November, 1877, and brought back to Kohat quite unharmed.' The Jowakkis are a branch of the Afridis, who live near the Kohat Pass.

"The attempt to set up a puppet Sikh king in the Punjab, after the death of Ranjit Singh in 1839, was a failure, and the second Sikh War, with the smashing victory of Gurjerat (February, 1849), left the British undisputed masters of the country; the formal declaration to this effect by Lord Dalhousie in March, 1849, meant that the frontier of India had shifted from the Sutlej to the Indus. The new frontier had to be guarded. An Irregular Force (that is, a Force which was ready to move at a moment's notice), which had been raised in the Punjab after the first Sikh War (1846), was at once transferred to the Afghan frontier, and additional Units of infantry, cavalry and artillery were added. This Punjab Irregular Force came to be called the Punjab Frontier Force Regiment (in Army parlance 'Piffer' for P.F.F.R.), whose Headquarters is in Kohat.

"From time to time, when new Colours have been presented to various Battalions, they have deposited their old Colours, with appropriate ceremonial, in the church at their Headquarter Station, St. Augustine's, Kohat. The nave is hung with numerous old Colours, some more tattered than others; one standard leans against the corner in the sanctuary with not a stitch of the Colours left on it. These old Colours give a richness to our church, which is almost unique; worshiping beneath them, you are inspired by these emblems of earthly loyalty to a higher loyalty.

"The walls of the church are crowded with brass tablets to the memory of many who have been connected in one way or another with Kohat. Here is a memorial to Sir Louis Cavagnari, once in Civil charge of this District, and who, with his escort, was murdered in Kabul in 1879, when British Minister there; this led to Lord Robert's famous march to Kabul and Kandahar. Above it is a 'Brass' to the memory of Colonel and Mrs. Foulkes (A.D.M.S.), who were murdered in their bungalow at Kohat in November, 1920; this recalls the murder of Mrs. Ellis (though there is no tablet in the church) in April, 1923, in a bungalow only three hundred yards from the church, the abduction of her daughter, and, later, her rescue in the Kohat Hills by Sister Starr of the Peshawar Afghan Mission Hospital. A tablet in memory of Captain and Mrs. Watts, 53rd Sikhs, who were murdered at Parachinar in November, 1923, recalls a similar tragedy.

"The tablets in this church are, in many cases, a reminder of the romance and precariousness of life on the Frontier, and of—

> 'The flying bullet down the pass,
> That whistles shrill, all flesh is grass.'

They afford us a peep into the nature of the history of the frontier. Here are a few further instances of a slightly different kind. There are two tablets in memory of Colonel Tonnochy and Captain White, 53rd Sikhs. A particularly notorious highwayman and murderer—one Saligi, had entrenched himself at Gunatti Fort near Bannu; Colonel Tonnochy was in command of a Column which was sent out, in November, 1902, to destroy his fort once and for all. In the heroic attempt these two officers were killed.

"One tablet states that Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Harman, 54th Sikhs, was killed in February, 1905, while securing a fanatic at Wana; this action probably saved the lives of three other officers. Another, that Captain G. B. Brown, 58th Rifles,

died from wounds inflicted by a Marsud in April, 1914. Another, that Captain A. W. F. Ruxton, 3rd Punjab Infantry, was killed while leading his Regiment against the Bezoties in the Coblan Pass in 1868. Another, that Captain Frank Ashcroft, 59th Royal Scinde Rifles, was killed in action against the Hathi Khel Wazirs at Domel in August, 1930. Another, is in memory of Lieutenant-Colonel Bunny and Lieutenant Higginson, 51st Sikhs, and of Surgeon-Captain Cassidy, who were treacherously attacked at Maizar in the Tochi valley, and were killed or died of wounds, during the general Frontier rising in 1897.

"One tablet contains the names of eighteen Frontier Force officers who died in the Indian Mutiny. The names of many others are recorded, who also served in keeping the peace of the Frontier, but who may not have died on the field of battle. And, of course, it is impossible to do more than mention that in the sanctuary of this church there are some long panels bearing the names of Frontier Force Regiment officers who died in the Great War.

'And some there be, which have no memorial.'

'Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us run with patience the race that is set before us.'

"Another feature of this church is the pews, twenty-four in number, one of the works of my predecessor. Each Battalion of the Frontier Force, and each Unit or Formation which has a permanent connection with Kohat, has presented one pew bearing on the side panel facing the aisle its Regimental crest. The work is dignified and enhances greatly the appearance of the church. The choir stalls carry on the front panels four small shields of the crests of the Provinces of Canterbury and York, and of the Dioceses of Calcutta and Lahore, a reminder that we here are not an isolated Unit, but a part of the Church of Christ which worships through the Anglican Communion, and that we have a share not only in its privileges, but also in its responsibilities.

" So may St. Augustine's Church, Kohat, help us all to live."

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Signals in Tanganyika.

(Second Instalment.)

After twelve days at Loliondo, a detachment of the 1st Battalion, King's African Rifles, arrived and stayed two days. It comprised three British officers, the British R.S.M., and about 100 African other ranks. They were travelling in lorries, and were carrying out a sort of " Flag March " along the route followed and to be followed by the wireless detachment.

Two days after they had gone, the wireless detachment followed across the Serengeti Plain. To find a track it was necessary to return towards Ngorongoro for forty-eight miles, and then strike off due west to cross the plain. No road or track is shown on the map, but the twelve lorries of the first party had made a fair track. Of scenery there was none; of game—plenty. Zebra, ostrich, giraffe, gazelle, antelope, wilde-beest, pig and monkey were seen in large numbers. It was disappointing to see no lion, for which the Serengeti is, of course, famed.

Ikoma was reached at 5 p.m., indicating that 128 miles had been covered in 8½ hours, a considerable improvement in view of the fact that no road existed for eighty miles. Ikoma was a German District H.Q., and the ruins of a fine building are on the top of a hill overlooking the countryside for miles around.

Two evenings and a day were spent at Ikoma, conducting tests with the various stations and in yarning with a German contractor who was building a bridge across the Karena river nearby. He was an ex-officer of Engineers in the German Army, and had spent two years as a prisoner of war in Ahmednagar. His views and opinions of life in general were most interesting.

The heat at Ikoma was felt more than had been anticipated, for the thermometer registered only 90 degrees Fah.

The party left at 8.30 a.m. on 4th November, heading for Musoma. The road surface was good, but rapid progress was hindered by the frequent drifts. A great deal could be written about these drifts, but it would be all criticism, and so will not be written.

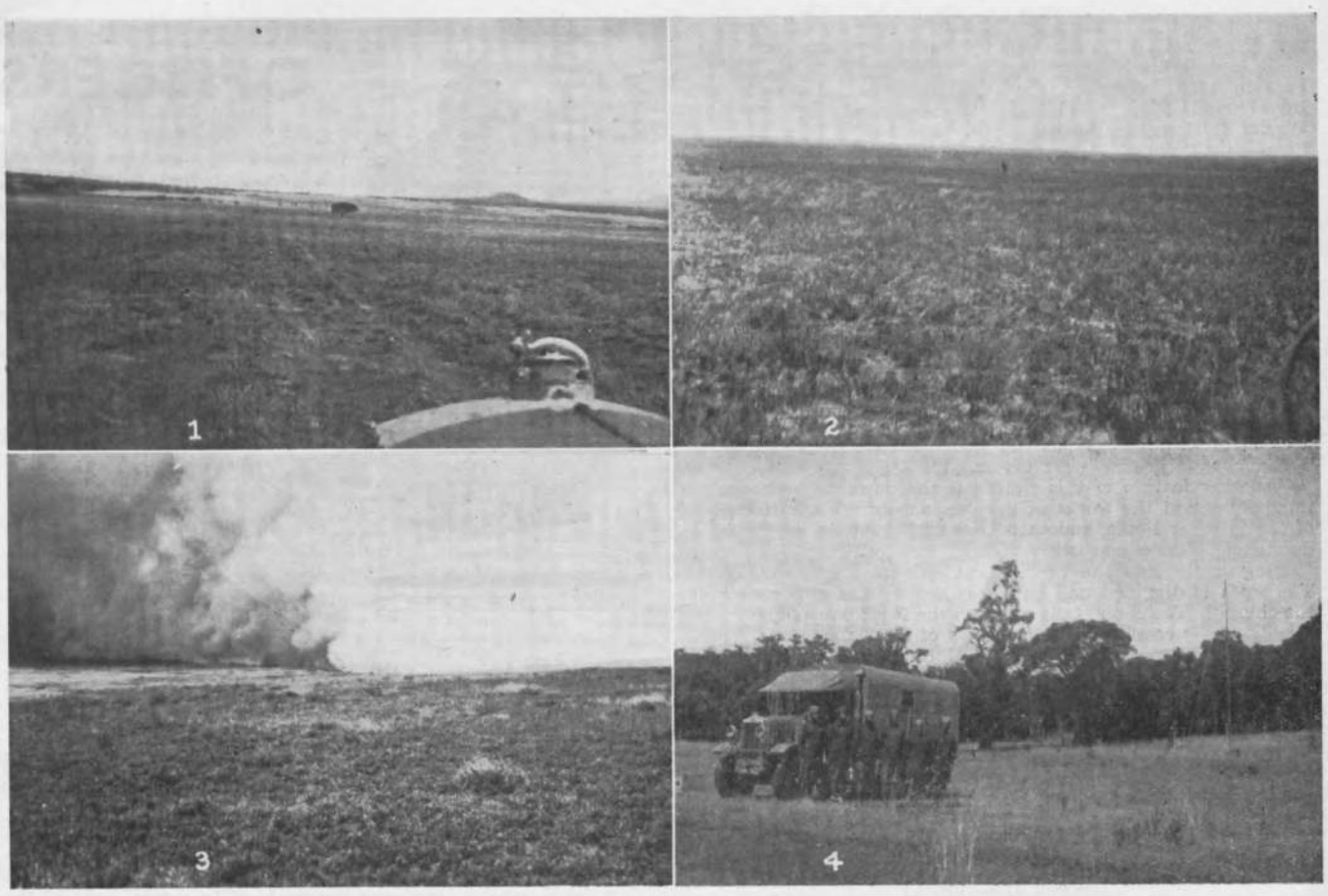
An enormous number of game was seen during the first fifty miles, antelope, zebra and gazelle dominating. Throughout the trip, it was noted that the animals rarely ran directly away from the lorry. They invariably stood still until the lorry was quite close (anything from five to fifty yards) and then ran, but almost always parallel to the road, trying hard to cut in front of the lorry and get to the other side of the road. Why the " other " side of the road is better is a mystery, but is, of course, quite a human perversity!

On one occasion, when the road surface was good, some gazelle were startled and raced alongside the lorry. Forty m.p.h. was reached, and they still held their own. The lorry could go no faster with safety, and so was slowed down to let the animals cross in front. On another occasion, one did a long jump across the track. These animals are about three feet high, but this one jumped at least twenty feet (over twice the track width) with the most beautiful action one could wish to see.

On yet another occasion, a giraffe thought it would be good fun to race the lorry. The road allowed only twenty-five m.p.h. to be reached, but the giraffe loped alongside, taking bushes three to four feet high in its stride, yet looking for all the world as though it was performing for a slow-motion picture. (It is hoped that the technical inaccuracy will not be pointed out, and that the above phrase conveys the idea intended.) The giraffe could have been touched by anyone seated on the bonnet, so closely did it cross in front.

Nature earned a great deal more respect than has hitherto been given it. Seen in a Zoo there is a very big difference in form and colouring between lion, ostrich, zebra, and giraffe—to take a few examples; but in their natural surroundings, all may be in the same type of bush, yet standing as and where they do, all are most difficult to see, for they make full use of grass, shrub, tree, sunlight and shadow. Often it is only their moving which gives them away.

Musoma was reached at 1.45 p.m. that day, meaning that seventy-seven miles had been covered at an average speed of eighteen m.p.h. The two administrative officials kindly gave the F-of-S lunch, and exhibited great interest in the fact that wireless has reached this territory. The 1st K.A.R. detachment had been in Musoma three days, and were leaving the next morning. Masts and tents were erected near the detachment's camp. During its erection, it started to rain and continued heavily for an hour. This was the herald of the " short rains "



1. Across the Serengeti Plain.
2. A General View of Africa.
3. The Fire.
4. The Detachment, Lorry, and Mast erected at Loliondo.

season, a period of approximately fourteen days, when it rains for about an hour daily.

That night, dinner was given to the K.A.R. Europeans by the administrative staff, and an enjoyable evening was spent. The detachment left early the next morning, and the F-of-S was invited by the M.O. and his wife to stay with them. They were a charming Scots couple, and the invitation was accepted and appreciated. The M.O. and the senior Administrative official were both interested in the possibilities of radio as an aid to administration. The F-of-S was, therefore, kept busy talking shop. WIRE readers will probably agree that it is peculiar the way in which fellows with a professional interest in matters relating to radio are expected to be quite happy talking shop and giving away tips at all hours. One rarely comes across teachers, doctors, bankers, plumbers, policemen, etc., being expected to talk shop all and every day. And the wizardry that is sometimes expected. In this instance, the F-of-S was asked to list—right there, out of his head—the components required to construct a portable 40-metre transceiver that would be reliable at all times up to 600 miles, together with the cost and the name of the firm supplying the components. Perhaps all this is because wireless is still a bit of a mystery and thrill. Perhaps it is the writer's personal experience, because folk are quick enough to spot that he is happy talking shop, and unable to talk about much else !

The tests from Musoma were again satisfactory, although signals from all stations were weaker than on previous occasions. As it was thundery throughout the day, it was difficult to decide whether it was that fact or others responsible for the decrease in the strength of signals.

Musoma was left at 8.30 a.m. on Saturday, the 6th, and the lorry headed for Mwanza. For the first fifty miles, the countryside was pleasantly wooded, and the road ran through an area in which there are numerous gold mines being developed. And for seventy miles the road was quite good—for Tanganyika—an average of twenty m.p.h. being maintained. Several bad patches were then encountered, where the detachment had been during the previous day's rain. Conditions improved later, and Mwanza, 170 miles from Musoma, was reached at 5 p.m.

The detachment was found settled at a pleasant site within easy walking distance of the shore of Lake Victoria. Unfortunately, swimming is rarely indulged in as, apart from the danger from crocodiles, the water often causes severe internal trouble.

The K.A.R. Europeans dined that night with the " Livestock " official and his wife, a pleasant Dorsetshire couple.

It was warm and humid at Mwanza, but not really unpleasant. Being so near the lake, the camp was invaded that night by literally millions of lake flies ; minute, harmless creatures which are annoying because of the density with which they arrive and their ability and apparent desire to get everywhere.

The detachment was unable to move off on the Sunday as parts of the road and a bridge had been damaged by the rains. All spent a fairly quiet day.

On Monday, the patrol left at 6.30 a.m., whilst the wireless detachment stayed and conducted tests, which were again satisfactory.

The next day a start was made at 8.30 a.m. for Shinyanga. It was raining when the party started, and continued until noon. At the temporary drift, where the bridge had broken, it was necessary to charge through two feet of water. Three days before, it had probably been a dry river bed.

Shinyanga was reached at 2.30 p.m., so that 121 miles had been covered in six hours, illustrating that the road surface was fairly good. No Government officials could be found, so there was nothing to do but pitch camp, erect the station, feed and

A group of Masai, clothed for a photograph for publication.

read. Shinyanga is 3,600 feet above sea level, and so it was more cool than at the last three stopping places. It came on to rain heavily at about 4.30 p.m., and continued until nearly nine o'clock.

The next day, the usual tests were conducted with the now usual results. There was no rain that day until nearly 4 p.m., but it was of short duration.

The party left Shinyanga at 8 a.m. on 11th November. It was a good morning, and fairly good time was made, in spite of the corrugated road. This corrugation is a peculiarity of gravel roads with more than about ten vehicles passing over per day; as the majority of roads in the territory are of gravel, the majority are corrugated. It feels as though one is travelling over corrugated iron, and it is not very pleasant nor good for one's inside or the wireless sets.

About ten miles from Shinyanga, a river was reached with approximately three feet of water flowing. There was, of course, nothing to do but try it and hope for the best. It was tried, but the lorry stuck. That necessitated enrolling a dozen or so natives—who were obtained by yelling like fury until they arrived—to push and pull. The road for the next mile was very cut about by the detachment's lorries two days ahead of the wireless lorry. But when that was passed, good speed was maintained, and Tabora reached at 1.30 p.m., meaning that the average for that day had been 23 m.p.h.

The Two Minutes' Silence had been observed.

The next day the final tests were conducted, and excellent signal strength reported from all stations. Thus the first test tour was completed; 1,516 miles had been covered in 107 running hours, spread over a period of six weeks. Throughout the tests one type of aerial had been used; a length of R7 copper wire cut to half the wavelength used (43 metres) and taken direct to the coil. As much care as was practicable had been taken with the siting of the set, and, throughout each test period, the loudest signals were reported from the stations to which the slope of the aerial was directed. To explain that, it should be said that the single mast used was thirty feet high, and the aerial wire was run from the top of the mast through the roof of the lorry.

We now face the routine work of individual training; the never-ending bugle practice by the buglers of the 1st K.A.R., and the social gossip which is, apparently, an integral part of our life here.

The individual training season will continue until about the end of April, by which time the "long rains" will, it is hoped, be finished. An attempt is being made to improve the handwriting, operating, and general standard of the askari signallers, and, although progress is slow, hopes are still high.

No mention has been made of private and social life in general, because it is difficult to put one's opinions on paper for publication. Complete details will be given, however, to anyone contemplating accepting a post here under the Colonial Office, if they write for them to the F-of-S, and anticipate getting his views.

In conclusion, it is hoped this effort has been of interest to some, and unless the Editor reports he has received so many requests to publish no more, a further article will be submitted either after the individual training season or the next test tour.

Golf.

Royal Signals versus R.A.S.C.—The annual match, Royal Signals v. R.A.S.C., was played at the Berkshire Club, Ascot, on Tuesday, 19th April, and resulted in a draw with six matches each. The details are as under:

Royal Signals.			R.A.S.C.		
Major M. Duke	5/4	1	Major G. B. Macdonald		0
Lt.-Col. H. A. J. Parsons		0	Lt. R. H. F. Burrell	6/4	1
Major H. S. Lewis-Barclay		0	Captain C. W. Hughes	3/2	1
Major C. K. Thursby-Pelham	6/5	1	Lt.-Col. F. S. Clover		0
Capt. J. F. Longfield	3/2	1	Colonel J. C. Doran		0
Capt. E. S. Cole	5/3	1	Capt. D. H. Bond		0
Capt. C. A. H. Chadwick		0	Capt. C. B. Robertson	4/2	1
Capt. C. P. S. Denholm-Young		0	Major H. R. Dobb	5/3	1
Duke and Parsons		0	Macdonald and Burrell	6/4	1
Lewis-Barclay and Thursby-Pelham		0	Hughes and Clover	3/2	1
Cole and Longfield	3/2	1	Doran and Bond		0
Chadwick and Denholm-Young	1 up	1	Robertson and Dobb		0
		6			6

Annual Corps Meeting.—The annual Corps meeting was played at the Berkshire Club, Ascot, on 20th and 21st April.

The first day was taken up with 36 holes medal play, combining both the Corps Championship and Corps Handicap.

Major Lewis-Barclay and Captain Cole tied with a total of 162 for the Championship, and it was decided to play off the tie over 36 holes on the second day. In the play-off, Captain Cole gained a lead of one stroke during the morning round, but in the afternoon Major Lewis-Barclay got back this stroke, and in the end emerged the winner by three strokes. He thus retained the title, of which he was the holder, and, incidentally, won this event for the eighth time.

To emphasise the improvement in his golf, Captain Cole won the Corps Handicap for the first time, being closely followed by Captain Bridgland, last year's winner.

The Bogey Singles Challenge Bowl, presented by the original members of the Royal Signals Golfing Society and competed for this year for the first time, was won by a promising young golfer in 2nd Lieutenant Hunter, with an excellent return of 2 up.

The Bogey Foursomes Trophy was annexed by Colonel Snatt and Lieutenant-Colonel Penney, with a steady return of 1 up, aided considerably, it is said, by the local knowledge acquired by Colonel Snatt.

Two thoroughly enjoyable days were spent, but there seemed to be a general feeling of disappointment that more people do not attend this annual meeting. It is played over two of the best courses in the country, providing really good but not difficult golf. It is played at the Berkshire Club every year, and always in the week immediately preceding the Army Golf Championships, a time which interferes least with training or other activities. The meeting is not organised only for those who are good golfers, but is intended to attract a large gathering of serving and retired Regular, T.A. and S.R. officers of the Corps, with a couple of days pleasant golf thrown in.

B

It was good to see Northern Ireland and Catterick representatives, amongst whom particular mention should be made of two young officers in 2nd Lieutenants Hayles and Brown.

Detailed results are as under :

ROYAL SIGNALS CHAMPIONSHIP.

	1st Round.	2nd Round.		Total.
Major H. S. Lewis-Barclay	79	83	=	162*
Captain E. S. Cole	78	84	=	162*
Major M. Duke	81	85	=	166
Major C. K. Thursby-Pelham	83	85	=	168
2nd Lieutenant H. M. de M. Hunter	83	85	=	168
Captain J. F. Longfield	88	88	=	176
Captain C. P. S. Denholm-Young	89	89	=	178
Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. C. Penney	95	95	=	190
Major L. C. Boyd	94	96	=	190
Major W. C. Galwey	99	92	=	191
Captain C. A. H. Chadwick	84	—		—
Lieutenant-Colonel H. A. J. Parsons	92	—		—
2nd Lieutenant P. T. S. Brown	93	—		—
Captain R. G. Muir	94	—		—
2nd Lieutenant B. R. M. Hayles	95	—		—
Lieutenant E. C. R. Blaker	101	—		—
Major E. MacD. Burns	—	—		—
Captain A. J. McNair	—	—		—

* The tie was played off the following day and resulted as under :

Major H. S. Lewis-Barclay	82	+ 80	=	162
Captain E. S. Cole	81	+ 84	=	165

ROYAL SIGNALS HANDICAP.

	1st Round.	2nd Round.	Less.	Net Total.
Captain E. S. Cole	78	84	16	146
Captain C. A. Bridgland	79	80	12	147
Major H. S. Lewis-Barclay	79	83	12	150
2nd Lieutenant H. M. de M. Hunter	83	85	16	152
Major W. C. Galwey	99	92	36	155
Major C. K. Thursby-Pelham	83	85	12	156
Major M. Duke	81	85	8	158
Major L. C. Boyd	94	96	30	160
Captain J. F. Longfield	88	88	14	162
Captain C. P. S. Denholm-Young	89	89	16	162
Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. C. Penney	95	95	22	168
Captain C. A. H. Chadwick	84	—	—	—
2nd Lieutenant P. T. S. Brown	93	—	—	—
2nd Lieutenant B. R. M. Hayles	95	—	—	—
Captain R. G. Muir	94	—	—	—
Lieutenant-Colonel H. A. J. Parsons	92	—	—	—
Lieutenant E. C. R. Blaker	101	—	—	—
Major E. MacD. Burns	—	—	—	—
Captain A. J. McNair	—	—	—	—

ROYAL SIGNALS BOGEY SINGLES.

	Handicap.	Score.
2nd Lieutenant H. M. de M. Hunter	8	2 up.
Major L. C. Boyd	15	1 up.
Captain J. F. Longfield	7	All square.
Captain E. S. Cole	8	All square.
Major H. S. Lewis-Barclay	6	2 down.
2nd Lieutenant B. R. M. Hayles	11	2 down.
Major C. K. Thursby-Pelham	6	2 down.
Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. C. Penney	11	3 down.
Lieutenant-Colonel H. A. J. Parsons	4	4 down.
Captain C. A. H. Chadwick	8	5 down.
Major E. MacD. Burns	18	5 down.
2nd Lieutenant P. T. S. Brown	12	5 down.
Captain C. P. S. Denholm-Young	8	5 down.
Major M. Duke	4	6 down.
Captain C. A. Bridgland	6	6 down.
Major W. C. Galwey	18	7 down.
Captain A. J. McNair	12	7 down.
Captain R. G. Muir	7	7 down.
Lieutenant E. C. R. Blaker	12	10 down.
Lieutenant S. G. Humphrys	17	15 down.

ROYAL SIGNALS BOGEY FOURSOMES.

	Score.
Colonel Snatt and Lieutenant-Colonel Penney	1 up.
Major Duke and Captain Chadwick	All square.
2nd Lieutenant Hunter and 2nd Lieutenant Hammersley	1 down.
Captain Longfield and Lieutenant-Colonel Parsons	4 down.
Major Galwey and Major Boyd	4 down
Major Thursby-Pelham and Captain Muir	4 down-
2nd Lieutenant Brown and 2nd Lieutenant Hayles	5 down.
Captain Bridgland and Captain McNair	6 down.
Captain Denholm-Young and Lieutenant Blaker	7 down.
Major Burns and Lieutenant Humphrys	8 down.

Army Golf Championships.—The Army Golf Championships for 1938 were played at Muirfield, during the week commencing 25th April, in ideal golfing weather, providing a welcome change from the arctic conditions experienced at this meeting during the previous few years.

Playing from the Championship tees as we were, Muirfield was found to be a very long and testing course, but eminently fair. The good shot is fully rewarded, whilst the bad or indifferent shot is duly punished.

There was a shortage of golfers this year ; Catterick could not produce a team, and the Corps was able only to send one team representing No. 2 Unit. It was made up of Major Thursby-Pelham, Major Lewis-Barclay, Major Duke and Captain Cole, with 2nd Lieutenant Hunter as reserve. Captain Longfield travelled from Catterick to compete independently.

In the 36 holes Army Individual Championship, our representatives fared none too well, with the exception of a very fine first-round score of 79 by Captain Cole. This was a grand effort, which placed him well within reach of the leaders. We were hoping he might even improve on this in the second round, but the ball ran not so kindly, and he finished with an 89.

In the first round of the Team Championship we scored a good win over the Rifle Brigade by 7 holes to 5. Major Thursby-Pelham, playing No. 4 for the team, finished 6 holes up on his opponent, and this more than turned the scales in our favour.

In the second round we found the Seaforths rather too well equipped, and they beat us comfortably by 26 holes to 0. Playing No. 1 for the team, Major Duke was opposed by Lieutenant Blair, a recent winner of the Boys' Championship and runner-up for the Army Individual Championship the previous day. Though losing 8 holes, Major Duke hung on gallantly, and is to be congratulated on not being more down, as his young opponent holed the course in the fiendishly good score of 70. We were out-golfed by better and very much younger players, and when it was all over could not help but wonder when we were to find young players to take over from our Old Guard. Until they are forthcoming we cannot look forward with any real hope of success in this meeting, where the standard of golf is rising each year and the youthful class golfer is more than ever in the ascendant.

The 1939 Army Championships are being played at Royal St. Georges, Sandwich, during the week commencing 24th April, and our Corps Meeting will be played at the Berkshire Club, Ascot, on Wednesday and Thursday, 19th and 20th April.

ARMY INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP.

	1st Round.	2nd Round.		Total.
Captain E. S. Cole	79	89	=	168
Major M. Duke	90	84	=	174
Major H. S. Lewis-Barclay	91	85	=	176
Captain J. F. Longfield	83	96	=	179
2nd Lieutenant H. B. de M. Hunter	87	93	=	180

TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP.

FIRST ROUND.

ROYAL SIGNALS.		RIFLE BRIGADE.	
Major M. Duke	0	Captain A. C. Gore	3
Captain E. S. Cole	1	Captain W. P. C. Curtis	0
Major H. S. Lewis-Barclay	0	Lieutenant Lord Garmoyle	2
Maj. C. K. Thursby-Pelham	6	Lieutenant C. M. Smiley	0
	7		5

SECOND ROUND.

ROYAL SIGNALS.		SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS (1st Team).	
Major M. Duke	0	Lieutenant D. A. Blair	8
Captain E. S. Cole	0	Captain K. Mackessack	6
Maj. C. K. Thursby-Pelham	0	Lieutenant J. B. de Pree	7
Major H. S. Lewis-Barclay	0	Lieutenant J. A. Robertson	5
	0		26

HOME STATIONS

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

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

School of Signals.

Sergeants' Mess.

Ex-members of the School Mess will be sorry to learn of the departure of one of our main pillars—C.Q.M.S. Mitson F.—to civilian life. He has proceeded to Woolwich in order to put more wires in wireless, and the good wishes of the Unit go with him. A farewell function in his honour was held in the Mess on the evening of Monday, 2nd May, when he was presented with a handsome clock and a very pretty illuminated address, which was handed over with great ceremony by the "Mayor of Risalpur," who was "Dunn" up in chains (stable head-collar) for the occasion.

The evening was a real success, and we are sure that Mr. Mitson of Woolwich (in spite of the cider that he thought was lemonade) will remember his last evening with us with pleasure.

Later in the month, our activities included a Mess Shoot—both rifle and revolver—when much unsuspected talent was displayed, and was duly noted. The results were as follows:

CHAMPION RIFLE SHOT: Sergeant Wood W., Highland Light Infantry, who scored 78 out of a possible 85. CHAMPION REVOLVER SHOT: C.Q.M.S. Farmer, Royal Signals, who scored a possible 85. Sergeant Wood also won the medal for obtaining the best aggregate score with rifle and revolver, obtaining 157 points out of a possible 170.

Cups are to be presented to the winners, and at the same time it is probable that an issue of "Spoons, Wooden" will be made to a couple of members.

We welcome Lance Sergeant Wink P. to the bar, and congratulate him on his recent appointment. Unfortunately, Lance Sergeant Lauriere J. was changing into "civvies" for good when he became due for membership. We hope to congratulate him when the Mess for "Ex-School Personnel" is opened at Woolwich.

On 14th May we held our usual Whist Drive and Dance, at which the Commandant, Brigadier R. Chenevix Trench, O.B.E., M.C., paid us the honour of a visit.

A recent order now makes the wearing of spurs correct for certain forms of dress, and work only. It is rumoured that one member, anticipating this order by several weeks, took one spur off.

Headquarter Wing and Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—I must select the weather as a subject to open these notes. Really, that ominous phrase "Catterick weather" and what it implies to all who have served here is a thing of the past. I don't think we have had rain or any very bad weather for months. Conditions have been wellnigh perfect, and that is saying a lot for Catterick, which is not a bad place after all. We still hear grouses from our enthusiastic amateur gardeners, who want rain for the products of their recent hard labours.

Training.—Since the appearance of our last notes, nothing has yet materialised in regard to our mechanical transport. Of course, recruits are not yet being posted to us, with the result that Cadre personnel carry on with their clock-like routine of duties, hoping and expecting.

We still have a few horses left in the Mounted Wing, so that the stable atmosphere and routine has not yet entirely disappeared. Cadre personnel have shed tears on account of the gradual disappearance of the horse, and have asked to sleep in the empty stables in order to guard and be nearer to their beloved long-faced friend. This is not strictly true, but owing to the decoration and renovation of the Battalion barrack-rooms by the R.E.s we are in temporary occupation of the empty stables, in order to facilitate the smooth running and efficiency of the work.

Arrivals and Departures.—These have been numerous of late—indeed, too many to mention individually—but to all of them we wish the best of luck, especially to the following, who have left us for Vocational Training Centres and civilian life: Corporal Booth A., Signalmen Pocklington, Taylor and Walker A.

Inspections.—Annual Inspection period is fast approaching; in fact the inspection will be over before the publication of these notes. In the meantime, hard work, polishing and practice parades are in full swing for the "big day." We hope the results will be as good as in the past.

Inter-Company Athletics.—Athletic Meetings have been taking place recently, under the rules of the Mackworth Trophy, but, unfortunately, we could not raise a team for the first and second meetings. We did, however, manage to raise a team for the third and final meeting, and in spite of the very short period available for training, this team acquitted themselves with great credit. One or two individuals showed great promise. Now that we have discovered the material we hope, with training, to do better in the future.

Congratulations to "F" Company on winning this year's "Shield" events, and to School of Signals on winning the Cup for last year's events.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—Recruits are arriving in the Wing on an average of 100 a month. Everyone is busy getting ready for our Annual Inspection by the Commandant on 20th May, and practice kits and parades are the order of the day.

Arrivals.—We extend a welcome to Lance Sergeant Furze from 5th Divisional Signals; Sergeant Stickley from overseas (some of you may remember that moustache flourishing on the Square about five years ago); and Lance Corporal Raymond from the Training Battalion to the Education Centre.

Departures.—Corporal Hollands to "A" Corps Signals after a very short stay, and Corporal Evans ("Taffy") to 2nd Divisional Signals. We have also lost the bold "Jenkins," who has left us for Egypt. Keep your eye on the target, Tadpole!

Health and Beauty.—Three plump Recruit Squads, after fourteen weeks' initial training, proceeded to Trade Companies on the dates stated. The healthy life, P.T. and the food have

again demonstrated the great advantages of the Army over civilian life. The average increases in weight were :

No. 88 Squad on 26th March	.. ..	7.31 lbs.
No. 89 Squad on 11th April	.. ..	10 ,,
No. 90 Squad on 11th April	.. ..	8.7 ,,

Top weights were as follows : Signalman Morton (88) gained 19 lbs. ; Signalman Otter (89) gained 19 lbs. ; and Signalman Peddie (90) gained 17 lbs.

Nos. 91 and 92 Squads passed off the Square on 30th April. The average increase in weight for No. 91 Squad, 10.47 lbs. per man ; and for No. 92 Squad, 8.7 lbs. per man. Signalman Daly (91) took individual first prize with a gain of 31 lbs., while Signalman Liley (92) managed to pile up 21 lbs.

Recruits' Training.—No. 89 Squad, under Corporal McIndos H., passed off on 9th April. Best man : Signalman Nachary. P.T. Medal : Signalman Nachary. Musketry Medal winner : Signalman Tyler F.

No. 90 Squad, under Lance Corporal Dunbar F., passed off on 9th April. Signalman Overton R. won the C.O.'s whip ; Signalmen Knowles A. and Lee A. won medals for P.T.

No. 91 Squad, under Lance Corporal Dunbar J. (who had this Squad for their last two weeks of training), passed off on 30th April. Signalman Maxwell W. won the C.O.'s whip, and Signalman Sykes R. a medal for P.T.

No. 92 Squad, under Lance Corporal Graham J., passed off on 30th April. Signalman Nickling G. won the C.O.'s whip, Signalman Labrum W. the P.T. Medal (well done, Northampton !), and Signalman Mulcahy (our colonial) won a spoon for musketry.

Congratulations.—To C.S.M. Murray G., C.Q.M.S. Watmore, Sergeant Gandey G. and Corporal McGuigan on reaching ranks stated.

EL PEE.

Sergeants' Mess, Depot Battalion.

May.

Entertainments.—A new departure in entertainment activities for the purpose of saying good-bye to departing members for overseas took the form of a " Theatre Night " on 22nd March. One fully-loaded 36-seater journeyed into Darlington to occupy the front seats of the fauteuils at the Hippodrome there. After the show, the party embussed and returned to the Mess, where a splendid " rabbit pie " supper awaited them.

This was followed by various indoor games and a merry sing-song, which came to an end with "Auld Lang Syne." During the indoor games, a new form of rugby scrum was introduced with a real eastern " tum-tum " as the ball. The " tum-tum " used to adorn our Indian Museum, but, alas, now it doesn't. The evening was voted a great success and a pleasant change. We are looking forward to more of this kind of entertainment.

The members who have proceeded overseas are : Sergeants Nicholson, Myddleton, Brunton and Martin ; the last two complete with families. They should all have settled down in their new Stations ere now, so here again we wish them all the best of luck.

Another very pleasant evening was spent in entertaining all S.R. officers who attended the recent S.R. Course at the Depot. This also was enjoyed by everyone. We were all sorry that we could not see more of these officers, who have to cram a lot of knowledge (including a night at the Sergeants' Mess) into their three weeks of training. It is hoped that we helped to make their final night of the Course a pleasant one ; it was certainly one that we shall remember with pleasure.

A Snooker Tournament was held for all who fancied their chance, and, of course, for those who didn't as well. All started off the level, and now the final has been played and won. The honour of " Snooker Champ." goes to Sergeant Mahon (R.A.O.C., attached) with none other than our newly-promoted C.Q.M.S. Watmore as runner-up.

Two worthy members have left us for " Civvy Street " recently. They are Sergeant Oliver of " Saddler " fame and a very old item of the Depot Mess inventory, and also C.S.M. Milross (yes, the same old " Millie "). Both have been very fortunate in securing employment immediately on discharge. We are sorry to delete your names and " write you off," and shall always be pleased to see or hear from both of you again. We all wish you both the best of luck.

Promotions.—Those of you who are looking for the next " leg-up " get out your 1938 Rosters. This month we have to congratulate the following on their promotion to the ranks stated : C.S.M. Murray G., C.Q.M.S. Watmore and Sergeant Gandy.

Last, but not least, we have to welcome from abroad the following, who have joined us for yet another tour with the Cadre : Sergeant Stickley and Lance Sergeant Hothersall. Both are enjoying the usual twenty-eight days' disembarkation leave at present, and will soon be back to take an active part in the work of the Depot.

"D" Company, Training Battalion.

General.—At the time of writing, everybody is suffering from two well-known diseases—"After-leave fever " and "Annual Inspection Jitters." The two of them together are none too pleasant at all.

In order to avoid awaking the gods, this part had better be read in the dark. Sunshine and hot weather has paid a visit to Catterick during the past month, and, as a result, this blessing has nearly killed us with heart failure.

Arrivals.—Since our last notes, sixteen recruits have arrived from the Dismounted Wing, and we hope that their stay with us will be a pleasant one. In addition to these, we have also had a few old hands from the Field Units : Driver (I.C.) Lambert from 4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury, and Lance Sergeant Vine J. C. T. and Signalman Shepherd W. H. from India. It may be quite a change for the latter, but we sincerely hope that they enjoy themselves with us.

Departures.—On completion of an eight-weeks' study of the intricacies of mechanical transport, No. 26 Drivers (I.C.) Squad left us for Field Units, just in nice time for the commencement of the training season. Driver (I.C.) Harris, a member of the aforesaid Squad, remained at Catterick on posting to the School of Signals. We should think he had finished with them, considering that before commencing training he was employed there as a mess-room orderly. Our good wishes also go to Signalmen Carter F. and Tildsley H. on posting to "A" Corps Signals ; Signalman Hallett to 4th Divisional Signals ; and also to Signalman Hamilton D., who proceeded to 5th Divisional Signals.

Education.—We congratulate those of our happy band who sat at the First Class Certificate of Education examination last March, and passed, either in single subjects or for the full certificate.

Wedding Bells.—Our first bell rang from the Junior N.C.O.s' Mess. Our good wishes go to Corporal Ryan J. on his marriage to Miss L. R. Corbett, at Southborough, Kent, on 18th April. Congratulations also to Signalman Robertson W. on his marriage to Miss J. R. Logan at Portobello, Scotland, on 18th April. Signalman Robertson is attached to this Company from Tank Brigade Signals, Perham Down, on an Up-grading Course.

According to rumours, which do not often lie, we understand that wedding bells will be ringing for several of our happy family during the ensuing months. The War Minister's new Marriage Allowances are a great temptation—or are they ?

Births.—Hearty congratulations to Signalman and Mrs. Lewis G. on the birth of a daughter, Agnes Mary, at Bishop Auckland, on 13th April. Our readers will read more of Signalman Lewis elsewhere in these notes.

Au Revoirs.—Corporal Wilson F. left us for " Civvy Street " on completion of twenty-one years' service. Our good wishes go with him. Signalman Lewis G. has now started on the last lap—transfer to the Army Reserve. Good luck and good wishes, Lewis ; may it soon pass.

Blue Book News.—Promotion liquor was distributed in both Junior and Senior Messes recently when Lance Sergeants Booth and Dodd and Corporal Pollard reached the ranks stated. We wish them the best of luck and tender our congratulations.

Strange as it Seems.—Although there is likely to be murder in the camp because the following is published, we hope the comments are taken in the spirit intended.

Who awakened one bright Sunday morning with a steel dog leash in his hand and asked where he had left the dog the night before ? (This was definitely the morning after the night before.)

We should be very glad if certain individuals would state what the attractions are at a certain neighbouring village, the name of which begins with the letter B ?

Which Cadre man, with three years' service at Catterick Camp, lost his way in the Camp Centre ?

At the bottom of a certain list of " Don'ts " posted in the barrack-room, it is of interest to note that one particular " Don't " states : " Window sills will not be used to clean boots on, and feet must not be placed on same." (Further comments are unnecessary.)

Tailpiece.—On searching through our underground cellars (if any), we found an old Part II Order issued by Oliver Cromwell. Here is an interesting extract. " DISCIPLINE.—If any Sergeant-Major or N.C.O. is insolent to a full-blown Lance Private, he shall be promptly stripped." What an Army !

ACK PIP BEER.

"E" Company, Training Battalion.

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Company, to compliment the boxing team on their splendid show in the final of the Company Tournament, when they beat " D " Company, after some exciting fights. The results will be found in the Sports Notes. I had the pleasure of meeting the " D " Company WIRE correspondent, and, no doubt, his remarks will be found in the same section.

When waking in the morning at this time of the year, I am always reminded that there is " something in the air," and I am always right—"Annual Inspection." This year we ring up the curtain to our new Commandant, Brigadier R. Chenevix Trench, O.B.E., M.C., and we are convinced that our production will have a record run. Our scenic artists are busy painting, and the competition for the best fireplace still goes on. We are anticipating that a dark horse will spring a surprise on us this year. (Not T.3.)

Sundays have been allotted to talks by Mr. Middleton, but we are all waiting for the fairy godmother to bring us those plants.

A certain amount of excitement is taking place in the cookhouse, where it seems that a new system of issuing food is being tried out. Being an expert on matters of diet, and also a supporter of the cookhouse, I received, under confidential cover, one tin of jam roll. The chief clerk at Headquarter Office nearly opened the packet, but, due to the good understanding between those responsible, it was delivered to my hands at 3.30 p.m. Perhaps A. J. Alan knows something about it.

The N.C.O. shortage is very acute in the Company, and it is rumoured that Corporal Bridgeman is thinking of pitching a tent on the Company Parade Ground, and issuing hut duties by wireless. His book, " Duties and the Married Man," will be published shortly.

Getting married is the topic now. Our C.S.M. still wants to know why his bicycle was taken from outside the Guard Room and put in a barrack-room for safe custody. The question of taking his rations home has been solved. It is suggested that he obtains and attaches a " Chain, Links, 24-1 inch " to his ration bag, giving it a scale in store equipment.

My appeal for MSS. from recruits for the WIRE has not been very successful, but what has come in is certainly very encouraging. I hope to allot most of my space to them next month.

We are kept very busy with arrivals from the Depot Battalion. We extend a welcoming hand to them, and trust that their stay with us will be pleasant. What a wonderful memory our Orderly Corporal must have.

The new instruments for the Band have arrived, and the annual tour programme of the United Kingdom has been drawn up. We understand that a dart tour has also been arranged ; the players are at present training at Tunstall and, believe me, they can throw a " nifty " dart. (Joe Holmes is on the ground staff.)

What does " Nick " think about the officers who practised throwing that weight on his lawn ?

To " Cloggy," somewhere in Norwich. " Mind the bucket ! "

We are shortly losing C.Q.M.S. Edmunds. We wish him the best of luck, and hope that he will never solve the mystery of the empty milk bottles which were left on his store steps during a certain leave period.

The " Spelling Bee " craze has reached " E " Company, where nightly bouts take place between the N.A.A.F.I. Staff and the Corporals' Mess. There must be some very hard words to solve, for if eggs and chips are ordered at 6 p.m., chicken and roast potatoes arrive at 9 p.m. " Can you hear me, Cookie ? "

We welcome Sergeant Cosstick and Lance Corporals Lilley and Napier to the fold. (What has 3rd Divisional Signals to say about this ?) We must remind them that a code card on whistling is available and can be had on application to the Sports Department. Eighteen other ranks have left us for Field Units ; we hope that Signalman Lees will be able to find his way to 5th Divisional Signals.

C. S.

"F" Company, Training Battalion.

General.—We are still enjoying dry, fine weather. Not good for the gardens and allotment holders, but, nevertheless, a welcome change for Catterick. We have been able to take advantage of this spell of good weather to get in quite a lot of athletic training. It is a lot more pleasant on Scotton Ground when a gale is not blowing.

Easter was spent in camp at Wathgill by those who were unable to go home. A most enjoyable time was spent, but it was rather cold at times. Perhaps we shall have a hotter time at Whitsun.

The Company gardens are looking very nice at present. Those ex-boys who have put in some hard work on them will be pleased to know this.

The Commandant's Drill Parade takes place on Friday, 13th May. We are not superstitious. The lines inspection will be held on Tuesday, 17th May.

We are due to go to Leeds for the Northern Command Tattoo on 19th June. The story is a new one, and rehearsals will begin very shortly. The properties are already here, or under construction.

Education.—At the last examination for the Army Special and First Class Certificates of Education, we obtained the following results, which are very creditable :

SPECIAL CERTIFICATE.

Lance Corporal Boy Sadd A.	Maths. " B " and " E. and M."
Boy Murray A.	Maths. " B " and " E. and M."
Signalman Fenton	" E. and M."
Boy Grainger	" E. and M."
Lance Corporal Boy Hopkins	English " C."
Signalman Buddery ..	Maths. " B."

We gained twenty-five First Class Certificates and there were sixty-eight passes in subjects towards the certificate.

Sport.—Sport this past month has been confined to athletics with a certain amount of cricket practice. We have won the first two Inter-Company Athletic Meetings. The third and final meeting is being held this afternoon. We are hoping to bring this off, too. The competition is a lot keener this year, and very few points separate the top from the bottom teams.

Departures.—Corporal Robertson left us for H.Q. Signals, Aldershot. We hope that he has settled down, and take this opportunity of thanking him for all the useful work he did for the boys in his own time.

Driver (H.T.) Holman C. has left us for 1st Divisional Signals. We wish him the best of luck in his new Unit.

Arrivals.—Signalman McGee D. R., from 1st Divisional Signals. We extend a hearty welcome to him.

EFFAS.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess
Training Battalion.

Arrivals.—R.Q.M.S. Eastes (due from India on 12th May); Sergeant Costick from Bulford; Lance Sergeant Vine from India; and Lance Sergeants Turner, Dodd and Booth on promotion (congratulations). May their stay with us be a very happy one.

Departures.—Lance Sergeant Stevenson left us for Egypt on 30th April. Good luck, Steve; we hope that you had a good trip.

Mess Shoot.—We are unable to give the names of Cup and Spoon winners as promised in last month's notes as some members have yet to fire.

Mess Personalities.—We must apologise for their absence this month as the photographer is resting his camera. We wonder what personality "busted" it?

Query.—When asked to "write off" some underground cable, who enquired if it included the "poles" as well?

ASH.

Corporals' Mess Training Battalion.

May.

General.—Nothing really important to open with this month, so our readers will have to console themselves with the following miscellany.

Welcome.—We welcome all our newcomers. Having just returned from foreign parts, they occupy the "Silence Corner." Welcome, just the same.

Father Time.—Nobody seems surprised to see our redoubtable Tommy Blades, not even when they return from abroad. This is indeed a compliment to this G.O.M. of the Mess. May the years bless him and wither his seeds, for he is too good a gardener and defies all competition in the neighbourhood.

Blight.—The weather has been dry, and vegetation has suffered sadly. But not content with this bad weather, Trunky Homer visits the Mess now and again, so that even the "evergreen" cannot hope to survive.

Energy.—Young Anthony Yeadon, encouraged by the mention of his name in the last issue of the WIRE, has now turned his attention to sprinting; or should we say sprouting? Anticipating that reporters might want an exclusive interview with him, young Anthony has commenced a course of "Thatcho." Dear me, the ways of the young are indeed many and varied.

Stormy Weather.—The Mess entertained the Richmond Hotel Dart Club recently. It is believed that all had a very good evening. The President and Committee, who made a good show of it, desire to thank the very willing helpers in no uncertain terms. These social evenings are a huge success, and we hope to hold many others. At the last function, Corporal Stan Poole was really excellent with his monologues and card tricks. Corporal Costen gave us a good laugh, and not a little anxiety; the actions were so real. The beer, songs, singers and sandwiches were good. What more could we want when the company was likewise.

Sport.—Some praise for members who have come to light in the recent Inter-Company sports. Corporal Crawford surprised us all with a grand performance in the 880 yards relay, and Lance Corporal Wood A. E. did well in the pole vault. Corporal Brookes and Lance Corporal Faithful Illingworth won the "Shot." Well done! The old star performers were there as well—Tommy Blades in the two miles, Corporal Smith F. in the hurdles, and Ted Strutt in the 880 yards relay. "Ted" brought the house down one Wednesday with a wonderful effort to put "D" Company in front in the 880 yards relay. He only just missed it.

Hospital.—Our condolences to Snub Pollard, who tried to pass a wall by going through it.

News Items.—Our readers have doubtless heard of "Minnie the moocher." Locally she is now called "Minnie the motor-car."

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"Dodger" Green J., H.Q., S.T.C., has gone all in favour of brown; even his best friends can't recognise him.

Wilfred Brookes stars in a snappy show called "My Dream Man."

Bedale chess team are having a sit down strike, and our Benny is tearing his hair out.

Now that spurs are being done away with, what will Corporal Dickenson stand on when he wants to whisper in my ear.

Fresh Air.—Four stalwarts went hiking one Sunday. In all they hiked eighteen miles. Believe it or not, they now call themselves "The Frontiersmen." But they came home by bus, which was rather weak for Frontier warriors.

Thank You.—It is hoped that the person or persons who consistently tune simultaneous broadcasts will read this.

DANDELION.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

General.—Much has been accomplished in the Unit during the preceding two months. It may be of interest to past members to know that we have shaken off Palestine, and have reverted to our original three Companies. No. 1 Company Office has a deserted appearance. We feel sure that Major T. C. Thompson and C.S.M. Minns must retain happy and pleasant memories of their many diverse activities. Barrack Blocks Nos. 1—12 once again resound to the vibration of many feet.

In April, our attachments included a party from the 51st (H.) Divisional Signals (T.A.), under their Adjutant, Captain J. Dryland. We shall, of course, see more of the 51st when they come to Aldershot for their annual camp.

The officers, Warrant Officers and Sergeants' individual training fittingly ended in No. 1 Dining Hall. The subject was "The Floor Scheme," by the Commanding Officer, with the

Adjutant as " The Gang Smasher." A most interesting part of the training. We were very pleased to have with us the following officers from the T.A. and S.R. : Captains A. McNair, J. Dryland, C. N. Stafford, H. H. Anthony and T. A. H. Lea, M.M., Lieutenant J. W. Stubbs, and 2nd Lieutenants Dickson, W. G. Mitchell, R. M. Dawson and J. Thompson.

" E " and " J " Sections were attached to the 2nd Divisional Signals for the Command Road Movement Control Exercise from 2nd to 7th May.

The Annual Revolver Course was fired on Ash Ranges. One Quartermaster put up a very good score this time.

Officers.—Major V. J. E. Westropp from Staff Duties, Headquarters, 1st Division, to be second-in-command. Major W. R. Laurie and Lieutenant R. L. Houston, Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, on attachment duty.

W.O.s and Sergeants.—Q.M.S. Portsmouth F. T., Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, on attachment duty. C.Q.M.S. Anthony, Lance Sergeants Choulerton, Turner and Sherrington.

Married Quarters—Rawlinson Estate. C.S.M. Shilton.

No. 1 Company.

Last issue dated—Oh, sorry, this is the other issue of Part II Orders. The following are to be congratulated on being awarded increments for the reasons stated : Corporal Kent on the arrival of a daughter, and Lance Corporal Knox for the same reason. C.S.M. Shilton, Sergeant Todman and Driver Finch claim the extra cash for taking unto themselves a wife. (One each, of course.) C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Kavanagh, Lance Sergeant Swinson, Corporal Lawes, Lance Corporals Simpson and Johnson all earn more pay, at least they get it following their promotion and appointment respectively. U/Lance Corporals Howell and Jones are anxiously hoping. Lance Sergeant Page, Signalmen Bush and Stuart G. have obtained higher ratings.

Congratulations also to Corporal Robertson and Lance Corporal Parker G. on obtaining " Q1s " on R.S.I. and P.T. Courses, respectively. Apropos the R.S.I. Course, another A.I. of the Unit attended a Refresher Course in flag signalling at Ash Ranges recently. Lance Corporal Royall passed with 74 per cent. on a Stretcher Bearers' Course. He now trundles a drum barrow with the air of a professional.

Sergeant Joe Cotterell has left us for No. 2 Company, Air Contingent Signals, S.R. ; we welcome Sergeant Todman in his place. 4th Divisional Signals sent us Signalman Syrett in the place of Signalman Clarke. Driver Warren has gone to the School of Signals ; Lance Corporal Paddy Napier and Signalman McGee have been posted to the Training Battalion ; C.Q.M.S Anthony, Lance Sergeant Choulerton, Corporal Cox, Signalmen Goldsmith, Tilney and Clarke joined from India, and Signalmen Brown (Topper) and Marr come to us from China. We haven't seen much of our arrivals yet, but we live in hopes. Hail !

We have also received a Squad of recruits from Catterick. Lance Sergeant Cooper and Corporal Robertson are now very busy smoothing off the rough edges and making them into Operators. To these and other arrivals from Catterick we extend the hand of welcome. Signalman Elliott, our budding A.R.A., has joined the South Irish Coast Defence Signals. We wonder if the rugged grandeur of Spike Island will suit his artistic temperament.

Signalmen Richards, Nicholson, Paterson, Smith and Kelly have left us for India, and Signalmen Davies and Morey and Driver Moreby are trying their luck in the land of the Pyramids. Also among those transferred to the Army Reserve we note the names of Corporal Jones, Lance Corporal Pescod, Signalmen Campbell, Brown R., Henderson, Stanley and Gooding. Signalmen Nayler and Beck have been discharged. Our best wishes go with them. Signalman Barry M. has been discharged for medical reasons. We hope that he will soon be out of hospital, and active again.

C.Q.M.S. Kavanagh, Lance Corporals Knox and McClarron won't go yet. They have decided to complete twenty-one years, and live in ease during the twilight of their lives. Signalman Roscoe also considers the Army too good a thing to miss, and is now soldiering on for twelve.

Having compiled all this, I now realise the folly of missing notes for just one month.

On Thursday, 22nd April, the day following Easter leave, we were due to fire our Annual Musketry Course. Despite the naive reminder in Company Orders, this did not spoil the holiday. Judging by the results it did not matter, unless the fact that it was postponed for one day had any effect. The results were quite gratifying. The usual number of flags were apparent, but Haggis let us into a secret. " Punching up his semaphore," he said.

" Oh, listen to the banns." Corporal " Viv " Humby, defying all WIRE correspondents, and Lance Corporal Husband, our infamous hiker-motorist, have approached the Padre to have their names called in church. We kept our mouths shut when the usual question was asked. " Hubby " wants to know if any kind person will present him with a bottle of champagne so that he can be properly launched before setting out on his journey on the sea of matrimony.

The following gem of English prose comes from a book by a local author : " When boating, they may remove their arms and equipment, providing they do not leave the canal band."

Can anyone recommend a good hair tonic ? One of our I.C. Drivers, although told that Tarzan " chest mats " cost only two shillings, and that " Tasho " would serve the dual purpose of encouraging the growth of hair, and the building of a bonny " tash," still persists in using olive oil. It doesn't seem " Wright " to me !

Signs of the times can be found in one of No. 3 Company Sections. The happy, carefree piping of the Children's Corner can be heard each night ; it is rumoured that the members of the Section will even leave the Canteen to listen. No names, because " L " Section never say a good word for the people in question, and " K " Section are still in Palestine.

Next month there will be, or should be, plenty of notes from 1st Divisional Signals. The Unit has now been organised into three Companies. Strange as it may seem, there should be no lack of WIRE correspondents. Almost every member of the Unit thinks it is his duty to compile a few home truths about yours truly. I can only ask them to " keep the hand brake on." Any statement to the effect that a special recruit is being enlisted to do second driver to me is definitely wrong.

TOMMIE.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

General.—Apologies are due to all our readers for the non-appearance of our notes last month. I have already taken back that mysterious " can " for my omission, so we are all square.

I suppose the wonderful weather will be mentioned by all the other WIRE scribes, but in case they forget, I'll tell the world that all Stations, from Spike to Chatham, and Glasgow to Plymouth, are enjoying real " Punkie " weather, and all the swedes are gnashing their teeth, because there won't be any this year, owing to drought. That goes for our own allotment holders, too !

For the Old Boys.—Our readers will, no doubt, be interested to learn that we are now on a.c. mains, entailing the complete re-wiring of the power supply side of the station. Some clever laddie has finished off the job by connecting all the mysterious gadgets to two press buttons, so that instead of the old starter (the cause of many a softly-spoken word in the old days) the Operator on duty just leans negligently back on the stool (not too far, of course), and presses button " A." This starts the " doings " (for further instructions see the text books on the matter), and, after the due emission of " Ns," etc., button " B " is pressed, and the " doings " (see text books as before) is stopped ; the Operator can then proceed to do his stuff on the receiving side.

This is operating *par excellence* ; one bright boy talks of inventing a mechanical hand to send for him. Probably, it hasn't struck him that he would still have to switch on ! Seriously, though, we have found a great improvement ; charging is almost eliminated, and control on both transmitting and receiving sides has been much easier.

Fanfare.—Sound it for Bill to herald the arrival of a daughter (Lois) on 27th April. Will she play for the Command Ladies' Team in 1960, Bill ?

The Clutching Hand.—From the Cambridge Hospital and the D.I. List, Thomas the Goldstein ; his return to the fold was signalled by a vocal battle of the giants—Killer Coleman and Battling Goldsby—both 5 ft. 1 in. ; weight, 7 st. 3 lb. ; vocal power, 1,000 decibels.

Clutching Hand, Part II.—This time round our throats. All previous records went by the board when we had an addition to our Fitter strength. The Shield, Cap, Belt and Cup are unhesitatingly awarded to Corporal Price for a magnificent effort of 3 hours, 20 minutes, 15 seconds, timed by Lance Corporal Hurley. This breaks the record previously held by Mahatma Ji, on the subject of Marriage Allowance ; the timekeeper on this occasion was also Lance Corporal Hurley.

Clutching Hand, Part III.—Manicured, but none the less deadly, because it is stretched out for the pay of —— ? Watch these columns for the answer, which will be given when they are really hooked.

En Passant.—The Shield having been presented, all that is left is the biscuit for the lad at Hong Kong for his " Xs are being experienced on this frequency, please move slightly."

To Austin.—Was that the only Latin tag you could find ?

To all Pompey Supporters.—You lucky blighters !

Ode to Our " Ops."—

Don't let the Set down, chaps,
Don't let the Set down !
Though you're struggling and straining all through the night,
And pounding out N with all your might ;
Just think of the next bloke and put up a fight ;
Don't let the Set down, chaps,
Don't let the Set down !

Don't let the Set down, chaps,
Don't let the Set down !
When X's are heavy, and things don't go right,
Just do your best, chaps, and then say " GN,"
Throw down your pencil, and put out the light ;
Don't let the Set down, chaps,
Don't let the Set down !

Sport.—Unfortunately, we are so very short staffed that our usual cricket-cum-social activities will have to be abandoned for this year, but, looking round and viewing several dark horses, I think that we may be able to turn out a successful tennis team. Practice is in full swing, and new racquets are very much to the " fore-hand." We may be able to do something about this later.

We have gone all mechanised since Mahatma bought his " Sizzling Sixty." A " Shocking Seven " has been observed in the compound on two or three occasions ; the owner is so modest that we cannot give details of its performance yet, though I hear rumours of a journey to the boat race, which took rather longer than was at first intended.

Tailpiece.—Have any readers heard of the Fitter who, when his " half-section " (accidentally and unobserved) turned a blow-lamp full on to his ear, said, " Someone ain't half thinking about me " ? They're tough, mighty tough, etc.

FRANKIE.

1st Anti-Aircraft Group Signals, Blackdown.

North Frith Barracks, Blackdown.

16th May.

General.—Much water has passed beneath the bridge since this Unit was last reported in these pages. Apologies are tendered to our readers, who must have scanned these pages for news concerning the activities of A.A. Group Signals, probably remarking to themselves : " What, no notes again ? " We trust that this omission will not be repeated.

Individual training was carried out during January and February, and the lucky ones are now drawing that little bit extra. Section training has been in full swing these past few weeks ; the new mechanised cable-layer is being given a full test. We have not been committed to furnish the same number of personnel for the five practice camps this year ; only one lineman and an operator are required by three of the camps, and a lineman to each of the others. The exchanges at each of the camps at Weybourne, Watchet and Stiffkey are being manned this year by personnel of the 1st A.A. Battalion, R.E.

No. 2 Area Signal Section, under the command of Lieutenant E. W. Townsend, moves to the A.A. Camp at Weybourne with "A" Company, 1st A.A. Battalion, R.E., on 3rd June, and will return to Blackdown on 25th June. No. 3 Section, assisted by No. 4, have a full programme of cable-laying in the Aldershot area for A.A. training and other trials during June. The three Field Brigades, R.A., recently connected to " S/L " Units, furnished us with eight other ranks each. These men were trained as linemen, and have since returned to their respective Brigades at Norwich, Brighton and Bulford, under the command of a Junior N.C.O. from this Unit. A.A. training will be carried out in these areas prior to their return to Blackdown in mid-June.

Visits of Their Majesties the King and Queen.—Their Majesties the King and Queen honoured us with a visit on 12th April, when they inspected a newly-constructed barrack block, occupied by single N.C.O.s and men of this Unit. Their Majesties expressed their gratification at the facilities now existing for soldiers ; in particular, the polished floors, drawing-rooms, wardrobes and the hot water laid on to ablution rooms. Their Majesties also witnessed a demonstration of A.A. troops in action, in which a cable detachment of the Unit took part.

Powell Miniature Rifle Cup Competition.—For the fourth year in succession, the Unit has won this competition. The team comprised Major E. J. Murphy, Royal Signals, Lieutenant E. W. Townsend, Royal Signals, C.S.M. Dowie F. J., Lance Sergeant lent A. V., Lance Corporals Dewhurst H., Hobling H. and Buxton J., and Signalman Murray. They are all to be congratulated on retaining the trophy at Blackdown for another year.

More anon.

JAY EM GEE.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—The main topics of sporting interest this month have been the preliminary competitions which were held in order to find a representative athletic team to compete in the S.P.A. Unit Championships, and then, we hope, the Southern Command Championships, and perhaps this year's Army Championships. Details of the results will be found under this Unit's Sports Notes. We wish the team all success, and hope that Band Week, which takes place towards the end of the month, will not set back training too far beyond recovery.

Departures.—" F " Section and No. 2 Artillery Signal Section left us this week for training with the 1st Medium and 1st Heavy Brigades, R.A. A very busy summer is before them, as they are the only two Artillery Sections, out of seven, that we have been able to form this year in No. 2 Company. They will return to us about the middle of September, having dealt with the requirements of all R.A. Brigades in the Southern Command who are strong enough to function this year.

Officers' Mess.—Workmen are still busily hammering away in the Officers' Mess. It was hoped that the Mess would have been finished by the end of April, and now there is feverish activity to get everything in order for Band Week. The chances look slender, but it is rumoured that invitations to the Officers' "At Home " have been issued to those responsible for seeing that the work is completed in time. The subterfuges adopted in order to achieve things in the Army are remarkable.

Sergeants' Mess.

Introductory.—Why isn't the Mess like Grosvenor House, where glamour girls and personalities abound. I could then write something interesting, and possibly outdo Viscount Castlerosse !

Now that we are on the topic of entertainment and personalities, " Tubby " and the " Guest Gardener " took a bus to Amesbury to see that excellent film " The Good Earth."

They returned to barracks most disappointed because the film featured Paul Muni and not Mr. C. H. Middleton!

Whilst the Editor and his staff are busy transforming these words into print, this Unit will be in the midst of Signals Week, which will be a subject for next month's WIRE. We then hope to supply some interesting news.

Arrivals.—We welcome the arrival of C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Brown J. A. and family, and hope that they will enjoy their stay in this Unit. We are also looking forward with pleasure to his entertaining talents at Mess socials.

Sergeant Baldock G. has also joined us from India. This is his second tour with the Unit; his family like the green fields of Bulford. He should be in his element with the mechanised cable-layer.

Departure.—We were very sorry to lose Sergeant Luck V. and his family, who have gone to H.Q., Eastern Command. His abilities with the billiard balls will be sorely missed in future tournaments.

Congratulations.—To Sergeant Staerck E. and Lance Sergeant Stevens B. on their further step up.

Is It Possible?—It is part of my job to sort out the following:
Q. What is the "All Red Route"?
A. A beetroot.
Q. Describe a "graph."
A. A "graph" is an animal with a long neck.
Q. Explain the composition of a Brigade Staff.
A. Field-Marshal, Lieutenant-Colonel, Captain, a Lance Corporal, and a Deputy Assistant Brigadier-General!

Will somebody please come along and help?

ERGIE.

A.F.V. Section, Bovington Camp.

R/T Section.

12th May.

General.—We apologise for the delay since the appearance of our initial contribution.

With the arrival of more Sets in the Wing, the problem of instruction has been somewhat eased. We are also getting an increased number of students.

Provisional plans for the erection of a new school building have been approved and have reached the blue-print (4th edition) stage.

Promotions.—T/Sergeants Pawsey, Matthews and Wilbraham to be Lance Sergeants. Lance Corporal Lightbody recently removed the "U" from his appointment.

Education.—T/Sergeants Locke and Wilbraham and Lance Corporal Lightbody each passed in two subjects towards the First Class Certificate at the March examination. The two former obtained a "D" in Mathematics. Special mention must be made of T/Sergeant Locke, who obtained 100 per cent. marks.

Births.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Little, a daughter, Wendy Grace; and to T/Sergeant and Mrs. Locke a son, Robert Charles. Congratulations!

Personal.—In answer to all those remarks, which have appeared from time to time in 4th Divisional Signals and ex-"H" Troop notes, we reply, "Oh, yeah!" And on this note we close, appending our once infamous dhobi mark.

WEEPIN' WILLO.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

No. 2 Company.

General.—News is plentiful this month, so bear with me a little while.

Easter leave is over and everyone has settled down once more to the normal routine, although we can still hear subdued whispers in the barrack rooms as the "stricken" few recall their experiences. But can we blame them? After all, it is Spring, and, as Shakespeare said, "Spring doeth wondrous things to man." Or was it Crofton?

But to come down to earth. On 4th May, the Company sallied forth on a three-day Scheme, which was held somewhere in the region of Brighton. The ozone was exceptionally good, I am told, but what is the proper definition of "ozone"? We will not delve too deeply into the matter. It will, we think be sufficient to record that a good time was had by all. The exception may, perhaps, be a certain N.C.O., who was convinced that the map was utterly false. These things do happen, but, candidly, we doubt it.

On 10th May we held the annual physical efficiency tests. To say that they were a revelation would be putting it rather mildly; it was almost a revolution. It is very remarkable the number of chaps one sees slinking about with the "97 lbs. weakling" air, who, in reality, are real tough he-men athletes. Driver Booth's mile would stagger Lovelock himself, and Corporal Cotton's starting technique for the 100 yards would, we feel sure, interest Jesse Owens immensely. We are pleased to report that everyone managed to pass, including Signalman McRoberts, who, if lacking the grace of a ballet dancer, possessed the stamina of a cart horse.

But even athletics leaves its mark; the next day there was many a stiff muscle, many a groan, and everybody vowed to spend the next six half-days in bed; indeed, some are still "recovering."

Moustaches.—The growing of moustaches is becoming increasingly popular in the Company; perhaps I started it. But can I be blamed if other chaps are envious? The only excuse offered is that mine is, at least, a moustache. For some, the growing of a moustache is a hobby, a habit, a pastime, or a simple means of economising. But to others, it is a religious ceremony, a solemn ritual, which brings forth the story of Signalmen Dot and Dash.

One day, after their biennial bath, they returned in great spirits. To their untold joy they had discovered a solitary hair upon their chests. Imagine their joy; a hair! The first hair; they were men. The proof of their manhood was there. I wondered at the time why they became so friendly. Then, for weeks afterwards, there was many a furtive look in the mirror, many an application of vaseline, and many a weary hour spent in practising the gentle art of stroking. At last their secret was revealed to the world. Someone had suspected them. They were caught, and examined. After a long and minute scrutiny, (one fellow even had to wear glasses), a definite growth was seen but what a growth! Cheer up, fellows, another year, and then —. Just think; what a moustache! I wonder!

Congratulations.—To Lance Corporals Lynch, Redmond and Whitehead on collecting the cash. We have not seen them in the Mess lately. I wonder why? Also to Driver Collins for signing on. So you couldn't leave the boys, eh? And last, but by no means least, we must congratulate Sergeant "Paddy" Barry on lashing out and purchasing a car. And what a car! We hear you've entered for Brooklands, Sergeant. Is it true?

Arrivals.—We welcome the following with open arms, but we regret, with empty pockets: Sergeant Collins from Malaya; Lance Sergeant Eason from India; and Signalman Allen from Catterick, from whence he brings incredible news of good weather.

Departures.—They come and go. We are sorry to lose Lance Corporal Lilley and Signalman Severn, who have left us for Catterick. We wish them the best of luck.

Howlers.—This month's best comes from a certain diminutive N.C.O., who still maintains, despite many arguments, that Canterbury does a nocturnal manœuvre to westward, at least the maps say so. According to him, the maps can't be wrong; or can they? I wonder, Jonah!

We would Like to Know.—Who blamed Dick for the "unburied" crossing?

Whether all the anecdotes that a certain Driver (M.T.) relates in "F" Section barrack-room are true?

Whether we have to congratulate Crofton on his success, or Teague on his escape?

Stop Press.—We almost forgot to report that Lance Corporal Winter F. was the lucky man to be chosen to assist at the Empire Exhibition, Glasgow. Those going there are asked to call at the Services Pavilion, where they will find him explaining the many exhibits. He possesses great charm (he studied the "Charm School" diligently), and an immense personality. He ought to get on well.

Pardon me, folks; a fish cake calleth, so I must away.

A. R. B.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Well, here is No. 3 Company, 4th Divisional Signals taking the centre of the stage again for the monthly review of events. Some deal with work, and some with play; but, whatever they are, we hope that our readers will find them interesting.

Easter has come and gone again until next year. Although chilly in its welcome, it was enjoyed by all. "Eggsactly."

We were pleased to see once again that well-known ex-Threecoite (not coyote), "Vic" Robinson, now a full-blown Sergeant. Howdy, Vic?

We hope that our "Terrier" friends enjoyed their training visit. We know they have gone away with a good impression of us. The Unit in question was the 44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals, T.A. It is hoped that we shall see them again sometime in the future.

In last month's WIRE we published the facts about Lance Corporal Pipe's flying lessons. Sorry, folks, we were wrong again. We thought he said "Austin Balloon"; actually, it was "Austin Saloon."

We are anticipating a visit from Carrol Levis (of radio "discoveries" fame). He has heard of our Company crooning warbler—Signalman Heap. In him we definitely have a discovery. He has something. His rendering of that famous ballad, "Annexe Blues" is heartrending (and earsplitting). The special song of his musical adviser, who is good, too, but does not know it, is "A soldier's farewell to a rissole."

Section training still continues; the local inhabitants are just getting used to the appearance of "Juggernaut," the mechanised cable-layer. They no longer run into their cottages and slam the door. (In Ramsgate they flee to their caves.)

Which reminds me that we have in the Company a very rare species of the aquatic type. It is a whistling goldfish—the only one of its type in any Home Station. The owner keeps it in a canary cage, but it is rapidly outgrowing this accommodation; so Signalman Irwin—its trainer—is negotiating with the Unit runner for his parrot cage.

Owing to the shortage of aspidestra flowers in Canterbury, the Unit runner's "Beep" (Jeep's great aunt) must be disposed of.

We hate to mention this, but the Company were so pleased with my effort last month that they are presenting the writer with a row of Strood Council Houses. There is only one condition—I must stand in the middle of the square and they will be thrown at me, a brick at a time. Don't forget the old school motto, "Weve Adsum Klink," you cads!

The big event of the month was the Divisional Signal Exercise, held in the beautiful county of Sussex (yes, zur). This event broke the ice for the season's wide open spaces series, and was enjoyed by all who participated.

The Physical Efficiency Tests are now in progress. Such talent! The fable of the tortoise and the hare is retold again in the "Canterbury Selling Plate, distance one mile, for young horses under thirty, minimum time six minutes." The 100 yards "nip," throwing the "pill," and all the other items which go to make a fit soldier, are also demonstrated. Our talent spotter has some good stuff lined up, and we anticipate some surprises from Threecoy Sections in the Unit Sports this year.

After holidaying in the Kentish Riviera (Strood), we welcome "Lionel Edward" back to the journalistic world. He is again writing "K" Section's notes.

In conclusion, many thanks to our readers for all their fan mail, but will the old gentleman in Poona please note that I cannot read Chinese, and has he overlooked the fact that he put an Egyptian stamp on the letter?

Arrivals.—New friends to make, and old friends to meet. We welcome: Signalman Hallett and Driver (I.C.) Winter from the Training Battalion. We won't say, "May your stay be a happy one"; we know it will.

Departures.—To the land of long hair and breakfast in bed ("Civvy Street"): Corporal Davidson, who, we hope, will have the best of luck. Shed a silent tear for us when your final income tax demand comes in. Signalman Hay—now A/Sergeant—to the A.E.C. at Bordon. (No relation to my old "head" at Narkover—Will Hay.) To the land of "walads," "bints," sand, pyramids, old professors and half-days: Signalmen Earnshaw and Davies and Driver (I.C.) Fox. Best of luck to you all.

Congratulations.—To Lance Corporal Pickles and Wood, who have received the pay for their appointments. Keep going!

Deaths.—One Austin car, owned by a member of the Company, at Canterbury, after a long and painful illness. The deceased has been acquired by the local A.R.P. Committee as a bomb-proof shelter.

Monthly Household Hint.—Don't dust the top of your locker with your best brown duster. Blow it off with a weak mixture of T.N.T.

Things We Should Like to Know.—What is the difference between a message pad and a married pad?

What is the meaning of "Bubbles," and why does a certain Signalman go grey at the mention of the word?

If carrier pigeons were crossed with parrots, would they give verbal messages?

The secret formula for N.A.A.F.I. tea.

The actual top speed of Lance Corporal Froud's flying "how-goes-it."

The Month's Palm.—Goes to the Signalman who told his technical friend that it was possible to use other means of visual telegraphy at night beside the Lucas Lamp. Moonlight, helios and other conventional ideas were scorned. He contemplates using a flag, and floodlighting the sender.

Agony.—Bisto. "I can't see it anywhere. E. J. C."
Weeping Willo. "It's bigger than Charlie's. C. H."
Yardy 5¼. "What about the 'Bell'? Jimmy Jones calling 'Kon.'"

Calling All Signal Units.—When reading these notes, some of our readers may have the burning desire to be posted here, but please remember you must have at least two bankers' references, a voice like a B.B.C. announcer, and the personality of Robert Taylor.

Time Marches On.—The "Rugger" Ball (that's not one of my weak puns), held in the Regimental Institute, was certainly a huge success. We are sorry rugger is not played with as many balls as snooker. Did we scrum down?

Parson's Nose (Tailpiece).—Taking pity on the clerk who has to type all this, I will take my leave for another month, hoping to be with you again.

Au revoir!

ROYCON.

5th Divisional Signals, Catterick Camp.

Having now been in Catterick about six weeks, the Unit is settling down to serious training in preparation for the collective training season. Sections have been formed with 2nd Lieutenant W. C. Ramsay, i/c No. 3 R.A. Signal Section; 2nd Lieutenant D. R. Horsfield, "J" Section; and 2nd Lieutenant J. de D. Yule, No. 7 Tank Section. All we need now is the necessary tradesmen to bring the Sections up to strength. We lose a lot of old faces as fast as re-inforcements arrive.

On 30th April the following left us for Egypt: Corporal Machin D., Lance Corporal Bill Nurse, Signalman Hatcher (complete with gum shields and his "grip") and Drivers (I.C.) Stan

Corder and " Felix " Stowe. A last-minute effort by the latter to frustrate Mr. Records was nipped in the bud. Now that Signalman Hatcher has departed, it is possible to have a little chat with the N.A.A.F.I. girls without feeling conscious of that " barging-in " complex.

Driver Stowe managed to inveigle a charming young lady to the altar at Scarborough on 7th April.

A study of the matrimonial market of Scarborough led me to hope that I should be able to prophecy the destiny of Driver Corder, but he failed to come up to scratch. Just think of it; four hours each night for eighteen months in a fish and chip shop, and then he finished up a " jibber." Shame on you, Stanley! Now he has five years on the burning sands in which to ruminate.

Another social event of the Scarborough Bright Young Things Society was the trapping of Lance Corporal Chatfield—after a very good innings—into the marriage net.

Judging by the number of passes handed into the office with Scarborough as the destination, we can safely anticipate a rise in the price of shares in the marriage market.

A great uproar emanates from the Sergeants' Mess these days; enquiries have elicited the fact that it is just one or two (maybe three) single members celebrating their last few days of bachelordom. Loud wailing rent the air recently when the Regimental Paymaster sent round the Income Tax papers. One single Lance Sergeant remarked, " Now, if I was married, I should be dodging this." Well, Charlie, there is only one remedy!

The new-comers to the Unit, although few, are nevertheless very welcome, more so in view of our commitments this training season: C.S.M. Oakes and family, Sergeant Kenny (complete with hammer and umpire's certificate) and Signalman Blundell from India; Lance Corporal Eggett from China; Signalman Kirkwood (on re-enlistment) from the Depot Battalion; and Signalmen Hamilton and Lees from the Training Battalion.

It is a pleasure to record that Signalmen Easterbrook and Spencer, who recently completed Vocational Courses, have found employment at Dursley (Glos.) and London respectively.

Many who have served with 5th Divisional Signals at Scarborough will probably wonder how the troops occupy their time at Catterick. Most of us have obtained wireless sets, half the remainder cycles (on the book, of course), and the remainder just sit around looking " goofy," dreaming of that other delectable part of Yorkshire, wherein lies their heart's desire.

Mrs. Kelly, wife of Signalman Kelly F., has been taking us to task for a gross act of negligence in not reporting the arrival of their first-born, Patricia Avis, at Scarborough, on 12th February. My apologies.

Our chief sympathies this month are with the Sergeants' Mess Caterer, now that Lance Sergeant Warburton has joined the Mess on promotion. The Caterer has been working overtime ever since.

The post of Unit "Arch-Gripper" will soon become vacant, consequent upon the impending departure of Signalman Sidwell. In order that Signalman Ewart can be frustrated in his desire to take over the job, applications from any minor grippers worthy of promotion should be forwarded forthwith.

No. 1 Company.

Things have been very quiet this month. Oh, so quiet, after that to which we have been accustomed. The " Fairy Lights " and " 2666 " are but pleasant memories now. The only excitement we have had since our sojourn here was the trip to Scarborough (that name is music to our ears) to play against Scalby Juniors in the final of the Hospital Cup. Unfortunately, we were beaten, but our team put up a wonderful display, despite the difficulties encountered. We had a very enjoyable trip; the football was a very, very small item on the programme.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the Company: Sergeant Kenny, Lance Corporal Eggett, Signalmen Kirkwood, Lees, Blundell and Aston. What might have been?

Departures.—Corporal Machin, Lance Corporal Nurse, Drivers " Felix " Stowe and Corder and Signalman Hatcher left us for Egypt Signals. For the first time in our history there were no

broken-hearted expressions and shouts of " I'll write " or " I'll wait for you," as the train pulled out. Oh, for the good old days.

Marriages.—Those who thought that this column could be dispensed with on leaving Scarborough are going to be sadly disappointed. Experts report that it will take years for 5th Divisional Signals to loosen the Scarborough grip.

We are very happy to record that Lance Corporal Chatfield, Driver Stowe and Signalman McLaren have done the right thing. We can only hope that all their troubles will be little ones. The powers-that-be cannot get us down. Just watch us do our stuff next month.

It has been suggested that it would be of considerable advantage to have a branch office in Scarborough. Applications for employment in this office should not be submitted through the usual channels as the vacancies are already filled.

MANMOUNTAIN.

Sergeants' Mess.

Any Old Thing.—Former members of the Mess will be glad to know that all serving members of the 5th Divisional Sergeants' Mess are still bearing up after their long tour at the Spa, which we had to sacrifice to Mr. Hore-Belisha's " Ovaltinies." Oh, why did he choose " Ilkley Moor 'baht 'at " for our signature tune ?

A brief visit to Scarborough on Friday, 6th May, enabled many of our members to visit old friends. It was then that Bill, by name Shipton, decided to tie the knot on Whit-Monday. We offer our sincere congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Shipton in the near future ; may all the little 'uns be big 'uns.

We have strong suspicions that Charlie (three guesses who this is) was very reluctant to leave Scarborough that day. What was the strong attraction ? Will he eventually join the Scarborough Union ?

Congratulations.—To Lance Sergeant Warburton, who recently joined us on promotion. We must also congratulate Lance Sergeant and Mrs. Warburton on the arrival of a daughter (Judith Sherburn) on 26th February. Three Bar-C Troop, Meerut, please note.

Arrivals.—We extend the glad hand to Sergeant Kenny (the stone thrower), who joined us from India on 27th April, and to C.S.M. Oakes, whose arrival we expect any day now.

Departures.—Lance Sergeant Furze W. G. to the Depot Battalion.

Entertainments.—These are now in full swing, in the capable hands of Sergeant (Jack) Blower, whose efforts in this respect are appreciated by all. A successful whist drive was held in the Mess on Saturday, 7th May, when our Billie looked a tough guy in his panties.

CUMO.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Headquarters.

11th May.

General.—After a month of no work and worry, I returned to the Emerald Isle, only to find that I had only been missed at meal times. They even floored me by reporting that the year's record for weekly traffic had been made during my absence. Several otherwise harmless individuals were careering around barracks in cars, learning to drive, and later discussed technicalities with the aplomb of veterans of the road. In short, everybody was busy and enjoying it.

Only one new face presented itself to me ; at least it was new to me, although, obviously, not to the Indian sun. But there was one face present which had not been seen for some time, the lower portion of it was still working overtime. Within half an hour of my arrival, I knew all about Cardiff.

In the dining-hall, several enigmatic remarks were being exchanged, which leads me to—

Things I Would Like to Know.—Who drives with his feet crossed ?

Who tried to change gears with the hand-brake ?

Is the " annoying habit " of " entertaining annoying suspicions " spreading from Magilligan to Belfast ?

Why did Cartlidge inform Couch that they were on a fatigue party detailed to level the hill at the M.I. Room ? We did hear that they both had some difficulty in starting a car there.

Congratulations.—To the football team in winning the Garrison Football Cup by beating the R.A.S.C., 1—0, on the 28th. The goal was a penalty converted by Lance Sergeant Oliver in the last minute of the game.

Tennis.—The Garrison Tennis Courts were opened on the 13th, and a surprising number of the Company are to be found there during their spare moments. Maybe last year's results will be equalled again this season. We hope so.

Crime Wave.—It is believed that the crime wave, never more than a ripple anyway, will now disappear, as the majority of the Company are in receipt of Long Service and Good Conduct Pay. Those who were unlucky enough to have been detected are taking lessons, and the author of " The Perfect Crime " is our benefactor.

Courses.—Corporal Ogden and Signalman Gray arrived from Cardiff this month complete with excellent reports from the G.P.O. Their six months on a G.P.O. (Operator) Course have brought forth good results, and we congratnlate them on their performance.

Education.—Congratulations, which are very much in order this month, are also due to the following for their efforts at school : Signalmen Rogers (Belfast) and Watson (Lough Swilly) on gaining their First Class Certificates of Education, as from 23rd March. The following gained parts of the coveted " First " : Signalman Biggs (Derry), Maths. ; Signalman Picken (Dunree), Maths. and Map Reading ; Signalman Garner (Belfast), Maths. (D.) and Geography.

Arrivals.—Corporal Grey, ex-3rd Indian Divisional Signals, arrived in Belfast on the 21st. After a few hours, he went down to see the famous Mountains of Mourne. He relieved Lance Corporal Whitters at Ballykinler temporarily.

Discharges.—Signalman Acres left the Unit on discharge (by purchase) on the 30th. We hear that he intends to start civilian life as a married man. All the best of luck in civilian life and congratulations on your marriage is the message that I have been asked to give him from his many friends in the Unit.

Departures.—Signalmen Goodsir and Morrice left for Derry on the 12th. The former is for duty there ; the latter is *en route* to Magilligan Camp. From what we have heard since their departure, we gather that their new Stations suit them.

Marriages.—Lance Corporal Whitters (Supt., Ballykinler) took the plunge on the 23rd, the lady being Miss Mary Josephine Doherty and the place Londonderry. Congratulations, Paddy ! Please give our *salaams* to Mrs. Whitters.

Old Soldiers' Corner.—Lance Corporal Melly signed on the dotted line for the last time on the 28th, when he became a fully-fledged " pontoon wallah," engaging to complete twenty-one years with the Colours.

Finale.—I apologise to readers for the Part II appearance of these notes. My only excuse is that this information may be of interest to those who know the personnel of the Unit.

SPUD-CAN.

LONDONDERRY DETACHMENT.

11th May.

During April we lost Lance Corporal Reece, who left to take charge of the W/T Station at Magilligan Camp. At the same time, Signalman Goodsir, who arrived to assume the duties of station electrician, was greatly welcomed. Captain Orr and C.Q.M.S. Hoyland arrived during the month on a tour of inspection. Londonderry was at her best (it is a maiden city), and the sun shone. It seems worth while mentioning this information, as on previous inspections it has always rained hard.

We hear that Lance Corporal Whitters has got married. He called to see us, but was very quiet. Our congratulations, Paddy, and best wishes.

Signalman Slavin left us for a brief stay at Magilligan. Signalman Morrice, who has helped to mix the nationalities on this

Station, has arrived in relief. We hope they are both enjoying the rest and change.

Signalman Biggs is to be congratulated on passing so well in Maths. towards the First Class Certificate of Education.

We should also like to congratulate the captain and team for winning the Garrison football trophy once more.

In response to enquiries regarding our tadpoles, we have to inform our readers that they are progressing satisfactorily. Our aquarium expert hopes to have frogs at the end of the summer.

And so, for the present, we leave you.

HEC ME.

FORT DUNREE DETACHMENT.

11th May.

General.—During the past month the most interesting event affecting us at the fort has been the Anglo-Irish Agreement, which was recently signed in London. In consequence, there is now much speculation as to how much longer the Detachment will remain at Lough Swilly. We shall all be sorry to leave this delightful spot by the sea.

During the month we welcomed Captain Orr and C.Q.M.S. Hoyland from Headquarters, on their usual tour of inspection. Perhaps next time, when visiting us on tour, they will bring their fishing tackle.

Departures.—Signalman Acres E. G. (better known as " Ginger the Lineman ") has purchased his discharge and left us to take up a position in civilian life. He decided that his Army pay would be insufficient to keep two, for he is shortly joining the benedicts. We miss his familiar figure " up the pole." Ginger, we wish you and the future Mrs. Acres happiness and prosperity in your new sphere.

Arrivals.—Signalman Francis J. from Unit Headquarters in relief of Signalman Acres. He has quickly settled down to enjoy a lineman's life at Dunree.

Education.—Congratulations to Signalman Watson A. on obtaining his First Class Certificate, and also to Signalman Picken, who has passed in Maths. and Map Reading towards the award of the First Class Certificate.

SWILLY.

FORT LENAN DETACHMENT.

12th May.

General.—Owing to Preston winning t'coop and the Anglo-Eire Agreement, excitement has been great in the " back o' beyond," or, if you prefer it, Fort Lenan. Of course, theories soon commenced to circulate, and the Signal Section staff were in great demand. We were unable to answer such questions as : " When do we hand over ? " and " How soon do we move ? "

What with the foregoing and the blessing of nearly two weeks of sunshine, we don't know whether we are coming or going. One or two have been heard to remark, " Roll on," but there are worse places than Lenan—but not much.

Our new lineman, Signalman Henley, who has settled down quite well, has already got a good working knowledge of the intricacies of the local telephone system.

Plain Tales.—He jumped down into the grass-lined pit, anger reddening his otherwise pale face. A few moments since he had been called a —— fool ; but now, lying before him and at his mercy, was the cause of his downfall. His trembling hands grasped the strong wooden club, and with a snarl of rage he attacked the miscreant lying at his feet.

Again and again the heavy stick rose and fell ; again and again with relentless fury he struck the pale face of his victim, which was soon battered beyond all recognition. Thick slices of white skin lay back in jagged folds, but he ceased not his awful task. Too well he knew that no jury would convict him of wilful murder.

Suddenly he stopped. With one last dreadful look, he clambered out of the pit, sat down on the grass, and still gasping from his exertions, exclaimed, " I guess I'll have to give you one. I'll be darned if I can get out of that bunker."

Jews' Mail.—To Robbo v. Pip. " Drop me a line, please."

SEA DE SEA.

MAGILLIGAN CAMP DETACHMENT.

5th May.

The annual camp has been opened at Magilligan for the past month, and with it the W/T station. Shortly after opening, we were visited by the I.P.C.—Lieutenant Bayliss ; we believe that he was satisfied with our arrangements.

Reliefs.—Signalman " Jock " Morrice left us for Derry on temporary relief duty ; his job here was taken over by Signalman Slavin, ex-Derry. Jock's mouth-organ solos and arguments on Scottish medieval history are greatly missed.

Sport.—Despite his hard work on maintenance work in connection with lines, Signalman Cassidy found time to challenge and beat the lady at the Sandes Soldiers' Home at golf. In holing in three at the eleventh, it is considered that he has put us on the sports map, and we are quite proud of his success-

Jews' Mail.—2323798 Signalman Duke, ex-Haifa. " What about a line ? Slav."

SUE.

South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.

Headquarters, Spike Island.

12th May.

We who are about to evacuate salute you. Who wants twenty-seven rain-soaked boys from the west ? The air is full of moves and rumours of moves. Some married men want to go to Fiji, some to the Yukon, but even the more prosaic are not too keen on Aldershot.

Just dwell upon it. After nearly ten tiresome years in these Defences, Tim Healy signed for the lot and decided to do twenty-one at Bere. Now, in the prime of his life, he is turned out into a cold world to look for a new Station.

We extend a *cead mile failte* to the " Emir of Ashcanistan," who arrived from Palestine complete with his book on Weapon Training. We all hope that Sergeant Harrison J. H. will enjoy the remainder of his short tour, and that he never gets water in his elbow. The same number of welcomes are extended to Signalman Elliott A. E., who has arrived from 1st Divisional Signals, complete with his drawing board. Corporal Cox G. (" Worm " to you) is at present on a well-earned furlough after a tour in India ; we expect to see his smiling face about 22nd June, when he arrives to pick up a few tips on evacuation.

New faces arrive and the old ones go. To Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Tilford C. I. we bid a fond farewell as he goes to seek his fortune in another line of business, after nearly twenty-five years with the Service. To Corporal Brown R. J. and Signalman MacDonald, who have gone to the Reserve after a Vocational Training Course, we comment, " Prayers are answered, ' Vokes' do happen, and at the end one must seek new friends."

Corporal Woolnough W. has returned from his G.P.O. Course at Oxford, complete with drawl and a knowing smile. They certainly taught you something there, Wally.

The Emir has passed his knowledge on, and every one of the Section at Spike has a " 1st " against his musketry column.

Corporal Richardson C. has had a go at Fitter Signals, Class I, and is now anxiously, though confidently, waiting for the result. Signalmen Jones and Short have been examined for Class II and III Linemen, respectively, and they, too, already consider that they have passed. We sincerely hope so, for there is no opportunity here of holding instructional classes for upgrading. The papers set have been well up to the Corps standard, and passes will show that the candidates have studied their jobs theoretically and practically.

EI5M is back on the air again, but there does not seem to be the power that the " Man of Aran " had hoped to find. I feel that we must close down without contact with any SU or VU ham.

73's, Cobhistically.

LANKA MK. IV.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

April.

Summer, with all its glories, is once more with us. In an effort to keep cool, swimming has now taken precedence as the general pastime. The Lido is certainly a great asset to the Unit. On 30th April, the Sergeants' Mess entertained their friends from the Gun Carriage Factory to a Swimming Gala, points for the various events being shared equally.

Special mention must be made of our plunging team—Sergeants Isaac and Page—who secured the maximum points and put up the record in tidal waves. During the interval, tea was served, and this was followed by a flannel dance in the Mess.

The W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess seem to be well to the fore this month, having proved themselves the best military team in the Garrison Tennis League. They have also gone undefeated through the whole of the fixtures of the Jubbulpore Billiards League, which, beside the military Messes, includes the Phœnix and G.C.F. Clubs. The following represented the Mess at billiards: C.Q.M.S. Jackson (capt.), Farrier Staff Sergeant Agar, Sergeants Woolhouse, Tidey and Edge, Lance Sergeants Wolfe, Houghton and Tranter.

Our November Squad of recruits is now back from training with the 1st Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment. They have settled down, and are now undergoing technical training. Our Recruiting Sergeant (Lance Sergeant Houghton), complete with "Notes for Recruiters" and rosettes flying, is busy attesting a new Squad.

The last of the season's competitions for British ranks has been concluded, and neither of our teams progressed very far in the Inter-Company Garrison Hockey Tournament. "A" team was eliminated by "B" Company, 1st Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment, and our "B" team, after a victory of 8—1 over "C" Company, 1st Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment, was knocked out by Nagpur Rifles "B" by 5—1 after extra time.

Congratulations to Major J. Hawke, O.B.E., on the very favourable reviews of his book "From Private to Major," with a foreword by Lieutenant-General Sir George MacMunn, K.C.B., K.C.S.I., D.S.O., published by Hutchinson on 21st April. We note with pride that a column was devoted to an appreciation of this book in the London *Evening News* of 21st April. Well, sir, we shall all expect autographed copies!

W.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

9th May.

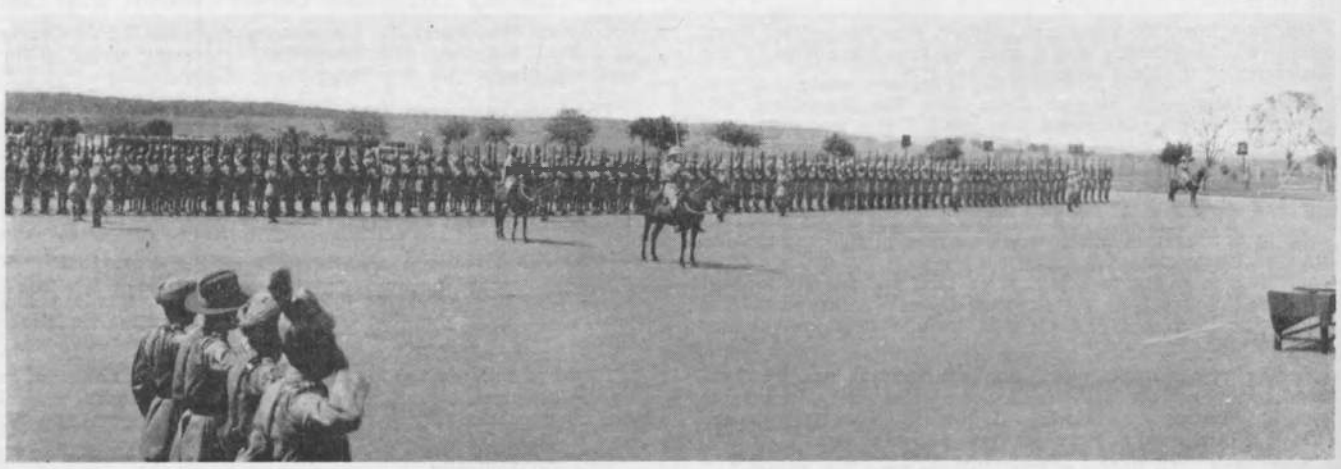
During the past thirty days, Cambridge Barracks has presented to the uninitiated an exceptionally busy appearance. These activities were mainly due to the move of "A" Corps Signals and the families to the hills, to say nothing of the beautifying of No. 1 Company lines, especially the office approach. Anybody for the "high-jump" can now proceed along a nice gravel path, flanked on either side by white concrete posts and chains, and also with what it is hoped will become well-kept gardens. Truly a case of "up the golden staircase."

Despite rumours to the contrary, the powers-that-be have decided that Major R. Jee, M.C., is to guide our destiny this summer, and a warm welcome is extended to him.

Social.—A very successful Pagal Gymkhana was organised and run by the subalterns of the Unit. The object, apart from the entertainment, was to give everybody an opportunity not only to compete, but to win an event. For the jumping, the sixteen best jumpers were pooled and drawn for. "Horse-breaker" Anchell gave a display of how not to do it, free of charge and entertainment tax, while "Laigs" Digweed proved that there are homing horses as well as pigeons. The jumping event is best summarised as follows: a thundering of hoofs; shouts of "look-out!"; a cloud of dust; a sudden dull, sickening thud, and then a horse walks calmly away from the wings of a jump, while the rider gets up, shaking the dust from his clothes, to the tune of "Next one, please!"

The high-light of the afternoon was the "Elopement Stakes," an event which was open for competition to teams of three—two gents and a lady. All started together in a flat race of fifty yards to a waiting water-buffalo, which one gent was required to mount in the role of a jockey, while the lady led the brute; the second gent was permitted to "whip it along." The party was expected to travel a few hundred yards, get into sacks, and finish holding hands. So simple, but the buffaloes lacked *esprit de corps*, and so did my lady partner, or was she suffering from shyness?

There was quite a good display of wild-west riding. The R.S.M. managed to beat all records for the 100 yards in this event. As he was marshalling the buffaloes into position for the start, somebody said "go," and for some unknown reason all the buffaloes made a dash at him. He beat them to it with



THE ROYAL SALUTE (See last month's Signal Training Centre Notes).

the greatest of ease, and can be seen in the photograph waiting at the finishing line to welcome the first team home.

Enquiries have established the fact that this event was not sponsored by either the Dhurzi or the Dry Cleaners; and certainly not by the married men, who had to explain how and why they ruined their flannel trousers. I was lucky; my wife was not there. The officers' ladies are deserving of thanks for the spirit in which they entered to make a success of the event.

Blue Book Accelerations.—Congratulations to Sergeant Brunton and Corporal Gully on dispensing with the "L"; also to our "Moody" Corporal on his elevation to the peerage across the road, and to Lance Corporal Cox F. for just getting in the 1938 Blue Book.

Temporary Retirement.—"Austen." He just can't take it.

Departures.—A very large part of the Unit on Upgrading Courses. Oh, those duty rolls!

And so to bed.

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

"Come, fill the cup, and in the fire of spring the winter garment of repentance fling." What the heck! I know its something about spring and the flowers that bloom therein, but I'm always getting cups and jugs mixed up with everything else. Interpreting the ramblings, we find that April ushered in the spring and alas, the summer also. "And the first summer month that brings the rose, shall take Jamshyd and Kaikobad away." I knew it was spring. Poetry; it's in my soul. It's issued in lieu of rations three times a week.

But let us shelve Jamshyd and Kaikobad for the present (always we hope), whatever they are. In passing, elucidation is respectfully invited from the upper ten, if they know anything about them.

'Twas a sorry day when a cold and indifferent Remington put reveille back to the weird hour of five ack emma. In those small hours I am very reluctant to rise until long after the proverbial crow has done his stuff. (See "Johnny Bull—"Poultry ponderings for the Ponki Pontooner," price 1/6, Hoggit and Stepin.) I lever myself semi-consciously from the couch and around elevenish realise with a jolt that I have nearly finished the day's hard toil. Doesn't seem to check up too well with the spring idea, but then, most of my charm lies in my delightful inconsistency. It was the same with Shakespeare, if any remember him.

Again interpreting, we ride and groom before breakfast, and then the rest of the morning is devoted to traffic schemes, lectures, readings, etc., all massed together under the name of technical training, intended for the "Upgrading" personnel, who are lucky enough to escape to Topa this summer.

There is nothing like a little "grip" about horses to draw the attention during the present era of mechanisation, and we must again note that a few of the old 'uns have travelled to their equine paradise and made room for fresh youngsters. The old 'uns in this case included our one and only "Eckso," who did his stuff, and made young Aisthorpe bite the dust before he duly bit the dust himself. The youngsters are reinforcements from the 2nd Cavalry Brigade, Sialkot, and, in referring to their merits, we can only say, "Time alone will tell."

Leaving the horsey problem, we immediately delve into mechanisation, and have to record that a few ambitious members of the Troop, with keen eyes and hopes on the future, are industriously engaged in learning the art of driving a petrol wagon. Movements of mechanised cavalry are eagerly scrutinised for the first indications that Rissy hasn't been forgotten, but I still think it's the new-fangled mechanical agricultural implements that are really being noted.

The annual inspection by D.A.D.O.S., Peshawar, was successfully carried out again, thus relieving the feelings of the grand little fellows who helped towards the pomp and glory of that occasion. They turned out kits and marching orders that dazzled the eyes of the uninitiated. If, as a result, we can depend on a compliment as generous as the one that we gratefully received from the Signal Officer-in-Chief, then, in the words of the olden-day crier, "All's well."

Signalman "Monty" Mannering proceeded to the U.K., per H.T. *Nevasa*. His repatriation is on medical grounds. Although we haven't seen him since last August, his proess as an orator is still a subject for discussion in the taverns and byways. We all hope for his speedy return to health.

With the last boat also went Sergeants Longhurst and Way and Lance Sergeant Wright to the Home Establishment, and Lance Sergeant Bull and Signalman Wright on six months' furlough. It was a major tragedy in a "way"; at least the inimitable "Count" regarded it as such, and I have been asked to write his cenotaph, or is it epilogue? Like many others, I know the "Count" was at his best and in his most expansive moments when the wine was red and the hour early (in the morning). After ten years, his repatriation was a sorry blow to him, and his bovine countenance, puckered with grief, almost made me shed a manly tear.

EPITAPH.

The flagon and the bottle both so fair,
Succumbed to Johnnie's soft and tender care;
With portly mien, he strutted like a Count,
Alas! He should have been a millionaire.
(First attempt—no prizes.)

Ah, me! Times change, so does Rissy. (I apologise if, in musing, I have infringed someone's copyright.)

We bade our departed brethren good-bye with all the usual accompaniments. Seeing this in print may give them some consolation when they are freezing in an English summer. I can do with a little refrigerating myself.

An exercise party was enlivened one morning by Crafty Croft "leaping" from his horse when crossing the river. He came up complete with topee, so there is something to be said

for the new double chin-strap. He carried the occasion with befitting dignity by refusing to leave the water until he had drifted down to the ferry and could regain *terra firma* by the boat.

Interlude.—As I write, there is an advertisement in a paper in front of me: "At last! More bites for tuppence!" No comments offered, but we have been getting them free for years.

An unexpected call for the Mobile Column soon found the Troop in a ship-shape condition for the road. On a summer's evening, when the sun was setting, we wended our way towards the neighbouring river to do a spot of scheming prior to discharging our heavy loads at the various stores. It takes very little forcing by the humorists to lift the veil of depression, and amusing incidents can always be found and related later. It is said of Nicky Cardew that he would like to hire a syce to relieve him of his horse and equipage during these turbulent periods; his leisurely manner is a sight for sore eyes. How much does he pay you, Cabby?

Other points clearly indicate how we gentle-minded chappies delight to learn from the mistakes of others. Take the case of Mahomet and his mountain; not that we really want to, but as an example of what can be achieved by following that principle. Two I.O.R.s decided to bend their horse-shoes to fit the shoe cases. (Sandow, please note.) Unfortunately, treating the idea very lightly, they handed them back to the farrier's shop in the same condition. After that the official mind got busy.

The stay-at-home staff wish for an honorary mention this time; we've done it!

Ye old-timer of the billiard table—to wit, Chippy Wood—has had a recent uplift and more weight to carry around by virtue of his promotion to the Corporal status. Did this give you the necessary incentive for increasing your drinks to lime and lemon, Chippy? One addition to the Corps Roster: delete the "U/," and we have felt—Lance Corporal Gully J. "Shahbash," John; it took a bit of time, but thirst must be satisfied periodically.

We were thinking of renting out the Sergeants' bunks after the exodus, intending the profit to go to Unit funds. The problem of those desirable residences (h. and c., all conv., elec. lgt., near main road and station, etc.) was solved when it was decreed that full Corporals should occupy them.

Sport is still boldly flourishing, and at the time when these notes go to press, we shall have managed to reach the finals of the local hockey and football tournaments. A combination with the Nowshera Signal Section is proving highly successful and provides games worthy of notice. Our compatriots in these realms are Lance Corporals Bristow and Williams and Signalman Simpson; no doubt they enjoy the opportunity of extending their field of activities. The Troop was honoured by the selection of three stalwarts to represent the Brigade versus Nowshera in the Annual Inter-Brigade football match. They gave of their best and brightest football.

One of the recent arrivals—Buster Blow—has, unfortunately, gone into Peshawar Hospital with a fractured elbow, sustained (official language) whilst under instruction in the equine art. Tough luck! We hope to see him back again soon with no ill-effects from the accident. Old "Soap-works" Gobey needs you to save him losing too many Rip bars, Buster.

The local M.T. Course has provided several howlers, one of which is noted. When a class was receiving instruction on the action of I.C. engines, a voice proclaimed: "Hey! This must be a two stroke; its only got one cylinder."

Who was recommended for a smaller horse on reporting sick with —— (?) Sorry, we only know the crude name for it. No names, but "Baba" Johns would like to know the whole of it.

We finish with an agony. To Charlie (City) Eynott from "United." "Congratulations on the crown; 7-1 and 6-2, eh, Charlie? They must have known you were home."

CHIKKABLANKA.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

May.

Since the last appearance of notes from the Mess there has been many changes.

First of all, we take this opportunity of welcoming the following to the Mess: C.S.M. Gould, Sergeants Riando and Lourie and Lance Sergeant Cowell to take the places of our numerous departures during March and April.

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As a farewell to the departing members, a dinner, which was followed by an impromptu concert, was held on 16th March. This function was well attended. A most enjoyable evening was spent by all, according to the comments heard next day. Some of our guests found it very hard to leave—even at 5 a.m. the following morning.

A few days after this event, we said good-bye to C.S.M. Taylor and family, who have left us for Jubbulpore, consequent on his appointment to R.Q.M.S. C.S.M. Taylor was exceedingly sorry to leave the Unit.

On 20th April we said good-bye to the lucky ones who proceeded to a better 'ole, per H.T. *Dunera*: Sergeants Longhurst and Way and Lance Sergeants Wright and Bull; the latter for a spot of furlough. On the same boat, several of our attached members swelled the number of the departures. We still have the half-back line to hold the fort. By the way, Johnnie; Muree does not look so good this year without Sam's.

Several tennis "At Homes" and games tournaments have been held. Although we have not fared too well against the Juniors on the hockey field (owing to the sympathies of the neutral umpires), we well and truly wiped them up indoors.

Most of the families have already left for the hills, and we are now settling down to a quiet time and early hours.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Once more the day for WIRE notes has arrived, and, as usual, I am scratching my head trying to think of something of interest with which to regale my readers.

General.—We are now well into the Individual Training Season, and the first Course is now at Landikotal making their preparations to hood-wink the Trade Board.

Obituary.—We regret to announce the death of No. 2322495 Lance Corporal Turner H. A., who died at Peshawar on the morning of 25th April from poliomyeltis anterior. The late Lance Corporal Turner, who was very popular with all ranks, was

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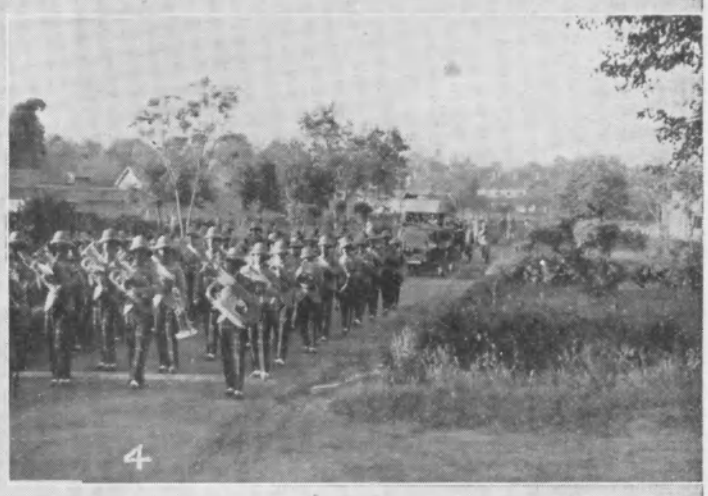
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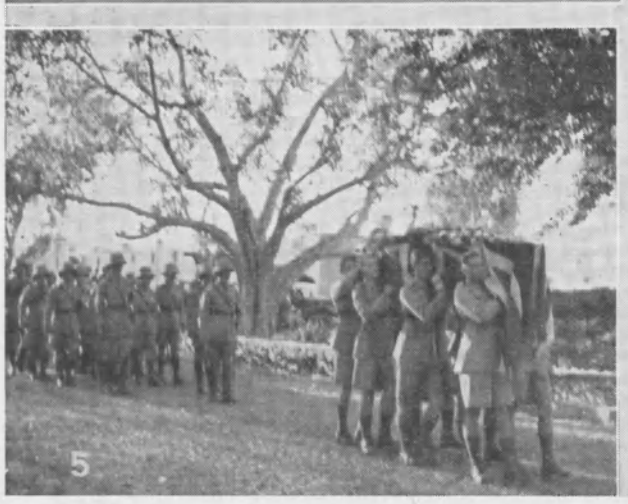
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1. The Coffin on the Gun Carriage.
2. En route to the Cemetery.
3. The Unit Escort.
4. Band of 2nd Battalion, H.L.I.
5. Pall Bearers and Mourners entering the Cemetery.
6. Coffin at the Graveside.

The Late Lance Corporal Turner, H. A.

a good sportsman, who used to play as goal-keeper for the Unit second team. His loss is very keenly felt, and we express our deepest regrets and sympathy to his relatives on their sudden loss. He was buried at Peshawar on the morning of 26th April, with full military honours, the Unit being present to a man.

Arrivals.—The following officers have arrived from the United Kingdom: Major L. V. Younie, Royal Signals; Lieutenant P. E. M. Bradley, Royal Signals. Corporal White R. (of Training Battalion musketry fame) has arrived from Waziristan District Signals on posting. A hearty welcome is extended to all of them.

Departures.—The following have departed to the United Kingdom: C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Brown J., escorting invalid wife. Everyone from the Mess sends their regards, "Topper." Signalman Martin J. on transfer to the Home Establishment. Lance Sergeant Gibbons, Corp ral Fenton G., Signalmen Day C. and Jones E. on six months' payment furlough. Don't forget to have one for me, "Jona"! Lieutenant E. K. Steward, Royal Signals, has also left us on three months' leave in the U.K.

Promotions.—This Unit is well to the fore this month. Lance Corporal Evans S. to be Corporal; Lance Corporal Jordan to be Corporal; U/Lance Corporals Lawson W. and Bristow L. A. to be Paid Lance Corporals. We have not seen any free beer floating about so far. What's the matter? Waiting for that first pay day?

SILO.

Waziristan District Signals.

Wana Brigade Signal Section.

18th April.

Apology.—An apology is offered for the absence of notes during the past ten months. It is hoped, from now on, to produce notes each month.

Section Roll.—A nominal roll of the Section is published herewith, for the information of all those who may be interested: O.C.: Lieutenant N. Minshall, Royal Signals. Section Officers: Lieutenants A. F. McGill, Royal Signals, and G. K. Mehta, I.U.L., I.A. Sergeants Wales and Hodgson; Lance Sergeants Rowe and Collins;. Corporals Parks and Farnden; Lance Corporals Grant, Hooper M.M., Sweeney, France, Webster and Bond; Signalmen Allen J., Bartlett, Burgess, Carrott, Everitt D., Feakes, Fox S., Green A., Gray C., Harris, McKenna, Ridgeway, Ray, Smith T., Stubbs, Woolnough and Yard; and last, but not least, Signalman Richmond R.

Arrivals.—Lieutenant G. K. Mehta; Sergeants Wales and Hodgson; Signalmen Everitt D. G., Gray C. and Woolnough—all from H.Q. Section, D.I. Khan. We sincerely hope that they will all be very happy during their stay with us.

Departures.—Signalmen Byron and Palfrey to S.T.C. (I.), Jubbulpore; Signalman Bowkett to "A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi; Signalman Laidlaw to Bannu Section; and Lance Corporal France to H.Q. Section (in the near future). We are sorry to see them go, and wish them all the very best in their new surroundings.

Promotions and Appointments.—Nil at the moment, but perspiration can be seen, and the temperature is still only about 68 degrees. What do you think about it, Charley?

Congratulatory.—Our heartiest congratulations to Lance Corporal Hooper M. on being awarded the Military Medal during the recent Operations.

Inspections.—During the past two months, the Section has been inspected by the Brigade Commander and the Signal Officer-in-Chief. The Brigade Commander was very pleased with everything he saw during his inspection.

General.—The Section is settling down once more, after a hard year's fighting. Phew! You know what I mean. Lieutenant F. G. McGill, Royal Signals, has left for three months' Blighty leave, and we all sincerely hope that he will thoroughly enjoy himself.

We have a regular cinema here now, and about three pictures a week are shown, which is really very good going for Wana.

The temperature is rising steadily, and in a fortnight or so we should all be enjoying a swim in our Bath. A series of lectures has begun. The first was given by Sergeant Hodgson on "Anti-Aircraft Defence," which proved very interesting indeed. There are plenty more to come, and these lectures just finish the week off nicely.

"Mechcol" and "Wanacol" were turned out suddenly on the 15th and 16th, but the trouble has now subsided, so that everything in the garden is lovely.

Convoy Duty.—Each week the convoy arrives, and with it Signalmen Ulrich and Dunn. Signalman Dunn was formerly with this Section, so we all know him well. We are always happy to see their smiling faces. In fact, Ulrich (our Ken) has stated that he is now definitely "T.T." *Pukka* Slasher! Another interesting point is that Ulrich is under the impression that he is in the Tochi Scouts or something. This I gather from the Musri uniform that he wears. Needless to say, it is now understood that Lance Corporal Grant is a Scout.

Sport.—We played the 8th Field Ambulance at hockey on 13th April. They were definitely the better team, and beat us 2—0. It was a good game, and we all thoroughly enjoyed it.

The football team is also making good progress; Woolnough is a great asset. "Joe" is also greatly interested in sport these days, and can be seen dashing along the pitch like a two-year-old. Perhaps it is the spring air. The hockey team has lost a good centre-half in Lieutenant McGill, and we are waiting for him to return in order to strengthen the team. This applies to Lance Sergeant Collins as well; he is at present at Jubbulpore on an "S" Course.

Aberdeen News.—To Clutch Ferodo, D.K. "Can't you take it?"

Paddy Burke, U.K. "The show is over. Much."

E. V.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

What Again ?—The notes this month may seem very tame, compared with those of other Units ; nothing ever seems to happen in Kohat, apart from the normal routine. Folk come and go, but—like the famous brook—we appear to go on for ever, with no change in the old familiar scheme.

New friends appear, old friends disappear ; and yet few really seem to notice the difference for long. We can only presume that we have reached that stage where " there is nothing new " to startle us from our slumbers. Even the prospect of the approaching leave season does not appear to have the effect one would expect. Leave is discussed in bored tones, and conversation languishes after deathly silences ; and so many of our brighter readers will have gathered by now that we are experiencing the approach of the heat wave ; the same one that arrives annually, making deep sleep—except during the afternoons—an impossibility. The weather, as a subject for conversation or writing, is greatly exaggerated. One simply cannot go into rhapsodies over prickly heat, sandfly, mosquitoes and creaking punkahs, and, in consequence, " grips " are becoming few and far between. Nevertheless, we are thankful that when it is started, it is sure to be a good one. Several members of this Unit have become so good that there has been great rivalry during the past few weeks for the award of the " Grippers " Cup. We have the honour to report this momentous struggle in a later paragraph. Having secured this great scoop for our column, we feel that it demands the best journalistic effort possible, and we therefore extend our heartfelt thanks to " Q_4 " (?) for his information. And now for more mundane things.

Postings.—Arrivals this month have been very few. We must be grateful to Records for the relative small number still left. We have great pleasure in welcoming the following, and wishing them everything they wish themselves during their stay at Kohat : Sergeant Andrews and family, Farrier Corporal Mill and family, Signalman Dwyer from U.K., Signalman Rae A. from 3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut, Signalman Knight C. from Trimulgherry, and Lance Corporal Williams from S.T.C. (I.).

Departures have been extremely few ; indeed " departure " should be the correct heading for this paragraph : Corporal (Dizzy) Page left us for " B " Corps Signals, Karachi, on 15th April. There is not the slightest doubt that he will ever be forgotten amongst Kohatites ; you're far too well known, Dizzy.

Moves of Families to the Hills.—This move has again taken place, and we can now understand the urgency with which the mail is awaited. We can also understand the urgency with which 1 p.m. is also awaited ; after all, mail has to be written some time, has it not ? By the time that these notes appear in print, several members on the M.Q.R. will have sampled that first spot of leave, and will be eagerly (?) waiting for the time to arrive when they must return to Kohat and work. May their leave be as pleasant as they anticipate.

Another move is also in the air. District Headquarters will be moving to Fort Lockhart shortly, and we can hear muttered conjectures as to those who will be fortunate, or unfortunate, according to your views upon the subject.

Greetings.—Hearty fraternal greetings are extended to the Mixed Brigade Signal Section, Adelaide, Australia. It is hoped that at some future date we may have the pleasure of meeting some of the members of that Unit. We would like to assure all members of the Unit that a hearty welcome awaits them here should they ever be in this part of the world.

Rough Times.—We were always taught as children that the horse is a noble animal. We are now given to understand that though he may be, he is certainly no gentleman. Gentlemen prefer blondes, but abduction is a criminal offence, though, in this case, scarcely punishable in the usual way.

Passing Thoughts.—Now the way of a man with a maid is, we agree, passing strange, but the results of the maid's way with a man often have far-reaching effects.

One of our little community had enjoyed, whilst in England, the favours of a platonic friend and, on his return abroad, eagerly awaited letters from her. These appeared to arrive with monotonous regularity, and members of the Unit were beginning to think that there was more in the matter than met the eye. Alas ; likewise alack ! This friendship was all too swiftly broken, and the results are, to say the least, most distressing.

Music may be the food of love, but " gripping " appears to be its aftermath, for strangleholds are the order of the day with our worthy Irishman, and fast and furious are the efforts of his victims to escape the clutch in which they inevitably find themselves.

The worthy " Robbo," having decided that he cannot compete, generously donated a Cup, long held by himself, as the reward for such diligence, and the glow from its polished (?) surface permeates the room. There cannot be any doubt about the matter, you must be " good," Paddy, to get away with anything from " Robbo." There is equally no doubt that the next recipient of the Cup will be even better. We recommend aspirants for the honour to undergo long fasts and strenuous training, as the handicap is immense, and the pace set by the present holder, one that can only be upheld by really efficient men.

Cheer up, Paddy ; even " gripping " brings its own reward in the annals of fame. Your position should remain unique for ever.

Apologia.—We apologise to Majors G. C. Winckley and J. H. Brown for not having reported the result of the Inter-Regimental Foursomes. This was unavoidably held over until this issue, owing to circumstances beyond our control. We therefore have great pleasure in congratulating Major G. C. Winckley, M.C., Royal Signals, and Major J. H. Brown, M.M., Royal Signals, on the occasion of their victory in the Inter-Regimental Foursomes. We can only wish them the best of luck in the future, a good " lie," and no slicing.

News (?).—It is generally conceded that the Army of to-day is far and above the average in regard to education, but we were agreeably surprised to discover that a knowledge of German is necessary to understand an ordinary letter.

No infringement of copyright will be allowed without previous reference to our Irish comrade, who, it seems, cannot find words in which to express his emotion without the aid of an English-German dictionary. Truly, the shades of " Old Bill " would give much to be able to see the New Army.

Obituary.—It is with regret that we learn of the passing of Lieutenant-Colonel P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C., who died at Srinagar on Saturday, 7th May. The Unit offer their condolences to Mrs. Hitchcock and relatives on this sudden bereavement.

ROBO.

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

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

May.

Once again we are in the news. This is by way of being an apology for the absence of notes for two months. I have also been asked to apologise for a remark in the last issue regarding chaplis and sick reports after finding myself in the same street halfway to Bostan.

Bostan Camp has come and gone without any untoward occurrences as the rain is always expected to come during our sojourn in that land of dust and hills. The animals developed a fit of coughing and, amid many sighs (of regret ?), were sent back, and the Div. became mechanised. An organised climb was arranged and the party, under Lieutenant Nelson, climbed Takhtu safely.

We have said good-bye to all our " repats " now, and welcome to all the new-comers, whom we wish a long and pleasant stay in this corner of the Orient. (About five years, we'll say.)

Our new huts have almost been completed, and the Unit parade ground is no more ; it has been completely enveloped by these huts. A substitute has, however, been found and on which we have a massed works parade every morning.

Tennis has recommenced, and quite a number are hoping to show others how to—or how not to—play, as the case may be.

The Swimming Bath has also re-opened, and the hardy annuals have started swimming with the water at a temperature of 62 degrees. According to rumour, we have some excellent swimmers among the new arrivals, but they are still among the unknowns ; we hope to hear more of them anon.

(*Continued on page* 292)

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Egypt Signals.

Headquarters, No. 2 Company.

April.

General.—A great many people will have heard of No. 2 Company, Egypt Signals, before to-day. We were first formed at Mersa Matruh, under the command of Major Murphy, Royal Signals. On our return from Mersa, we were disbanded, only to be formed again under Captain M. S. Wheatley, Royal Signals, at the beginning of last training season. We are made up of " W," " X," " Y " and " Z " Troops, who, in the good old days were the old Signal Troop, " G " Troop, " H " Troop and No. 6 Tank Signal Section, respectively. Our officers are Captain M. S. Wheatley, Lieutenants B. J. Walker, G. M. de M. Blum, A. B. de Lisle and H. W. Winterbotham, with Sergeant R. Ivison as acting C.S.M.

So far we have done everything that has been expected of us. I have this from an authoritative source. At present we are " resting " from our exertions during the manœuvre season and are dallying lightly with weapon training and trips.

The majority of " W " and " Z " Troops, who went on a trip to El Alamein and Nekl, have returned refreshed to face the horrors of an I.T. season. The results of this latest trip are quite surprising. Quite a few good stories about it are in circulation.

New arrivals have poured in by the score. Even now—after the lapse of three months—cries of " Tell him about Mersa " and " When I first came out . . ." are still plentiful.

Quite a number of our older members are hoping for the boat, and I believe that many of them will have their fondest wish fulfilled during this trooping season.

We are not sure whether there have been any births, marriages or deaths in the Company lately. Naturally, we have our usual number of those who " die " every afternoon, but as they miraculously recover at meal times, further details are not worth mentioning.

Several of the fraternity are attending school during the evenings, and, as usual, quite a few of our new hands are learning French or Arabic ; their activities are being aided and abetted by Mr. Jules Lacimir.

ii Q ii Pay ii G.B./month.

ETNEIN.

Notes by the Way.—Being a new-comer to the Unit, it is presumed that I have been asked to contribute notes for the WIRE in the hope that I am stocked with an abundance of bright ideas.

In my capacity as Pay N.C.O. (and new at that), one or two of the " old hands " thought they would try me out. One very smart lad rushed into the office and asked me to put him down for the " usual." With an anxious-to-please expression on my face, I asked him what was his " usual." Unblushingly he answered, " 150 piastres, Sergeant."

Being of an unsuspecting nature, and not having his accounts available, I neatly pencilled him in for his " usual." The day prior to that scheduled for paying-out, his transfer balance came through with the enlightening information that this particular " old hand " was not only in debt, but his net pay was only 1s. 6d. per day. (Doesn't do to have a trusting nature on this job !)

Again, another applied to me for the purpose of making an allotment to himself.

" Can't do that, lad," I said, being quite sure on this point.

With many mutterings he staggered away. Later, the same man came to me when I was on guard, remarking, " You may as well, Sergeant."

Thinking that he was going to spring a long-shot regarding his pay, I said, " May as well what ? "

He replied, " You may as well put me down for an early call, Sergeant."

Slightly recovering, I then asked him what duty he was on in the morning.

" Oh, just wanted to have some skating practice before breakfast," was his reply.

Sympathetic training having reached its present pinnacle, I nearly put him down, too !

" W " Troop, No. 2 Company.

April.

Introduction.—Our new scribe, after opening in a blaze of glory last month, basely deserted us by creeping away on a " Body-building " Course at Alexandria.

General.—We introduced ourselves as a new Troop last month, but we are more or less the Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop with a few additions. Lieutenant B. J. Walker is O.C. Troop. The N.C.O.s are Sergeant Dunn (Troop Sergeant), Lance Sergeants Orton and Gibbs (i/c No. 3 Sets), Lance Corporals King A., Adam H., Burdon J. and Byron H. (i/c No. 2 Sets), and Lance Corporals Brooke and Marks (fitters).

During the period from 25th to 28th April, we were called upon to assist " Z " Troop on a No. 9 Set distance test, and so at various intervals during the night and day the roar of the Dorman disturbed the normal tranquility of Abbassia. The test was quite successful, and we have no doubt that " Z " Troop will submit full particulars for the technical experts Our small detachment that went out—and included the Troop Sergeant—returned fit and bronzed.

Inspections.—The great day arrived on 1st April, when we stood rigidly to attention while the Brigadier passed favourable remarks about our smartness. (Who said that ?) After the parade, we dismissed to our barrack-rooms, and stood to our beds. The rush for the Canteen after the inspection was a sight worth watching.

Weather Report.—During the preceding few days, our old hands have been " piping down " the " Belisha Boys " with " Way back in '33," " Wait until your blood gets thin," " Don't know what you'll do when it does get warm." From this the reader may gather that summer is on the way, and the sun is beginning to make itself felt. A couple of dust storms have played the usual havoc with our spotless bungalows.

Arrivals and Departures.—We extend the glad hand to Signalman Devine, who has joined us from " Z " Troop. Lance Sergeant Beale has left us for " Command." Our loss is their gain. In the very near future we will be saying good-bye to Lance Sergeant Gibbs, Lance Corporal Birkett and Signalman Storey, who are due for a trip on the briny. (Don't forget the strawberry jam, Eric ; it tastes the same coming up as it does going down.)

Signalman Barnie has gone to " X " Troop, and Signalman Swindell (" Twisty ") has joined " Z " Troop. As they were only with us for a few days we cannot enlarge on their sterling qualities.

Courses.—Musketry is in full blast for certain members of the Unit, who may be seen at dawn, complete with " U " blanket, wending their way to the Unit Square.

" W " Troop is suffering from a surfeit of furrowed brows and note books, while Lance Corporal Brooke looks very important with various text books under his arm. You've guessed it ; there is an M.T. Course in progress. Lance Corporals King and Marks assist by taking some of the future Malcolm Campbells round the neighbouring desert. Minor crashes can be heard as the gears are changed. Lance Corporal Marks goes for quite long runs with the advanced class ; Lance Corporals Brooke and King explain the mysteries of gear-changing to the " infants' " class. " Ls " have not been issued.

Sport.—Unfortunately there are no firsts to record, but we finished good seconds.

Football Final.—We lost to " M " Section, 2—0.

Best All-round Section.—" K " Section beat us in this event. We didn't know the Colonel was putting up a new Cup, or we should have made it our business to win it.

Inter-Section Athletics.—" J " Section robbed us of this trophy. The usual display of Cups and medals was unavoidably missing as the N.A.A.F.I. decided to have a fire a few days beforehand. Chits, which were given in lieu, will be exchanged in the near future for a silver and bronze memento.

Expenses to date for sport : Lance Sergeant Orton, one set of polo jump lathes.

Things We Want to Know.—Who is our millionaire playboy ?
Which Signalman saw " China Clipper " and developed a " Yankee drawl " on the R/T ?
Who drowned the flies in the fire bucket ?

Jews' Mail.—Radcliffe (4th Div.). " It only costs 1½d. for air mail. Mac."

Teddy (Aden, ex-Colchester). " How is the ultra short-wave set ? Jock."

Tailpiece.—*Prochainment*—more notes.

EIFLA.

No. 3 Company.

May.

April has been rather a quiet month. Small Day Schemes were a regular feature, and during their activities the imaginary tribes which seem to abound in the neighbouring desert have been put to flight. Our " Beacon Boys " have obtained some useful training.

Musketry commenced on 2nd April for the " bat-eyes," and also for those with scores under 66 on the 23rd. The remainder managed to give the activities a miss until 2nd May.

The Unit sports took place on the 21st and 22nd of the month, the preliminary heats having been run on the Polygon Ground. The finals were held on the Slade Ground. The Cup for the best All-round Section, presented to the Unit by Lieutenant-Colonel Mansergh, M.C., to replace the Pritchard Cup, was won by " K " Section.

As full details of the sports appear under that heading, suffice it to say here that the occasion was well celebrated by that Section during the evening. Signalman " Paddy " McGowan made an admirable M.C. His efforts to encourage each and everyone to sing one Egyptian song were exceptionally successful.

Courses.—Lance Corporals Barr and Barlow to Alexandria to be trained as Assistant P.T. Instructors.

Departures.—On 11th May, Sergeant Betty and family, per H.T. *Lancashire*.

On 13th May, per H.T. *Dorsetshire* : Sergeant Dodman and wife ; Lance Corporals Smith, Summers, Walker and Pirie ; Signalmen Dransfield, Harrison W., Joyce, Parkin, Davis and Allen W.

Arrivals.—Signalman Allen J. from No. 1 Company.

Marriages.—On 22nd April, at the R.C. Church, Kasr-el-Nil, Signalman Howitt T. was married to Miss W. Fielder. His brother, Signalman Howitt, from No. 4 W/T. Section, Haifa, performed the duties of best man. The bride, dressed in white, and carrying a bouquet, together with the bridegroom, made a charming picture as they left the church.

Corporals' Mess

A spirit of levity fills the air. The boat date draws nigh, and those departing are glad. The others are pleased to see them go for a good reason ; we can now say, " Roll on that boat," and no one will remain to remark, "Away back in 1932."

An enjoyable evening was had by all. All who and why ? Us and them ! To start at the beginning. Some few weeks ago, when spring was in the air, we held a " stag party," to which we were all invited and " M'Ewan Younger " attended as the honoured guest. The evening was wearing away as evenings will when a genius was discovered in " One Gulp Chalker," so we decided to hold a games tournament against the Sergeants' Mess.

Poor fellows, their education has been sadly neglected. A dart board, judging from the result, must have been an innovation to them. To compensate for their lack of knowledge at this game of skill, they more than held their own at that low public-house game—dominoes. " Make it a count, he's got the ' currant-bun.' " Definitely low !

The subtle skill and eagle eye required for " tip-it " was not possessed by the seniors. Has " Puncher " still " got an idea " ? If we published the score, our readers would not believe it.

At phat and crib, at which it is possible to count and make figures lie, the Sergeants managed to win. They may be better players, but where did the " buckshee " ace and eight of clubs come from, and where did the five of clubs go ?

After sundry Q.M.s, their satellites and accomplices had visited the score board, the result was announced as " Them, 37 ; Us, 36." The name of the announcer does not concern our readers, neither does the actual score, which was somewhere in the region of 72—1 to the Corporals. The seniors are so used to dealing with figures (and paunches) that they very soon—one might almost say instantaneously—made it look like a close thing.

There were many heartfelt sighs of thankfulness that the W.T.O. did not turn up at the miniature range on the Wednesday morning. Had he done so, some instructor would have been in the " bat eyes " squad on the Thursday. Wouldn't he, Bertie ? I believe the Sergeants did hit the target occasionally.

As the result of a conspiracy, the seniors endeavoured to dope our tennis team with hops prior to a match. Alas and alack ! The best laid schemes . . . The tennis team had been sent to bed to reserve their energy, and it was the spectators who absorbed the hops, so that in the afternoon, when our Sergeants came forth breathing fire and determined to do or die—as though they had not " done " us enough already—they found twelve stalwarts—5 ft. 3 ins. to 6 ft. 1 in.—eager for battle. The keen contest might have resulted in a win for the Sergeants, if they had not been so keen on bouncing the balls on the Mess-room roof. The recorders returned the following results :

	Corporals' Recorder.		Sergeants' Recorder.	
	Us.	Them.	Us.	Them.
Darts	24	7	16	15
Shove-ha'penny ..	15	13	16	12
Dominoes ..	2	8	10	—
Phat	4	6	7	3
Tip-it	4	2	3	3
Boat Race ..	1	0	0	1
Shooting	3	1	4	0
Tennis	3	3	8	10
Total ..	56	40	64	44

Every time we counted, the Sergeants went further ahead, so we compromised on a draw. The aim of a games tournament is enjoyment, and as everyone seems to have obtained full points, no other result could be given.

As a result, the Sergeants challenged the Corporals to a match on the Sergeants' home ground. An even more enjoyable time was had by all (if that were possible), and the Sergeants proved that they had profited by their previous experience by defeating us on the miniature range, and at a few other items as well. What a swallow—" That's a gallon, pardon me that was ! "

The Low-Down.—We don't know where they have gone, but if you have some of them you are to be envied, for we had them all !

" GINGER." A Scot—naturally a good fellow—who will brighten up any Mess unless he decides to dye his hair.

" LITTLE-BY-LITTLE." His ambition is Carlisle. He would like to go further, but is afraid that his knees are too knobbly for a kilt.

" CURLY." An asset to any Mess. But these mornings after ! Ask him to lead the Chelsea Pensioners or the Coach and Horses. If you have a wireless set, buy wadding for yourself and an ear trumpet for him.

" LES." Builder of sports grounds. General contractor. The man who can go to town for a pair of shoes, and return straight home.

" STEINIE." The walking Army List. Mess historian, but never dull, though he has been known to go to sleep on a tram. Must be kept free from all duties on " Baff " night. That is the night he washes his back teeth.

" GEORDIE." Another year would have been too much for him. He has even taken to chess. A song bird of no mean repute and a pianist who prefers to blush unseen.

"A. BEY." Another song bird who sings best from behind a glass, but who can sing without.

" CHARLIE." Has been known to throw a nifty dart, to play the piano, and sing " Danny Boy." A lineman who can always be relied on for advance information. He even knew he was going home on 28th March. Unfortunately, " Q " Movements did not know anything about it.

Things We Want to Know.—Did the R.Q. serve an apprenticeship in a fish-and-chip shop, or is he on a Vocational Course ?

Is Quetta 6,700 feet above sea level ?

Do bats have webbed feet ?

Who drank Curley's beer ? And who performed the duties of swill tub ? As the answers are all at home now, who will enlighten us ?

Agony.—Will someone who was in D.I.K. in '22 please confirm that every soldier was issued with a pigeon in lieu of a map and compass.

Exchange Mart.—One ace of clubs and one eight of clubs, used advantageously, for one five of clubs, which has been used shamefully.

Sports Edition.—The Klonaris Cup, which was presented for competition among the Corporals' Messes, was won by Farrier Corporal Newman (capt.), Corporals White and Surfleet,Lance, Corporals Molony and Marks, Signalmen Gant, McGinn Moore, Cooper, Reynolds and Bosher.

At least it was won in the bus going to the match, but, unfortunately, the 11th Hussars' Corporals scored more runs than we did in the first round. We happened to be playing them, and we gather that it is the runs that count. We are willing to take bets that we shall win the trophy next year, for we have the men, the enthusiasm and the will to win. So let us get our mats out, face in the correct direction, and maybe Lady Luck will join us.

Farewell Dance.—Spare our blushes. If it was a better show than any of the others that we have run, spare us, or our hats will not fit.

Multitudes of beautiful women, escorted by hordes of handsome cavaliers, came to say good-bye to the draft, and thanks to the magnificent gesture of Egypt's finest band, which turned up for a purely nominal fee, a very enjoyable evening was had by all.

There was no lack of partners, lubricants or entertainers. Amongst the last-named we might mention Smudger, who almost brought the house down. Well done, Smudge ! " Dutchy and Pindi," the harmony kings, provided a " swinging " partnership. Donald—not the Duck—gave a realistic characterisation of five people from different parts of the British Isles telling a funny story. It was so good that we are even now barely convinced that there was not at least four people behind the " mike." "Alec," as usual, put it across again.

When the balloons went up, there was keen competition among the possessors to try to keep them up, but it was a case of pop goes the balloon. One lady escaped with two, but that was because she broke evens legging it out of the Mess. This lady is going to run in our next sprint team. The R.S.M. made a magnificent effort, but he was outstalked by our boy scout, who gave a demonstration of how to stalk the chamois. I'll bet he is on Church every Sunday of his life.

DIRR.

"X" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Cairo.

History.—Yet another Brigadier's Inspection has gone down in the annals of military history. It was not a sensational event which could be put under the startling heading of " History made in a night," but in this case it was made in a fortnight. By that remark we mean that it took us approximately two weeks (conveniently forgetting the white-washing, painting and scrubbing) to prepare for the event. Our main responsibilities were cleaning, brushing, polishing, combined with drilling, inspecting and lots of other " ings."

It would definitely be unconstitutional to allow such an event to pass without keeping a permanent record of those participating in the parade, and so we publish a photograph of the troop, including a few members of the 11th Hussars, P.A.O., with whom we are closely associated. The task of clambering up on seats elevated several feet above ground level, when spurred, putteed and belted was no mean one.

It should not be difficult to imagine an almost continuous line of human beings making a hurried dash to the mess-room on the morning of the inspection, nor to hear this conversation in the vicinity of the cook-house. I imagine that similar things occur in the best of Units on such days.

" What the —— does this crowd want ? "

" Early breakfast, I suppose."

" But there's plenty of time ; the Brigadier's parade is at nine o'clock."

" These men are on Sick Parade, though."

" Oh ! "

Just Me.—This effort has been compiled by an amateur of the first water. Our previous correspondent expects to go on a very long tour to the country where in summer it is winter, and in winter it is worse ! The G.P.O. just calls the place England.

Some Come.—Changes of personnel between the Sections of No. 2 Company, Egypt Signals, of which we are now a (vital) part, have been taking place. As a result, we have to welcome Corporal Lonton, Signalmen Barnie, Eley and Hadfield.

Some Go.—Corporal White and Lance Corporal Oliver—of chewing-gum fame—have gone to Egypt Signals to help things along.

Some Stop and Draw the " Dough."—Congratulations to Lance Corporal Standen on dispensing with the " U." An easy way of making money. Someone removes a letter of the alphabet, in exchange for cash. Sounds quite good to me.

Inter Alia.—Our O.C. has left us to enjoy a short holiday.

Signalmen Draper, Gallagher and Henderson are " out of town " for three months. On their return from that part of the world called the U.K., we hope to hear all about the Glasgow Exhibition (that is, provided that the two Scotsmen can obtain their free tickets) and the Cup Final, and—well—lots of things.

Get Your Hair Cut.—A poet must have long hair. Once you have achieved this, words will come easily enough. Whether they emanate from the lips of the barber who covets your custom, or from the sergeant-major, is immaterial, but they do come. We now take the opportunity of granting a poet's licence to one of the Troop poets.

"X" TROOP, CAVALRY SIGNALS.

Top Row (left to right) : Lance Corporal McGinn J., Lance Corporal Moore A., Signalman Foord H., Signalman Cray H., Signalman Draper F., Signalman Taylor E., Lance Corporal Manley E., Lance Corporal Reynolds K., Driver (I.C.) Brown B., Lance Corporal Standen S., Lance Corporal Lea J.

Second Row (left to right) : Signalman Burns W., Signalman Samworth J., Trooper Richards E., Signalman Gallagher F., Signalman Tacey H., Signalman Dalton G., Corporal Hartard O., Signalman Knight R., Signalman Smith A., Signalman Mawdsley E., Signalman Blackburn H., Driver (I.C.) Newton D.

Third Row (left to right) : Trooper Hind J., Driver (I.C.) McIver D., Lance Corporal Slaymaker E., Signalman Brown W., Signalman Barnes R., Signalman Morrell G., Signalman Henderson G., Signalman Perrin H., Lance Corporal Oliver U., Signalman Montgomery D., Trooper Brackenbury W., Trooper Fletcher J., Trooper Seaby S.

Seated (left to right) : Lance Sergeant Weeks L., Sergeant Drane J., Corporal White K., Lance Sergeant Adams R., Captain P. Payne Gallwey, Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. S. Galbraith, Lieutenant A. B. De Lisle, Sergeant Pearce E., Trooper Dobson R., Lance Corporal Latham W., Signalman Walker N., Signalman Perrins H.

Seated on Ground (left to right) : Signalman Hart R., Signalman Rogers C., Signalman Redfern C., Driver (I.C.) Cray A.

WORDS.

In Army life, some words are used
Whose literal sense is much abused ;
To explain, express with forceful feeling,
So base, so foul, they scorch the ceiling ;
From a Works Parade grouse to the wet bar's glow,
They are used in place of—" that so-and-so."

In their adjective sense these words can be hired,
And used differently as they are required ;
Depending for meaning on vowels that follow,
To give the " imperative " to phrases less hollow ;
They help the expression of Kipling, no doubt—
In lieu of those others—cad, rotter and lout.

To understand all, a " sense " must take root
In all who serve in the mounted or foot ;
Hard perhaps for the man in the street,
Horrified, shocked, he could never repeat
Those words that we use on parade or away,
And whose sense understood will their meaning alay.

From the import of Collins and Cassels exempt,
New men from " Civvy Street " do not resent ;
Our words that first shock—they make Army rhyme
Acquired from the kitchen of Alfred's time ;
His manœuvres worked out in cottage so lowly,
Has proved the prime cause of our phrases unholy.

But in battle and courage we still hold our place,
As equal in arms as the best of our race ;
Our manners and language take equivalent rank,
Together with honours, tradition and swank :
But, really, we aren't as bad as we sound—
So bear with us fellows, you'll soon pull round.

CHASMAN.

Training.—A trip to Sukna was organised by a Squadron of the 11th Hussars, P.A.O. They were accompanied on their special mission by Lance Corporal Reynolds, Signalman Smith and Driver (I.C.) McIver. A No. 1 Set with a Wyndham aerial was used for communication with barracks. Whilst the party were at Sukna, speech was received at both stations at strength 6. (Distance 74 miles as the " flow cries.")

During their stay at Sukna, the party had an excellent time, swimming, sun-bathing and fishing. What sort of fish are found there I haven't the slightest idea, but Smith caught the largest.

Radio Notes (SU1GT by C. R.).—Once again SU reports. Much has passed beneath the key since our last reports. Our new transmitter has been built and, apart from a little trouble from the power region, is doing famously.

It has been built in rack form, standing approximately 4ft. 6in. high. Primary keying, which has been tried, passed all tests with flying colours. A modulator unit has also been tried, and with a little more power we hope for a few phone contacts.

Now that delivery is O.K., our thoughts have turned to the suction side of the question. After much deliberating and arguing, the circuit was decided upon—a six-valve superhet. This is now well on the way to completion, and we are hoping to be in action within a fortnight.

Conditions just now are rather patchy ; it is almost an impossibility to forecast one day ahead. XU stations have been heard here at R4/5, and although several attempts have been made, so far we have not been able to raise one. Here's hoping that our luck changes in the near future.

G. A. D.

Delta Area A.A. Signal Section.

Sidi Bishr, Egypt.
11th May.

Apology.—I must apologise for the absence of notes from this Section for the last issue, but we are sure our readers will understand, as we have been very busy during the past two months.

General.—Since our last issue, the Section has been having rather a hard time of it with anti-aircraft communications in a built-up area. We have only a line party of five N.C.O.s and fifteen men, and when we state that they put " paid " to thirty miles of air line and thirty miles of cable in under eight weeks, I am sure our readers will all agree that they heartily deserve the praise they received from all sides on the completion of the Exercise.

We will not go so far as to say that our chaps have created a record, because we don't know what the record for this sort of thing is, but they are not very far behind any records that do exist. We cannot go into the details of our work, as communications of this nature cannot be explained in these columns.

Eventually the " war " started. Telephones were installed, and we sat down waiting for things to happen. They happened with a vengeance. Enterprising heavy lorry drivers of one Unit (we know them) had a competition as to who could knock down most of our air line poles. You can imagine what sights met our linemen when they went to investigate the reason for a fault.

These minor (?) details were easily overcome. Things went very smoothly, and the communications gave perfect results throughout the Exercise. Your humble scribe is not a lineman, so don't get ideas that I am trying to blow that proverbial trumpet.

Now that the " war " is a thing of the past, we are settling down again to maintenance, and wondering who will be going to Cairo for up-grading.

Congratulations.—These are in order, and go to Lance Corpora Roberts on his appointment.

Heard in the Exchange.—Signalman : " It's at the side of the transmitter in the phantom circuit."

Sapper : " What are those blue lights on your Test Panel ? "
Signalman : " Those were fuses, those were."

Exchange Operator : " Shake your hand-set. I can't hear you."
Distant Operator (a Gunner) : " No wonder you can't hear me, there's sand shaking inside this receiver."

ROBBIE.

Palestine Force Signals.

Headquarters. Jerusalem.

Introduction.—Summer, which has greeted us rather suddenly seems to have struck the new draft with a vengeance. Who said the Western Desert was hot ? Personally, I think the Nablus frontier is unbeatable. We hope to be wearing drill within a few days.

Arrivals.—As already previously reported in our " Seniors " notes, Major R. R. A. Darling, Royal Signals, has joined us from Canterbury. A hearty welcome to you, sir, from the " lower deck."

The second leave party have now returned to the fold ; having them back with us once more is more like old times. Ex-Palestinians will remember Lance Corporal Joe Cooper (Sadie), who arrived with this batch. He is weighing up the pros and cons of married life, but he won't split.

Vacation.—Captain V. G. Newell, Royal Signals, is now spending a well-earned rest in the United Kingdom. It is hoped that he will return in time to set our next theory paper for the Quarterly Trade Board.

General.—I should like to mention the interest that has been shown in local gardening. Recently, great activity, sponsored by C.S.M. Tebby, has taken place, and, as a result, our lines are nearly up to Garden City standard. It is hereby published for the information of self-contained " flatites " that window boxes and their seedlings simply will not thrive on the remains of unwanted cold " gun-fire."

An I.C. Driver seems very puzzled of late. It appears that after re-wiring his vehicle the rear lamp transmitted a spark and a distinct glow was seen on the plugs. In fact, everything seemed to make a noise except the horn.

Sport.—It is with great regret I have to report that the Corps in Palestine just failed to win the " Flower " Hockey Cup Competition. We were defeated in the final by the R.A.F., 3—0, after a gruelling and exciting game. Great credit must be given to the team, who played very well together, and especially considering that representatives were called upon from all Signal Units in Palestine.

Defeat again was our lot in connection with the " Chancellor Cup " Association Football Competition. Reaching the semi-final, our victors this time were the 2nd Battalion, Black Watch, and the score again was 3 ; this time the Corps managed to notch a single goal. We hope for a better result next season.

Shalom, readers.

BUCK.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

Headquarters, Jerusalem.

Regrets.—Sorry, readers, that we missed the boat last month ; pressure of work and the failure of my " stand-in " to rattle the ivories were contributory causes.

Arrivals.—The heat is upon us after many fitful starts. With the heat came the flies, and with the flies came the " swatters." Now those will be very useful little things for " Pop " and Tommy to have a date with. You have been warned, Mess-mates.

Additions to the Mess have been numerous of late. A cordial welcome is extended to the following, who now have the pleasure of shaking a " nifty " serviette three times a day : Staff Sergeant Yendole, Sergeant Hulme, Corporals Mitton and Golding of the Engineers, and Corporals Phillipson and Cameron from the R.A.S.C. Congratulations to the latter on attaining that rank. We also welcome Staff Sergeant Antell and family, who also now belong to us. Another gift from the " Sappers."

With regard to the Signals families. Mrs. Tebby and minors have taken up residence, and we hope to see them all in the Mess at an early date. The remainder of the families will be joining us sometime in May.

Mrs. Boon and Joan are on vacation, and we wish them both a pleasant holiday.

Off with the Old—On with the New.—The " bunch of fives " is extended to Lance Sergeant Beardmore. We shall look for another " schooner " when he reads this.

Good Hunting.—Recent Operations in the disturbed areas north of this borough have somewhat subsided, and we find that the Corps is very prominent in " Recognition for Services Rendered " circles. We take this opportunity of congratulating the following, whose names have been brought to the notice of the G.O.C., for " Devotion to Duty." They are a great credit to the Corps : Lieutenant R. Linton, Royal Signals ; Corporal Cant R. ; and Signalmen Dodman G., King H., Graham G., McConnell-Wood F. and Bicker G. S.

Forthcoming Events.—On Thursday evening, we had, as guests in the Mess, members of the Corps of Military Police. We have been assured that nothing will be taken down in evidence against us, provided that we let them win the Games Tournament. This " house warmer " is, we hope, the first of many succeeding " get togethers."

Tit-bit.—Our "Alfie "—Corporal Vigurs to wit—has received the over-due to the effect that a daughter has arrived—and both doing well. Congratulations. (Daddy was also doing well when " Time, gentlemen " was announced.)

FOUR BY TWO.

No. 4 Section, Haifa.

General.—Having been away on a spot of leave, the news situation seems to have got out of hand a little. The personnel of the Section has almost completely changed. Just at the moment we are in the midst of a series of Operations against Arab bandits, so that we are exceptionally busy. But every cloud has its silver lining, and the work done by the operators has not gone unrewarded. For the benefit of old Sectionists, H.Q. is now in Old Teltsch House, at the top of Mount Carmel.

Late News.—The war situation having eased slightly, we can now sit back, take stock, and generally recuperate for the next effort.

The O.M.E. paid us a visit to inspect our M.T. vehicles, and although we had no time to do the usual buffing-up, he gave us an excellent report.

This was followed by a chit from the Brigadier congratulating the Section on the work done during the recent Operations.

Then, just to round things off, Signalman Bicker was Mentioned in Despatches, and we hope that there are more to follow. (Signalmen King H. and McConnell-Wood, as well as Lance Corporal Callan, have already appeared in the " Mentioned List.")

Lance Corporal Evans K. and Signalman King are taking a holiday in the U.K., and Signalman Joe Kells left us for India on transfer to the Army Reserve. He managed to make the train to Port Said, but only just, and he sends his regards to those of the old " School " who are in Blighty.

Promotions.—Quite a few these days. We congratulate Lance Corporals Patient and Donnelly on raking in a little back pay. Lance Corporals Evans and McKay are just longing to wipe out that little " U." We congratulate U/Lance Corporal Temme on taking a step in the right direction.

Things We Want to Know.—Which exchange operator, after yelling into a telephone for hours, discovered a piece of rag jammed in the mouthpiece ?

Who earned 10 piastres for towing a car out of the mud by putting a rope on the track rod—and bending it ?

Our Drivers.—Lucky L——, Stupid S——, Wrecker R——, Vicious V—— and Happy Harry.

Jews' Mail.—Bill Fill, Scarborough. " Have you forgotten so soon. John."

Florence, in Blighty. " Lest we forget. Many salaams."

Definitions.—An Exhaust Lifter is a person who visits the car park after " Lights Out."

MERCURIOUS.

No. 2 Wireless Company, Sarafand.

Promotions.—Once again we are in the fortunate position of being able to commence our notes with a list of promotions. This time our congratulations are extended to Warrant Officer, Class II, Quartermaster-Sergeant (F-of-S) Tate A. S., Lance Corporals Billingsley G. and Waterston J., and U/Lance Corporals McQuade J., Billingsley E., Verlander D. and Williams H. on attaining the rank and appointments stated.

Leave.—We welcome Corporal Cairns on his return from three months' Blighty leave, and observe that he is now writing to Malta, Egypt, India and various places in Australia. One meets so many charming companions on these civilian boats. Or do you collect foreign stamps, Jock ?

Entertainments.—Our new committee, comprising Lance Corporal Medlycott, Signalmen Farrer and Diggle, have certainly started off their tour of duty with an enthusiasm which we hope will last. Darts and table tennis tournaments have been held, and successful whist drives and impromptu dances are being held once a fortnight.

The darts tournament provided a certain amount of humour, especially when studying the various styles of throwing. One expected a certain C.Q.M.S. to " take off " at any moment ; it is a good job that he was using light darts. I have seen people throw from the shoulder, and even from the waist, but we have a champion beady-eyed stenographer who lets fly from the knee. Fortunately, no accidents occurred, and in the final C.S.M. Newman and Signalman Hall were narrowly beaten by Lance Sergeant Trudgett and Lance Corporal Williams. The Lance Corporal to whom we have referred appeared a little round shouldered at the end of the game.

Drafts.—A farewell " smoker " was held in the Canteen in honour of Lance Corporal Robinson and Signalman Phillips, who have since left for the U.K., and Signalmen Booth and " Shooter " Smith, who have since departed for a change of climate. A very enjoyable evening was spent, and great sighs of relief were heard when C.S.M. Newman gave an extension of hours for the bar. The " Oxo " drinkers and " Duncans " eaters immediately rushed to get in another cup and bar respectively. Curly Booth, dressed as " Mimi," was in great demand, but he refused to sing. Our Canteen manager entertained us to a very clever, snaky " Salome " dance, and Sergeant Hunt, who was with us, gave his usual hot numbers, the most popular of which was " Dinah." Naturally, other songs were sung, but why bring that up. Speeches were made by all and sundry, but fortunately all at the same time.

We Want to Know.—Who makes clocks, picture frames, swings and sofas ? (Not settees.)

Who gets a lift back to camp in the M.P.s' " bugs " ?

Who thought £17 was enough for an Easter holiday ?

When calling for prizes at the whist drive, who said, "Any score of 170 or over," and, on failing to get a reply, then said, " Well, is there any score of 175 or over " ?

Cricket.—At last we have started off the cricket season. In our first match, against the Royal Air Force, Palestine General Hospital, we won by eight wickets. Altogether a very satisfactory performance.

Senior N.C.O.s' Mess.—A very successful whist drive and dance was held on Saturday, 16th April. We had fourteen tables for whist, and at the conclusion of the drive prizes were presented by Mrs. F. W. Nicholls, wife of our Commanding Officer.

After whist, the ladies demanded a few games of " Housie," and, as usual, carried off the prizes. Then followed refreshments and cries of " On with the dance ! "

The dancing brought out all the Mess gigolos, and it is still a hard job to find out who is No. 1. Unfortunately, several members had left their dancing pumps in Tel Aviv, and were therefore not quite up to their usual form, but our one and only Paddy " gripped " well. The show was so good that it was voted the best in the Command, and we have decided to make it a regular monthly function.

Tennis.—The " pie-makers " are now preparing our court for the ensuing season, and in a week's time this popular sport will be in full swing. Complete with knee bandages, our ladies have been having their usual secret try-out. Medical reports forecast that " all's well." (Now, now, Yimmy !)

YIMKIN.

Malta Signal Section.

Command Signal Office, Valletta.

9th May.

General.—Chief among the items of general interest this month is the commencement of the long-awaited cable scheme. First mooted in 1933, a start was made on 18th April, and, as a result, we anticipate the disappearance of the main routes underground. Considerable excavation work is necessary, and the varied civilian explanations of this work are quite entertaining.

It is gratifying to be able to report that Sergeant Clark is now out of hospital. Although not as fit as we would like, he is well on the road to complete recovery.

As a result of a recent examination of First Class candidates, the following results are available: Sergeant Cutler passed in Geography, which places him in possession of all subjects; Lance Sergeant Rowe passed in all subjects, with distinction in English, Mathematics and Geography; Corporal Crouch passed in English, Map Reading and Geography; Lance Corporal Chantry

passed in English and Map Reading; Signalman Burton passed in Map Reading. Congratulations to all of them.

During a week's visit to Malta recently, Mr. Hore-Belisha paid us a flying visit. As these barracks are far from id al, we hope that he left with a few notes which may be to our advantage.

Tne Annual Musketry Course resulted in an average of 64 points. Few failed to reach "First Class" figures, and in most cases quite satisfactory scores were recorded.

Lance Corporal Shaw left us for a few weeks to enjoy a summer cruise aboard H.M.S. *London*. As this cruise includes some casino ports on the French coast, we handed over our pet infalliable system, but anticipate little reward. Do your best, "Lofty," and *bon voyage*!

Minor operations in the north-west and south-east areas being concluded, we are reminded that Combined Operations will soon be upon us. This means work, which we spell with a shudder, so here's to it.

The photograph published with these notes shows the beginning of the trenching. Reading from right to left: Sergeant Williams, Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Goodridge, M.M., C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Holt, Mr. Chambers (Resident Engineer), Major F. H. Bury (Command Signal Officer), Lieutenant T. de B. Miller and Mr. Micallef (Contractor).

Sahha.

SKIP.

Tientsin Signal Section.

April.

General.—All quiet on the Northern front.

The anticipated visit from the crew of H.M.S. *Lowestoft* did not materialise.

Our annual Change-of-Air Camp will be opening next month, we hope.

Technical.—The Section is still very busy. A tribute to the help given by us to British firms was paid to the Section by the British Chamber of Commerce at their Annual Meeting in Tientsin.

A Trade Board is in progress at the moment, and five hopefuls are wandering around with worried looks. By the time that these notes appear, we should have three more Class II Operators

Departures.—Not from the straight and narrow, but from Tientsin to Peking. Signalmen Brewster and Blackman are the lucky men, and the unlucky ones are still managing to live, despite the trade depression.

Arrivals.—Just a few goldfish this month to add to the zoo. What eyes they have; haven't they, Spud!

Congratulations.—To Signalman Summers on passing the examination for the Army 1st Class Certificate of Education many moons ago.

Things We Want to Know.—When the C.B. will go bankrupt? If Tashy can sleep at nights now?

Jews' Mail.—Bewdley. "Joining me what? Harry."
Keeling. "Remember Trixie? Cop."

Sport.—Our sports notes this month should make quite good reading, expecially to former members of the Section. The following members of the Section are to be patted on the back for helping the "S. and D.s" to win the Capstan Cup and the Second Division for the second year in succession: Sergeant Gresham, Lance Corporal Verlander, Signalmen Welchman, Bloom, Lander and Hopcraft. Did someone mention Songbird? Ssh!

"Dussvedanyah."

Football.—The Staff and Departments football team have again won the Second Division Championship and the Capstan Cup for the second year in succession. The details of these successes are as follows:

SECOND DIVISION LEAGUE.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals. F.	A.	Pts.
Staff and Department	12	10	2	0	39	4	22
"D" Coy., 1st Bn., Lancs. Fus.	12	6	3	3	25	12	15
"A" Coy., 1st Bn., Lancs. Fus.	12	5	5	2	27	21	15
Tientsin Association F.C.	12	3	5	4	19	29	11
"H.Q." Wing, 1st Bn., Lancs. Fus.	12	3	4	5	15	22	10
"B" Coy., 1st Bn., Lancs. Fus.	12	2	4	6	16	21	8
Russian Sporting Organisation	12	1	1	10	6	38	3

CAPSTAN CUP RESULTS.

23rd January (1st Round).	v. R.S.O.	Match forfeited by R.S.O., who failed to turn up.
13th February (2nd Round).	v. St. Louis F.C.	.. Won 5—2
27th February (Semi-final).	v. Royal Italian Marines	Won 7—0
13th March (Final).	v. "D" Coy., 1st Bn., Lancs. Fus. ..	.. Won 3—2

MATA HARI.

CHANGI DETACHMENT, MALAYA SIGNAL COMPANY, APRIL, 1938.

Malaya Signal Company,

Changi Detachment.

Changi's Quiet Corner.—

The evening breezes stir each sleepy palm,
Producing ripples on the waters calm,
Around this Fortress Isle.
The setting sun, with western skies aflame,
Portray such colours that no bard could name,
And cast reflections for a mile.

Silence prevails, except for far away
A jungle prowler roars in search of prey ;
Reptile, bird or beast.
Insects swarm in the dusk of fading light,
Heralding the approach of sudden night,
O'er the forests of the East.

The News.—The reliefs for the 1934 "Orang" arrived at Changi on 26th March, after having undergone ten days' extensive instruction in their future work and duties under the capable tuition of C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Nix. They appeared quite prepared to resign themselves to all those hardships and dangers to be experienced north of Alexandra. They had doubtless read our article on the subject in the WIRE. Conditions have changed at Changi, but we presume that the wild animals and snakes are hibernating, owing to the prevailing cold spell.

The Final Appearance of the Snake.—Signalman Sherratt, whose duty it is to wander around the various distant outposts on maintenance work, recently underwent a very trying and somewhat thrilling experience. A deadly poisonous snake dropped on him as he was passing beneath the "friendly" shade of a tropical tree. Incidentally, this tree was growing in that area which was in the news last month under the caption of "Goose Chases Man."

The snake apparently objected to bad meat and did not bury its deadly fangs into the white, voluptuous flesh belonging to the "D.L." (District Lineman).

Sport.—We have not played many soccer or cricket fixtures during the current season, but with the arrival of the new draft and the increase of our establishment by three, we hope that the name of Changi Signals will once more figure prominently in the local Press.

Signalman Goldfinch (the boxer) recently gave an exhibition fight before the Royal Engineers and R.A., when he fought, and beat on points, Sapper Dare (30th Company, R.E.). Goldfinch put up a really good show, and this exhibition of good, clean fighting was thoroughly enjoyed by all who witnessed the match.

Seen and Heard.—Sergeants Gordon and Penny goose-stepping across the local padang. On being approached and questioned as to the reason for adopting the German-cum-Italian national step, the former replied, whilst reflectively scratching his mosquito bumps: "Well, you see, it's like this. We stand more chance of killing these 'ere cobras which we've heard infest this district if we walk this way. Kind of stamp on them instead of just kicking them." With drawn and expectant features they continued on their goose-stepping way.

Conclusion and "Farewell, Malaya."—And now, readers, I come to the end of the news from this famous corner of the Empire, and, incidentally, to the end of my stay in Malaya.

A Malayan moon casts its silvery rays over the dense virgin jungle, mangrove swamps and palm-fringed islands. Far away, in the distant forest-clad hills, can be heard the regular monotonous thump of the tribal tom-toms ; near at hand, the sweet, soft, mellow notes of native guitars. Grass-skirted maidens dance and sing beneath the shade of the overhanging palms, casting weird and gigantic reflections in the mystic moonlight. (Pause whilst we sigh and gaze upon the beautiful scene before us—Part II Order file, map of Singapore, waste-paper basket, O.C.'s gas mask and somebody's groundsheet.)

And so, accompanied with a crescendo from the distant tom-toms, flourish on the vibrant strings of the guitars, hisses from the famous black cobras, roars from the lurking tigers and kisses from the grass-skirted maidens, we say "Farewell, Malaya, mystic, moon-washed Malaya. Farewell."

TANDO (T.B.C.).

THE TERRITORIALS AND SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

The London Corps Signals, T.A. and Affiliated Supplementary Reserve Units.

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

16th May.

General.—We have referred in previous notes to the inability of our Headquarters to "house" all our fellows on training nights; things have become so congested that we have been obliged to have two drill nights each week. On Monday evenings, the trained men carry on with Section training, while Wednesday evening is devoted to shaping our many recruits.

On Saturday, 7th May, some fifty officers, W.O.s and N.C.O.s (which included the juniors) proceeded to Worthing for a T.E.W.T. On the following day, unlike practically every previous T.E.W.T., we had glorious weather for this Exercise, which was held in the Worthing-Arundel area. The W.O.s and N.C.O.s spent Saturday night in the Drill Hall of the 228th (Worthing) Field Battery, R.A. (T.A.), in Worthing.

On Sunday morning we proceeded to the rendezvous, where we gathered, from the opening narrative, that we had been in our present position for the best part of a week. We also learned, with some amusement, that we were a Mexican Army Corps Signals. We were suitably disguised (we haven't been issued with our T.A. badges yet) as we *lounged* about in the warm "Central American" sunshine. As far as we could gather from the isolated nature of the progressive procedure common to a T.E.W.T., we were not doing too badly.

At Headquarters, on the following Monday evening, the Directing Staff pointed out, in no uncertain manner, where we "got off." Apparently some of the syndicates went 100 per cent. Mexican, whose ideas of Signals in war are probably weird and wonderful and vastly different to those laid down for the guidance of the London Corps Signals. Nevertheless, in spite of what wasn't done, we feel sure that a great deal was learned, and our experiences should stand us in good stead in the future.

Officers.—We heartily congratulate Lieutenant F. McCombie on his recent marriage to Miss Kathleen M. Johnson at Christ Church, Ealing. The following extract from the local Press is interesting:

"Miss Kathleen Mary Johnson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Johnson, of 143, Princes Gardens, West Acton, was married on Saturday to Mr. Frank McCombie, son of Mr. Charles

(With Acknowledgments to "Middlesex County Times")

Edward McCombie, of Shortlands, Kent, at Christ Church, Ealing.

" The bridegroom is a subaltern in the Territorial Army, and his colleagues from the London Corps of Signals formed a guard of honour. He is a dental surgeon, and is interested in sport.

" The bride was given away by her father, and her brother was best man. The Rev. H. L. Haynes officiated. A reception was held at the Faversham Hotel, Ealing, and the bride and bridegroom afterwards left for Dorset for a motoring honeymoon."

Sergeants' Mess.—On Wednesday, 20th April, we met our officers in a Games Tournament, and managed to beat them by 29 points to 23. Colonel W. F. Bruce, D.S.O., M.C., who very successfully competed in the badminton match, very kindly presented the Cup to our President.

EFFEMMA.

The London Corps Signals Cadet Company.

We are to have a Band—a Military Brass Band. The secret is out at last. For some time past, both the Commanding Officer and the Adjutant have been working on this scheme. Soon a Bandmaster is to be appointed, and we shall start operations without further delay.

This Band will work for the whole 1st West London Cadet Corps of which we are the biggest Company and will do its training with us at Putney. Music hath charms, so they say, and we are looking forward to this new Band.

We shall have to look to our laurels in the future, for the 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals Cadet Company, who only started five months ago, is steadily creeping up to our numerical strength. There will be vacancies in this new Band of ours for many old soldiers. Anyone wishing to volunteer, and who can play some instrument, is asked to get into touch with Cadet-Major E. G. Paulus, 75, Tudor Way, Hillingdon, Middlesex. Once this Band is under way, we shall feel very proud indeed, as we believe it is the only Cadet Signals Band of this type in the Kingdom.

Our dances have substantially helped the Unit exchequer, and Cadet 2nd Lieutenant F. G. Baigent, who organised them, is to be congratulated on the excellence of the arrangements made. Cadet 2nd Lieutenant F. Gold, recently appointed to us from Chelsea, looks like being posted to " E " Cadet Company at Shepherd's Bush. If so, we shall be sorry to lose him.

Our next Church Parade will be held at St. Ethelreda's Church, Fulham. We are all looking forward to this, and also to camp.

2nd Cavalry Signals (Middlesex Yeomanry).

Chelsea, S.W.3.

General.—Apologies are tendered to all concerned for the absence of notes from this Unit since February. Our regular scribe has been so busy of late that he has been unable to find the time to get his usual contribution written. It's a good excuse, but we will let it pass this time, although a lot of questions are being asked and answered in a variety of ways.

The Unit is still very active, and Headquarters sounds like a bee-hive on drill nights ; everyone is very busy chasing trade ratings ; which are not very elusive, according to Part II orders. More of this anon.

Fencing classes have started, and those under instruction are very keenly interested. It is hoped that we shall soon be in a position to throw out a few challenges.

Training.—Week-ends away from Headquarters are the order of the day now, and some useful training is being carried out by all ranks ; indeed, the general efficiency of the Unit is going up by leaps and bounds. "A" Troop, with its happy band of waggoners, are going out for a nice week-end spin at the end of the month, and we are hoping to borrow one of the leading orchestras of the country to play their theme song, " Wagon Wheels " as they go. Charlie and " Roj " will be pleased.

Easter training was carried out with our old friends, the Life Guards, at Windsor. The Unit was very well represented, and a good time was had by all. The recruits were put through their paces on the square, and several were noticeably thinner after the first half-hour under their very able guide and instructor—" Tic-toc." However, they thoroughly enjoyed it, and were really a credit to us, both on drill and in the Riding School. We did manage to give them some visual, although this was confined to lamp reading ; there wasn't enough sun for more than one helio, and we had only one lamp—so what ?

Trade Boards.—All and sundry have been rushing to attend these Boards, and the results have been excellent. Congratulations to all those who have passed to a higher grade, and best wishes to all those who are still trying. There is still plenty of time to be " upgraded " before annual training, and the pay clerk has assured us that there is plenty of room on the pay sheets for higher ratings.

Equitation.—We are afraid that our hopes for some photographs of this noble pastime have been dashed to the ground. I have given up hopes now of ever getting them. In the February notes, a budding artist was mentioned in connection with a life-like sketch of a recruit's first impression of riding. This sketch was lost, but was returned via the Orderly Room of the 2nd Battalion, Coldstream Guards, by some very kind person. Many thanks, whoever you may be, and also many thanks to the Orderly Room Sergeant of the Guards. We are forwarding this sketch in the hope that it is not too late to be published. Modesty forbids me to tell the name of the unseen instructor, but I can almost hear those old-time Signals saying, " Shades of Ginger Simnett." Incidentally, there must still be many serving who remember Percy. To all those, may I say that he is still going strong, and seems to be getting younger every day (or is it brown ale ?). [Sorry, " B. E. H.," but the sketch was not suitable for the block-making process.—ED.]

In conclusion, here is another apology. I haven't forgotten you, Tich. Your letter is constantly in front of me, and one of these days will definitely be answered. Can I, too, plead pressure of work ? Won't keep you long, O.M.

To Tom Jessop at Trimulgherry. " *Salaams* from us both at No 7. Hope you have all settled down and finding it to your 'king. We'll be writing very soon. B. H."

B. E. H.

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

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

Easter camp was held at Blackdown, near Aldershot, where the detachment were accommodated in the barracks of the 1st Anti-Aircraft Group Signals. We are very grateful to Major E. J. Murphy, who commands this Unit, and to his officers and N.C.O.s, who did all they could to make the technical instruction valuable and interesting, and for providing such excellent accommodation. The barrack-rooms have to be seen to be believed ; they were inspected recently during a Royal visit. The 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals, T.A., had the privilege of the very latest the Regulars could offer. We are looking forward to another visit at Whitsun.

Major-General Sir Cecil E. Pereira, K.C.B., C.M.G., Chairman of the County of London Territorial Association, visited Headquarters on Wednesday, 4th May. We were very pleased to have him with us again, and to show him the many developments which have taken place recently in Anti-Aircraft Signals.

We were pleased to welcome Major-General Sir Frederick A. Pile, Bt., C.B., D.S.O., M.C., and staff on Wednesday, 11th May, at a demonstration of the special experimental work which is being carried out from Monday to Friday inclusive. Numerous visitors are arriving from all parts of the County.

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals Cadet Company.

The past month has been one of steady progress. On Easter Saturday, through the kindness of Colonel G. C. Wickins, T.D., we were privileged to take part in a Communications Scheme, which had been arranged by our parent Unit T.A. During this Scheme, the Cadet Company was entirely under the supervision of Territorial officers. We are glad to learn that we gained a good opinion from them, and that our technical work was a great success.

The whole of the technical training devolves on Cadet C.S.M. Pitz F. G., so a great deal of the credit must go to him. The

journey down to Kent was particularly enjoyed by the boys. They came back in the evening feeling like the village blacksmith, pleasantly tired, and with a sense of something attempted, something done. Doctor Hart and 2nd Lieutenants Gibbs and Pitcairn, of our parent Unit, were particularly pleased with the way the boys behaved, and the intelligent interest they took in the whole business. We are very grateful to our parent Unit for having arranged this little " outing " for us ; and, in particular, to Colonel G. C. Wickins, T.D., for the splendid tea which was provided for the Cadets on their return to Headquarters.

The Company strength is now one officer, two Warrant Officers, four N.C.O.s and thirty-seven Cadets. We hope to reach the sixty mark before October, and to have everyone in uniform before that date.

On the occasion of a recent visit to Headquarters, Major-General Sir Frederick A. Pile, Bart., C.B., D.S.O., M.C., G.O.C., 1st Anti-Aircraft Division, saw some of the Cadets, and commented upon the growth of the Cadet Company. He was very pleased with the way we are shaping, and we are grateful to him, and also to all our helpers in the T.A., for the kindness and interest shown in us and our activities.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

The Priory, Exeter.

May.

Editorial.—All ranks have settled down to the Sectional Training period, and the Recruits' Section in each Company is doing splendidly.

The officers of the Unit held a most interesting and successful S.E.W.T., in the Seaton (Devon) area, during the week-end 7th-8th May. As on all previous occasions at this pleasant rendezvous, glorious weather prevailed.

Indoor work, which was accomplished on the Saturday evening, was relieved by the view of a Tactical film.

As we are a split Unit, these gatherings—few though they are --are very cheery, social affairs, and we wish that it were possible to have more of them.

Events seem to be moving (how speedily it remains to be seen) in connection with our No. 1 Company's new Drill Hall. Some of the powers-that-be visited a fresh site recently ; as instead of an independent building, it is proposed to erect a building capable of accommodating two Units. What promises to be a very suitable site has been considered, and plans are now in preparation, which, we sincerely hope, will this time receive final and early official blessing.

Congratulations.—We wish Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Day the best of luck in their new sphere. His brother-officers expressed their appreciation of this venture by presenting him with an engraved salver.

Welcome.—We extend a very hearty welcome to Mr. Sibley, our new R.S.M. In our notes last month we referred to the standard set by Mr. Stone ; although we have seen but little yet of Mr. Sibley, we feel that he is a worthy successor. He is assured of our fullest support.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

York Street Drill Hall, Devonport.

May.

General.—The month has been a quiet one ; the Easter interlude came as a short break in our activities before settling down in earnest to Section training. The latter is now going strong, W/T sets seem to be springing up in all corners of the Drill Hall, " B " Cable can be seen vigorously cleaning up their wagons, and " D " Section have been formed into office groups and are passing messages to each other in separate rooms as though for all the world they were miles apart. Incidentally, the situation arising out of the invasion of the Armoury by "A" Section, and the subsequent protest by the P.S.I., has been amicably settled by arbitration. A No. 1 Set is peacefully installed there and working (we hope).

Promotion.—Congratulations to Corporal McDonagh A. on picking up two stripes in one go. These ex-Regulars are not content with doing things gradually. Corporal McDonagh is in charge of the recruits, and, judging by the results in the short time that he has had them, some of the trained soldiers will have to look to their laurels.

Musketry.—The range, under the direction of 2nd Lieutenant A. L. Farr, has been much in use during the last month. Mr. Farr has done some useful spade work in the training of some of the recruits, and C.S.M. Gibbings has now organised a team competition, which is being fought out with much keenness and enjoyment.

ONECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Command.—Lieutenant-Colonel Read, T.D., resumed command of the Unit on his return from Egypt on 21st April.

Training.—Collective training commenced on 25th April on the basis of two-hour drills twice a week ; Thursday is left free for recreation.

Lecture.—A most interesting lecture on the development of Signals in Air Defence was given on 2nd May by Colonel Wickens, Commanding 1st A.A. Divisional Signals. With the aid of lantern slides, he traced his subject from the position in 1918 to the present day, and in the sharp contrast between our work and theirs, gave us a topic of absorbing interest.

Appointment.—Corporal Coles J. E. to be Lance Sergeant as from 1st April.

Trade Tests.—Eleven members of the Unit obtained ratings at the trade tests held on 3rd April : eight to Group " E," two to B.III, one to C.II.

Recruiting Drive.—From 25th to 29th April, Sections were allocated an evening each in order to give an outside demonstration of their work to the general public. A loud-speaker van accompanied each Section, and various sites in the vicinity of Headquarters were visited. The enthusiasm of spectators was gratifying, but it was impossible to compute the actual effect as far as new members were concerned, as the best we could do in the matter of persuading men to enter the Drill Hall was to give them invitations to the Unit "At Home."

The combined exhibition by the Unit on Saturday the 30th was not a success. The Cup Final, combined with the early commencing hour, resulted in almost deserted streets. Crowds did not appear until we were going home in the evening. Our experience should provide useful information to other Units, who may be engaged on this work. To commence before 7 p.m. on Saturdays is not recommended. We had one amusing episode. A beastly " Bolshie " moved to the attack on Captain Gilbert, but after half-an-hour's fighting, promised to join the Unit and bring his four pals.

"At Home."—As part of our recruiting drive, we were "At Home " on Sunday, 8th May. It was our first effort at anything of this nature, and wholehearted work on the part of all ranks produced a splendid success. Each Section was allotted space in the Drill Hall and then given a free hand, with the idea that they should produce as true a picture of their activities as the limitations of space would allow.

The result exceeded expectations, every Section exerting itself to the utmost to exhibit an attractive and original stall. Even those Sections whose possessions did not lend themselves to display made up in design what they lacked in material.

The prize presented by Captain Harris for the best stall was won by " J," " K " and " L " Sections in combination, but competition was so keen that further prizes were awarded.

Worthy of mention was the Headquarters' display, consisting of a miniature of the 1937 Canterbury Camp, the result of hard work on the part of the P.S.I. ; and also " Signalling through the Ages," in the capable hands of ex-C.S.M. Jordan, whose exhibition excited much interest, from the earliest form of signalling the S.O.S. (a rabbit's tail) to the latest in wireless sets.

We were, unfortunately, not honoured by a visit from the Mayor, as anticipated, but a large crowd of the general public and friends of members of the Unit visited us and found out,

in the pleasantest manner possible, just exactly what we were doing.

The Unit is at present 20 per cent. over strength, and we can only take a few more recruits.

JOSIE JUN.

No. 2 Company.

Drill Hall, Gloucester Road, Brighton, 1.

Editorial.—It is with regret that we have to report that our former scribe, "Nimrod," has retired, owing to the pressure of more important work, and thus the writing up of this Company's notes has now fallen upon me. I, therefore, have much pleasure in greeting all readers for the first time.

General.—Drill nights are being continued towards one goal —the Trade Board—which will take place prior to camp. This is to be held from 17th to 31st July, and, curiously enough, when one glances back through the weather reports for the past few years, it appears that July is the wettest month of the year. Of course, we do not want to "damp" anyone's ardour!

There is a continued flow of recruits, and it certainly looks as though our establishment will be exceeded by a good 10 per cent. It is expected that one or two more Schemes will be held prior to camp, in order that the Company may get into shape for the Annual Training. It might be mentioned that we have yet to see 90-100 per cent. attendance on parade.

Arrivals.—We extend the hand of welcome to the following recruits: Signalmen Akehurst, Dale, Selsby, Simmonds, Stoner, Wellstead, Hemsley, Howick, Manser and Hull; Boys Tiltman and Dewar. May your stay be a long and happy one.

Re-engagements.—Sergeant Williams, Corporals Ripley and Mercer, and Signalmen Ripley and Dyer have all decided to sign on the dotted line for further periods.

Easter Training.—For the second year in succession, the Company attended Easter Training in barracks at Canterbury with the 4th Divisional Signals. The usual strenuous training programme was carried out very successfully. The Cable Cup, which was won by "Eddy" Section, was presented during the stay at Canterbury, and praise is due to Corporal Wharton, Lance Corporal Pearson and Signalman Allen for the work which they put in on the Section wagon. Schemes were held on the Sunday and Monday in the vicinity of Hurst for those who were unable to attend the full four days. Despite rather bad weather conditions, the Scheme was very successful.

Musketry.—Although our activities in this direction have been dormant for some months, we are now able to report that our crack shots are to be seen in practice on the miniature range at Church Street.

Howler.—A knock at the door of Company Office.

"Come in," said the P.S.I.; and in walked a rather doubtful-looking individual.

"What do you want?" inquired the P.S.I.

"I want to join that there wire-laying lot out there," remarked this individual. (The sequel to this story has been censored.)

Things We Would Like to Know.—Cross out the one you think most likely to be the situation of this year's camp. (No prize attached): Isle of Wight, Dover, Colchester, Bury St. Edmunds, Felixstowe. (All suggestions have emanated from reliable (?) sources.)

Conclusion.—That is all for this month. I leave my readers to judge whether or not I have made a good start!

GEE BEER.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham.

Birmingham Territorial Recruiting Week.—During the week 24th to 30th April, Birmingham and the Midlands in general witnessed a great Recruiting Drive, organised by the Warwickshire Territorial Army and Air Force Association. Throughout the week, there were parades and displays by various Units round the City.

Special Quotations for Mess Orders.

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On Tuesday, 26th April, a contingent from this Unit was provided by No. 3 Company to stage a display at the Shirley Odeon Cinema, where a recruiting film, "Territorial Cavalcade," was being shown. This parade took place jointly with the 68th Field Brigade, R.A., who sent a complete Battery of guns and lorries. Our own contingent turned out about fifty strong, and included about eighteen Despatch Riders with their motor cycles, which, drawn up in a glittering array in front of the cinema, proved a centre of great attraction.

The parade was inspected by the Lord Mayor of Birmingham (Councillor E. R. Canning, J.P.), who was particularly interested in the D.R.s' motor cycles, concerning which he asked a number of questions. After the parade, the troops entered the cinema to see the film. The audience was addressed by Lieutenant-Colonel P. H. Jones, M.C., who introduced the Lord Mayor. The Lord Mayor then made an appeal for recruits.

Despatch Riders' Notes.—The display team has been hard at practice for their comprehensive list of engagements.

On Sunday, 1st May, a Press Show was given at the football ground at Shirley Stadium (by kind permission of the President, Councillor Geo. Featherstone). This performance earned some very good comments in the local Press. A news reel was also made, and later shown at the News Cinemas in the City.

The opening display took place in connection with Solihull Charity Carnival, on Friday, 6th May, where, in spite of the rather unsuitable nature of the arena, a very good performance was given. The salute was taken by the Chairman of the Solihull U.D.C., who afterwards complimented the team on their excellent show.

There were two slight mishaps during the performance, which, fortunately, did not interfere with the programme. Signalman Fairclough, as the comic policeman, was a little too realistic in his acting, and got himself run over by the "driverless" combination. Fortunately, he was not seriously hurt, and quickly recovering himself, carried off the skit in such a way that the spectators were quite unaware that the incident was not in the programme. Fairclough is to be greatly complimented on his

With acknowledgments to "The Birmingham Gazette"

PRESS SHOW, 1st MAY.

The double jump by Sergeant Goffe with Signalman Darrall aboard, on the "New Hudson."

pluck. In the other case, the wheel of the "New Hudson" turned elliptical after a jump, but, luckily, there was no accident. The "New Hudson" is used for the "12 Up" as well as for jumping, so that the former event had to be cut out as well. The wheel was probably strained by the "two-up" jumps during rehearsals.

The following is the list of engagements for the summer:
7th June: Smethwick Charity Sports and Horse Show; 11th June: Oxford Joint Hospital Carnival; 18th June: Dunlop Annual Sports; 26th June: Civil Service M.A. Rally (Donington Park); 2nd July: B.S.A. Annual Sports; 4th-9th July: Shirley Hospital Carnival; 23rd July: Kings Bromley (Lichfield) Horticultural Society Show.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals, T.A. and Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Leeds.

General.—Training is going as strong as ever, and every Tuesday and Thursday evening some two to three hundred N.C.O.s and men parade. In every nook and corner of the Drill Hall one finds classes, large and small, all trying to improve their knowledge. Not the least interesting of these is the Young Officers' Class, where we find all the junior officers undergoing a local "Q" Course, covering all the essential activities of a Divisional Signals. This is an innovation introduced by the Commanding Officer. The information gained should prove very useful when the officers are posted to Companies.

The week-end Signal Exercises in the country have commenced, and the attendance and enthusiasm displayed by all ranks is excellent. There is no doubt that these Exercises in the country, under semi-field conditions, are extremely useful, and the knowledge gained invaluable. It also gives the Quartermaster a chance to show his wares.

We are especially fortunate again this year in procuring Arthington Camp for our camp site. It is a delightful spot, situated in the beautiful valley of the Wharfe.

Officers.—Congratulations to Lieutenant K. Darlow upon his promotion to Captain. It has been a long time coming, sir!

We are indeed sorry to have to say good-bye to Major J. M. May, who has retired from this Unit, owing to business reasons. We hope that he will give us a look up occasionally.

Permanent Staff Instructors.—Information has been received from the Officer i/c Records that four of our P.S.I.s will be leaving us after Annual Training. They are: R.S.M. Pillinger H. R., C.S.M.s Gatford R. T., Brewster P. and Curtis B. R.S.M. Pillinger will be returning to civilian life, and the other P.S.I.s to the Regular Army. More anon.

Recruiting.—We are a very popular Unit, for recruits are still pouring in. First we completed our Establishment, then recruited 10 per cent. over, and, by the time these notes appear, we shall be almost 20 per cent. over the Establishment.

Musketry Miniature Range.—Recruits' musketry is now in progress. Some of them are good shots, indeed quite a number of them were observed to fold up their targets and take them home to show their prowess to their parents. Well done!

Sergeants' Mess.—A hearty welcome to the Sergeants' Mess is accorded to Lance Sergeants Jones and Kerfoot on their appointments.

Things are rather quiet in the Mess, but this may be the lull before the storm, for on Wednesday, 25th May, we are entertaining "A" Division of the Leeds City Police. (Depot Battalion Sergeants' Mess, Catterick Camp, please note!)

ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION, LEEDS BRANCH.

The usual monthly meeting was held in the Canteen at Gibraltar Barracks on Monday, 2nd May.

Captain Parry took the chair (and C.S.M. Joynes quite a lot of our money). The business of the night was confined to the enrolment of new members and the collection of subscriptions.

It was a very pleasant evening, and we look forward to these evenings very much.

M. S. R.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

May.

Training.—The season is now well advanced, although in many respects it may be questioned whether it ever comes to an end. Specialised Courses have been in progress during the whole of the winter, and now we are preparing for annual training in camp to show them all how to do it. Can you hear us, you Darlington and Middlesbrough lads?

A very successful Week-end Exercise was held at Whitburn at the beginning of May. The work performed was of a high standard, and our close-season recruits, who appear to be the keenest ever, gave ample evidence of great potential abilities. It seems, too, that we have gathered unto ourselves some fully-qualified entertainers amongst those lads. One cannot doubt, having Shilbottle Colliery in mind, that ample scope for the exercise of their many talents will be given.

Boxing.—Although the reference is somewhat belated, we feel that a high honour came our way when the organisation of the Divisional Boxing Championships was delegated to 50th Divisional Signals, and Captain Bell must have been gratified by the general appreciation of the arrangements made under his direction. Incidentally, the thanks of the Company are offered to our officers, who so generously provided transport for so many of us who visited Darlington for the Dent Cup contests.

Congratulations.—To Captains S. Robinson, of No. 3 Company, and C. Crosthwaite, of No. 2 Company, on their well-deserved promotions. To 2nd Lieutenant R. S. Wight on reaching the final stage in the T.A. Boxing Championships held in London. You'll win that event for us next year, sir!

Fable.—"The New Drill Hall"—but I think you all know that one!

THREECOY.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Fonthill Barracks, Aberdeen.

Training.—With the return of our N.C.O.s from Aldershot, where they had been assimilating first-hand instruction on Signal duties, training in the Company is now proceeding on much smoother lines. Most of the men have already mastered their specialist jobs and are eagerly looking forward to practising them in the field alongside the Regular troops in due course. On Sunday, 15th May, "A" Section are holding a Wireless Scheme in the Aberdeen district prior to the Company week-end camp a few weeks hence. The difficulty of training the Despatch Riders with only two motor cycles on charge to the Company has been successfully overcome by hiring the private machines owned by several of the D.R.s.

Social.—On Friday, 13th May (what a date to choose), a social evening is being held in the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess. Various artists have been engaged, and we are hoping for a really enjoyable evening.

The Men's Mess is at present being reconstructed by Corporal Garrod, and, when finished, bids fair to rival the Sergeants' Mess for comfort and entertainment.

Congratulations.—We extend hearty congratulations to our Commanding Officer, Brevet-Colonel E. Birnie Reid, on his recent appointment to that rank.

ONECOY.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

General.—Now that we have received definite orders for the annual camp at Aldershot, the Drill Hall is a hive of industry on training nights; we are putting our backs to it in an effort to show the Regulars that we know a thing or two.

Preparation for Camp.—This year our training is taking a new form, each N.C.O. and man specialising in one job. This means that numerous instructors are required, and it is really surprising and pleasing to note the number of N.C.O.s who are able and willing to instruct. The various groups—Operators Wireless, Operators Line, Exchange Operators, etc.—are controlled by one of the Company officers. There seems to be great keenness among the men to learn their particular job, and it is anticipated that later the whole of these specialists will combine into excellent Sections.

Inspections.—On Tuesday, 3rd May, we received a visit from our Commanding Officer, Colonel E. Birnie Reid, from Aberdeen. He had come down to see us at training, and, from the reports received, he was exceedingly pleased with all he saw. Our Adjutant attended the following Tuesday to pass out the recruits in their drills. He was very pleased with the turn-out and drill; and was also very surprised at the smart way in which they carried out the new drill movements, after only one explanation.

Attachments.—On Saturday, 2nd April, one officer and six N.C.O.s left Stirling for Aldershot, in order to attend a Signal Duties Course, the duration of which was a fortnight. They all returned safe and sound (although "International Day" at Wembley intervened during their attachment), brimming over with knowledge, which they are now imparting to the Company. We have been asked to pass on their thanks to 1st Divisional Signals for an exceedingly interesting fortnight, and also for the way in which they were welcomed, and made to feel at home. We are wondering whether a certain Warrant Officer should not be borne on the strength of 1st Divisional Signals instead of ours; he is becoming such a regular customer for these Courses.

Recruiting.—A message of congratulation has been received from the Chairman of the Stirlingshire T.A. Association on the excellent state of recruiting in the Company. We have exceeded our allotment of 20 per cent. over Establishment. The question of raising another Signal Section in Stirling is now under consideration; there are still many coming along to enlist.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

General.—Our Commanding Officer paid us a welcome visit on 29th April, when he expressed his satisfaction with what he saw of the Indoor Traffic Scheme that was in progress.

The Adjutant, who paid a visit to the detachment at Dunfermline, remarked on the progress of the young "Ops." Good for you, lads; keep at it, and you will soon be showing others how it is done.

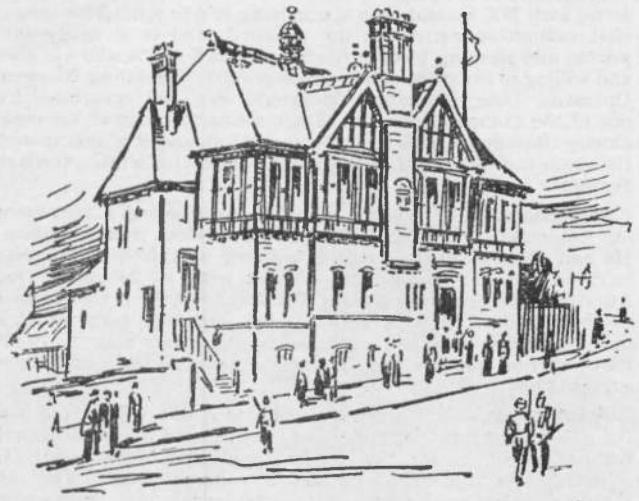
Sir Walter Kirke, Director-General, Territorial Army, visited Kirkcaldy on 5th May; we may now entertain hopes of getting the extra accommodation that we so badly need. When it will materialise is a different story—probably 1940. A Traffic Scheme, when carried out in our limited accommodation, is more like training for point duty in the police; there is so much squeeze and congestion. Mention of a garage to be built for the vehicles owned by us on paper at present, looks as though the P.S.I. can say good-bye to his bit of garden.

Recruiting.—Despite the circulars sent to all ranks, and the advertising in the local press and cinemas, recruiting in Kirkcaldy seems to be at a standstill; the situation may be eased when the local battery of Heavy Artillery moves its Headquarters to Kinghorn. There will only be three Units in Kirkcaldy then to take in the limited number of recruits available. The few recruits we have are coming along very well, and it is hoped that they will let their friends know just how interesting it can be serving in 51st (H.) Divisional Signals.

Courses.—The N.C.O.s returned from their Course with 1st Divisional Signals at Aldershot full of knowledge and ideas. They are very anxiously awaiting the opportunity of putting them into practice at the week-end and annual camps.

Sport.—The first Inter-Company shoot took place on 22nd April, when our team put up a good score. A little improvement in the next two shoots, and the Inter-Company trophy is as good as ours. Note this, No. 1 Company; you will need to keep down to it in order to stand a chance.

THREECOY.



52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals and G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

21, Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Master Malcolm Patterson.—We have to heartily congratulate Captain and Adjutant L. D. M. Patterson and Mrs. Patterson on the birth of a son, Malcolm, on 7th May. Bless the lad. May his days be long upon the land.

Edinburgh.—Our No. 1 Company contingent at Edinburgh is flourishing. Captain H. A. Ashdowne has been promoted to Major and commands No. 1 Company, G.H.Q. Signals. The recruits are doing well at a local R.A.F. Drill Hall, as our Edinburgh Sections have not yet moved into quarters of their own. Altogether our Edinburgh comrades are prospering.

Blanchard.—We welcome Sergeant Blanchard A. to our P.S. He looks a likely lad, and should fit in nicely at Glasgow.

Unit Promotion.—Corporal Henderson R. to be Sergeant. Bobby has given long and faithful service with our S.R. He has certainly earned his admission to the Sergeants' Mess.

Corps Promotion.—T/R.S.M. Murphy W. to be C.Q.M.S. Worthily won. A few more bawbees on the old pension.

Royal Visit.—The T.A. and S.R. made a great show on 3rd May on the occasion of Their Majesties visit to open the Empire Exhibition at Glasgow. Fully three hundred of all ranks were on parade. This is the best effort for a voluntary parade ever made by our lads. They are to be congratulated on their public spiritedness and enthusiasm.

Clan Cumming.—The S.R. pipe band is to sport the Cumming tartan. This is a compliment to our popular S.R. Commander, Colonel G. W. Cumming, T.D. The band has been engaged to play at the Empire Exhibition Services Pavilion on 24th August. Here's luck to Jardine Street's Cumming Clansmen. May they be as bold as the Cummings of old. (An authority on Scottish clans describes the Cummings as ruthless cattle raiders, desperate fighters, and enemies of the English.)

Territorial "At Home."—Our Territorial Units staged a grand show for their May publicity venture. Praise came from every quarter. Pressmen and other guests were much impressed. It is marvellous how our Territorial lads manage it all. The Permanent Staff are worth a pat on the back, to say the least of it.

Bond Street Bob.—Bob Murray's new uniform has arrived. Nothing like the cut of the breeches has ever before been evolved by a Bond Street cutter. A special bakelite mould was used for the fashioning of the tunic, and the leather-work puts the Empire ex-Canadian "Mounties" completely in the shade.

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Extract from the "Glasgow Herald" of 29th April, 1938.—

SIGNALS UNIT DOUBLES ITS STRENGTH.

MORSE GIVES WAY TO THE TELEPRINTER.

"During the past year, the G.H.Q. Signals (Supplementary Reserve), which was inspected by Major-General J. S. Drew, the new Lowland Divisional Commander, last night in the drill hall, Jardine Street, Glasgow, doubled its strength.

"The Unit is equipped with the most modern apparatus. The morse system has given way to newer methods of communication, and the latest models of teleprinters are being used.

"The introduction of the teleprinter has offered a new field for recruits. Many of them are excellent touch typists, and they have adapted themselves easily to the teleprinter.

"In the line section, the Unit is complete, and there is now a waiting-list. The despatch riding section has only a few vacancies.

"At last night's inspection the men gave a smart display, under Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. Cumming. Included in the programme was a demonstration of three Creed teleprinters."

Senior Officers.—Colonel G. W. Cumming, T.D., and Major Victor Warren completed the Senior Officers' Course at Sheerness during April.

Medals.—The Territorial Efficiency Medal has been awarded to Sergeant Parker J., Sergeant Macdonald H. and Corporal Elder. Congratulations to all three.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

To the disappointment of all, it has been decided that the Unit shall not train with the Regular Army at our Annual Training this year on Salisbury Plain. An honour deferred, we hope. Tidworth is still the Training Area, however, from 31st July to 14th August.

The Unit has shared to a certain extent in the recent increase in Territorial Army recruitment, but there are still a few vacancies in the ranks which should soon be filled.

Owing to domestic and business reasons, Major F. T. Arnold has decided to go on the Reserve of Officers. This decision is regretted by all who have been associated with him throughout his long period of service. His valuable experience will be missed. At the same time, Captain V. W. Hawkins is gazetted Major, and becomes second-in-command. Lieutenant W. G. Bale is promoted Captain with effect from 5th April. These promotions are very popular, and our heartiest congratulations are extended to both. We also welcome 2nd Lieutenant E. O. A. Jobson to the Unit, and hope that his stay with us will be a long and happy one.

The G.P.O. authorities gave an entertaining film display at the Drill Hall, Park Street, on 22nd April. The film depicted

many of the activities of the Post Office. An excellent attendance of Unit members testified to the interest that was taken. Colonel W. G. Trice, Commanding Officer, thanked the exhibitors, emphasising the educational and technical value of the films shown.

The Adjutant, Captain R. H. Copeland, has returned to duty after his recent operation. He is looking well, and is eager to restore the Unit to the proud position it held when he left.

Well done, No. 2 Company! On Saturday, 30th April, on the Depot, Welch Regiment, miniature range at Cardiff, they won the *Western Mail* Cup with a score of 637 points. Their opponents in the final round were the 244th (Welsh) Field Company, Royal Engineers, who scored 523 points. The following were members of No. 2 Company team: Sergeants Baxter H. P., Milton G. and Pinnell W., Corporals Steel A., Booth W. and Rees J. E., Signalmen Mutter W. and Cox H. J.; and last, but decidedly not least, C.S.M. Greenwood E. W., the enthusiastic P.S.I. of No. 2 Company. The trophy was presented to Mr. J. Senior, acting O.C. Company, by Brigadier A. E. Williams, who paid a tribute to Sir Robert Webber, J.P., D.L., who inaugurated the competition by providing the Cup.

Now for the second leg of the double, namely, the Territorial Army Victory Shield, open to Glamorgan Units of the 53rd (Welsh) Division. This will be competed for on Whit Sunday at Porthcawl. There is a lot of enthusiasm in the Companies, owing to the good results displayed at recent practices. That miniature trophy has given them a lead of many points.

Colonel D. A. Brown, M.C. (C.S.O., Western Command), called in to see us on 29th April. He discussed the summer training programme with the C.O.

R.S.M. Field C. E. and C.S.M. Varley J. attended a Gas Course at the Depot, Welch Regiment, Cardiff, during the week ending 30th April.

THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

Training.—The Company held its first week-end Scheme on 14th and 15th May. Ninety-two members of the Company attended, altogether an excellent start.

"A" Section ventured out into the blue, taking with them their latest addition, a No. 2 Set. They proceeded to put into practice the advice given them by our former C.S.M., "Jock" Simpson, who recently gave a very interesting lecture on this particular Set. We are looking forward to another visit. "What about it, Jock?"

We hear that "A" Section are looking forward to discarding their old stand-by, the "C" Set, so we visualise the last Section parade with these Sets, and also the final command "Make much of your 'C' Sets." Who shall blame those who shed a silent cheer—sorry, tear? Very shortly the Section hopes to adopt the motto, "If you want the best Sets, we have them." (With apologies to Keith Prowse.)

To "B" Section, this was just another week-end. They have spent many a Sunday moving around the "Maypole" at Chigwell. We hope they have curbed the enthusiasm of that Signalman who digs up concrete pavements for buried crossings. If he persists, we shall have to include a pneumatic drill in the Establishment of the Section stores.

"D" Section, renowned for their hospitality, made their first event of the season an "At Home." The N.C.O.s explained to their many recruits what this Divisional Signal Office was all about. One young fellow suggested that instead of making our own separators, as we are doing at present, we could probably get some really good models from the dairy-farming business.

T.A. Efficiency Medal.—We offer our heartiest congratulations to C.S.M. Warner E. on the award of the T.A. Efficiency Medal. After serving in France with the Northamptonshire Regiment, our C.S.M. returned to "Civvy Street." After a while, deciding that he was not so old as he thought, he enlisted with us in 1925. For many years he was a stalwart member of "B" Section, and also was a member of the Unit team which won the Divisional Boxing Championship (Essex Units) in 1926. The powers-that-be recognised his ability for "scrounging," and in 1931 he was promoted C.Q.M.S. In 1936, he took over the reins of C.S.M. from the capable hands of Jock Simpson, whose place he has so ably filled. "Here's wishing you many 'bars' to that gong, sir. Mine's a pint on every occasion."

As our readers are aware, the medal is awarded for attending twelve annual trainings. The photograph published with these notes was taken unbeknown to the C.S.M. during the last annual training at Brighton. We should not like it to be thought that his recumbent attitude is typical; rather we should like to convey the impression that the duties of a C.S.M. are very strenuous indeed, and that this photograph depicts utter exhaustion. Fortunately, the hands on the watch are not discernible.

ONECOY.

Sergeants' Mess.—The chief event since our last notes has been a Mess Meeting, which was held on 28th April. The Annual Mess Outing has been provisionally arranged for 19th June; it is to Clacton. Will former members kindly note the date, as we are always very pleased to shake hands with old friends. The usual outings to the Tattoo and the Royal Tournament are likely to have a serious rival in the future, as one of our many tennis enthusiasts may suggest Wimbledon, in order to see how this "bat and ball" game is really played. We regret that annual training is not likely to take place in the vicinity of the centre court.

Overheard in the "farmyard" the other night:
"How about a game of halma, Bob?"
"No, thanks, I have a chess appointment next door."

233rd and 234th F.A. Brigades Signal Sections.

Ashburnham Road, Bedford.

13th May.

Greetings.—Here we are again, after several months of silence Allow us, however, to inform our many friends that they are by no means forgotten. We hope that each month they will watch for our activities in these notes.

General.—It gives me much pleasure to report the healthy condition of the Detachment. We are up to strength, and, above

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all, the 90 per cent. who turn up to drills show a keen interest, which is very gratifying to the Instructors.

A spot of training that has proved particularly useful was carried out by the 233rd F.A. Brigade Signal Section during the week-end 7th-8th May. This Section, for the first time, was able to co-operate in a Brigade Scheme with the 104th Field Brigade, R.A., in the area of Hatfield Forest. Much keenness was shown by everyone concerned, and a lot of valuable knowledge gained. In particular, the linemen will for ever remember what a "buried crossing" is.

Nonsense.—If Corporal Steinmetz will report to the Q.M. he will learn how to indent for "Hams, bone, one of."

BEDFORDIA.

The London Divisional Signals.
(City of London Signals.)

Royal Tournament.—The commencement of the Royal Tournament coincides with the submission of these notes. It is sufficient to say that we of the Corps in London are delighted to see the Royal Signals Display Team from Catterick back in their old place at the "top of the bill." They may be assured that London will give them the warmest possible welcome, and that we of the Corps will do all we can to make their stay a pleasant one.

City of London Signals are taking a small part in the display given by the London Division, T.A. Our contribution consists of a No. 1 Set in a truck and a Despatch Rider. Our thanks are given to 2nd Divisional Signals, who have kindly provided the Set and the truck. Such good things have not reached the T.A.

Dinner to Major-General P. R. C. Commings, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.—Our Divisional Commander was "dined out" on Thursday, 12th May. To the very real regret of all ranks, he is relinquishing the command of the Division in June. We also took the opportunity of "dining in" Colonel C. F. Liardet, C.B., D.S.O., T.D., who is to be the first Territorial Army Officer to command a Division in peace time.

Amongst the very large gathering of past and present members of the Unit and their guests were Major-General Sir Bertram N. Sergison-Brooke, K.C.V.O., C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.; Colonels T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., G. D. Ozanne, M.C., and W. T. Howe, O.B.E.

Unit Strength.—We are now in the enviable position of having achieved a strength of 20 per cent. over authorised Establishment, and have also a waiting list. The contrast between this position and that of the year 1933, when we moved from the City to our present Headquarters, is very marked.

Despatch Rider Display—Bookings for 1938.—The following is a list of engagements to date:

Sun., 22nd May	Hastings Speedway	One show.
Sat., 28th May	Empire Air Day, Hornchurch Aerodrome	One show.
Thur., 2nd June, Friday, 3rd June.	Suffolk Show, Bury St. Edmunds	Four shows.
Mon., 6th June	Whitley Park Gymkhana	One show.
	British Legion Fete, Haslemere	One show.
Sat., 11th June	King George Hospital Fete, Ilford	Two shows.
Sat., 18th June	Northamptonshire Show, Kettering	Two shows.
Wed., 22nd June, Thur., 23rd June, Friday, 24th June.	Lincolnshire Show, Scunthorpe	Six shows.
Sat., 25th June	Colchester Hospital Carnival	Two shows.
Sat., 2nd July	Diss (Norfolk) Gymkhana	One show.
Thurs., 7th July	Guildford Carnival	One show.
Sat., 9th July	Dengie Hundred Show, Southminster, Essex	One show.
Sat., 16th July	Camberley Carnival	One show.
Sat., 16th July	Windsor Military Tournament	One show.
Sun., 31st July	R.E.D.R.s' Reunion, Houghton Regis	One show.
Mon., 1st August	Kingston-on-Soar Show, near Derby	Two shows.

C.O.L.S.

1st Cadet Signal Company.
(Haberdashers School Cadet Corps.)

The Unit's activities during the summer term are largely influenced by three events: the Annual Inspection in June, the Annual Classification Tests in July, and the Summer Camp at the beginning of August.

To make adequate preparations for these is clearly difficult with an official parade time of only one hour a week. They involve a considerable amount of extra work on the part of all ranks, time for which is not easy to come by in the case of a School Unit, many of whose members will be sitting for examinations, and nearly all of whom have other claims on their spare time in connection with the manifold summer activities of a Boys' School. That cadets do, nevertheless, manage to devote so much enthusiasm and energy in carrying out the various phases of work to be done, and so constantly volunteer for more, is much to their credit and an encouraging assurance that the existence of the Unit is appreciated by those who belong to it.

This year the inspection is fixed for 3rd June, and we learn that the Inspecting Officer is to be the Chief Signal Officer, London District. We feel much honoured that Colonel Thorne is coming to inspect us, and are hoping that when the day comes the weather will be kind.

Summer camp is to be held at Cambridge, where the Cambridge University O.T.C. have most kindly once more offered us a site and the use of some of their Signal apparatus. We expect to take sixty of our present total strength of seventy-eight (excluding officers) to camp, and are looking forward to meeting again our many good friends on the staff of the C.U.O.T.C.

In conclusion, we must wish all success in their future career to the following, who have been discharged on account of leaving the School: (027) Cadet Lance Corporal Gwilt J. R., (071) Cadet Signalman (Acting Lance Corporal) Hoste W. J., (114) Cadet Bandsman McVety M. W.

SPORTS NOTES

Training Battalion.

Hockey.—The Training Battalion, after winning the Preliminary Northern Command Competition, was beaten in the first round of the Army Cup by the King's Own Shropshire Light Infantry, who were the eventual winners.

In a very hard game, we first of all drew with them, 1—1, a match which might easily have gone in our favour. In the replay we had most of the game, but could only score once, and two break-aways gave the Shropshires the match. We had hoped for better things, but it is very satisfactory to have been eliminated by the eventual winners from such a famous hockey-playing Regiment.

Rugby Football.—Owing to the hard nature of the rugby grounds we were only able to play two games in April. The first of these was against Northallerton, and was played in a gale of wind, which spoilt any attempts at good play. Northallerton had the advantage of the wind in the first half, scoring three times; only one was converted. In the second half they managed to hold our team, and eventually won comfortably by 11 points to three.

The other game was in the Garrison Cup Competition against the 20th Field Brigade, R.A. This was a hard, fast game, played in ideal weather. Both teams fought hard in the first half, and the R.A. were able to score a try. In the second half we were unlucky enough to lose one man through injuries, and this enabled the R.A. threes' to get full advantage of the ball from the scrum. They managed to score two more tries, one of which was converted. This game was thoroughly enjoyed by the teams, and was played in the best spirit.

"D" Company, Training Battalion.

Mackworth Trophy.—On Wednesdays, 27th April and 4th May, we had the first two meetings for the Mackworth Athletic Trophy. Although we did not do too well on these occasions, we are looking forward to the third and last meeting to give everybody a great shock; sarcasm is not required, please!

Inter-Company Boxing.—We were drawn against "E" Company in the final of the S.T.C. Inter-Company Boxing Competition. We were unfortunate in being defeated, but must, nevertheless, congratulate the boxing team on putting up such a wonderful show. Space does not allow for a detailed description of each fight, but here are a few comments on some of the bouts.

In the light-weights, Driver (I.C.) Boynton ("D") defeated Signalman Osborne ("E"). Besides being very fast on his feet, Boynton delivered several heavy punches, which were well taken by his opponent. Signalman Raynor versus Signalman Smith ("E") was rather an interesting fight. Although Signalman Raynor fought on the defensive and got in some very good punches, he was the loser on points. Many spectators had anticipated him as the victor.

In the welter-weights, we had two winners and one draw in three bouts. Signalman Burgin gave his opponent a rather hefty hammering, and throughout the three rounds it was one-sided for Burgin.

Without doubt the finest fight of the evening was between Signalman Lockey ("D") and Signalman Jamieson ("E"). The fight was one quick delivery of good, hard punches, and at the end Signalman Lockey carried the verdict for "D" Company. Although Signalman Jamieson belongs to "E" Company, we take this opportunity of giving him our heartiest congratulations on his "guts" in his fight with Signalman Lockey and also with Lance Corporal Graham (Dismounted Wing). We repeat our good wishes to our boxing team, comprising the following: Signalmen Pemrick, Connew, Jones, Raynor, Burgin, Lockey, Buttle, Summers and Binns and Drivers (I.C.) Bond and Boynton.

"E" Company, Training Battalion.

Boxing.—Inter-Company Final. Results:

Signalman Lewis ("E")	beat	Signalman Pemrick ("D").	
,, Bond ("D")	,,	,,	McKenny ("E").
,, West ("E")	,,	,,	Connew ("D").
,, Boynton ("D")	,,	,,	Osborne ("E").
2nd Lieutenant Garlick ("E")	,,	,,	Jones ("D").
Signalman Smith ("E")	,,	,,	Rayner ("D").
,, Burgin ("D")	,,	,,	Mount ("E").
,, Lockey ("D")	,,	,,	Jamieson ("E").
,, Carroll ("E")	,,	,,	Summers ("D").
,, Spencer ("E")	,,	,,	Binns ("D").
,, Buttle ("D") drew with	,,		Addis ("E").

"E" Company won by 6 fights to 5.

1st Divisional Signals.

1st Divisional Signals opened the athletic season on Wednesday, 10th May, with a Tabloid Sports. Entries: eight teams from Sections. The competition consisted of two track and six field events, with a 100 yards relay as the last event. A most enjoyable afternoon and an athletic stimulus for the Unit.

Team Placings.

1, "J" Section, 48 points; 2, "L" Section, 46 points; 3, "E" Section, 44 points; 4, "F" Section, 42 points; 5, "M" Section, 41 points; 6, Recruits' Training Squad No. 1, 38 points; 7, H.Q. and "B" Cable Section, 26 points; 8, Recruit Training Squad, 16 points.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Athletics.—After preliminary canters under Company arrangements, the Unit started its 1938 athletic programme during April with an Inter-Section Meeting. This produced several close finishes in different events, but the total result was a fairly decisive win for "J" Section. "J" Section are to be congratulated on bringing off a "pretty double," because they also won the Medley Relay by a good margin. My spies tell me that, later in the day, they managed to put both the trophies they had won to good use.

The next event on the athletic calendar was a Company Quadrangular Meeting, in which No. 1/3 Company and No. 2 Company competed against Nos. 3 and 4 Squadrons, Mobile Divisional Signals. There was keen rivalry and close competition between the two Companies of this Unit as to who should get first place. The points ran so close that before the last event, which was a Mile Relay, No. 1/3 Company had a lead of just ½ point. However, in the last race, Corporal Hastings ran the first "Quarter" to such effect, and handed over such a lead, that the remainder of No. 2 Company team had no difficulty in keeping in front, and gaining the vital points which gave them the Challenge Shield.

Results:

Individual Meeting.

100 Yards:	Lance Corporal Whayman ..	11 2/5 secs.
220 Yards:	Lance Corporal Whayman ..	25 3/5 secs.
440 Yards:	Corporal Hastings	56 4/5 secs.
880 Yards:	Corporal Hastings	2 mins. 9 3/5 secs.
Mile:	Lieutenant B. H. P. Barnes ..	4 mins. 57½ secs.
Three Miles:	Signalman Batchelor	16 mins. 40 secs.
Hurdles:	2nd Lieutenant R. Ryall ..	18.9 secs.
High Jump:	Corporal Moore	5 ft. 2 ins.
Long Jump:	Lance Corporal Barrett ..	19 ft. 6 ins.
Pole Vault:	Lance Corporal Peacock ..	9 ft. 3 ins.

Discus :	Signalman Bain	100 ft. 2 ins.
Shot :	Signalman Boston	31 ft. 9½ ins.
Hammer :	Lance Sergeant Murphy ..	103 ft. 1 in.
Javelin :	Lance Corporal Adams ..	140 ft. 5 in.

Winner of the Victor Ludorum, Agar Cup :
Corporal Hastings J.

Winner of the best individual performance, Prescot Cup :
Lance Corporal Adams F.

Golf—Southern Command Meeting.—

SOUTHERN COMMAND TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP—SECOND ROUND.

1st KING'S OWN SCOTTISH BORDERERS.		ROYAL SIGNALS.	
Captain W. Maxwell ..	0	Major J. F. Charlesworth	3
Captain H. R. Hill ..	5	Lt.-Colonel F. S. Straight	0
Lt. Hammond-Chambers-Borgnis	1	Major F. A. Mathew ..	0
Lt. A. B. S. Clarke ..	7	Major G. H. Plummer ..	0
	13		3

The K.O.S.B. ultimately won the Team Championship.

18 HOLES MEDAL OPEN HANDICAP.—1st, Major J. F. Charlesworth, 77 — 8 = 69 ; 3rd, Major F. A. Mathew, 85 — 14 = 71.

SOUTHERN COMMAND INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP—36 HOLES MEDAL SCRATCH.—Runner-up : Major J. F. Charlesworth, 78, 78 = 156.

SOUTHERN COMMAND 36 HOLES MEDAL HANDICAP.—Major J. F. Charlesworth tied for second place with : 78 — 7 = 71 ; 78 — 7 = 71. Total 142.

5th Divisional Signals, Catterick Camp.

The eagerly anticipated trip of the football team to Scarborough took place on 6th May ; the majority of the Unit attended. Although we bit the dust to the tune of 2—0, the team put up a rattling good show. Until five minutes from time there was no score, and then the Scarborough Juniors were awarded a penalty ; after that our team fell away, and the Juniors scored again. We just needed a little extra snap in front of goal, and the match would have been safe for us long before half-time.

This was the first occasion on which the team had played together, and 2nd Lieutenants Horsfield and Yule are to be congratulated on the excellent show they put up on their first appearance for this Unit.

The team did very well in the Scarborough and District League, up to the time we had to resign from the competition owing to the move to Catterick. They were undefeated in the League. Below will be found the league table at the time of the departure of the Unit from Scarborough.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals. F.	A.	Pts.
Scalby	13	7	3	3	32	18	17
5th Divisional Signals ..	9	6	0	3	29	13	15
Scarborough Juniors	8	6	0	2	36	7	14
Junior Imps	11	5	3	3	31	23	13
Heslerton	14	5	6	3	23	34	13
W.M. Club	13	4	4	5	24	29	13
Y.M.C.A.	14	5	7	2	29	37	12
Filey Town	11	5	5	1	36	26	11
Pickering Town	13	3	7	3	22	33	9
Kirbymoorside	11	3	8	0	25	41	6
Forge Valley	9	1	7	1	10	30	3

A hockey match, under almost tropical conditions, was played against the School of Signals on the Hospital Ground. We lost 2—1, but the team did very well, in view of the fact that it was their first match together.

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Association Football.—Our soccer programme for the season was concluded at Sirocco on Thursday, 28th April, when we met the Royal Army Service Corps in the final of the Garrison Soccer Cup.

We won by a penalty goal, which was scored in the last few minutes (shades of Wembley). In all fairness, it must, however, be recorded that this did not represent the balance of play. The hard ground and lively ball resulted in several gilt-edged opportunities going a-begging.

Nevertheless, a win is a win, and so the Garrison Challenge Cup remains for yet a further year in our cupboard. It is gratifying to note that this Unit has won the trophy for the past three seasons, a feat not only unique in the history of the Company, but also in the history of the competition. Result : N.I.S.C., 1 (Lance Sergeant Oliver) ; R.A.S.C., 0.

Cricket.—With our adieu to soccer, we embark on another cricket season. For such a small Unit, we possess some remarkable sporting ability. The District Cricket Challenge Cup also reposes on our sideboard, and judging by the talent on view at our first practice match, I venture to predict that we shall once again be in at the kill.

On 11th May we met the Royal Army Service Corps in a friendly fixture. Winning the toss, our captain elected to bat, and Signals compiled the useful total of 154, which might easily have been considerably augmented but for some misunderstanding among our bats. The R.A.S.C. replied with 54 runs. This total was not due to any inferior batting on their part, but to our bowlers and the brilliance of our fielding. I have seen senior cricket XI's in the field, but seldom, if ever, have I witnessed such an object lesson in the art of fielding.

Strangely enough, the R.A.S.C. are our opponents in the first round of the Cup, and I think the result of our " friendly " augurs well for another successful season. Result : R.A.S.C., 54 ; N.I.S.C., 154.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Hockey.—Hockey this month has been devoted to the " Frontier Championships," a tournament run for charity. We were drawn in the first round against the 2nd Battalion, Highland Light Infantry. After a very hard-fought match, a draw was declared, extra time being played ; the score was 2—2. In the replay of this match, we managed to beat the H.L.I. by 3—1.

In the next round, we were drawn against the " Edwardes College " team, a very fine school team, who managed to beat us, after a hard-fought match. The score at full time was 2—2, so it was decided to play ten minutes each way extra time. As soon as the whistle blew for the commencement of extra time, both teams went at it hammer and tongs, trying to force a goal. No score was recorded in the first ten minutes, but, on resumption of play, the " Edwardes College " team managed to get one past our goal-keeper (Signalman Rogers), and so the match

ended with the score at 3—2 in favour of " Edwardes College." This team, by the way, went on to win the final of the tournament.

Football.—The football team were drawn against the 1st Battalion, King's Regiment, in the semi-final of the " Red Cross Football Tournament." Some really brilliant football was seen, the Unit team playing remarkably well ; the " King's " have the reputation of being champions at football. When the whistle blew for full time, the score stood at 2—2, so extra time was played in the hope of finding a winning team. At the end of extra time, the score still stood at two each.

In the replay of this match, which took place the next day, the Unit team were very unlucky in not winning. They did everything but score, and the game ended with a win for the " King's " by 3—1.

Cricket. — The Unit team qualified for the final of the " Jamasjee " Cricket Tournament by defeating Kohat District Signals by six wickets at Kohat on 2nd and 3rd April.

Kohat District Signals won the toss and elected to bat on a matting wicket. The first wicket put on 36 runs before Rutty was bowled by Day, after having had two " lives," one before he had opened his account, and the other when he had only scored four. Wickets after this fell steadily, and Clackett, the only batsman to face the bowling confidently, was last man out with a rather lucky score of 56, which included seven fours and one six. The innings terminated at 138. During the innings no fewer than six catches were dropped, but this was mainly due to the uneven state of the outfield.

Peshawar District Signals opened their innings disastrously, the first wicket falling with only one run on the board, and the next six wickets falling for only 43 runs. Then Mulholland joined Steward, who had opened the innings and had batted very carefully. The score steadily mounted to 91 before Mulholland was out lbw. Steward, who had played very defensive cricket for 30, was last man out. The innings closed at 108. Rutty bowled well, taking six wickets for 22 runs.

Kohat District Signals started their second innings very well, the opening pair scoring 23 before Rutty was smartly caught by Moseley behind the stumps. This appeared to be the turning point of the game, for the team collapsed hopelessly, being all out for 50. Day bowled very well, returning the excellent analysis of six for 15.

Play commenced at 10.30 a.m. on the 3rd. Peshawar District Signals, who required only 81 runs to win, opened their innings very badly, the first wicket falling at 13. A good partnership then ensued between Buirski and Buchanan, the second wicket falling at 45.

Moseley then joined Buchanan, and this pair, playing good cricket, took the score to 59 before Buchanan was well caught by Brown ; Moseley at this period being not out with 16.

Forslind then joined Moseley, who took the score to 85 without further loss.

The fielding of Kohat District Signals during the match was excellent, and they made us fight for every run. The wicket-keeping of Moseley was a feature of the match, only conceding four byes in the two innings, which was an excellent performance on such a lively wicket.

The final was played at Rawalpindi against the combined " Medicals " from Rawalpindi on 9th and 10th April. The " Medicals," who won the toss, elected to bat on a damp wicket. Buchanan, bowling at a great speed, soon had the " Medicals " in trouble, the first five wickets falling for only 34 runs. Schinde, the only batsman to face the bowling with confidence, was top scorer with 51. The innings terminated at 101. Buchanan, who had bowled excellently throughout the innings, returned the fine analysis of 8 for 41.

We opened our innings even worse than the " Medicals," our first four wickets falling for only three runs. With the exception of Lieutenant Stodart, no one played the bowling confidently, and the innings terminated at 66, 39 of which were scored by Lieutenant Stodart. The bowlers who did the damage were : Schinde, 5 for 21 ; and Walters, 4 for 27.

The " Medicals " started their second innings again rather badly, losing their first wicket for only two runs. Then Schinde joined Walters, and this pair, playing very bright cricket, took the score to 92 before Walters was bowled by Buchanan. Walters' score was 53. Runs after this still came steadily until Schinde was caught excellently by Buirski off his own bowling. The catch in question deserves special mention, owing to its brilliance. The innings finally terminated at 182. Buchanan again bowled well, taking 7 for 59.

Requiring 218 runs to win, we opened our second innings badly, losing our first wicket for one run, and our first seven wickets for only 39 runs. Then Lieutenant Stodart and Seager got together and this pair, playing very bright cricket, took the score to 74 before Seager was bowled by Schinde. Lieutenant Stodart, who had batted excellently for 47, was then caught and the innings closed at 126, leaving the combined " Medicals " winners by 91 runs.

Lieutenant Stodart and Signalman Buchanan played excellently, the former scoring 39 and 47, and Buchanan taking 15 wickets for 100 runs.

4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

Sports.—We have played six hockey matches with outside Units, and only lost one. It is hoped that we are forming a real team for future fixtures.

v. 4th Indian Divisional Signals ..	Lost	1—2
v. „ „ „ ..	Won	2—1
v. „ „ „ ..	Drawn	2—2
v. „ „ „ ..	Won	2—1
v. Hyderabad Cavalry	Drawn	1—1
v. R.A.M.C.	Drawn	1—1

On Good Friday, a Tabloid Sports was arranged with 4th Indian Divisional Signals. We were not successful in winning many honours in this event.

Egypt Signals.

No. 3 Company.

The eliminating heats were decided on the Polygon Ground on Tuesday, 21st April. The finals were held on the Slade Ground the following day. Honours for the best All-round Section went to " K " Section, who thereby won the Mansergh Cup, which has replaced the Pritchard Cup for the first time. " J " Section were the champions of the meeting with 96.5 points, " K " Section being second with 80, and " W " Section third with 74.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Mrs. Mansergh, wife of Lieutenant-Colonel G. E. Mansergh, M.C., Royal Signals, assisted by Lieutenant Duke, presented the prizes to the successful competitors. The starters were Major B. B. Kennett, M.B.E., Lieutenants Duke, Mellor and Lloyd. The M.C. was R.S.M. Harris, and Corporal Pape and Lance Corporal Ross acted as Recorders. The results were as follows :

100 YARDS.—1, Signalman Harrison (" J ") ; 2, Signalman Lansom (" K ") ; 3, Signalman Johnson (" D "). Time, 10 2/5 seconds.

ONE MILE.—1, Signalman Hammond (" D ") ; 2, Signalman Barker (" D ") ; 3, Signalman Rogers (" Z "). Time, 4 mins. 45 2/5 secs.

PUTTING THE SHOT.—1, Signalman Molony (" J ") ; 2, Signalman Samworth ; 3, Signalman Adams (" X "). Distance, 34 ft. 10.75 ins.

220 YARDS.—1, Signalman Lansom (" K ") ; 2, Signalman Harrison (" J ") ; 3, Signalman McLoughlin (" J "). Time, 23 secs.

HALF-MILE.—1, Sergeant Beale (" W ") ; 2, Signalman Barker (" D ") ; 3, Signalman Hammond (" D "). Time, 2 mins. 13 4/5 secs.

THROWING THE DISCUS.—1, Signalman McLoughlin (" J ") ; 2, Lance Corporal Molony (" J ") ; 3, Lance Corporal Smith D. (" K ").

OPEN MILE.—1, Lance Corporal Keene (Irish Guards); 2, Private John (6th Battalion, R.T.C.); 3, Guardsman Armstrong (Irish Guards). Time, 4 mins. 38 4/5 secs.

120 YARDS HURDLES.—1, Lance Corporal Buckman ("M"); 2, Signalman Brown ("W"); 3, Lance Corporal Summers ("K").

THROWING THE JAVELIN.—Lance Corporal Hancox ("W"); 2, Lance Corporal Malony ("J"); 3, Signalman Watts ("K"). Distance, 125 ft. 6 ins.

LONG JUMP.—1, Lance Corporal Buckman ("M"); 2, Signalman Harrison ("J"); 3, Signalman Brown J. ("W"). Distance, 20 ft. 5 ins.

THROWING THE HAMMER.—1, Signalman Molony ("J"); 2, Signalman Martin ("K"); 3, Lance Corporal Bosher ("D").

OLD SOLDIERS' RACE, 100 YARDS.—1, Signalman Ward ("M"); 2, Signalman Hawkes ("K"); 3, Sergeant Fee. Time, 11 secs.

QUARTER-MILE.—1, Signalman Lansom ("K"); 2, Sergeant Beale ("W"); 3, Signalman Harrison ("J"). Time, 54 secs.

POLE VAULT.—1, Lance Corporal Buckman ("M"), 11 ft.; 2, Signalman Devine ("W"), 9 ft. 6 ins.; Lance Corporal Summers ("K") and Lance Corporal Perie ("J") tied for third place; 4, Signalman Ward ("M").

HIGH JUMP.—1, Lance Corporal Buckman ("M"); 2, Signalman Harrison ("J"); 3, Signalman Brown J. ("W"). Distance, 5 ft. 5 ins.

THREE MILES.—1, Signalman Hammond ("D"); 2, Lance Corporal Birkett ("W"); 3, Signalman Valander ("M"). Time, 16 mins. 36 2/5 secs.

"X" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Cairo.

Tennis.—During the Easter holidays the Regiment held a tennis tournament, in which the following members of the Troop competed: Sergeant Pearce, Lance Corporals Reynolds, Manley and Standen and Signalman Samworth. Lance Corporals Reynolds and Standen were successful in winning the Level Doubles, but the Troop's luck was out in the Handicap Doubles.

Our new arrivals are very keen to master the game, and we hope to produce a few Donald Budges to replace those who are going home on that long-delayed boat.

Cricket.—The first match of the season took place on Easter Monday, against the Corporals' Mess, 1st (Light) Battalion, R.T.C. The result was a rather easy win for the Troop, but as the Tanks are new arrivals in Egypt, too much notice cannot be taken of the result.

The Troop batted first, and with some good luck totalled 176, the chief scorers being Tacey 29, Moore 67 and McGinn 38.

The Tanks' batting was rather weak, although some good fielding helped to dismiss them cheaply. Tacey brought off a great one-handed catch in the slips, whilst McGinn also made a good catch at point. The bowling honours were taken by Moore (five wickets for 16 runs).

Result: "X" Troop, 176; Corporals' Mess, 1st (Light) Battalion, R.T.C., 69. "X" Troop won by 107 runs.

The match between "X" Troop and "A" Company, 1st (Light) Tank Battalion was left drawn with honours about even. Batting first, the Troop scored 187 runs in just over two hours. Moore was top scorer with 104. After tea, the Tanks made a good attempt to force a win. By some aggressive batting they scored 135 runs for the loss of seven wickets. Unfortunately for the Troop, the fielding wilted under the Tanks hitting, several hard chances being dropped. Result: "X" Troop, 187; "A" Company, 1st Light Tank Battalion, R.T.C., 135 for seven wickets.

EMANDESS.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

(*Continued from page 271*)

One of the new arrivals has aspired to fame by volunteering to write these notes in future.

In February, Sergeant Barber, our Orderly Room Sergeant, was married to Miss Irene Olive Brown, daughter of C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Brown, of Peshawar District Signals, at the Roman Catholic Church, Quetta. Lance Sergeant Hothersall P. very ably performed the duties of best man, and a guard of honour was formed by the members of the Sergeants' Mess. Lieutenant C. H. Barker, Royal Signals, who was the accompanist, attended the reception, which was held at the residence of Captain and Mrs. R. L. Thompson, R.E., No. 9, Phayre Road, and proposed the health and happiness of the bride and bridegroom. Sergeant Barber responded. The bride and bridegroom, who were the recipients of many handsome presents, afterwards left for Peshawar for their honeymoon.

Congratulations are accorded to Sergeant Green and Lance Sergeant Coles on attaining their rank and appointment respectively.

To wind up, we reproduce an extract from a draft which was sent to the Orderly Room for typing: "Mussolini held a battleship 'REVUE' in honour of Herr Hitler's visit." Don't we have fun?

RONKAY.

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

3rd May.

General.—One of our members, who has recently enjoyed an Easter cruise at Whitehall's expense, says, "Trimulgherry is pleasant compared with the Red Sea in April." Nevertheless, we are looking forward to next month's rains and cooler weather. Even with the aid of careful watering, the lines are looking thirsty, while the surrounding country's bareness is only relieved by the flaming beauty of the gold mohur trees.

To and From.—Sergeant Fairman, after a trip to England, leaves the Troop for the S.T.C. (India). Our best wishes go with him in his endeavours to turn "raw material" into Operators "Tele." In his stead comes Sergeant Wagg—a "new recruits" to a Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop—who has joined us from furlough in England on posting from the S.T.C. (I.).

Lance Corporal Snowball has gone to soldier in England. *En route*, the snowball increased—as snowballs do. We congratulate him on arriving in England as a "real" Corporal.

Corporal Brennan is "holidaying in England" for six months.

Signalman Knight has left us for Kohat, and Signalmen Hyde and Hare—the latter after a very short stay with us—have decided to hunt at Jubbulpore. (Beware the N.V.H. !)

We welcome Corporal Glover from "A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, to "groom" the vehicles and supervise the Petrol Account.

And so we are eight B.O.R.s: Sergeants Dilworth, Wagg and Page; Lance Sergeant Hylands; Corporals Brennan and Glover; Lance Corporals Lavelle and Rawcliffe.

Farewell.—During the month (on a Sunday evening) fifty of the B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s (mounted) lined the road outside Mercury Lines for the purpose of waving farewell to Major-General G. de la P. Beresford, M.C., the 4th (Secunderabad) Cavalry Brigade Commander. It is with real regret that we learned of his departure, for not only was he more or less instrumental in getting the Troop formed and successfully settled here, but he has "nursed" it on manœuvres, and taken a keen interest in its growth and efficiency.

We shall always remember his many personal and informal visits to our lines when his friendly advice and criticism about our horses has helped towards the excellent reports on this phase of the Unit's activities.

His friendly regard for Signals (at Kohat and Rawalpindi), the following remarks culled from last year's Collective Training Report, and his Farewell Order are sufficient to warrant our regret at his departure:

"The Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop worked its Wireless Sets exceptionally well . . ."

"It has been a pleasure as well as an honour to command a Cavalry Brigade in which all ranks have given their best on all occasions."

We wish you well, sir, in your greater responsibilities.

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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VOL. XIX.—No. 221 JULY 1938 PRICE—SIXPENCE

Editorial Notes.

Presentation of Pipe Banners by Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, G.C.V.O., G.C.B.—An illustrated account of this interesting ceremony, which took place at the British Empire Exhibition, Glasgow, on Wednesday, 8th June, 1938, is published on pages 306 and 307 of this issue.

Cable Wagon Centrepiece.—As a photographic Supplement to this issue, we present our readers with an attractive picture of the Cable Wagon Centrepiece, original copies of which may be purchased from The Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Company, Ltd., 112, Regent Street, London, W.1., price 3s. 6d. each.

Exchanges.—Subaltern, home on sick leave from India, wishes to exchange for the remainder of his tour (a further three years from October) with junior Subaltern at present serving at home. Particulars will be supplied on application to Lieutenant " X," c/o The Editor, THE WIRE, 95, Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

Association of R.E. Despatch Riders.—It is notified for general information that the proposed Outing to Houghton-Regis, Bedfordshire, which was provisionally arranged for Sunday, 31st July, has been postponed indefinitely.

Employment : War Department Constabulary.—Owing to a considerable increase in Establishment, vacancies are now available in the above Department, and those desiring nomination are invited to communicate with the General Secretary, Signals Association, who will forward the necessary application forms for completion. Full details regarding the new Conditions of Service, rates of pay, etc., are published herein, on page 300.

List of Officers who attended the Royal Signals Annual Dinner on Friday, 27th May.—The annual dinner was held on Friday, 27th May, at the Junior United Service Club. Brigadier R. H. Willian, Representative Colonel Commandant, presided, and the following were present :

Brigadier : R. H. Willan (Representative Colonel Commandant).

Major-Generals : E. V. Turner, E. A. Osborne.

Brigadiers : R. Chenevix Trench, H. Clementi Smith, F. A. Heymann, G. G. Rawson, H. A. Vernon.

Colonels : M. F. Allan, H. I. Allen, A. S. Angwin, R. E. Barker, E. de W. H. Bradley, J. Waley Cohen, J. W. Danielsen, O. P. Edgcumbe, C. W. Fladgate, R. A. C. Henderson, M. E. Holdsworth, H. Ll. Howard, W. T. Howe, G. D. Ozanne, G. E. Sampson, A. C. Sykes, J. A. S. Tillard, T. W. Vigers, G. H. Walton, H. C. B. Wemyss.

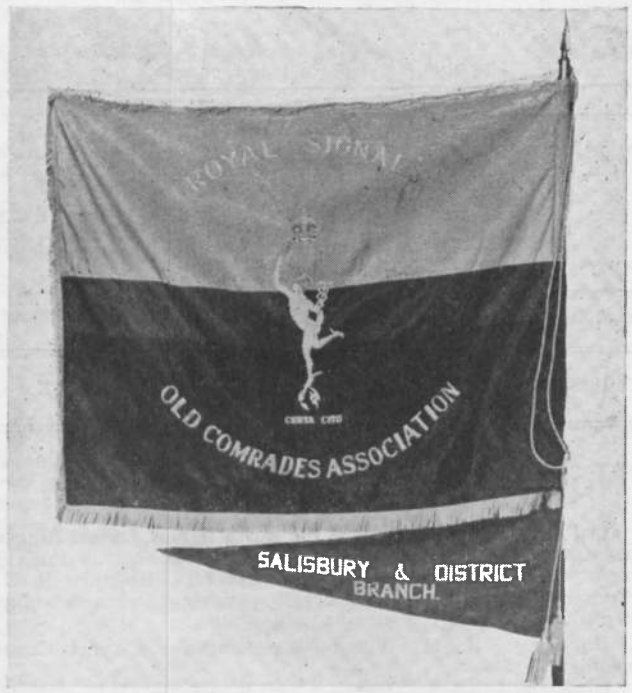
Lieutenant-Colonels : St. J. D. Arcedeckne-Butler, C. J. Aston, H. N. Brown, R. T. O. Cary, F. R. Cobb, C. L. Day, H. E. Day, R. Elsdale, A. L. Harris, R. P. A. Helps, C. L. H. Humphreys, W. F. Jackson, R. H. R. Neale, J. W. Orange-Bromehead, M. F. M. Parkes, H. A. J. Parsons, W. R. C. Penny, C. P. Prescot, A. H. Read, B. G. Rowley, M. V. Smelt, F. S. Straight, C. H. H. Vulliamy, Julian Watson, A. C. G. Willway, H. V. von S. Thorne, J. S. Yule.

Majors : W. O. Bowen, P. A. Chubb, F. S. Curtis, F. H. Dallison, N. H. Edes, C. R. H. Firth, L. D. Goddard, E. H. C. Harris, A. J. Harris, T. Hill, R. C. Instrall, R. Kendall (Australian Corps of Signals), W. L. Laurie (Royal Canadian Corps of Signals), H. S. Lewis-Barclay, C. V. L. Lycett, E. F. Lyons, E. V. F. MacSwiney, F. A. H. Mathew, F. S. Morgan, E. J. Murphy, C. A. Murray, R. F. H. Nalder, L. B. Nicholls, C. A. Oliver, J. R. Patten, G. P. Pavey, G. H. Plummer, H. E. Rance, G. Rooker, J. Ryan, C. E. Sketch, H. A. Spencer, R. Sutton-Pratt, T. C. Thompson, V. J. E. Westropp.

Captains : G. B. Bell, R. G. Bellad-Ellis (South African Corps of Signals), F. R. Booth, C. A. H. Chadwick, H. R. V. Cooke, R. H. O. Coryton, J. C. Cree, J. J. Duvivier, H. R. Firth, J. Gardner, F. P. L. Gray, J. W. Gordon, J. C. Hardy, W. D. J. Harries, W. L. Hey, A. V. D. Hort, G. A. King (South African P. Forces), G. W. Knight, C. Knowles, H. L. Lewis, C. H. Lyddon, F. Messel, C. Grafton-Moore, E. J. H. Moppett, J. F. G. Morton (Royal Canadian Corps of Signals), A. J. D. McNair, N. G. Newell, W. A. Peachell, H. C. B. Rogers, F. C. Seeley, D. M. Smyth, C. N. Stafford, A. Tozer, W. G. Tucker, P. R. Wainman.

Messrs. : F. W. P. Bradford, G. Franklin (Supplementary Reserve), N. M. Hay, P. M. P. Hobson, R. L. Houston (Royal Canadian Corps of Signals), E. F. Lyne, K. W. M. Magee (Australian Corps of Signals), P. J. Palmer, W. A. Purser, M. Stonestreet, J. R. G. Walker, R. G. Yolland.

EDITOR.



Signals Association Notes

Bulford : Old Comrades' Annual Reunion.—For the eighth successive year Royal Signals Old Comrades from the Southern Command Area foregathered for their annual reunion at Bulford on 28th and 29th May, and were entertained right royally by the Officers, Warrant Officers, N.C.O.s and men of 3rd Divisional Signals.

Most of the old familiar faces were once again in evidence, and it was gratifying to note that many new ones had also joined this annual pilgrimage for the first time. It is hoped that they will continue to participate on all subsequent occasions.

As a preliminary ceremony to the Church Parade, on Sunday, 29th May, the Old Comrades' new Standard, with ex-C.S.M. Johnson J., D.C.M., M.M. (Commander), Mr. F. Cole (Standard Bearer) and Messrs. E. Hand and E. King, D.C.M. (Escort), were officially dedicated by the Assistant Chaplain-General, Southern Command, assisted by Rev. Hutchings of Bulford.

The parade then moved off, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel C. P. Prescot, with Colours and Old Comrades leading, followed by 3rd Divisional Signals, and Mobile Divisional Signals, comprising Nos. 3 and 4 Squadrons, and " F " Troop.

At the subsequent Church Service, an inspiring address was given by the Assistant Chaplain-General, who referred to all Old Comrades' organisations as typifying loyalty, friendship and sociability in their widest interpretations.

On the return march to barracks, the salute was first taken by the G.O.C., 3rd Division, and further along the route by Brigadier R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C., Colonel-Commandant of the Corps, and one of the original founders of the Old Comrades' movement in the Southern Command Area.

On arrival at the Parade Ground, Brigadier Willan addressed a short speech of welcome to the Old Comrade visitors and expressed a grateful vote of thanks to Colonel Prescot and all ranks of 3rd Divisional Signals for their cordial hospitality.

After a presentation of Long Service and Good Conduct Medals to three worthy recipients, the parade was dismissed and the Old Comrade guests adjourned to the Sergeants' Mess, where " Drinks on the house," followed by an enjoyable luncheon, terminated the proceedings.

This is the first occasion on which a Royal Signals' Church Parade has been attended by the Old Comrades' new Colours, and now that the latter have been officially dedicated, they will, it is hoped, appear on all future ceremonial occasions. Although the property of the Salisbury and District Branch, whose members are justly proud of their Banner, the latter has been so designed that it can be made adaptable for any Royal Signals Association function by the temporary removal of the Branch pennant, leaving the main inscription, " ROYAL SIGNALS OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION," applicable for general use, if and when desired.

All Old Comrades of the Southern Command wish to thank Colonel C. P. Prescot and all ranks of 3rd Divisional Signals for their warm welcome, also R.S.M. Herbert A. and his very active Committee for their by no means insignificant share in the necessary catering arrangements.

Such a spontaneous welcome is greatly appreciated, and the Salisbury Branch members look forward to the time when they may have an opportunity of reciprocating.

[Note : Copies of the photographs on page 299 can be obtained on application to Mr. F. Futcher and Son, 19, Fisherton Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire (telephone : Salisbury 662). Prices : mounted, 2s. 6d. ; unmounted, 2s. Post cards, 6d. each.]

LEEDS BRANCH.

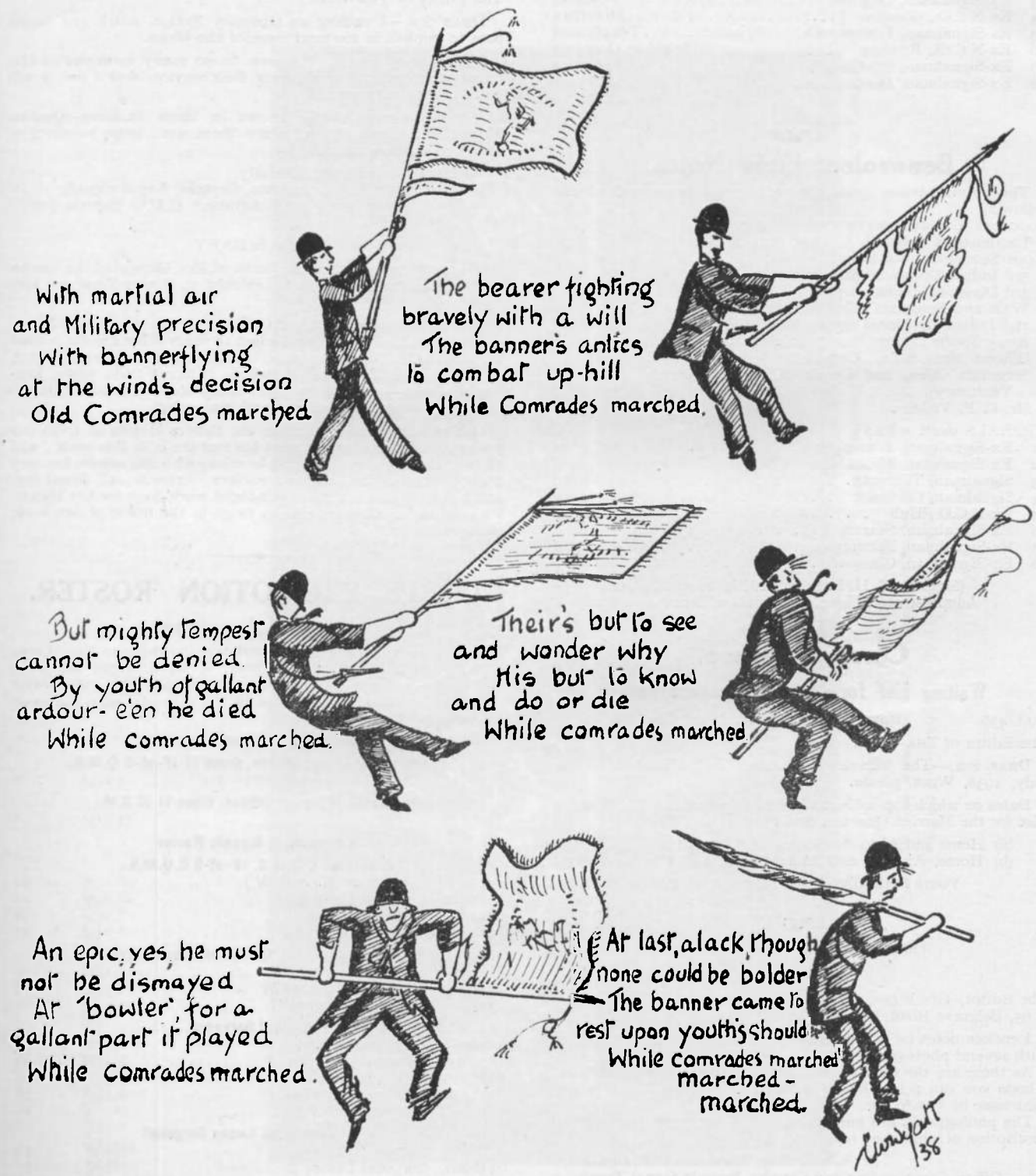
We are pleased to be able to report that this branch is now firmly established. We have enrolled 37 new members since October last, and now have 65 paid-up members for 1938. Our Secretary is trying hard for that 100. Meetings are held in the Canteen at Gibraltar Barracks on the first Monday evening of every month, and all ex-Signals or R.E.s are very welcome.

M. S. R.

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, Taunton	P.O. Engineering Dept.
2	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Storekeeper
3	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Warden, R.A.F.
4	Ex-N.C.O., Derby	Storekeeper
5	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Telephonist
6	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Telephonist
7	Ex-Signalman, Halifax	Labourer
8	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Postman
9	Ex-N.C.O., Yorkshire	Bailiff
10	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
11	Ex-Signalman, London	Electrician
12	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
13	Ex-N.C.O., London	Messenger
14	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
15	Ex-Signalman, London	Telephonist
16	Ex-Signalman, London	Prison Warder
17	Ex-Signalman, London	Electrician
18	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
19	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
20	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer



ROYAL SIGNALS, OLD COMRADES CHURCH PARADE AT BULFORD, ON SUNDAY, MAY 29th, 1938.
(It is regretted that a 'close-up' of the bearer could not be obtained.)

21	Ex-N.C.O., London	Telephonist
22	Ex-Signalman, Dundee	Cleaner
23	Ex-Signalman, Croydon	Postman
24	Ex-N.C.O., Glasgow	Storeman
25	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Telephonist
26	Ex-N.C.O., Reading	Wireless Operator
27	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Labourer
28	Ex-Signalman, Devonport	Labourer

GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following :

BANKERS' ORDER INSTRUCTIONS from :
Lieutenant-Colonel H. E. Day, D.S.O., M.V.O.

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from :
3rd Indian Divisional Signals.
3rd Divisional Signals.
W.Os and Sergeants' Mess, London Corps Signals, T.A.
2nd Indian Divisional Signals.
Army Sports Control Board (Sale of Diaries).
Officers' Mess, S.T.C., Catterick.
Sergeants' Mess, 2nd Cavalry Divisional Signals (Middlesex Yeomanry).
Mr. C. F. Vickers.

APPEALS dealt with :

1	Ex-Signalman, Birmingham	Grant	£4	0	0
2	Ex-Signalman, Midlothian	Grant	£2	0	0
3	Signalman, Tidworth	Grant	£3	0	0
4	Signalman, Catterick	Grant	£2	0	0
5	Ex-N.C.O., Hull	Loan	£2	10	0
6	Ex-Signalman, Scarborough	Grant	£2	10	0
7	Ex-Signalman, Birmingham	Grant	£2	0	0
8	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	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.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR,—The following is notified for publication in the July, 1938, WIRE, please.

Dates on which top individuals were registered on the Waiting List for the Married Quarters Roll :

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 14/10/1932.
(b) Home, Abroad, and India—Rank and File, 21/3/1932.

Yours faithfully, G. E. SAMPSON, Colonel,
i/c Royal Signals Records.

Office of 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop,
Sialkot.
23rd May, 1938.

The Editor, THE WIRE,
95, Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

I enclose notes for favour of publication in the WIRE, together with several photographs.

As these are the final notes from the Troop on disbandment, I hope you can print the notes and photographs in full in the next issue of THE WIRE.

The photographs are numbered on the back, together with a description of what they represent.

D. A. PRINGLE, Lieutenant, R.Signals.
Officer Commanding 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

[*We take this opportunity to thank all ranks of 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot, for their past co-operation and assistance, and to wish them all the best of good fortune in their new surroundings. See Unit notes and photographs on pages* 319 & 320.—EDITOR.]

21, Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.
11th June.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR,—I enclose an Obituary Notice, which you might care to publish in the next issue of the WIRE.

Mrs. Birney was well known to so many members of the Corps stationed in India during their service, that I feel it will be of general interest.

Her work was chiefly known in three Stations—Quetta, Meerut and Upper Topa, where there were large numbers of Royal Signals personnel.

Yours faithfully,
L. D. M. PATTERSON, Captain, Royal Signals,
Adjutant, G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

MRS. BIRNEY.

We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Birney, of the Sandes Soldiers' Homes. She died suddenly at Upper Topa on 19th May, 1938.

Mrs. Birney was a Sapper Officer's widow, and her only son was killed in the War. For the last 18 years of her life she worked for the British troops in India, in the Sandes Homes at Meerut, Quetta, Upper Topa and elsewhere. During these years, hundreds of men—and among them many Royal Signals—came to know and appreciate her love and sympathy.

One of her fellow-workers in the Sandes Homes in India has written : " No one can express the loss she is to this work ; and all over this country there will be many who will mourn her very truly. Missionaries, officers, soldiers, servants—all loved her, and her life was a centre of wonderful work done for her Master. I know she would have chosen to go in the midst of her work, without illness."

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

[The figures in the last column indicate the pages in the " Corps Promotion Roster " (published in April, 1938) 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.]

Foreman of Signals Roster

Promoted Warrant Officer, Class II (F-of-S Q.M.S.)

2312048	C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Thorpe J.	2/2/38	10

Promoted Warrant Officer, Class II (C.S.M.)

2306746	C.Q.M.S. Murray G.	23/3/38	18

Foreman of Signals Roster

Promoted C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S C.Q.M.S.)

2317936	L/Sergeant Kavanagh J.	28/2/38	44
2316172	Corporal Funnell H.	28/2/38	47
2321270	Corporal Bucke C.	28/2/38	52
2316478	Corporal Smith G.	28/2/38	52

Promoted Company Quartermaster-Sergeant.

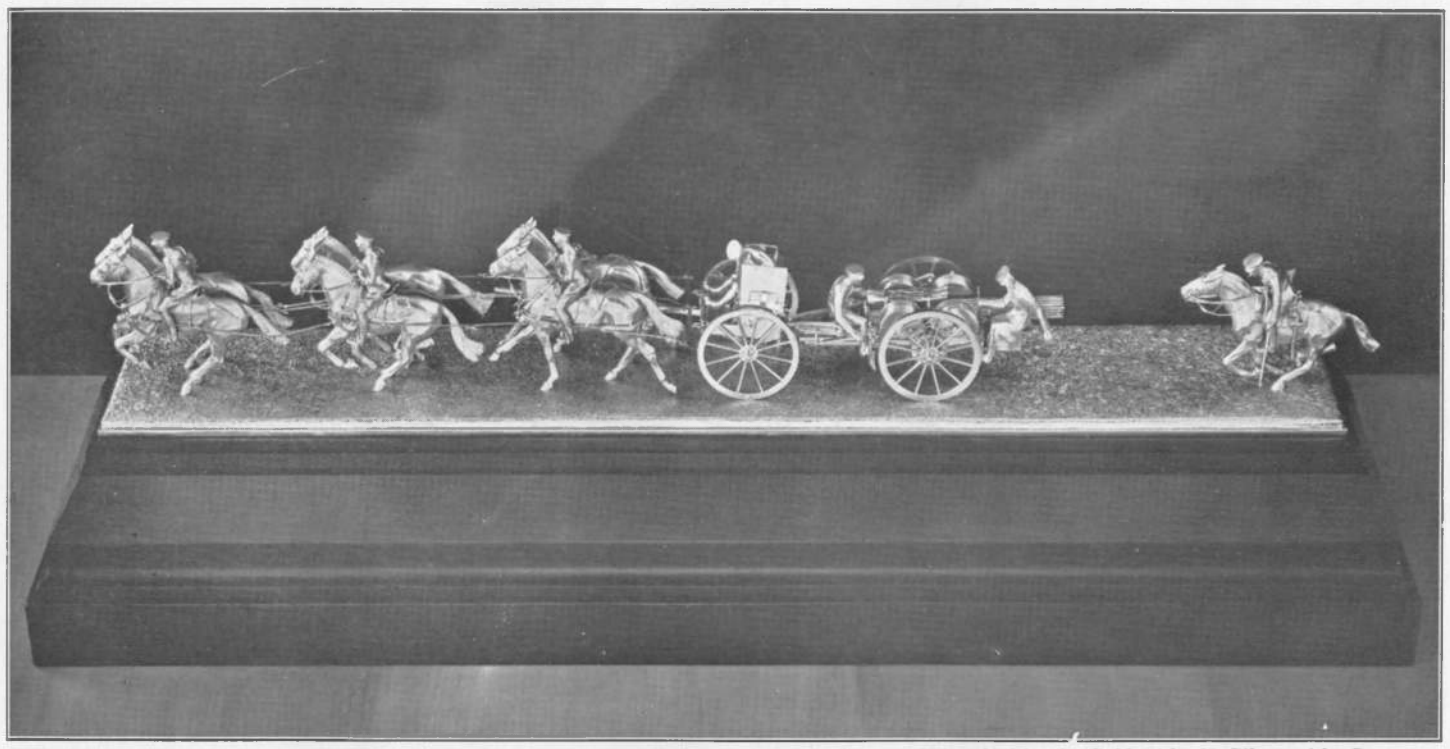
4114919	Sergeant Murphy W.	23/3/38	21
1857035	Sergeant Watmore W.	23/3/38	21
2314061	Sergeant Rowden S.	28/3/38	21

Promoted Sergeant.

2554732	L/Sergeant Gandey G.	2/3/38	38
1850116	L/Sergeant Taylor W.	6/3/38	38
2315536	L/Sergeant Page V.	8/3/38	38
2315536	L/Sergeant Staerck E.	9/3/38	38
2312862	L/Sergeant Smith H.	28/3/38	39

Appointed Lance Sergeant

2316297	Corporal Mulholland F.	28/2/38	46
6338999	Corporal Turner E.	2/3/38	46
2316198	Corporal Garner P.	6/3/38	47
2317408	Corporal Booth W.	6/3/38	47
748423	Corporal Dodd C.	8/3/38	47
2318050	Corporal Crawford F.	9/3/38	47
2316851	Corporal Warburton H.	23/3/38	47
2312546	Corporal Wink P.	28/3/38	47



[From a Photograph supplied by the Goldsmiths & Silversmiths Company

THE CENTREPIECE

CABLE WAGON WITH SIX HORSE TEAM AND NO. 6 MOUNTED LAYING CABLE

Designed and executed by the Goldsmiths & Silversmiths Company

2316283	Corporal Matthews C.	28/3/38	47
4792569	Corporal Lauriere J.	28/3/38	47
2315978	Corporal Wilbraham H.	28/3/28	47
2317770	Corporal Stevens B.	28/3/38	47

Promoted Corporal.

2321758	L/Corporal Marjoram H.	2/2/38	67
2320252	L/Corporal Dixon R.	6/2/38	67
3957121	L/Corporal Woolls W.	23/2/38	67
2318399	L/Corporal Roake J.	24/2/38	68
4121846	L/Corporal Hamilton G.	25/2/38	68
2318092	L/Corporal Pratt L.	26/2/38	68
2321049	L/Corporal Powell D.	27/2/38	68
5988342	L/Corporal Marshall F.	28/2/38	68
2321610	L/Corporal Hastings J.	28/2/38	68
2316577	L/Corporal Edmunds F.	28/2/38	68
2321027	L/Corporal McGuigan J.	28/2/38	68
2316533	L/Corporal Collins W.	28/2/38	68
2320806	L/Corporal Macklam J.	1/3/38	68
2318923	L/Corporal Price J.	2/3/38	68
2322192	L/Corporal Wright W.	6/3/38	68
2320885	L/Corporal Angus D.	9/3/38	68
2026992	L/Corporal Pollard J.	14/3/38	68

Appointed Lance Corporal.

2321889	Signalman Tucker S.	14/11/37
2314221	Signalman Boxall S.	15/11/37
2323092	Signalman Gorringe A.	16/11/37
2323824	Signalman Royall D.	16/11/37
2323591	Signalman Urquhart D.	17/11/37
807148	Signalman Murphy F.	20/11/37
2323133	Signalman Boon W.	20/11/37
2322151	Signalman Rankin W.	20/11/37
2323477	Signalman Morris J.	20/11/37
2321891	Signalman Hobling H.	26/11/37
2323893	Signalman Challis A.	27/11/37
2323474	Signalman Brown P.	27/11/37

Discharges

2310822	C.Q.M.S. F-of-S Mitson A.	15/5/38	11
2309327	Sergeant Lewis C.	20/5/38	23
2746082	L/Sergeant Robinson R.	13/5/38	38
2317793	Corporal Bellinger L.	10/5/38	51
2567149	L/Corporal Humby S.	26/4/38	67
4852782	L/Corporal Wrench J.	12/5/38	67

Transfers to Army Reserve.

2320088	Corporal Brown R.	25/4/38	60
2320583	Corporal Davidson F.	4/5/38	59
2319989	Corporal Spriggs R.	19/5/38	55
2023843	L/Corporal Garnett J.	2/5/38	68
3522516	L/Corporal Walsh H.	1/5/38	72

Glasgow University Officers' Training Corps Signal Unit.

Headquarters,
University Avenue,
Glasgow.
11th June.

Training.—The weather conditions we had hoped for did not materialise on 14th May, but in spite of almost continual drizzle throughout the afternoon, we managed to get some idea of how cable should be laid. If, as it is said, we learn by our mistakes, then the day was by no means wasted.

The most intriguing incident of the day was the failure of the Unit car about a mile from our initial position. The important point was that the officers were being conveyed therein, and had, perforce, to walk; in our innocence we omitted to send back some conveyance to enquire the reason for their delay.

The 21st, however, proved to be a memorable day in more ways than one. In spite of repeated set-backs we managed to "defend the Empire Exhibition at Bellahouston against bands of fierce raiders from the north" (not from the south as was the case on Whit Monday when our defensive force was disbanded).

It is interesting to note that a wireless silence of over an hour was broken, not by the usual procedure laid down by Signal Training, but by the insertion of a new valve.

OFFICERS

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The biggest mistake of the day was the fact that the first cable party seemed to take their work too seriously; we gather this from the report of the second party who had to do the reeling up.

The most memorable incident of the day was a conversation reported to have taken place between the Brigadier and a wireless operator, whose name we must suppress for the sake of his future (if any).

Brigadier: "Well, are you in communication?"
Operator: "Yes, sir."
Brigadier: "Is the Set giving any trouble?"
Operator: "No, sir."
Brigadier: "Have you got that message through correctly?"
Operator: "Yes, sir, I've got everything through but the text!"

(The Set, by the way, was a five metre Experimental Set from which we were expecting some trouble.)

The Musketry Courses went off quite successfully on the 28th, everybody managing to hit some part of the target with sufficient regularity to pass the requisite standard.

The enthusiasm for the last two Exercises has been so encouraging that it has been decided to hold another on 18th June. A large turn-out is expected since examination worries will be a thing of the past and not yet a thing of the future.

Certificates.—Five O/Cdts were successful in the Certificate "A" examination held in March. Though this is not as many as we had hoped for, our percentage of passes compares favourably with the other Units. A glance at the marks seems to suggest that the standard of marking is harder than formerly, or that candidates are less intellectually endowed, but we are inclined to think the former solution more probable.

It is proposed to hold the practical examinations "A" and "B" at camp again this year. As all our work during April, May, and June, is practical, no one should experience any difficulty in passing.

Our next contribution to THE WIRE will be written under the shade of a tent with our back against the pole ; we do hope it won't rain all the time. If it does, either the ink will blot, or the notes will be censored—probably both and certainly the latter.

STONE-AGE.

Signal Unit, Queen's University, Belfast, Officers' Training Corps.

General.—The Unit has been active during May in preparation for annual training at Aldershot, 8th-21st July. Several Exercises (productive of the usual quota of *faux pas* and *bon mots*) have been carried out.

The first, at Knockbracken, initiated some of the new ones into the delights of cable-work. The second, on 23rd May, was devoted to cable-laying and visual work demonstrating a Battalion Signal Platoon in defence, and took place at Clontonakelly. It was on this Scheme that a certain N.C.O. declared, in delighted surprise, on opening the box of his lamp, S.R., " I've got a D.III here."

On 28th May, a Cable-laying Exercise, carried out in order to illustrate the action of Brigade and Battalion H.Q. in an advance, took place near the famous " Clady Circuit " motor-cycle course in Co. Antrim. This scribe was of the opinion that our P.S.I. (on the lorry, of course !) wanted him to break the speed record for the course when it came to reeling-in. Thank goodness that the Army is being mechanised (some day). Roll on the day when we shall have a mechanical reeler-in, operated by pressing a button !

The C.O.'s endeavours to show how Brigade Headquarters would move up a Main Artery after the advancing Battalions created heated arguments over the wire as to who was, or was not, Brigade Signal Office.

Re-Distribution.—The re-distribution of the Unit into three Sections—W/T, L/T, and V/T—took place recently. Those not allotted to " Cable " heaved sighs of relief, whereat the P.S.I. smiled. (When those who think themselves on velvet see him smile that way, look out for trouble.)

Congratulations.—To Sergeant Vance P. W., on his promotion to C.S.M., to Sergeant Hewitt W. P., now C.Q.M.S., and to all others who managed to get past the eagle eyes of the " promoters " (not licensed by the B.B.B.C.).

Tail-Piece.—Mac's hair has not turned gray any more ! Two Schemes have been carried through without any stores or equipment being " mislaid." Believe it or not ! But wait till we get to Aldershot.

SMIFF.

Plain Tales.

Say, Listen Buddy.—Before I have another chance to address my vast circle of readers, many of them who are Territorials will be off to Camp all over the country. All round the coast and at many inland resorts. How fortunate, those who will spend a fortnight at Larkhill Spa or Fargo Springs. It would appear to be a splendid opportunity to talk to those newly joined lads of the R.Signals T.A. and to warn them against the folly of trying to pose as " tough guys." Some of you may be away at sea-side camps where red-caps are not usually seen, but others will find themselves on Salisbury Plain where unbuttoned jackets and caps on the backs of heads are fashions not at all recommended. I have seen late buses from Salisbury and Andover during the summer months, full of soldiers of various regiments, and on the whole quite well behaved parties. Occasionally there appears one or two noisy and rather foul-mouthed specimens who are promptly sat upon by their more intelligent companions. This procedure has much to commend it. You will be interested to learn that the Royal Signals, both Regulars and Territorials, are very well thought of on the Plain. (Interval for suffused cheeks and shuffling of feet.) Keep it in mind in August, 1938, and don't let the firm down. It doesn't matter how much beer you have had, you are not drunk if you can lie on the ground without holding.

So remember that, and don't try to tell the world you're tough or that you can push a pint back. Let 'em find out.

Hot Air Department.—Once upon a time a Regimental Sergeant-Major would have screamed the house down at the sight of a man in slacks during working hours, but to-day he gulps, grits his teeth and not only endures the sight of his Unit in trousers, but wears them himself. Thus do changes creep into the Army. In a few months the troops will speak of the old days when they wore breeches, just as white-bearded old gentlemen talk of the broderick. These old customs and habits do not die easily. In most Units an order is an order and if the word goes forth that slacks will be worn, well that's the end of it. But there are still places where one may find highly indignant Company Commanders insisting that they will have none of this dreadful slacks and boots affair. Quite right, too. Training, especially Signal work in the field, should be done in full marching order with steel helmet and respirator, fifty rounds of ammunition and the rifle in the right hand. If communications suffer what does it matter so long as the men present a soldierly appearance ?

Look out for our next powerful article, " Should Territorials wear socks ? " The italics are mine, and that's why I haven't used any. I've got a lot more at home.

Our Grand Serial.—The Countess Fibre whose grandfather, it will be recalled, married one of the Labels-Lyne, stood up in a grim little room at Fort Knight and faced the row of hard-faced men who formed the Court Martial. Her composure never left her. She was as usual, beautifully dressed by Flaudet et Cie of the Rue Trois Mandolines and was wearing a marvellous hat with that quelque chose which is le premier mot or perhaps le dernier cri of this, that, and the other. At long last, the Countess had been apprehended by the Continental Secret Service, the Gesticko, or dreaded Underground Police. Colonel Harvey K. Adenoid, Q.R.U., G.B., gazed at the accused long and earnestly.

" What are you doing to-night my—ahem. I beg your pardon gentlemen, I mean—what were you doing on the night of 3rd September, Countess ? "

The beautiful woman smiled an enigmatic smile and turned to her lawyers, Messrs. Snapgood, Pinchworth, and Hoptoddy, all of whom were present. " Give 'em the works chaps," she said in her low pleasant voice.

" Objection," roared a man from the stalls.

" Objection sustained," snapped the Colonel. " Er—what ? Who are you ? "

" I am Ethelred Huckleberry, general manager of the Snow-white Colliery Company and Cupids Fish Fertilizers. What do you do with your old oil drums ? "

" Sit down," yelled a Corporal of Marines. The cry was taken up round the Court and developed into a chorus, " Sit down in front, sit down in front." At least that is what it sounded like. Major Bill Snogge-Sapp pulled a ukelele out of his attache case and took up the air. The situation looked like getting out of hand until a Lance-Sergeant of some obscure Signal Section at Aldershot threw a piece of ham at the President. An awed gasp ran round the room. Such conduct at a Court Martial !

" Clear the Court," screamed the Colonel. " Put the prisoner in the cells. Where is she anyway ? "

A spluttering roar outside on the white dusty sun-drenched tree-lined road supplied a clue. There was a mad rush for the door. The President and his court raged helplessly as a long low powerful sports car swept away at incredible speed.

" Whose car is that ? " asked Major Snogge-Sapp.

A lineman from some practically unheard of Cable Section at Bulford pushed his way forward. " I know, sir," he piped in a shrill voice. " It belongs to Mr. Ukann Larfe."

" Who is he ? " asked Colonel Adenoid.

OLD COMRADES ANNUAL REUNION, BULFORD.

The official dedication of Royal Signals Old Comrades Standard, Salisbury and District Branch, at Bulford, on 29th May, 1938.

ROYAL SIGNALS OLD COMRADES ANNUAL REUNION AT BULFORD ON 29th MAY, 1938

This evoked a great burst of laughter which only died down when it was observed that yet another piece of ham, with distinct traces of egg adhering to it, had wrapped itself round the Colonel's ear.

The Lance Sergeant was arrested on suspicion and the Court adjourned until to-morrow.

Customers are requested not to spit on the ceiling.

BARLEUX.

War Department Constabulary.

QUALIFICATION NECESSARY FOR REGISTRATION AND GENERAL CONDITIONS OF SERVICE.

A. CONSTITUTION.

1. The War Department Constabulary is a Force of civil police attested under the Special Constables Act of 1923 to perform duty within all or any of the principal areas and stations of the War Department and the limits thereof. The Force has the same powers and is liable for the same duties and responsibilities as constables of the Metropolitan Police Force have under the Metropolitan Police Act of 1860. The War Department Constabulary is under the exclusive control of the Army Council, but is not subject to the provisions of the Army Act.

B. QUALIFICATION

2. **Only candidates possessing the undermentioned qualifications are eligible for registration :**

(i) An ex-regular soldier, in receipt of an Army service pension and not subject to any form of reserve service.

(ii) Not below the rank of Sergeant in the Regular Army or Corporal in the Corps of Military Police.

(iii) In possession of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

(vi) Awarded an exemplary character on discharge from the Regular Army.

(v) Less than 45 years of age or 48 years of age in the case of Warrant Officers Class I, who have 25 years' service or more.

(vi) In possession of a 2nd class Certificate of Education.

(vii) Able to satisfy the competent authority when interviewed that he is suitable in every respect for the position of constable in the Force.

(viii) Be not less than 5 ft. 7 ins. (in bare feet) in height.

(ix) Have good eyesight—minimum standard of vision (without glasses) to be 6/60 one eye and 6/12 the other, or 6/24 each eye.

(x) Be free from any physical disability or bodily complaint likely to interfere with the regular and proper performance of the duties of the Force.

3. Qualified candidates who are still serving in the Army may be placed upon the waiting list if serving at home within six months, and if abroad within twelve months of the date of their final discharge from the Army.

4. When a vacancy occurs in the Force the Chief Constable selects from the waiting list the candidate who appears to be most suited to become a member of a Force of Civil Police. Candidates are not necessarily selected in the order in which they are registered.

5. Candidates who receive notice to the effect that they have been registered are advised to obtain employment until such time as they are selected for a vacancy in the Force. Candidates must, however, keep the Chief Constable informed as to any change of address and of particulars as to the amount of " notice " which they are required to give any employer.

C. SERVICE.

6. The War Department Constabulary is subject to the provisions of the Regulations for the Force, the Chief Constable's Instructions, and Civilian Staff Regulations, 1930.

All Constables appointed are on probation for a period of three months from the date on which they report for duty at the

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1938 Ford Eight 2-door Saloon (1,100 miles), registered April, 1938, as new	£107
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Station to which they are appointed or for any further period which may be determined by the Chief Constable. All Constables are considered probationers until they are confirmed in their appointment. Probationers are liable to immediate dismissal without any reason being assigned.

7. The present rates of pay are given hereunder.

8. Promotion is by selection.

A proportion of the supervisory members of the Force, viz., Police Sergeants, Inspectors, Chief Inspectors, and Superintendents, may be considered for establishment under the Superannuation Acts subject to special conditions to be determined from time to time.

9. All officers are required to devote their whole time to the duties of their appointment. They are not permitted to carry on any trade nor may their wives trade or keep a shop without the express permission of the competent authority.

10. Officers are required to appear in the blue police uniform at all times when on duty, but not at other times unless so ordered. All matters regarding the issue and return of clothing are governed by the provisions of the above-mentioned Regulations and Clothing Regulations for the Army. The first issue of personal and public clothing is free in kind, but subsequent personal clothing is maintained by officers from the authorised clothing allowance, the rates of which are published from time to time in Army Orders and issuable after the first anniversary of the initial issue of clothing.

11. Quarters are not provided at all stations. In no case are they provided free of charge. Officers may, therefore, reside where they wish unless required to occupy a quarter. Those desiring to change their residence must report the fact to their Senior Constabulary Officer.

12. Subject to the exigencies of the public service, officers are required to work six tours of eight hours duty per week. Night duty is performed for not more than one period in three. When duty is performed for a continuous tour of eight hours an interval of 30 minutes for refreshment is allowed. Time occupied in parading for duty, awaiting relief, and returning to station after relief, is not included in the 48 hours per week referred to above. If for any reason officers are required to work extra time " time off " equal to the period will be granted. Overtime pay at common time rates is admissible also when it is not possible in certain stations to grant time off in lieu.

13. The complement of Annual Leave for Constables will be assessed as follows. After completing six months service from the date on which they are brought on to the War Department Constabulary pay roll, constables may be granted, subject to the exigencies of the Public Service, proportionate leave with pay at the rate of 1/12th for each complete month of service in the leave year, i.e., 1st February to 31st January up to a maximum of 14 days, public holidays included.

14. After one year's service from the date of being brought on to the War Department Constabulary pay roll officers are entitled to the approved rates of sick pay.

15. Officers may not become or remain members of any Trade or similar Union, Association, or Society, other than an Association formed within the Constabulary itself in accordance with rules approved by or on behalf of the Army Council. In no case may an officer accept or continue in any official position in any club or society except as provided in the Regulations.

16. All officers are liable to be transferred compulsorily from one station to another when certain approved expenses will be paid according to the scale in force. Voluntary transfers may be allowed when the exigencies of the service permit, but in such cases all expenses will fall upon the officer concerned. No travelling expenses are allowed on joining the Force. The change in the rates of pay on transfer is the subject of special provisions in the Regulations.

17. All officers serving in the War Department Constabulary are subject to the disciplinary provisions of the Regulations. The Code of Discipline is issued to all officers on joining.

18. Officers shall not resign from the Force or withdraw from duty unless :

(a) they are granted leave to do so by the competent authority in writing, or

(b) shall have given the competent authority one calendar month's notice in writing.

19. The competent authority reserves the right to dispense with the services of any constable upon giving him one calendar month's notice that his services will be no longer required and without any reason being assigned.

20. Officers will be required to retire from the Force when they attain the age of 60 years.

RATES OF PAY

London and Provincial Area.—Inspectors.—74s. minimum to 81s. maximum. (Note.—The maximum is reached by Annual Increments of 1s. 6d. and a final increment of 1s.)

London Area.—Sergeants.—65s. minimum to 71s. maximum.

Provincial Area.—62s. minimum to 68s. maximum. (Note.—The maximum in EACH CASE is reached by four Annual Increments of 1s. 6d.)

London Area.—Constables.—57s. 6d. minimum to 65s. maximum.

Provincial Area.. 54s. 6d. minimum to 62s. maximum. (Note.—The maximum in EACH CASE is reached by five Annual Increments of 1s. 6d.)

A gratuity cannot be claimed as a matter of right and in the normal course is only granted after 15 years' continuous service.

ESTABLISHMENTS AT PRESENT POLICED BY THE WAR DEPARTMENT CONSTABULARY

Bramley, Hants.
Burscough, Lancs.
Chatham, Kent.
Chilwell, Notts.
Chorley, Lancs.
Corsham, Wilts.
Deptford, London.
Derby, Derbyshire.
Devonport, Devon.
Didcot, Berks.
Dover, Kent.
Enfield, Middx.
Feltham, Middx.
Woolwich, London, S.E.18.
Hilsea, Hants.
Irvine, Scotland.
Purfleet, Essex.
R. O. Fty., Nottingham.
Royal Mint, London.
Selby, Yorks.
Shoeburyness, Essex.
Stirling, Scotland.
Sutton Oak, Lancs.
Waltham Abbey, Essex.
War Office, Whitehall, S.W.1.
Weedon, Northants.

NEW ESTABLISHMENTS TO BE POLICED BY THE WAR DEPARTMENT CONSTABULARY IN THE NEAR FUTURE :

H.M. Factory, Birtley, near Newcastle.
Biggin Hill, Kent.
Grain Island, Kent.
Porton, Wilts.
Tipnor, Portsmouth.
Warley, Essex.

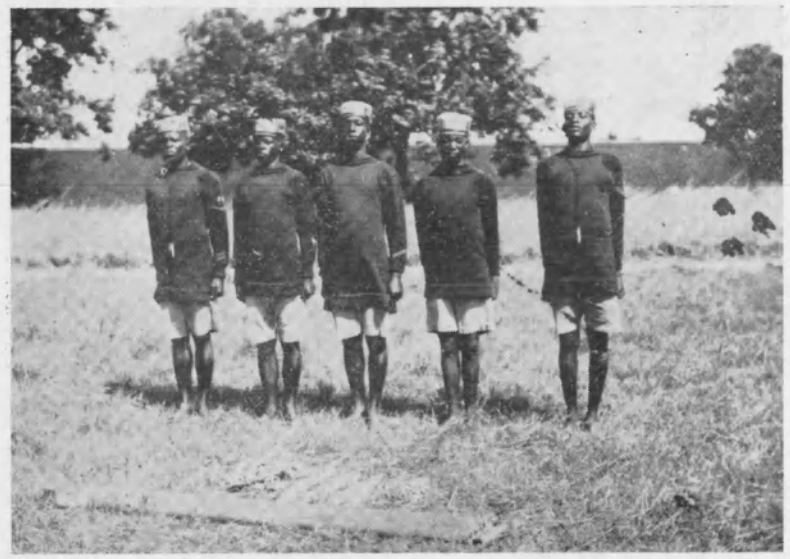
Signals in Tanganyika.

Individual Training.

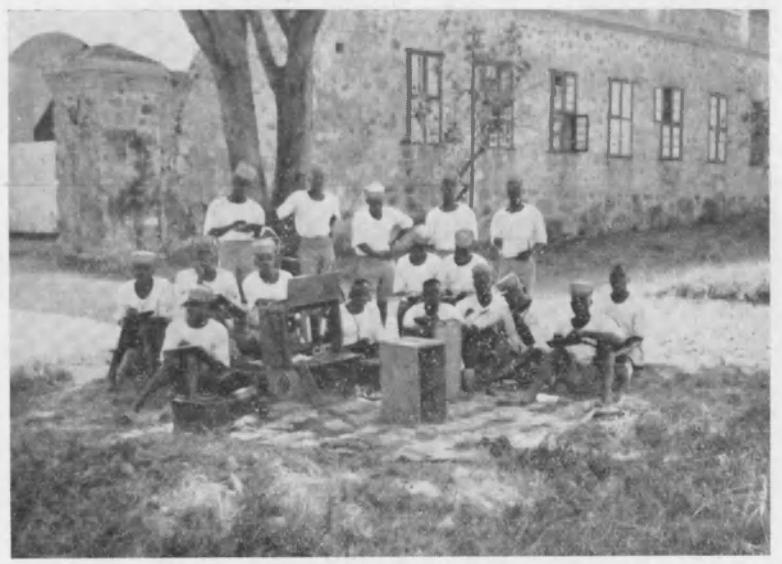
Readers who were able to read through to the bitter end the article " Signals in Tanganyika " will remember that a further article, describing the system of training adopted in Tanganyika, was promised. This is the attempt.

The period to be called the Individual Training period started on 1st December, 1937. Brigade H.Q. had issued instructions that at least twenty Askari were to receive training as wireless operators, and of the remaining twenty-five a few were to be taught to establish and maintain a telephone system as used in a Brigade, whilst the others were to be trained as efficient visual operators. The instructional staff consisted of the F-of-S.

For the first month, all were taught the same subjects, to enable the brightest to be picked out. The subjects were Operating, Handwriting, Arithmetic and Procedure. At the start only two were able to receive at Class III Operator Signals rates, and even then the handwriting of one was almost illegible. None were able to send readable morse for more than two consecutive minutes, no matter how slowly they sent. The first



1. A Detachment ready to erect a 30-ft. Mast.



3. A Squad with a TR4 Set fitted up prior to a day's Scheme.

2. The Wireless Lorry.

4. A corner of the Operating "School"

month's operating consisted of the rythmic sending of dots and dashes in an attempt to eliminate the multitude of styles existing.

With handwriting, those who were able to write reasonably well used a flowery copybook style unsuitable for operating; the majority were more used to a form of script, so all were made to practice the formation of letters by writing a continuous repetition of the well-known sentences—" The quick, brown fox jumps over the lazy dog " and " Now is the time for all good boys to come to the aid of the party."

At arithmetic, it was found that some of the young boys (it should be mentioned that there are five boys in the Section, and it is hoped to at least treble this number shortly) knew tables and how to add and subtract; a few Askari knew tables, and others were quite ignorant of all principles. The first month was, therefore, devoted to the learning of tables, addition and subtraction. For Procedure, the general principles of message handling were discussed.

At the end of the first month the Section was divided into four Squads of approximately twelve per Squad, the apparently brightest twenty-four being earmarked to learn wireless, one Squad to devote its time to telephony and line work, and the fourth Squad to train as visual operators. At operating, all were now allowed to send letters slowly. For handwriting they were given passages from books to copy, and were encouraged to write short compositions in their own languages (usually Ki-Swahili or Chinyanja, for which English letters are used). The wireless personnel were advanced to deal with improper fractions in arithmetic, whilst the others managed to reach a fair standard at multiplication and division. With Procedure, the wireless Squads were introduced to the contents of Vol. V, whilst the remainder continued with "All Arms."

At the beginning of the seventh week, a more detailed training was started. The wireless Squads were given more periods of operating, the line Squad continued to receive an amount similar to the fifth and sixth weeks, whilst with the visual personnel, operating was replaced by lectures on visual instruments. The number of periods at handwriting as such was reduced, as, by this time, all were able to form the letters fairly legibly. Arithmetic was discontinued, and Map-reading and Compass work started.

The reactions of the Askari to these subjects were surprising. Once they had spotted the correct figures in the compass, they found it easy to take bearings, but for days many insisted they could see only figures which were printed backwards! Contours on a map were considered the easiest thing in the world to understand; scales and the Representative Fraction were a different matter. For one inch on the map to represent so many inches on the ground was eventually understood, but they could not grasp the significance of the R.F., and it was finally decided to let them remember that one inch on the map represented the number of inches given as the denominator of the R.F., and to leave it at that.

Wireless was started by teaching the names of component parts, and that was followed by mast drill. The line Squad was given fairly detailed instruction in the D111 telephone and the 7 plus 3—the only line instruments here. Visual personnel were started on the assembling and dismantling of stations, coupled with pair work.

From the beginning of the ninth week, the wireless personnel were instructed in the unpacking, connecting up and adjusting of the type of wireless set on charge. It might be of interest to mention that these are two R.A.F. T.R.4 Sets, modified (by the makers) for use here. The diagram of the modification is wrong and as faults continually developed, an exciting time was had by all concerned. One common fault was to get the 1,000 volt H.T. on the metal casing, and the writer feels sure that readers will appreciate the fact that no little coaxing was required to get the Askari, who had received the full force, to come near the set again, especially when it is pointed out that the Askari's skins are super-sensitive—they feel electric shocks which normal folk would pass unnoticed.

However, by again modifying the wiring and disposition of accessories to really suit the conditions here, most faults have gone. It is considered unfortunate that these sets have to be used here for Field Service work, as never having been designed with that purpose in view, the unavoidable rough treatment causes minor faults to occur almost daily.

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From this ninth week the line Squad was instructed in the rapid and easy laying of field cables, and the establishing and maintenance of a Brigade telephone system. They were taught the English phrases most commonly used by subscribers and operators when obtaining communication. The visual personnel were introduced to small Schemes, and were practised in the rapid assembling and dismantling of stations. Correct alignment of helios and lamps had to be given special attention; once the light had been provided, all was well as far as the Askari were concerned.

All Squads continued to receive procedure, operating and handwriting practice in similar proportions to the previous weeks. Introduced to the telescope, the majority were content to set it up and look through it whilst the instructor was present. Only when they were caught not making use of it in the conventional way was it realised that they had no idea of its magnifying properties; probably considering it yet another of the " Bwana's " many idiosyncracies. On being shown how a telescope clarified and enlarged distant objects, all expressed quite childish delight.

This programme continued until the conclusion of the Course of Instruction at the end of the thirteenth week.

The handwriting of all had improved a little. Seven N.C.O.s and men could receive morse at Class III Operator Signals rates, and produce legible handwriting. One could send readable morse at Class III Operator Signals rates. They could all take bearings with a compass, set a map by compass, and use a map reference. The wireless personnel could all unpack, connect up, adjust and operate the wireless sets, both mobile and fixed stations. Not, it should be appreciated, with a great degree of accuracy or speed, but they could manage alone.

Towards the end of this training period, 7 a.m. P.T. was started, and became a regular daily feature. It is not performed as a Squad of A.P.T.S. Instructors would demonstrate, or as they like to see it carried out, for those who remember " Boy

Catt " at Maresfield, Liverpool and Catterick will recall he was never a model of grace, and his present Askari pupils are among the most awkward of humans. However, lively fun is had by all concerned.

By the time the intensive training period finished, higher authority had agreed to improve conditions of service and pay for the native ranks of the Brigade Signal Section, and at the same time to demand a higher standard of proficiency. Visual signalling is to be used much less frequently, line work and telephony is to be discontinued for the present, and all native ranks are to be trained as wireless operators. One gets accustomed to changing conditions in the Army, but it must be admitted that it was a severe test of enthusiasm to spend three months trying hard to be in three places at once, giving continuous instruction to all Squads and then, in the last week, be told that one's efforts have been absolutely wasted.

The correct suspension gear for the sets not having appeared, it was decided to attempt to satisfactorily mount a set in the lorry by using resources at hand. After three months of endeavour, springs of the type used to suspend aerials were obtained and the set fitted up in the lorry during any odd moments the instructor could find. Although not quite up to the standard desirable, the style has been—and is proving—quite satisfactory in practice.

In view of the decisions mentioned above, training now takes the form of alternate one-day traffic and " Tactical " Schemes, half the personnel being on one, and half on the other. The Traffic Schemes are carried out with DIII Buzzers strewn around the office verandah—there is nowhere else to go—and the " Tactical " Schemes with the two W/T sets. At the time of writing, the Askari are able to establish communication satisfactorily four times out of six (with the sets a half to one mile apart, and the transmitters adjusted prior to leaving the stores), and to pass traffic at the rate of approximately 6-7 messages per hour, including registration at both ends. A greater distance cannot, as yet, be risked, for the only way to get from one station to the other is to walk, and the F-of-S has still to learn how to be in two places at once.

A Royal Signals standard of proficiency is being aimed at, and a Qualification Sheet, based on that for Operator Signals, is being prepared for submission to higher authority. With the arrival of the new O.C., sometime in May, it is hoped that more rapid progress will be possible. It is, of course, slow and up-hill work the whole time, but (the quotation displayed on the writer's table is one from R. L. Stevenson) " To travel hopefully is better than to arrive, and the true success is labour."

Corps Cricket.

Though rather short of bowling, the Corps team this year gave promise of being up to average strength despite the loss of several bowler-batsmen to overseas service. At the last minute, however, Captain Cole decided to play County cricket. This left us in a bad way as we were depending on him to bear the brunt of our bowling. On top of this, Major Lewis-Barclay damaged his wrist and though able to bowl could only bat practically one-handed.

In our first match, played on the Aldershot Command Ground, we were able to register our usual win over the Royal Army Ordnance Corps. Winning the toss, we scored 294 for 8 wickets and then declared. It was pleasing to see Major Boyd in something like his old form whilst scoring a very fine 81, and Major Watts dealt out his usual summary punishment to the Ordnance bowling and quickly collected 82 of the best.

C.S.M. Carpenter, after a lean period, batted well for his 44, as also did Corporal Lundie with 32 not out.

Left with 295 to win, the Ordnance met with shocks early on, never recovered and were all out for 115, thus giving the Corps a heartening first match win by 179 runs.

Major Lewis-Barclay took 4 for 40, Lance Corporal Williams 3 for 35, Corporal Lundie 1 for 11, and C.S.M. Carpenter 1 for 25.

ROYAL SIGNALS.

Major L. C. Boyd, c Mitchell, b Bailey	81
Lance Corporal Williams, c Cook, b Henchley	2
Major J. A. I. Watts, c Bailey, b Henchley	82
Captain E. L. Vulliamy, b Angel	13
2nd Lieutenant P. T. S. Brown, b Bailey	22
C.S.M. Carpenter, c Love, b McCallum	44
C.Q.M.S. Eynott, b Henchley	0
Lieutenant F. S. Whiteway-Wilkinson, b Henchley	5
Corporal Lundie, not out	32
2nd Lieutenant B. R. M. Hayles, not out	4
Extras	9
Total (for 8 wickets declared)	294

Major H. S. Lewis-Barclay did not bat.

BOWLING: Henchley, 4 for 58; Love, 0 for 41; Bailey, 2 for 88; McCallum, 1 for 60; Angel, 1 for 31; Tarrant, 0 for 7.

R.A.O.C.

Lieutenant-Colonel G. R. S. Love, b Williams	9
2nd Lieutenant E. J. Cauthard, st Hayles, b Lewis-Barclay	1
Captain H. S. Mitchell, lbw b Lewis-Barclay	12
Lance Corporal Angel, b Williams	3
Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. Shephard, b Lewis-Barclay	0
Lieutenant H. P. Bailey, b Lewis-Barclay	5
Major-General L. L. Hoare, b Williams	10
Captain Tarrant, not out	39
Corporal McCallum, run out	11
Sergeant Cook, b Lundie	13
Lieutenant Henchley, c Lundie, b Carpenter	7
Extras	5
Total	115

BOWLING: Williams, 3 for 35; Lewis-Barclay, 4 for 40; Carpenter, 1 for 25; Lundie, 1 for 11.

Royal Signals won by 179 runs.

ROYAL SIGNALS v. ROYAL ENGINEERS.

This match was played on the R.E. ground, Aldershot, on 10th and 11th June, and resulted in a win for the Sappers by 3 wickets.

After winning the toss our first innings total of 149 was disappointing and would have been worse but for valuable contributions of 54 by 2nd Lieutenant Brown, and 35 by 2nd Lieutenant Hayles. The Sappers produced a new fast bowler in Lance Corporal Storey, who was able at times to make the ball fly in a disconcerting manner.

In reply to our 149, the Sappers scored 185 to give them a first innings lead of 36, and for this they were chiefly indebted to Captain Grove and Captain Foster, whose respective scores were 74 and 54.

Our second innings effort of 183 was somewhat better all round, but not quite good enough, as it left us with the task of outing them for 146 to win. We commenced well enough and had three of their wickets down for 37. At this stage Captain Grove and Lieutenant Rawlence came together and set about wearing down the bowling, and it was not until the total had reached 109 that they were separated. Again things began to go well for us and 7 wickets were down for 133. Recovering from a nasty blow in the face, Captain Grove decided to use the " long handle," and did it so successfully as to knock up the necessary runs without further loss.

This is the first time for several years that we have lost to the Sappers, and considering our limited supply of bowlers we did well to hold them so well on this occasion.

ROYAL SIGNALS.

1ST INNINGS.

Major L. C. Boyd, b Storey	5
Lance Corporal Williams, b DeBrett	12
Major J. A. I. Watts, c Grose, b DeBrett	0
2nd Lieutenant P. T. S. Brown, b Hancock	54
Captain E. L. Vulliamy, b Grove	19
2nd Lieutenant B. R. M. Hayles, b Storey	35
Corporal Lundie, c Hancock, b Storey	0
C.Q.M.S. Eynott, c DeBrett, b Grove	1
C.S.M. Carpenter, b Fahy	11
Lieutenant F. S. Whiteway-Wilkinson, b Fahy	2
Major H. S. Lewis-Barclay, not out	6
Extras	4
Total	149

BOWLING: Storey, 3 for 30; DeBrett, 2 for 13; Grove, 2 for 21; Fahy, 2 for 26; Hancock, 1 for 46.

2ND INNINGS.

Major L. C. Boyd, b Storey	18
C.S.M. Carpenter, b Grove	28
Major J. A. I. Watts, c DeBrett, b Hancock	35

2nd Lieutenant P. T. S. Brown, c DeBrett, b Grove	15
Captain E. L. Vulliamy, b Hancock	0
2nd Lieutenant B. R. M. Hayles, c Hogg, b Hancock	34
Corporal Lundie, b Fahy	4
Lance Corporal Williams, st Nicholson, b Hancock	6
C.Q.M.S. Eynott, c and b Hancock	18
Lieutenant F. S. Whiteway-Wilkinson, b Fahy	2
Major H. S. Lewis-Barclay, not out	9
Extras	14
Total	183

BOWLING: Hancock, 5 for 69; Grove, 2 for 40; Fahy, 2 for 30; Storey, 1 for 14; DeBrett, 0 for 17.

ROYAL ENGINEERS.

1ST INNINGS.

Captain Grove, b Lewis-Barclay	74
Captain Grose, lbw b Williams	1
Lieutenant Rawlence, b Carpenter	18
Captain DeBrett, b Eynott	7
Captain Foster, lbw b Lewis-Barclay	54
Captain Hancock, b Lundie	0
Sergeant Fahy, lbw b Williams	2
Lieutenant Nicholson, b Williams	3
Lieutenant Wilkinson, c Lewis-Barclay, b Carpenter	10
Lieutenant Hogg, b Williams	0
Lance Corporal Storey, not out	0
Extras	16
Total	185

BOWLING.	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.
Lance Corporal Williams	16	3	52	4
Major Lewis-Barclay	11	3	38	2
Corporal Lundie	6	0	30	1
C.S.M. Carpenter	8	0	29	2
C.Q.M.S. Eynott	5	0	18	1

2ND INNINGS.

Captain Grose, b Lewis-Barclay	0
Captain DeBrett, b Williams	12
Lieutenant Rawlence, c Lundie, b Eynott	46
Captain Foster, c Vulliamy, b Williams	4
Captain Grove, not out	67
Lieutenant Nicholson, c Williams, b Lewis-Barclay	2
Captain Hancock, st Hayles, b Carpenter	7
Sergeant Fahy, c Hayles, b Williams	0
Lieutenant Wilkinson, not out	0
Extras	12
Total (for 7 wickets)	150

BOWLING.	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.
Lance Corporal Williams	18	5	40	3
Major Lewis-Barclay	7	0	29	2
C.S.M. Carpenter	9	0	31	1
C.Q.M.S. Eynott	5	0	22	1
Corporal Lundie	4	0	15	0

Royal Engineers won by 3 wickets.

ROYAL SIGNALS v. R.A.S.C.

Played on the R.A.S.C. ground, Aldershot, on 13th and 14th June, and won by 7 wickets. It is pleasant to record that after striving for several years we have at last beaten the R.A.S.C.

We lost the toss and the R.A.S.C., batting first on a good wicket, were put out for 175. Of this total, Lieutenant Macdonald hit up 65 not out, which included several sixes and many blows that were intended for sixes but did not quite connect. Lance Corporal Williams worked like a Trojan and bowled very well to take 6 for 74, whilst C.S.M. Carpenter bowled steadily with a good length and fully deserved his 3 for 58.

In reply our first innings total of 217 looked well on the board, but was largely due to an exceptionally fine innings of 97 by 2nd Lieutenant Hayles. He batted really splendidly, and it was a great disappointment to all when he just missed scoring his first century in Corps cricket.

With 42 runs behind, the R.A.S.C. began well, and 58 runs were on the board before the first wicket fell. From then onwards, however, the bowlers were definitely on top and the whole side were all out for 125. Lance Corporal Williams and C.S.M. Carpenter again bowled well to share the honours with 5 for 42 and 5 for 40 respectively. This innings was notable for some brilliant work by 2nd Lieutenant Hayles, who stumped two batsmen on the leg side off fast balls from L/Cpl. Williams.

Left with 84 to make, our batsmen commenced confidently and knocked off the runs for the loss of 3 wickets.

The Buller Barracks ground bogey has at last been reverently interred.

R.A.S.C.

1ST INNINGS.

Sergeant Sadler, c Hayles, b Williams	2
Driver Logan, c Lundie, b Carpenter	34
Driver Parker, b Carpenter	11
Captain Clarke, c Lewis-Barclay, b Williams	41
Lieutenant Scroope, b Williams	4
Lieutenant Macdonald, not out	65
Lieutenant Marrison, lbw b Carpenter	6
Lieutenant Eggar, st Hayles, b Williams	4
Lieutenant Claxton, b Williams	0
Sergeant Fry, b Williams	0
Major Gibb, run out	2
Extras	6
Total	175

BOWLING.	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.
Lance Corporal Williams	21	2	74	6
Major Lewis-Barclay	4	0	18	0
C.S.M. Carpenter	17	3	58	3
Corporal Lundie	4	1	13	0
C.Q.M.S. Eynott	1	0	6	0

2ND INNINGS.

Sergeant Sadler, c Hayles, b Carpenter	51
Driver Logan, b Carpenter	12
Driver Parker, b Carpenter	1
Captain Clarke, c Carpenter, b Williams	3
Lieutenant Scroope, st Hayles, b Williams	0
Lieutenant Macdonald, st Hayles, b Williams	17
Lieutenant Marrison, c Vulliamy, b Carpenter	14
Lieutenant Eggar, c Lewis-Barclay, b Carpenter	5
Lieutenant Claxton, b Williams	4
Sergeant Fry, c Lewis-Barclay, b Williams	10
Major Gibb, not out	0
Extras	8
Total	125

BOWLING.	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.
Lance Corporal Williams	15	2	42	5
Major Lewis-Barclay	4	0	17	0
Signalman Harding	5	0	18	0
C.S.M. Carpenter	14	3	40	5

ROYAL SIGNALS.

1ST INNINGS.

Major L. C. Boyd, c Macdonald, b Marrison	2
C.S.M. Carpenter, c Logan, b Macdonald	19
Major H. S. Lewis-Barclay, c Gibb, b Macdonald	13
Major J. A. I. Watts, b Parker	10
2nd Lieutenant P. T. S. Brown, b Sadler	11
2nd Lieutenant B. R. M. Hayles, b Macdonald	97
Captain E. L. Vulliamy, c Parker, b Macdonald	27
Lance Corporal Williams, b Marrison	0
Corporal Lundie, c Parker, b Marrison	4
C.Q.M.S. Eynott, not out	6
Signalman Harding, b Macdonald	16
Extras	12
Total	217

BOWLING: Marrison, 3 for 46; Sadler, 1 for 32; Macdonald, 5 for 68; Parker, 1 for 30; Clarke, 0 for 27.

2ND INNINGS.

Major L. C. Boyd, c Scroope, b Macdonald	45
C.S.M. Carpenter, c Marrison, b Sadler	1
2nd Lieutenant P. T. S. Brown, b Parker	25
Major J. A. I. Watts, not out	2
2nd Lieutenant B. R. M. Hayles, not out	7
Extras	4
Total (for 3 wickets)	84

BOWLING: Marrison, 0 for 35; Sadler, 1 for 16; Parker, 1 for 13; Macdonald, 1 for 16.

Royal Signals won by 7 wickets.

[The report of the match Royal Signals v. R.M.A. has been held over owing to pressure on space.—ED.]

Presentation of Pipe Banners to Scottish Signal Units by H.R.H., The Princess Royal, G.C.V.O., G.C.B.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

The best that history gives is the enthusiasm it arouses.

There was no lack of enthusiasm on the historic occasion for which representatives of the Unit paraded on the afternoon of Wednesday, 8th June, 1938.

The setting in front of the Royal Pavilion at the Glasgow Empire Exhibition was a fitting one for such a milestone in the history of Highland Divisional Signals.

The Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Corps of Signals, having some time ago expressed her willingness to present a Pipe Major's Banner to each of the Scottish Territorial Units of her Corps, graciously handed these over to representatives of 51st (Highland) and 52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals in the presence of an enthusiastic crowd in front of the Royal Suite.

The representative party of the 51st (Highland) Divisional Signals comprised the following: Major A. H. Lennie, M.M., Captain L. W. J. Dryland, R.Signals (Adjutant), Captain J. Cochran, R.Q.M.S. A. Williamson, C.S.M. J. Todd, C.S.M. A. Davidson, Pipe-Major H. Brand.

This event naturally lead to the closest collaboration with 52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals, and had time permitted, we might well have sent in joint WIRE notes for an occasion which stimulates such feelings of pride and loyalty.

For the practice parade at Jardine Street, prior to proceeding to the Exhibition, we are much indebted to Lieutenant-Colonel T. M. Niven and his officers, and those taking part, as well as members and friends of our Unit who attended unofficially, and we most gratefully acknowledge the kindly hospitality offered on our return from the ceremony. Our Warrant Officers of the Banner Party, and the Pipe-Major, wish to make known their appreciation of the warm welcome they received in the Sergeants' Mess at Jardine Street.

The following extract from the *Glasgow Herald* of 9th June will let our readers into the picture, although it must be remembered that the colourful surroundings of the Empire Exhibition buildings and grounds and the presence of many visitors made an admirable setting for the great event for which we were assembled. The rain which threatened to mar the proceedings kindly held off.

"The Princess Royal was received by Colonel R. J. Nicol, O.B.E., Honorary Colonel of the 51st (Highland) Divisional Signals; Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Wheeler, Chief Signal Officer, Scottish Command; Colonel E. Birnie Reid, Commanding 51st (H) Divisional Signals; and Lieutenant-Colonel T. M. Niven, Commanding 52nd (L) Divisional Signals.

"After being greeted with a Royal Salute, Her Royal Highness inspected the Guard of Honour provided by 52nd (L) Divisional Signals under the command of Captain J. C. Anderson. She also inspected the Banner Parties of the Highland and Lowland Signals, the former under Major A. H. Lennie, M.M., and the latter under Major Victor D. Warren.

"Expressing her pleasure at seeing representatives of her two Scottish Territorial Army Units on parade, the Princess

(With acknowledgments to Robert L. Stewart, Photographer, Paisley.)

Royal said she trusted the banners would be held as a token of their Colonel-in-Chief's interest in the two most northern Units.

"She congratulated them on their appearance on parade, and hoped they would always retain their record of keenness and efficiency.

"On behalf of the Units, Colonel R. J. Nicol, O.B.E., expressed thanks to the Princess Royal for the banners.

"The ceremony concluded with the Guard of Honour marching past, headed by the pipe band of the 52nd (L) Divisional Signals."

The following were also presented to Her Royal Highness: Miss L. M. Chart, Edinburgh, who made the banners from designs produced with the assistance of Thomas Innes, Esq., of Learney, Herald of Albany, and Major J. H. Mackay Scobie, Curator of the Edinburgh Castle Museum.

We are also much indebted to Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., for the lively interest he took in the making of the banners and arranging the most happy and fitting ceremony.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow.

17th June.

H.R.H. The Princess Royal, in her capacity as Colonel-in-Chief of the Corps, presented Pipe Banners to detachments of the 51st (Highland) Divisional Signals and the 52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals on Wednesday, 8th June, 1938. The ceremony took place at the British Empire Exhibition, Glasgow, in the quadrangle outside the Royal Suite, and was witnessed by a large gathering of interested spectators, under very favourable weather conditions.

The Princess Royal was received by Colonel R. J. Nicol, O.B.E., Honorary Colonel of the 51st (Highland) Divisional Signals; Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Wheeler, Chief Signal Officer, Scottish Command; Colonel E. B. Birnie Reid, commanding 51st (Highland) Divisional Signals; and Lieutenant-Colonel T. M. Niven, commanding 52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals.

After being greeted with a Royal Salute, Her Royal Highness inspected the guard of honour provided by the 52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals, under the command of Captain J. C. Anderson. She also inspected the banner parties of the Highland and Lowland Signals, the former under Major A. H. Lennie, M.M., and the latter under Major Victor D. Warren.

Expressing pleasure at seeing representatives of her two Scottish Territorial Army Units on parade, the Princess Royal said she trusted the banners would be held as a token of their Colonel-in-Chief's interest in the two most northern Units.

She congratulated them on their appearance on parade, and hoped they would always retain their record of keenness and efficiency.

On behalf of the Units, Colonel Nicol expressed thanks to the Princess Royal for the banners.

The ceremony concluded with the Guard of Honour marching past, headed by the Pipe Band of the 52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals.

HOME STATIONS

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

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

School of Signals.

17th June.

Catterick's summer is here with a vengeance, and all those senior N.C.O.s who appear daily in breeches and puttees are exuding William Younger's at every pore. They certainly look good, although we wonder whether their slacks are the worse for wear!

Frankly, we are glad that summer has delayed its visit until June. Had it arrived last month it would have caught us in the middle of the Annual Inspection, thus adding another burden upon the long suffering backs of the spartans in marching order. The weather was wet, and so the actual inspection of the School personnel on parade had to be carried out in the communal garage. Everything went off well, and the inspection was satisfactorily completed.

At the moment our Part II Order file is in use (that's a weak one, but, nevertheless, true), so we shall extend the welcoming hand to all new arrivals collectively, and hope that their stay here will be an enjoyable one.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of No. 2306879 ex-Corporal Hunter W., at the Royal Hospital, Windsor, on 19th May, after a very short illness. The deceased, who was well known to many in the Corps, served for several years with the Army of Occupation on the Rhine and with Egypt Signals. He was discharged after completing twenty-one years' service in December, 1935, and was employed by the Post Office Engineering Department at Windsor.

The funeral, which took place at Windsor, was attended by all his colleagues from the P.O. The deepest sympathy of his many friends in the Corps is extended to Mrs. W. Hunter in her sad loss.

S.O.S.

Sergeants' Mess.

We welcome Lance Sergeants Manning S. E. and Keywood F., who have both arrived to help the duty roster along. Lance Sergeant Manning, just pausing to adjust his gas mask, left again for Winterbourne Gunner, where he is learning the finer points of Anti-Gas. We wish him the very best of luck.

Lance Sergeant Keywood arrived, complete with family, but minus his baggage. After making a complete circuit of the Northern Counties, his baggage finally turned up (as baggage has a habit of doing), and we hope that by now he has well and truly settled down.

Large and flowery bouquets are due to our Entertainments Committee, whose grey matter has been working overtime during the last month. They turned the "Derby Draw" evening into a social event, and even provided expert talent from the Darlington Hippodrome in order to make the evening an outstanding success. Having to mount guard over the offsprings on that particular evening, I have to rely on the accounts of eye-witnesses. I certainly missed a first-class show.

On 4th June a Mystery Tour by motor coach was organised for the families of the Mess, and proved a very happy brainwave. Starting from St. Quentin Lines at 5 p.m., we visited the well-known beauty spots in the neighbourhood, drank real beer and lemonade at intervals, and tucked the youngsters in their little beds again at about 9.30 p.m. There is a hundred per cent. vote for another tour in the very near future, so we hope that "Duggie" and his satellites will produce one before the weather returns to normal. Thanks, "Duggie" and Co.; please continue with these brainwaves—we like them.

Heartiest congratulations are due to Sergeant Waldron D. and Sergeant Hayhoe P. on keeping their little noses clean for the last eighteen years and thus qualifying for and being awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal with gratuity. Caterer, please note.

"D" Company, Training Battalion.

This is your favourite monthly broadcast from "Radio Catterique," Station "Doncoy," on a wavelength of 8 pints 8 gallons! Before proceeding with the news bulletin, I would like to say that my appeal for news from the Training Sections was not a great success, but there are hopes of better luck next time.

Arrivals.—We welcome to our happy family R.Q.M.S. Eastes and Corporal West from India. Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Walker, Corporal Hubbard and Signalman Toogood came to us from Malaya. We should like to thank Malaya Signal Company for the tip that Corporal Hubbard and Signalman Toogood are rather good footballers. From Field Units we have Corporal Golding from 3rd Divisional Signals, who came in place of Corporal Cannings, and also Driver (I.C.) Sanderson, from 2nd Divisional Signals. A large number of recruits have also joined the Company from the Dismounted Wing. We extend a hearty welcome to all our arrivals, and hope that their stay with us will be a pleasant one.

Departures.—Our number of postings during the past month has been rather high, and it is therefore hard to remember the names of those concerned. We tender our best wishes to all of them.

Medals.—After eighteen years of good conduct (?), the following have been awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal: Sergeants Goodison and Lloyd. Congratulations to you both.

Vocational Training.—Signalman Baker proceeded to join the Handsworth Government Training Centre, Birmingham, in order to prepare for "Civvy Street." We wish him the best of luck, and hope that he will be fortunate in obtaining employment.

Births.—On 8th June, at Burnley, to Signalman and Mrs. Burnham L., a daughter (Phyllis Mary). When she is old enough, "Les," you must teach her to make "mechanised rissoles."

Agony.—A recruit under training as a Driver (I.C.) was out driving one bright day with his instructor. Whilst in control of the lorry, the recruit came to a Belisha Beacon, and he decided to stop. After waiting there for about fifteen minutes, the instructor calmly asked the recruit why and what he was waiting for. Equally as calm, the recruit replied, "I am waiting for the beacon to change colour." (The comments of the instructor are not fit for publication.)

Whilst waiting for my leave train, I espied something rather queer. Nearby was a recruit from this Company wearing a green lanyard on his Blue Patrol jacket. On looking closer, I realised that it was quite in order, because it adorned the man

whom we call our "glamour girl." May I say, Stanley, that the glengarry looked the best of all.

One of our men has decided to take up a Vocational Training Course whilst in the Army. He is learning to be a "waitress" at the Y.M.C.A. Canteen. Congratulations, Evans; you are doing well, but please be careful to give the correct change; 2s. 3d. instead of 2s. 2d. won't do.

ACK PIP BEER.

"E" Company, Training Battalion.

The main topic of discussion since the publication of our last notes has been the forthcoming trooping season, and many are waiting for Mr. Records to decide who will be granted an extension on the Permanent Cadre for a further year. We had some very good excuses this year, and it is understood that some of them will be forwarded to a Cigarette Company, to help them decide on their next series of cigarette cards. A notice has been recently published to the effect that we may submit applications for any overseas Station preferred. We gather that the only Station mentioned was Malaya, but several wrote home for advice; one bright "Herbert" was advised to go to Spain.

The influx of telegraph boys in the Lines caused much speculation, but, as usual, the only information was for extension of leave. It is suggested that all passes be made out for a month with an endorsement—"Come back earlier if you can."

We emerged from the Commandant's Inspection with flying colours; everyone concerned was pleased with the turn-out. Most of us want to know who won the Commandant's Medal for the best all-round soldier, and if the originator of this story was responsible for spraying the barrack-room with scent.

Two of the old Brigade have joined the Ration Bag Society; both of them have our best wishes. We hope Corporal Burton will be able to raise a football team as good as the Mackworth winners when his family grows up.

Quite a sensation was caused in the Company when it became known that a night march was due to take place. The suggestion that the United Bus Company be approached with a view to running a late bus service to Richmond for the married personnel is entirely out of the question, as it is thought that they will pass through Richmond on the way back. We are expecting a cheer from "Vic" if he is well enough to get up.

The N.C.O.s' Drill Course is in full swing, and many private parades are taking place behind the scenes. One of the students is drilling his wife every evening; and in another case the Quartermaster was asked to loan four rifles to a certain N.C.O. for the children.

"Y-Ted" Drake has been admitted to hospital. We hope that he will soon be fit again, and available to hand out some more of his lessons on Bridge!

Wanted.—The man who walks across the best garden in the Company. Would he like some rose trees for his own private allotment?

C. S.

"F" Company, Training Battalion.

13th June.

General.—We have been enjoying weather which can scarcely be described as typical of Catterick, but it has been broken by constant heavy showers. This rain may have done our tulips a lot of good, had they not been dug up. The rest of the flowers may now blossom forth, however, and give satisfaction to Ginger Milroy and G.O.M. Tommy Blades, who have put in a lot of valuable work on the gardens.

Tattoo rehearsals are now in full swing, a fact which is appreciated by all, for, besides creating the necessary Tattoo atmosphere before going to Leeds, it enables the boys to dodge "works," a fine art at which many of them are already quite proficient. Owing to our late General, "Pop" Warren, having been posted, his place is being taken by either Le Hardy or Giles. Nothing being definite, one of them will have to ride pillion or act as groom. According to reports, Roundhay Park is so muddy that web feet would be more appropriate than "ammos."

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The boys who were unable to go home for Whitsun, thoroughly enjoyed themselves on an outing to Marske, under the able leadership of Captain T. W. Boileau. The weather, for a change, was kind to us, although the water was cold. Now we know why a swim only lasted about three minutes. The O.C. cleverly mixed work with play when he gave us an object lesson on commandeering a boat. Where did you learn your child management, sir?

Departures.—We bid farewell to the following, who have left us for the Units stated: 4th Divisional Signals: Signalmen Allan T., Elliot F. and Horlock A. 3rd Divisional Signals: Signalman Griffin T. 5th Divisional Signals: Signalman Fenton J. P. "A" Corps Signals: Signalman Ward L. 1st Divisional Signals: Signalman Warren R. (Pop). "D" Troop, Mobile Divisional Signals: Signalmen Buddery W. and Uttley K. L. "E" Troop, Mobile Divisional Signals: Signalman Pirie J. V. Tank Brigade Signals: Signalmen Page A and Pritchard A.

We wish them all the best.

Arrivals.—We extend the proverbial welcoming hand to Recruit Boys Yallop, Weeks and Fletcher, who have joined us from India. May your stay in the Company be very happy, and the fatigues few.

Congratulations.—To ex-Recruit Boys White, Royle and Mills on winning the whip. Did you enjoy the cake supplied by Mrs. Pack?

Things We Should Like to Know.—Which N.C.O. ate a tin of bully at Marske?

Which boy told the locals that the boys in green pull-overs were Basque refugees?

Who thought a hippopotamus was a female rhinoceros?

Why all these letters bearing the Leeds postmark?

Jews' Mail.—552 Perham Down. "Look out for Popeye at Leeds. Andres, 552, Catterick."

Pop, 419, Jerusalem. "Stamps are very cheap now!"

A.F.S. "Say O.K., Chief. Your whereabouts are at present unknown. Please advise. Chota Chief."

Easter Camp.—Better late than never! Here are some photographs of our camp at Wathgill at Easter. Our readers will see the boys can do some strange things—even display motor cycling and gymnastics.

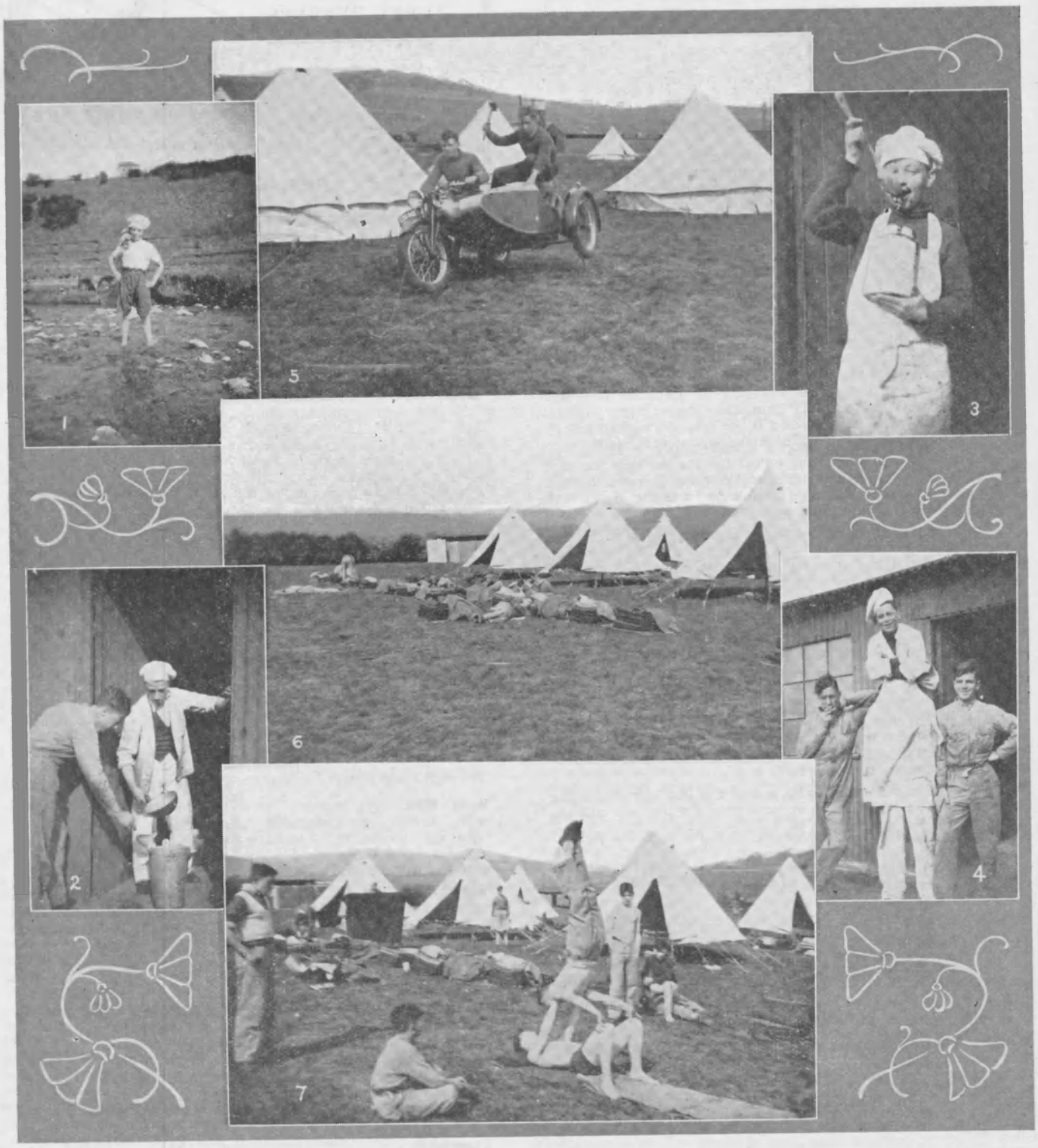
ADMIRAL.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess Training Battalion.

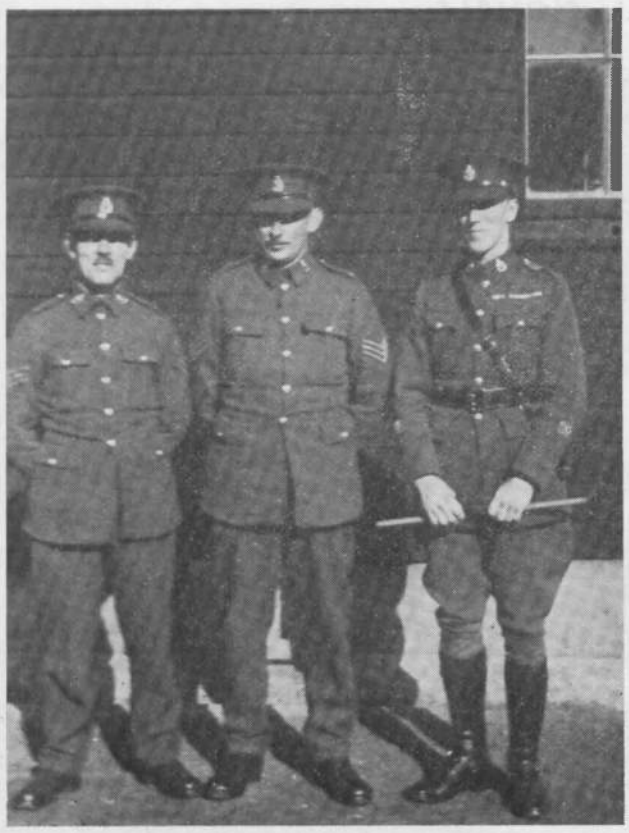
Arrivals.—A hearty welcome is extended to Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Walker A. R. from Malaya Signals, and to Lance Sergeant Warman from the Depot Battalion. May their stay be a happy one.

Departures.—R.Q.M.S. Eastes and C.Q.M.S. Edmunds to "Civvy Street." May they have the best of luck in their new sphere. We shall miss the chug-chug of the fiying bedstead "Eddy."

SOME SNAPS FROM "F" COMPANY TRAINING BATTALION.



1. Sun Bathing ?
2. The Chief Cook (most important).
3. An assistant(?) cook.
4. Cook's assistant well in the air.
5. Robbins and Foster at speed round the tents.
6. A busy day at Wathgill !
7. The boys at play.



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CELLARS STOCKED — PAYMENT AS CONSUMED

Personal.—Congratulations are extended to Captain and Mrs. P. R. Hyde on the happy arrival of a daughter, Jennifer Margaret, on 26th May.

Mess Shoot.—Congratulations to Sergeant Murphy C. and Lance Sergeant Brunton-Douglas on jointly winning the Cup, and to Lance Sergeant Kirby in purloining the Spoon.

Social.—On Monday, 23rd May, we entertained our new neighbours, 5th Divisional Signals, to a Games Tournament. After great excitement, they held us to a draw. A thoroughly enjoyable evening was had by all.

General.—It is noticed that a good many acres are being shifted behind S.T.C. Headquarters. Is it in preparation for next year's Commandant's Inspection, or for our Combined Mess ?

Mess Personalities.—This month's personalities are : Sergeants Newman F. and Green W., and S.M. (F-of-S) King V.

ASH.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

1st Divisional Signals.

General. Section Training has been the order of the day coupled with that of training masses of would-be motorists. To the latter we commend the following epitaph :

Here lies the remains of Signalman Gray,
Who died maintaining his right of way ;
He was right—dead right—as he sped along,
But he is just as dead, as if he had been wrong.

After much ado, Wednesday, 8th June, saw a general exodus from the Unit, when " E," " F " and " L " Sections proceeded to join their respective Regiments of Artillery and the Infantry Brigade. We wish them a happy training.

Marriage.—On Saturday, 28th May, Jean Cowan Taylor, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, of Staplegarden, Seale, near Farnham, Surrey, to Lieutenant G. G. L. Hinde, Royal Signals, 1st Divisional Signals, son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Hinde, Pembridge Square, London, at Seale Parish Church. Lieutenant D. R. Yearsley was the best man, and many brother-officers were in attendance at the church where they formed a guard of honour.

After the ceremony, the numerous friends of the bride and bridegroom were entertained at a reception held at the Hogs Back Hotel.

The Unit heartily congratulates Mr. and Mrs. Hinde on the occasion of their marriage, and wishes them happiness and prosperity in the future.

Athletics.—Another successful Tabloid Sports was held on Wednesday, 18th May. In order to stimulate the Section team spirit, the C.O. presented a trophy to be awarded to the winning team. " E " Section carried the honours, and were suitably presented with a clock, which, needless to say, is in use in the Section barrack-room.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters.

General.—The Road Movement Exercise has come to a close. We had contemplated publishing a summary of this M.T. Movement in this month's WIRE, but the daily papers did all the descriptive work in their issues, so the technical part can be omitted.

U.H.Q. had an office in the Field. The peace move to Bulford took place on the 27th ; we arrived at Bulford Fields at 6 p.m. the same day—it was an enjoyable drive. One interesting event took place, not actually connected with the Exercise. Some enthusiast, during one of the many halts, started up his primus and actually " brewed " the tea. I believe the tea reached one or two mouths, when the signal to advance was given, so that

1st DIVISIONAL SIGNALS.

Lieutenant and Mrs. G. G. L. Hinde leaving the Church after their Wedding.

the hedge had its thirst quenched instead. What a shame! March discipline!

At 3.45 p.m. on Thursday, 28th, the movement back to a bivouac site in the Aldershot Command (Minley Manor) commenced. "War" had already been declared, and aircraft and gas attacks were in the offing. The column reached Minley Manor at 9 p.m. that night, when operations started in earnest. We spent the whole of Friday there. On Saturday morning, 30th April, the site was vacated and everyone departed for home. The general order of the moment was a good bath, and then bed. One N.C.O., who joined the Unit Office "resting ground," apparently enjoyed his bath immensely, for, somehow, he was partly smothered with condensed milk in the early morning. This is the result of poaching and drinking coffee before bed.

Departures.—Sergeant Hammond, who joined us from London Divisional Signals, T.A., a short while ago, has finally departed. He has been employed in the Orderly Room since his arrival in this Unit, and now our Establishment has decreased again. After eighteen years in the Army, we presume he wants a change. "Civvy Street" is calling. The best of luck, Bud; we are sorry to lose you.

Our R.Q.M.S. has also left us. R.Q.M.S. Wensley was discharged after completing twenty-one years' service. It appears that this is insufficient, for he is now a Station Warden with the R.A.F. at Marham, Kings Lynn, Norfolk.

Marriages.—Our congratulations to Corporal and Mrs. White, who were married at Whitsun.

Arrivals and Departures—Officers.—Major L. B. Nicholls, who joined this Unit from Rawalpindi, has taken over the duties of second-in-command. We are pleased to say that he is a cricketer who will strengthen our team. Major R. H. Gem has joined this Unit from Egypt. May their stay be a long and happy one.

We are sorry to say that Captain Chadwick, who only recently joined this Unit from the Staff College, Camberley, has been posted to the 1st A.A. Division, Uxbridge, as G.S.O. III. Best of luck, sir!

No. 1 Company.

General.—We apologise for the absence of our notes in last month's WIRE. Maybe it was the heat that was responsible, or perhaps it was the thought of the approaching Whitsun holidays.

It is with much regret that we learn of our C.S.M.'s (C.S.M. Callegari) departure. This will be rather a blow to the lads of No. 1 Company, for we can say with some assurance that he is liked by one and all in the Company. Good luck to you, sir, when you eventually walk into "Civvy Street"!

During the R.S.M.'s stay in hospital and recuperation leave, C.S.M. Callegari has been carrying out the duties of R.S.M. Sergeant Rawson took over the duties of C.S.M.

We hope that R.S.M. Spindler will soon be with us again, and that he has fully recovered from his illness.

Arrivals.—We welcome Sergeant Clarke W. from India, Signalmen Hayne and Longhurst from Egypt, and Signalman Page from the Training Battalion.

Departures.—Driver (I.C.) Sanderson has released his clutch on "40 BB." According to reports, individuals are already walking around the Depot Battalion with their coat collars loosened. Sergeant "Bud" Hammond has also left us for "Civvy Street." We hope that they will soon settle down at their new Stations.

Query.—To Lofty Day, on leave from P.D.S. "What about a line? Jim's pal."

TASHY AND LOFTY.

No. 2 Company.

SIGNAL SECTION ATTACHED 16th FIELD BRIGADE, R.A., EWSHOTT.

Introduction.—The Section comprises the following: O.C., Lieutenant P. G. Curry; Section Sergeant, Sergeant McMillan; Corporals Cuthbertson, Thompsett and Sharpe; Lance Corporals Dix, Carrison, Plummer and Ward; Signalmen Calder, Grant, Hunter, Irvine, Johnson, Lewis, Meese, Robinson, Staton, Stubbs, Taylor and Vesty.

Schemes.—On the 27th of last month, the Section took part in a Road Movement Control Exercise. The idea was the movement of a division at war strength from one place to another in the shortest possible time. To many of us this was something new, and proved most instructive. We have since been busy with Schemes.

Departures.—2nd Lieutenant Cooke (S.R.), who has been with us since the 1st of this month, left us on the 14th. We hope, sir, that you enjoyed your stay with us, and that we shall have the pleasure of seeing you again in the near future.

During the month we also lost Lance Corporal Buttery, who has left us for "Civvy Street." The best of luck, Albert, in your—shall we venture to say—new experiment. Signalman Head has gone to No. 3 Company.

Arrivals.—To counteract our losses, we welcome Corporal Cuthbertson J., Signalmen Calder C. and Irvine. We hope their stay with us will be as long (?) and enjoyable as the exigencies of the service permit.

Casualties.—We regret to report that Signalman Westwell is in hospital with a broken leg. We hope that he will make a quick recovery.

Non-Aryan Mail.—To Signalman Whitwood, 5th Divisional Signals. "How about a line? Reg."

Agony.—811195, W.E.G. "How about it, Red? 'Knife-Fork' wants a line."

Local News.—It appears that our secret service agents have been busy this month. We learn that two members of our Section were found fishing for that lowbrow variety of fish known as "tiddlers" in the Basingstoke Canal.

Which Batman dropped the plates at Minley Manor during the Road Exercise?

What about the D.R.s who became romantic at Bulford, and the Infantry D.R. who monopolised the O.C.'s portable wireless set?

We are in a stew. What with the panting of Plummer's Red Panther, the growling of Thommo's Hillman, the gambolling of Meese's Hercules, and, above all, the depraved tastes of Hunter and Green, who eat rabbits out of season.

Lance Corporal Ward, who drums up a kettle of tea for the boys on Schemes, is henceforth to be known as "Little Drummer Boy."

Which N.C.O. says: "I'll cut your fooling leg off, and what's your frightful game"?

Out of the blue comes the whitest wash, but can we say with conviction that out of the cookhouse comes the best food? Who was the man who complained to the "Duff Sergeant" that the egg he was given for tea was bad? The "Duff Sergeant." to prove the egg was really good, ate it himself. I can assure my readers that the egg in question could be smelt in Fleet.

Next month we move to Trawsfyndd for the R.A. Practice Camp. I then hope to be able to give you more local news. Until then, good scouting.

Signalman Grant's call sign is G3KK.

WIGA.

"E" SIGNAL SECTION, ATTACHED 10th FIELD BRIGADE, R.A., DEEPCUT.

General.—We desire to thank those many thousands of readers who wrote after reading our gardening notes last month. One gentleman—to wit, a Lance Sergeant—said, "After using the chemical fertiliser you recommend, I not only lost all the parasites from the garden and the house next door, but the garden went, too." (From the window sill, we presume. Hard luck!)

The Section, which is now in residence at Deepcut, is quartered with the 10th Field Brigade, R.A. We should like to add that we are enjoying ourselves and are being very well cared for, although we do miss the celebrated "Pedlar's Pies" and his charming "Rissoles."

Schemes.—We took part in the Road Control Exercise last month, and everything was carried out without mishap. We are at present engaged in various Section and Brigade Schemes.

We leave here on the 25th of this month for the R.A. Camp at Trawsfynydd. The Gunners have invited us to their Welsh estates for a spot of shooting.

Arrivals.—We welcome Signalman Sharkey from No. 1 Company, and hope his stay here will be a long and pleasant one.

Gardening Notes.—By Mr. Raspberry (our B.B.C. expert). Sweet peas are now ready to be stuck—I mean staked. Poles, "tele" airline, are the best thing for the job. If there is any difficulty in obtaining them, just say you require an optional issue.

If your pinks should be slow this year, take them up and boil them for an hour in "Gyppo," then add the "essence of one rissole" (Pedler's), and boil for a further ten minutes. If those pinks don't sprout then, nothing will. Next strain off and allow to cool, re-plant in a hot-house and they will come up as poison ivy.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.—R.S.M., Jerome Square: Write to Dorothy Dix.

Alf., London: Sprinkle with sulphuric acid; this improves the bloom.

X.Y., Hong Kong: No; you cannot cross a rose with a daffodil.

Mary, Malta: Maybe, who knows?

Jews' Mail.—Ernie, 54 E.A., Stratford. "Gone like the morning mist, eh! Mac Junior."

Well, that is all for this time, folks.

JUNIOR.

No. 3 Company.

General.—The time has arrived once more for a few notes in order to help the Editor in keeping the Corps Magazine on the move.

No. 3 Company is still jogging along with very depleted numbers. If Dame Rumour is correct, we shall soon be having a lift up from the Depot Battalion.

At the time of writing, everyone is looking forward to Signals Week, and hoping for a spell of good weather, just for old times' sake, and the Old Comrades.

Departures.—Sergeant Lewis S., one of the old Maresfield "D" Company lads, has decided that a change of uniform would be to his advantage. He has joined the W.D. Police at Chilwell, and we wish him the best of luck in his new venture.

Signalman Roberts, ex-Boy Sergeant, has left us for Bulford Signals. We hope that he will be able to set the pace for his new Div.

Corporal Donovan has been posted to the Depot Battalion. We wish him the best of luck.

Arrivals.—The welcoming hand is extended to Lance Corporal Featonby and Signalman Kendall, who have joined us from India and Egypt, respectively.

A True One.—Sergeant-Major, calling for sports entries: "Any more entries for Company sports?"

Sergeant "W": "Yes, sir; put me down for the Two Minutes Silence."

S.E.W.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

VIRTUS IN ARDUIS.

General.—Nothing of importance to record this month, so these notes will, perforce, be short, if not sweet.

Arrivals.—Almost a record number this month. We welcome to the tea school: Signalman Martin from Peshawar, Signalman Smith from Egypt, and Signalman Osborne from No. 2 Company, G.H.Q. Signals.

Nil.—For marriages, births and departures. What is a correspondent to do when the material is not provided?

Cheerio till next month.

FRANKIE.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—All Signals in the Southern Command would like to thank Mr. Ricketts and the band for their hard work to ensure the success of another Signals Week. Notes on the Church Parade and dance functions will be found further on.

The officers had a Sherry Party on the same lines as last year, and about 300 guests attended. These functions become more popular each year. If the attendance continues to increase at the same rate annually, the health officer of the district may put his foot down, and pronounce a state of overcrowding.

Training.—A mere skeleton of an already emaciated Unit will remain in barracks after the 16th of the month. Three officers and about sixty-five men depart during the month to join forces with the Navy, and to enjoy a little sea bathing. We hope to see them back during the second week of July, full of ozone, and ready again for more training. No. 2 A.S.S. are to be congratulated on finding time to send in some notes while out in camp at Fargo; this should be regarded as a hint to "F" Section.

Sports.—The Royal Signals Southern Command athletic team are to be congratulated on being runners-up in the S.P.A. Athletics. Details of their performances will be found in the sports notes. Ten teams competed in this competition. We have now entered in the Southern Command Round in great hopes of getting to Aldershot for the Army finals.

No. 2 A.S. Section, Fargo Camp.

General.—Old scores between the forces of "Westland" and their old enemies, "Eastland," which were called off during the winter months have now been re-opened, thus bringing the Section once again into the theatre of war, located on the well-known features of "S.P. and A." (No, it is still the same old place). We have one fine day, wet the next, but we are not disheartened, and will, undoubtedly, win the war as our predecessors have done in years gone by, bringing back the "spoils," it is hoped, likewise on the "Z" day. We commenced in fine style, and we now only require that little extra kick to make it a good season all round. (More anon.)

Rogues' Gallery.—Our "movietone" camera man decided that a Section photograph would be the very thing for this month's notes. We agreed, and here are the "snapped." Can our readers sort them out? (Cosmopolitan, to say the least.) Those of you with friends in the force are requested not to exhibit it to everyone who calls. Thank you!

Sport.—Despite demands made upon the Section, we have managed to play one game against our immediate friends, the "Topes," winning by a very narrow margin of the odd goal, to say nothing of hacks and bruises which are now being eased with linament. Darts seem to have caught on. There is something else in the "Inns and Outs" of this particular region. (It's a sin to tell a lie.)

Finale.—Our best to Taffy and Bill. (You like the service; we always thought you would. Soon you will be like zebras, yes?)

JEKYLL AND HYDE.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

Just at present, we feel flat! We have just recovered from the excitement of Signals Week—and a most enjoyable week it was. It certainly broke the monotonous daily round of life at Bulford Camp.

The Corps Band, under Mr. Ricketts, arrived here on Monday, 23rd May. The same evening, their dance band played us some excellent numbers, to which some 250 people were able to gambol and make merry.

The running buffet supplied the needs of all, and appeased the most fastidious palates. Those who needed other forms of refreshment did not find it lacking in either quality or quantity as there were four agile members on the right side of the Bar only too willing to excel in their voluntary duty. In fact, the dance was a "corker."

On Sunday, 29th May, we held the big Church Parade. The following attended: Brigadier Willan, Colonel Sykes, C.S.O., The Old Comrades and the whole of the Southern Command Signals.

The Parade completely filled the M.T. Square, and what a show it was, when the Old Comrades marched on to the Square to form up, led by the banner of the Salisbury Branch. We feel sure that every man on parade felt very proud. Many remarked afterwards of the emotion they felt when the Chaplain-General of the Forces came on to the Square and blessed the banner before going to Church.

The marching of the Southern Command Signals was superb; every man must have felt it an honour to have been on such a parade.

After the Church Parade, all the old timers adjourned to the Mess for lunch, when many tales of past experiences were swopped. The tales must have concerned the brighter side of life in the Corps, judging by the frequent outbursts of hearty laughter.

Signals Week terminated in the Mess with a Social on Sunday evening, when everybody seemed imbued with all the joys of life. Our guests are certainly looking forward to Signals Week, 1939.

We wish to thank Mr. Ricketts and the Band for the most excellent way in which they have entertained us, and also the committee for the smooth running of the programme, which must have entailed plenty of hard work and carefully-laid plans.

General.—The numbers in the Mess are gradually becoming fewer. At present we have Sergeant Gratwicke and Lance Sergeant Whitfield away with their R.A. Sections, enjoying a very healthy life under canvas at Fargo with their respective Brigades. Lance Sergeants Barnett, Woodbury and Teal are also away enjoying all the thrills of a Recruiting March.

Next month will hardly see anybody at home in the Mess; Most of us will be fraternising with the Navy.

That's all.

ERGIE.

R/T Section, D. & M. Wing, A.F.V. School, Bovington Camp.

Wareham, Dorset.

15th June.

General.—We have once again settled down to work after the Whitsun break, and are approaching the intermediate stage with the present Course. We are gradually receiving the various stores required to enable us to keep up with the increase in the number of students, and also to commence work on the numerous training devices which are to be built.

Most of the married personnel of the Section are now comfortably settled in quarters; the omission of the three-mile cycle race every morning is having a disastrous effect on their figures; but this is somewhat counteracted by the energy expended in producing the gadgets necessary for home comfort.

The amateur gardeners of the Section, having decided it to be a too strenuous pastime, appear to have given up the hobby, and are becoming motor-minded instead. Conversation during the break has now veered round from the effect of frost on Joe's peas to big-end knocks and valve adjustments.

Births.—To T/Sergeant and Mrs. C. Matthews, a son, Charles, on 30th May. Congratulations.

Awards.—Congratulations to Sergeant Smith on being awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

Sport.—Congratulations to T/Sergeant Wilbraham on being prominent in most events in the School Athletic Sports, and for "collaring" the Individual Championship Cup. To Sergeant Smith and T/Sergeant Wilbraham in assisting the Sergeants' Mess team to win the Tug-of-War Championship. To C.Q.M.S. Griffith, T/Sergeant Matthews and T/Sergeant Wilbraham on putting up such a good show in the Sergeants' Mess Cricket League, and between them adding over half the Wing's total of runs.

Wanted.—One belt, leather, waist, O.S., in time for the next King's-Birthday Parade!

Set of housebreaker's implements; must be capable of opening a cigarette machine which does not yield to washers!

Agony.—C.H., 4th Div. "Don't believe it. W."

And so, customers, until next month—*au revoir*.

WEEPIN' WILLO.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Headquarters.

14th June.

General.—The usual scribe is absent on duty, and I have the task of writing this month's notes at short notice, so please don't judge my efforts too harshly.

The main topics of conversation at present are devoted to R.A. Shoots, the coming camps, and, of course, that old favourite —the weather, which has behaved in real Belfast style of late; plenty of rain, but it appears to be improving now.

We are glad to report that all our operators who were receiving M.T. instruction have now passed the test successfully; the hill at the M.I. room (referred to last month) now presents no difficulty, we hope!

Corporal MacLaren, Signalmen Couch, Wild and Garner left here on the 5th for a month's camp at Greypoint for the annual R.A. practices. We trust that Belfast Lough is better behaved than Lough Swilly, when C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Forrest, Lance Corporals Gray and Rogers and Signalman Cox were there last week for the Fort Dunree and Fort Lenan shoots! It may interest ex-Niscovites to know that No. 1 Sets were used, with exceptionally good results, for communication between the target-towing vessel and shore at both Forts.

Congratulations.—First to Captain Orr for his fine performance in the N.I.D. Golf Tournament at Newcastle, Co. Down, where he obtained three Cups.

To Corporal Grey on the occasion of his marriage to Miss Marguarita Winifred Chilcott of Bournemouth, on 11th June, at Belfast. We wish them both the best in the future.

To Driver (I.C.) and Mrs. Douglas on the birth of a daughter.

To U/Lance Corporals Gray and Rogers on reaching the first step of the ladder.

Arrivals.—Corporal Gill (ex-India) from Depot Battalion. Signalmen Humphries and Wild (ex-Palestine) from "A" Corps Signals, Aldershot. We hope they will enjoy their tour in Ireland.

Departures.—Sergeant Peters left us on 10th June for "Civvy Street," having completed eighteen years with the Colours. We hear that he has acquired a farm (quite convenient to London, too), so no more shall we hear discourses on farming! He was popular with all ranks, and we are very sorry to lose him. We wich him the best of good fortune in his new vocation.

Sport.—The activities of the Unit in sporting circles will be found in the sports notes.

Things we Should Like to Know.—Which operator, coming off continuous watch at "the witching hour" one dark night, declared that he had seen the ghost of a 120-watt set?

Jews' Mail.—To Geordie Ryan, Catterick. "Congratulations on both events. Snug."

To Busty Baker, formerly with this Company. "What about a line?"

Tailpiece.—Till next month, adieu.

GEE AITCH GEE.

FORT DUNREE DETACHMENT.

13th June.

General.—We were inspected by the new G.O.C. (Major-General Pollock) on 23rd May, and everything was found satisfactory.

All ex-Dunreeites will be pleased to hear that old Jack is still going strong. It is rumoured that he is due for the "Rooty Gong" any week now.

Many individuals are walking around here with what they think to be a highly intelligent look on their faces; indeed, a lineman was caught reading "Socrates." Such is the power of "eddification."

Signalman Jackson came over from Lenan for a few days—and did we learn things!

The F-of-S, Lance Corporals Gray and Rogers, and Signalman Cox—Albert of that ilk—arrived here on the 4th for the R.A. practice.

Lance Corporal Rogers, Signalman Picken and yours truly were on the launch, and did we suffer? To say that we had *mal-de-mer* is putting it mildly. Despite the awful weather, perfect communication was maintained.

Personal.—Who wears those lovely blue and white pyjamas?

Jews' Mail.—To Oscar, Bulford. "Where's that overdue mail? Screwy."

To-ex 47 Squad (Ballard's). What about a line? Bill."

VON.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

June.

General.—Three days to Whitsun! Visions of Catterick and Aldershot, hastily packing "Revelation" cases. Sergeant-Major's frantic last-minute efforts to get a bit more wind in those back tyres. We are afraid there will be no trips to the seaside from Jubbulpore.

The Unit is at present undergoing the pleasure of early-morning parades in preparation for the King's Birthday Parade, to be held on the race-course ground.

The main event this month has been the whist drive and dance, which was held on Saturday, 28th May, in aid of the Corps Benevolent Fund. A committee, under the chairmanship of Major R. T. Williams, Royal Signals, was formed to organise this function. The W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess kindly loaned the use of the Mess lawns to the committee for whist, and the No. 1 tennis court for dancing.

A voluntary band of helpers, under the leadership of R.S.M Nash E. and Sergeant Page W., turned the tennis courts into a fairyland with coloured lights, palms and ornamental plants.

Twenty-five tables were occupied for whist; a happy augury for the dance to follow.

The committee's cup of happiness was full when about 250 guests attended the dance, amongst whom was the officiating Brigade Commander, and Colonel T. B. Gravely, O.B.E., and Mrs. Gravely. Colonel Gravely is acting as officiating Commandant during the absence of Colonel G. L. G. Pollard, M.B.E., on leave. Mrs. Gravely kindly presented the whist prizes during an interval in the dancing.

The musical programme was in the capable hands of the S.T.C. (I.) dance band, who were battling along under the loss of their leader, Lance Sergeant Collett, also on leave in the United Kingdom. Everyone voted the dance a huge success.

The duties of M.C. were again undertaken by Sergeant Page W.

It is hoped to send £10 to the Corps Benevolent Fund as the result of this effort. Perhaps the committee will make this an annual affair.

Promotions.—We offer our congratulations to U/Lance Corporal Munslow on reaching the first step of the ladder.

Departures.—This month has seen the completion of the "S" Course. We hope that all the N.C.O.s have taken away happy memories of Jubbulpore.

"D" Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Hockey.—The month of May found us in the throes of the annual Jubbulpore Garrison Inter-Company Hockey Tournament. Five Indian Company teams from the S.T.C. (I.) competed with other Indian Units in Jubbulpore. Every round was hotly contested and there had to be several replays. All the

JUBBULPORE GARRISON INTER-COMPANY (INDIAN) HOCKEY SHIELD.
WINNERS, 1938 (FIFTH OCCASION):
"D" COMPANY, SIGNAL TRAINING BATTALION, S.T.C. (INDIA).

Standing (*left to right*): Signalman Mohd Sadiq, Lance Naik Bhagwan Singh, Lance Naik Jaswant Singh, Signalman F. M. Dora Raj, Signalman Manjit Singh, Signalman Gian Singh, Lance Naik Ghulam Khan, Lance Naik Mohd Sarwar Khan.

Sitting: Naik Saifullah, Havildur Bahadur Singh, 2nd Lieutenant R. N. Batra, I.L.F., Captain H. T. Godwin, I.A. (S.U.L.), Subedar Ram Singh, I.D.S.M., Naik Adalat Khan, Naik Harbans Singh.

games drew large crowds, and excitement ran high. We eventually emerged the winners, after a hard-fought final.

Late News.—Captain J. M. C. Hoblyn, Royal Signals, formerly O.C., "F" (Boys') Company, paid us a visit to-day from Trimulgherry, where he is now Adjutant, 4th Indian Disisional Signals.

Things we saw at the Signals Association Dance.—Major Beatson-Bell with a Life Membership Card (Crowborough Pattern).

Sergeants' Mess.

Neaves Billiards Cup.—This Cup, open for competition to the Sergeants' Messes R.A., Royal Signals, the Leicestershire Regiment, and the Phœnix and Gun Carriage Factory Clubs, has been won this year by our team. We were undefeated throughout the League Competition, and even had the temerity to make a draw with the Rest of the League. This occurred on the occasion of a convivial wind-up at the Gun Carriage Factory, when the Challenge Cup and replica (our sideboard addition) were presented to the Mess team. The only thing that we did not win was the cue for the highest break. No matter how he tried, "Shoey" Agar could not get near the winning 64.

We had some rare battles, but the old-bottom-jaw-out-pot-the-white-scowl-at-your-opponent-buy-him-a-drink-when-you've-beaten-him-method was successful.

There has been great activity on the Mess tennis courts during the last two months. The Tin and Bottle Tournaments proved very popular, especially among the fair sex.

Winners to date have been: Mrs. Wolverson and Sergeant "Keith" Mills; Mrs. "Angel" Wilson and C.Q.M.S. Ellerton-Long.

The Mess championships have been decided, and the winners are: OPEN SINGLES: Sergeant Woolhouse; runner-up: Sergeant Hoy. HANDICAP SINGLES: Sergeant Woolhouse; runner-up: C.Q.M.S. Jackson.

The mixed double event is now in full swing, but the final has not yet been decided. The favourite cry of the "bookies" appears to be "Oy," "Oy" and "Chota," coupled with, "What's their 'andicap?"

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

"A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Upper Topa.

6th June.

General.—Apologies are due for the absence of our notes last month. Unfortunately, this was quite unavoidable, as I went into hospital rather hurriedly a few days before we were due to leave for Upper Topa, and was unable to get anyone to deputise for me at short notice.

The plains were becoming a little too warm for comfort when the Unit left Rawalpindi on 27th April, and everyone was eagerly awaiting the commencement of the hill season.

For the first time, there was no three-days' marching to Topa; much to our delight, everyone travelled in lorries this year—the march was never very popular.

At the time of writing, the advance monsoon clouds seem to be turning into war clouds from Waziristan. No. 4 L.M.B. Section made a rapid move at a few hours' notice, with orders to be in Waziristan as quickly as possible. There is general speculation as to whether the various Upgrading Courses will continue, or if the Faqir of Ipi will get busy again. Just at present we are still vague as to what exactly will happen, although we should not be at all surprised to find ourselves back again in Waziristan.

So far, we have had a very enjoyable time up here. Jikka Gali has the appearance of being a gigolo's paradise nowadays; very few people walk out in uniform since we have been allowed to wear civilian dress.

Much amazement was recently observed amongst the "tat" wallahs, Bazaar wallahs, etc., when three of the lads entered the Gali in full gypsy dress on their way to a fancy dress ball at the Air Force Barracks in Lower Topa. The local inhabitants had, evidently, never seen anything like this before, and must have thought it some new and strange species of humanity.

Arrivals and Departures.—Quite a lot to record. Signalman Waugh was invalided to the U.K. at the end of April, and we all hope that the change of climate will do him good, and that he will soon be fit and well again. Signalman Rodgers thought it was far too easy in 'Pindi, so changed Stations with Signalman Trask, and is now in Dera Ismail Khan. Corporal Glover wanted to be a Cavalry man, and went to 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Trimulgherry. Corporal Young arrived from six months' furlough in the U.K., but did not stay very long, as he was posted to 1st Indian Divisional Signals, thus forfeiting a hill season.

A very small draft—the last of the season—arrived on 18th April; it comprised C.Q.M.S. Coleman and Signalmen Cunningham and Holmes. We hope they will like this Unit, and have a very enjoyable time with us. Lance Corporals Chapman and Jones, I.M.A., left for the Army Signal School at Poona, and Lance Corporal Morgan was posted to the Army Headquarters Wireless Station at Simla, where he is having a splendid time. Corporal Fox A. decided that the sea air was much nicer than the "Khuds," and has gone to "B" Corps Signals, Karachi. Corporal Swalwell departed to Quetta Arsenal, pending transfer to the Indian Army Ordnance Corps. We have welcomed Signalman Barnes from A.H.Q., New Delhi, and Signalman Lodge from leave in the U.K.

Re-engagements.—This Unit must make people like the Army. Corporal Parsons (now on leave in the U.K.), Lance Corporal Copestake and Signalman Angier re-engaged to complete twelve years. Signalman Robinson L., who joined us from Jubbulpore, decided to complete twenty-one years.

Promotions and Appointments.—Records have been very kind to us again, and we have to congratulate Corporals Harris and Payne, Lance Corporals Styrin, Morrison, Barnett, Lyons, Nixon, Hade and Jones (I.M.A.), U/Lance Corporals Morgan, Phillips, Lee, Thomas L. and Ramsden on attaining their new ranks and appointments.

Marriage.—Congratulations to Signalman Hamilton, who was recently married whilst on Blighty leave. He was married in Westminster Chapel, City of Westminster, on 21st April, to Miss Edith Annie Cormack.

Educational.—What a Unit for brains! At the last Special and First Class Examination, three O.R.s passed in subjects towards the Special, five were awarded the First Class Certificate, and seven passed in subjects towards the latter certificate. They are: Lance Corporal Jones I. M. A. (Physics and a "D" in Chemistry), Signalman Hughes E. E. ("D" in Mechanics), and Signalman Sellars (English "C") towards the Special Certificate. Sergeant Washburn, Lance Corporal Rowden, Signalmen Everard, Rowe and Warren ("D" in English), who were awarded the First Class Certificate. Corporal Fry, Lance Corporals Nixon ("D" in Mathematics) and Morgan, Signalmen Green, Lock, McCarthy J. and Rooks ("D" in Geography), all of whom passed in subjects towards the First Class Certificate.

Trade Tests.—Congratulations to Corporal Rymer, who passed the test for Electrician Fitter, Class 1, at Jubbulpore recently.

Jews' Mail.—To 2322162. Congratulations, Jerry, from U/Lance Corporal 2322163. Keep one on the ice at St. Winifreds.

Robbo, ex-T.B. Exchange. "How about a line to Corporal Swalwell, c/o Quetta Arsenal?"

PEDLAR.

No. 2 Company.

June.

General.—The first of May found the Company in Upper Topa, installed in the usual ill-lit bungalows, and making preparations for training, which has since commenced with great gusto (Chinese for enthusiasm). Our goal is to eliminate all Class III's, and to gain those elusive Class II's. It is a common sight to see Squads, with heaps of books and pencils, and an

eager look on their faces, making the grade of the khuds in great style (between rests)! Between "Reveille" and "Lights Out" the young and old can be seen gambolling up and down the khuds like spring lambs; the latter are usually accompanied by hefty sticks—and sometimes dogs—to help them on their way (what about it, Harry?).

Departures.—Lance Corporals "Badgy" Chapman and "Radio" Jones have left us for the School of Signals, Poona. Corporals Young F. and "Abdul" Fox have also left us for 1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi, and "B" Corps Signals, Karachi, respectively. We wish them the best of luck at their new Stations, and hope they will soon settle down.

Births.—P/A/Sergeant Spiers C., Royal Signals, is to be congratulated on the birth of a son, who was born at the British Family Hospital, Poona, on 24th April.

Courses.—Signalman McCormack J. proceeded on a six-weeks' Course at the Army School of Cookery, Poona, on 28th April. He is hoping to give the lads a treat of the finest cooking on his return.

Blue Book.—A large and very generous number of promotions have come our way, and congratulations are extended to the following: Lance Corporals Payne and Harris on their second stripes. U/Lance Corporals Jones I., Nixon, Morrison, Hade, Styrin and Lyons on dropping the "U" and drawing the extra pice. U/Lance Corporal Morgan on gaining the dizzy height of Unpaid. (Cheer up, Taffy; 1950 will see you a C.S.M.!)

Agony.—Several people are looking forward to October—why, we cannot imagine. What about it, Freddie? How many days to go?

Young Sandow Classes have sprung up like mushrooms during the past week or two; all we hear is, "I'll bet you can't pull out my four springs."

Sport.—Inter-Section football and hockey was played last month. Football was won by "O" Section, "B" Sub. Hockey was not finished, owing to the movement to the hills; but it was a certainty for Unit Headquarters. (Don't you think, L. M. B. ?)

F. F.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

6th June.

General.—The hot weather has begun in earnest and, despite the arguments of the many banana-season experts to the effect that it is still quite cool, the fact remains that it is stoking up.

A large proportion of the Unit are at present enjoying Courses at Upper Topa, to which health resort the annual trek took place on 6th May.

Shortly after this date, another trek from the Unit took place when our Company football teams left for the Murree Tournament. We must congratulate both our Company teams on their excellent performances. These two teams met in the semi-final, when No. 2 Company won. In the final, No. 2 Company put up a good performance, and were only beaten 2—1 by the Devonshire Regiment. We hope that our hockey team will go one better and annex the Murree Trophy in the forthcoming Tournament.

Visits.—The C.S.O., Northern Command—Colonel L. G. Phillips, M.C.—paid us an informal visit on 25th May, when he saw the Unit at its summer routine.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following, who have joined us from Units mentioned: Sergeants Standen and Redworth and Lance Sergeant Nuttall, from 2nd Cavalry Troop, Sialkot.

Lance Sergeant Tranter J. returned from "S" Course, Jubbulpore, brimful of knowledge before departing for Mir Ali.

A former member of the Corps has returned to this Station; many former members of the Rawalpindi Mess will doubtless remember W.O. Gent, A.E.C. We occasionally renew our acquaintance with him and, needless to add, much of the glory of the old 'Pindi Mess is unearthed for the benefit of new-comers on these occasions.

Departures.—The following have left us for temporary pastures new. We dare not venture to say that the change of Station is a pleasant one in all cases. However, bear up! We wish them all success: Sergeant Spearpoint F. and Corporal Reynolds W. to Damdil, N.W.F.; Corporal Richardson to Poona W/T Station Signalman Fisher (I.-M.) to Poona.

Courses.—2nd Lieutenant N. D. Shaw recently qualified at a local Gas Course.

Promotions.—Congratulations to the following on attaining the appointments indicate: Lance Corporal Cox F., in receipt of shekels; U/Lance Corporals Smith H., Crowe R., Hopwood T. and Earl A. First step up for the Field-Marshal's baton.

Education.—Congratulations to the following on being awarded the First Class Certificate of Education (with a "D" in Maths.): Corporal Metcalfe L. and Signalman Powell G. Also to Signalman Morgan J. in passing.

Sergeants' Mess.—With the arrival of the grass widowers in the Mess since the "Hill Season" commenced, one must admit that tone has been lent to the Mess, even the dining-hall has its own touch of colour. Members have been graded, and each adjourns to his own particular category, be it Officers' Chargers, Riders, or mere Equipment Kutchers. It is surprising the number of Chargers that have been relegated to the latter class. It must be the crushed oats and cornflakes that the Caterer is administering to them.

On Wednesday, 1st June, a Games Tournament was held versus our old antagonists the I.A.O.C. Our members, who performed valiantly, upheld the Mess prestige at billiards, table tennis, on the dart board, and at pushing the boat out. The Grippers' Shield was polished up for the occasion.

The contest was greatly enjoyed, and although both sides keenly contested each event, the match ended in a draw, owing to the advantage of having the scorer on their side. If the Arsenal fire alarm had not sounded at a critical moment during a game of "phat," we may have had a different tale to tell. We wish that we had some friends in the Arsenal.

Things We Want to Know.—Are "J" Section sopranos having singing lessons? We won't say that they need them, but as one expert remarked, "Kidder pukkarow the jackals."

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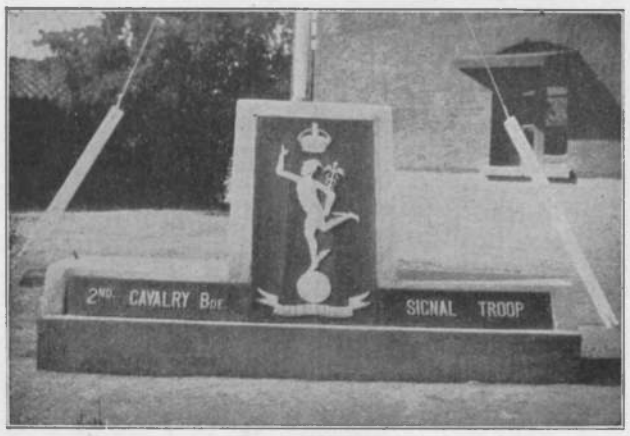
Why should Dicky distribute his loose change—10-rupee notes, watches and such trifles—to the loose wallahs ?

What has Baradoes done ? Where is that " Lost Statement " ? Don't say that they borrowed that, too !

Which Sheik now has his letters addressed to " Senor " ? Does it give you a thrill, " Inky " ?

Which stalwart said, " Don't I wish I was in the fighting forces ; step out of bed complete with Nappy soap, stagger under a shower, fall in the water, and wake up " ?



2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

VALETE.

The 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop was born in 1917, under the name of "A" Cavalry Brigade Troop. Now, in 1938, after a ten-year sojourn at Sialkot, we came of age, and the last chapter of our history is written.

We are just completing disbandment, as the 2nd Cavalry Brigade has ceased to exist as a War Unit. The horses have gone from Sialkot, and in their place are the 3rd Carabiniers and 13th Lancers as Light Tank and Armoured Car Regiments, respectively. " E " Battery, R.H.A., has left for England ; the 32nd Field Troop, Q.V.O. Madras Sappers and Miners, return to their depot—Bangalore ; and this Signal Troop is being broken up.

The words " broken up " are apt, for the work of years has been pulled down : standings, jumps, mangers, tennis courts and all.

T.Q.M.S. Handby and Mr. Pringle held an auction of our possessions, which realised nearly Rs. 500 ; a small sum, but for all that creditable, considering that it had to be squeezed —anna by anna—out of some of the biggest villians in the Punjab. A Mohmand Pathan came to the sale to watch, but not to buy. We told him we had no rifles left, but he smilingly admitted that field glasses would do just as well.

The B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s have left for their new Units (a posting list is published elsewhere in these notes). Only a maintenance party of eight hardy souls remain to pack up the stores, etc. Even as we write, the auditors in the next room are haggling over the last objection statements.

The C.O.—Captain K. C. O. Bastyan—who has been posted to the S.T.C., Jubbulpore, first of all goes home on long leave to England. The Troop Officer—Lieutenant D. A. Pringle—has just returned from the Equitation School, Saugor, with a " Q.I " Certificate, and various heads, skins, pig's teeth and prizes from the race-course. He is posted to 4th Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry.

Lance Naik Farzand Ali, who was also at Saugor, is to be congratulated on gaining third place in the remount training test. He goes to the S.T.C. (India).

Postings—B.O.R.s.—1ST INDIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, RAWALPINDI : Sergeants Standen and Redworth, Lance Sergeant Nuttall and Signalman Fisher W. 2ND INDIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, QUETTA : Corporal Parks W. 3RD INDIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, MEERUT : Corporals Knight S., Bain A. and Greenland A., Lance Corporals Allan F. and Leach W. PESHAWAR DISTRICT SIGNALS, PESHAWAR : C.S.M. King R., Corporal Day W. and Lance Corporal Holder W. " B " CORPS SIGNALS, KARACHI : Lance Sergeants Young W. and Connor G. WAZIRISTAN DISTRICT SIGNALS, RAZMAK : C.Q.M.S. Handby J., Corporal Roake J., Signalmen Brookes K., Chappell F., Cook G., Cass A., Darragh J., Durber F., Fox P., Hallam R., Howard A., Johnston W., Meek F., Mills K., Riding H., Swift A., Tonnison J., Taylor W. and Wright J. 1ST CAVALRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP, RISALPUR : Signalmen Bailey S., Roake C. and Stephenson W. 3RD CAVALRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP, MEERUT : Farrier Staff Sergeant Marshall C., Corporal Grafton J., Signalmen Bass J., Beeley E., Dexter J., Lewis W., Pittman W. and Redhouse A. 4TH CAVALRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP, TRIMULGHERRY : Lance Corporal Tomkinson J.

Prior to the disbandment of the Troop, the following left for England : Sergeant Kenny, Lance Sergeant Vine, Signalmen Evans and Shepherd—all for transfer to the Home Establishment.

Lance Corporal Holder, Signalmen Johnston and Swift are reaping the results of their thrift ; Corporal Roake J. and Signalman Darragh have signed the necessary documents entitling them to free furlough.

Promotions, which were numerous, include Sergeant Kenny, Lance Sergeant Connor and Corporal Roake. Lance Corporal Leach W., who was not forgotten, is now paid for his good work.

We enclose some photographs, indicating what we were, and what we are.

Good-bye.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

How time flies ! Here it is, time again for WIRE notes. I wonder how authors do it. If my readers peruse these notes through rose-tinted glasses, they will probably be able to stand them ; otherwise, I accept no responsibility.

Obituary.—It is with regret that we have to announce the death of our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C., Royal Signals. He died in Kashmir on 7th May, whilst on leave. The funeral took place at Srinagar. His death was a great shock to the Unit, and his passing is mourned by all ranks.

Leave.—The leave period has started for the B.O.R.s of this Unit. Men can be seen rushing into the Pay Office with hopeful looks upon their faces. I am sorry to say that several of them do not look so happy when they come out. This year, parties have been organised to take their leave in Kashmir, and all we can hear from the lucky individuals who happen to be in these parties is, " Roll on, Kashmir."

Drill Courses.—A Junior N.C.O.s' Drill Course has been in progress for the past few weeks, and the Junior N.C.O.s of the Unit are beginning to look more like Guardsmen every day. When they think nobody is looking, they can be heard muttering to themselves, and, on closer investigation, will be discovered giving themselves orders in a very smart and soldier-like manner. When caught out at this practice, they get what is commonly known as a " red neck." I don't know why ; everybody has to learn.

Arrivals.—Major L. V. Younie, Royal Signals, and wife from 3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut. C.S.M. King R. from 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot, to take over the duties of C.S.M., No. 1 Company. A hearty welcome is extended to both of them.

Heard in the Lines.—Heard at a recent rifle inspection : " Take your rifles out, and put your bolts over your shoulders."

Which man, employed in the Signal Office, thought that " Skinners Horse " was a hide factory situated in Waziristan ?

Promotions and Appointments.—The following Signalmen have secured a footing on the ladder of fame, consequent on their appointment to Unpaid Lance Corporal : Signalmen Hansen P., Beard W., Buirski E. and Purkiss G.

SOME SNAPS FROM 2nd CAVALRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP, SIALKOT.

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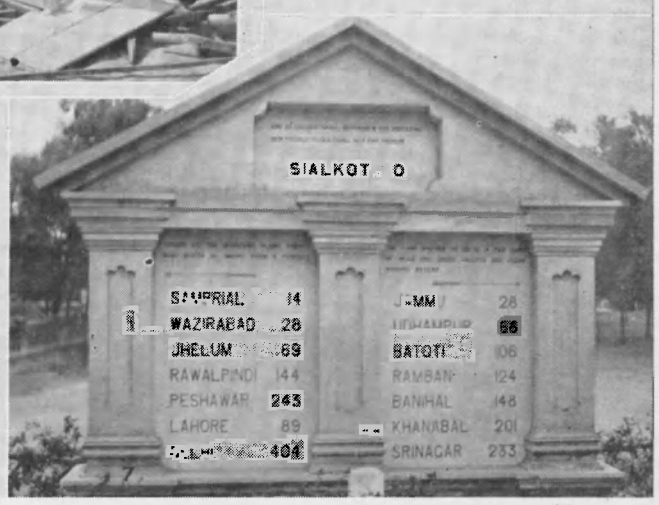

7.

1. Troop Jumping Team for 2nd Cavalry Brigade Horse Show.
2. F.S.M.O. Parade.
3. Feed away.
4. T.Q.M.S. Handby as an auctioneer.
5. Mr. D. A. Pringle on "My Clan" at Saugor.
6. A. Bunia's men removing the horse lines.
7. Sialkot—miles from anywhere !

U/Lance Corporals Hansen and Beard have since been paid for their appointment, but we have not seen any " bottles " so far. What about it ?

Congratulations.—To U/Lance Corporal Buirski E. on being awarded the Special Certificate of Education.

Topic of the Day.—Roll on, the boat ! Only 180 days to go. (One man of this Unit is said to have been caught out saying this in his sleep.)

SILO.

Brigade Signal Section, Landikotal.

General.—The football season has ended in the " Wilayat," and everybody appears satisfied. Jim Brooks because of the " Villa's " triumphant re-entry into the First Division ; " Maxie " Maden because Preston won the Cup (although I didn't know he was a Scotsman) ; and even I raise a smile when thinking of the Arsenal.

Speaking of Preston, several of the detachment were listening to the Cup Final broadcast commentary. Signals faded, and the M.C. (?) tried to tune in. Nobody seems to know what happened, but the fact remains that several people in Landikotal swear to this day that Herr Hitler scored the penalty against Huddersfield.

A tip for the management of Leeds United. A good full-back is coming your way during the 1938-39 trooping season. Take the opportunity, before the Arsenal hear about him. Your gain is our loss. Well played, Blenkinsop !

The first Course is now in full swing. The stillness of the night is disturbed by shouts of " U ring to D ring," etc., emanating from tortured candidates dreaming of hundreds of baseboards. Still, they bear up wonderfully.

The local picture house is well patronised, although we often wonder why. If some of the more eminent film producers saw their masterpieces as we see them, they would have strokes. Pending the provision of night-clubs in this part of the world, we shall have to be content with the " flicks " as the source of amusement. What about it, you reformers ? We have plenty of practical suggestions, such as Charles B. Cochran's " Young Ladies " ; running a " House School," or something of the sort.

Retirements.—The common cry among the older members of the detachment is, " Weeks to do "—whatever that may mean. Applications for " Vocs." pour steadily into the office, and some of the older folk are even learning to speak English again. Here's wishing them all a passage on the first boat.

Things We Want to Know—Whether the lads enjoyed the Khassadars' Ball.

How many fish they caught in the Camel Pond ?

Whether a " Player's tin " works quite as well as a condenser in a wireless set ?

Who said that " D.C." procedure is used on V/T and W/T when atmospherics are bad ?

Who started this " Thik Matti " idea ?

Who said " Mad about Music " was a ' sting ' " ?

Who always reads Duberne RD ?

Whether " Duberne " is a L/T or a V/T instrument.

Whether " Doctor " was trying to mesmerise it.

Who thought a Khassadar was a camel with two humps ?

In Conclusion.—That's all.

THIKMAT.

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

"B" Corps Signals, Karachi.

May.

The Annual Inspection by the Brigade Commander and the Signal Officer-in-Chief took place during the past month ; both officers were very pleased with everything they saw.

A session of Individual Training is now in progress, and strenuous efforts are being made to obtain the extra pice that goes hand-in-hand with the upgrading. Every effort is being made by the Instructors to help things along, so with the necessary assistance from the other side, we hope to see 100 per cent. pass.

The Unit is not making its trip to Quetta this year for the Staff College Exercise, so the renewal of old acquaintances will have to be held over until some other more appropriate time. It certainly would have made a nice break in our routine.

We are having our share of hot weather in this part of India, especially a fortnight ago, when the temperature reached 118 degrees in the shade—a record for Karachi.

The Lido is once again in full swing, and Sandspit appears to be a favourite bathing resort these days, especially with the " couples." Yes, we are getting amongst the marriage news, so ex-" B " Corps personnel may soon expect some interesting news.

Captain Severin has taken over the duties of Officer i/c Fixed Communications, Quetta, vice Lieutenant Hayfield, who has been posted to 3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

We extend a welcoming hand to C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Brice and Lance Sergeant Myddleton from U.K. We look forward to next season's rugger, when we hope the latter will help to provide that little extra that we need in order to win the tournament.

Congratulations to C.S.M. Coombes and C.Q.M.S. Vignaux on attaining their respective ranks ; also to Lance Corporal Evans G. on qualifying for the " Blue Book."

We now possess a little social enjoyment in the Lines, as the Corporals' Mess own a radiogram, a perfect masterpiece for picking up fans and refrigerators and losing Blighty. Still, it is a nice hobby, " twiddling the knob." The refreshment bar does provide a contrast with a piano that won't fade.

The tennis courts are now in full use with an All Ranks Tournament and Mixed Doubles, and some very interesting matches are witnessed by the large number of spectators who turn up. In the next issue we hope to be able to give the results.

Our cricketers have not yet touched a winning vein, but some fresh talent may come to light as a result of the " Miniature " County Championship matches now in progress.

Personal.—If Corporal Wood H., late of N.I.S.C., will give his present address to Signalman Wilson M. of this Unit, he will hear something to his advantage.

CHARZI.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

June.

The correct heading for these notes should be " From Wana Huts to Temporary Bungalows." We have at last been given some tin huts, which, to our inexperienced eye, are a little better looking, at any rate, than Wana huts.

Weapon Training has come and gone with a bang. Throughout the three weeks there were various complaints of sore elbows, knees, etc., but that is all in the game.

There has been very little to record during the past month, as everyone is busy—or appears to be—getting ready for the Staff College Exercise on 23rd, 24th and 25th June.

Tennis and swimming seem to be the principal attractions, and we appear to have a very good chance of upholding the name of 2nd Indian Divisional Signals in the forthcoming aquatic sports.

Individual Training is still being carried on at intervals and the individuals concerned are eagerly " Waite-ing " for the Trade Board in August.

The education results have appeared, and we have to congratulate the following on reaching the " Old School Tie Stage " (1st Class) : Lance Corporal McMullen, Signalmen Howie, MacFarlane, Ellison, Cook L. R., Saunders, Partridge and Rankin. There were some good results in the Special Examination, but these congratulations will be more in keeping when the full certificate is obtained. Mention must be made of Lance Corporal Barlow, who obtained a " D " in Urdu, and Signalman Colling, a " D " in " E. and M."

We said good-bye to a considerable number during the trooping season, but as little or nothing has been heard of them, it is presumed that they are suffering in silence whilst soldiering in Blighty. We wish them all that they deserve.

RONKAY.

EASTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

U.H.Q. Company.

8th June.

General.—Since this Company was last mentioned in these columns, numerous changes have taken place. Our strength has been considerably increased. All " Workshops " personnel are now members of the select " cads' " Company. The thing that really annoyed most of the old hands was the fact that the " black ball " system was not in operation at that time.

From recent conversations overheard in the barrack-room, we feel certain that there must be at least twelve " first " boats in October and November. Certain individuals are wandering about with that resigned look of boredom that we understand overwhelms a fellow when he has completed four and a half years in this country.

Things We Want to Know.—Who crawled around at 5 a.m. one morning, looking for his false teeth ? And where did he actually find them ?

Who is the best outside right in the Unit ?

Agony.—To J. F. B. (710) (Civilian attached). " Pat is getting anxious for a line, poor boy. Humour him, Jack. Bill."

BILMILL.

No. 1 Company.

General.—The absence of notes during the last few months must be excused, not because they were not written, but somehow or other they were not forwarded, probably having been mislaid.

Old " Divites " would be surprised to see the Unit now. It has completely changed during the last two or three years. There are very few old hands left with us now.

Time is drawing nigh for that " Roll of rolls " (the boat roll) to be published, and the old cry of " Roll on " is heard from those with expectations. Ex-" Divites " will remember the boat in the dining-hall. It is there again, complete with " Time-ex." and the " H.E." aboard. Oh, anticipation ; when will it become realisation ?

The weather is rather sticky, and we find it rather hard to live up to the O.C.'s motto, " Wake up and Live ! " Still we do our best for the good of the Company.

Duties.—The usual summer routine is in force—hill parties, stable parties, I.T., etc. There is nothing new to comment upon.

Arrivals.—A welcoming hand is extended to Corporals Knight and Bain from Sialkot ; the former is a likely addition to the Unit football team.

Departures.—None recently, but we hope to have a few from October onwards.

Jews' Mail.—124 'Pindi. " One anna only ? Jack, 122."
Crooner from Kiko. " Hope you have a speedy recovery, and can soon use your right elbow again."
Somewhere in Egypt : Kendal (Everton). " How about a line. Dick."
Tim, S.-of-S. "Abat a lain. Muchi."

BUSTY C.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Since our last appearance in print, the Company has undergone several changes. The hot weather is upon us and everyone is looking forward with a keen sense of appreciation to the approach of the monsoons.

A third of our complement are doing famously as " hill parrots." How famously, we shall know later, when No. 2 party goes up to swell the grey matter.

Nothing exciting has happened of late ; the only item of interest worth mentioning is the liaison between Royal Signals and the Civil Authorities for the Khumb Mehla, which took place at Hardwar. The " Mehla " is the gathering on the Ganges of thousands of Sadhus, or holy men, for the purpose of bathing in the sacred waters, and for performance of their religious duties at Hardwar, which is one of the two places sacred to Hindus.

The actual Khumb Mehla, which takes place every twelve years, is held to commemorate the return of Ram Chaudra, the greatest of Hindu gods, from an exile of twelve years' duration imposed upon him by his step-mother. It attracts Hindus from all over India, and, in consequence, some control is necessary in order to keep the peace, keep an eye on health questions, and to regulate the movements of the masses.

It was in connection with this that a demand was made upon this Unit to supply control point communication to aid the police. A detachment was sent, and, judging from the letterof appreciation which followed them on their return, they did some excellent work. One of the ideas resorted to was mobile W/T using No. 1 Sets on elephants.

Photographs, conveying some kind of impression of the work performed, will be submitted for publication next month.

Shop.—Training is still progressing in a small way. As we are not mechanised yet, the majority of personnel are employed to look after our long-faced friends in the stables. However, apart from such things as prickly heat, remarks like " Roll on," etc., we get along quite cheerfully.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

7th June.

General.—We think that many former Troopites are wondering what has happened here during the last few months.

Actually, things are much the same in Meerut. The place itself and the routine work do not seem to alter very much. At the moment, the families have migrated to the Hills, and the thermometer hovers day by day in the vicinity of anything between 97 and 112 degrees—with the humidity going up as the temperature goes down, and vice versa. (Oh, yes ; I know it's not so hot, buddies !) We have the usual old sandstorms to increase our comfort. and vague forms can often be seen scuttling in the moonlight with an armful of bedding for the nearest verandah.

We held our own Mounted Sports on 31st March (the eliminating rounds took place on the 28th and 29th). They went off exceedingly well. The results will be seen elsewhere in these notes.

We sent Corporal Marsh up to the Hills as an assistant instructor for the first half of the I.T. period ; also Corporal Godley, Signalmen Gillard and Goodall for their O.S.II. rating. Corporal Marsh is staying on to complete the whole season ; he is out for a Class I rating during the second half.

Corporal Wilson G. is at present at Jubbulpore. Having finished his " S " Course—and qualified, thank you—he is being posted as an instructor to the Boys' Company. Signalman Hills V. is also at Jubbulpore on the new Electrician Signals Course. He has all our best wishes.

Lance Corporal Turner (Marmy) has returned from Saugor with a " Q.1," and a " D " in Veterinary and First Aid Duties, etc., hanging from his hunting belt. Good show, Marmy !

Normal routine and I.T. have been our lot since I last wrote—except for those who have had their month's leave—with the usual season's crop of inspections, at which we were given several pats on the back.

Obituary.—It is with very deep regret that we record the passing of Signalman Smith C. G., at the B.M.H. on 2nd June. " Smithy " was admitted to hospital on 8th April, suffering from gastritis, and an operation was performed on the 23rd of that month. He was placed on the D.I. List on 12th May, and fought pluckily until the end.

The Cortege nearing the Cemetery gates.

Entering the Cemetery Gates.

Throughout his illness, his cheerfulness and pluck were admired by all of us who visited him. "Smithy" was very popular with everyone and his loss was very keenly felt. His cheerfulness and companionship, although he spent most of his time in the Troop in hospital, will be much missed.

He enlisted at Whitehall on 17th January, 1933, on his 19th birthday, and saw service with 4th Divisional Signals from February, 1934, to December, 1934, and with Peshawar District Signals from December, 1934, to April, 1937, during which time he was awarded the I.G.S. Medal (Mohmand, 1935). The rest of his service was spent with this Troop. He was only twenty-four years of age.

All ranks of the Troop wish me to express their sincere sympathy to his mother and sister on their sad bereavement.

He was laid to rest in the Lychgate Cemetery with full military honours. The Troop and a Detachment from 3rd Indian Divisional Signals, "G" Battery, R.H.A., and the 17/21st Lancers escorted him. Trumpeters of the 17/21st Lancers sounded the Last Post and Reveille; the gun carriage was drawn by horses from "G" Battery, R.H.A.

We also wish to express our deepest sympathy to Lance Sergeant and Mrs. Steele on the death, from heatstroke, of their little daughter, Ena Mary, aged five years, who had only been out here three weeks.

Congratulations.—To Signalman White, on leave in U.K., on his marriage to Miss H. Agar, at Otley, Yorkshire, on 5th May. (Oh, Blanco, you young devil!)

To Signalman (Sticky) Glew on wresting his First Class Certificate from the powers that be.

To Lance Corporal (Marmy) Turner on obtaining a "Q.1" at Saugor. (Notice anything happening to the jumps, boys?)

To Corporal Wilson G. on passing his "S" Course at Jubbulpore.

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—We take great pleasure in welcoming to the 3 bar C ranch our new Commanding Officer, Captain W. M. Ponsonby, and Mrs. Ponsonby from Blighty. We sincerely hope that their stay with us will be a happy one.

On the disbandment of the 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot, we extend a hearty welcome to Farrier Staff Sergeant Marshall C., Corporal Grafton J., Signalmen Bass J., Beeley E., Dexter J., Lewis W., Pittman W. and Redhouse A. They come as an increase to our Establishment, with the exception of Farrier Staff Sergeant Marshall. We hope that they will soon settle down in 3 bar C. We also welcome to the fold Signalman McCormick J. from the S.T.C., and trust he will like the great open spaces of Meerut.

Corporal Driver's tigress on the morning after. It was stone dead but had a motto—"What I have, I hold."

Departures.—Our Troop Officer, Lieutenant A. B. McVittie, has departed for a spot of Blighty furlough. We all wish him and Mrs. McVittie a happy time.

Tall Tails.—Sergeant H. M. Thomson and Corporal (Johnny) Driver spent a month of simple life on the off-chance of persuading a tiger or two to give themselves up. Wonder of wonders, something did happen, too. Believe it or not, but they both bagged tigers. If we can persuade them to let us have a snap of their efforts, we shall include it. Like true shikars, they brought back proof of their deeds; otherwise I am afraid that we would all have been very sceptical. We did excuse them for not bringing them back alive, especially when we saw the snaps of their tigers, but they did return with a baby chital, which by now is very tame, and has become the Troop mascot —much to the chagrin of the Troop hounds. It is growing fast, and there is nothing to touch it for speed. Just wait till those horns have grown. We shall have to be fitted with shock absorbers.

Chirpy Corner.—To Signalman (Crooner) Ward, Netley Hospital. "Cheer up, Crooner; you will soon be out. There will be quite a few of us home next trooper, and we'll be seeing you."

RUSTY.

SOUTHERN COMMAND ..... ***INDIAN ARMY***

4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

11th June.

A most eventful month, which commenced with the sun in the ascendant, has closed with the rain in the descendant!

Trimulgherry is now a health resort. The weather is cool, the ground is softening (so much so that during this week the first game of rugger was played between a combined team against the 18th Battery, R.A.), and the "lady gardeners" (female for Mali) are busy digging, potting, planting and generally beautifying the place.

The first week in the month saw us forsaking the horses in a morning for the ranges, with the result that every bull in the vicinity was riddled to bits. The Troop has a very high percentage of first class shots.

The Unit has acquired a moustache ! No feeble, tooth-brush affair, nor yet a Clark Gable, lip-line arrangement, but a bristly creation which can be seen from behind ! It protrudes grandiosely from each cheek, and ends in magnificent one-inch diameter curls. It has recently joined us from Sialkot, attached to a Havildar. It is not only a moustache, it is an achievement, and certainly an adornment to the Unit. Its only disadvantage is that it may frighten the remounts.

Yes ; ten of them arrived during this month, and they are being paced and trained by our " Roughs."

From Sialkot we welcome Lance Corporal Tomkinson J., who has joined us for a short spell. A horse, complete with the usual points, has already been issued.

Last, but not least, we heartily welcome Lieutenant J. H. L. Crichton, who has reported from Saugor. He arrives in good time to take over from our O.C., who goes home for furlough in mid-June.

A spectacular goal, the story of which would make a good second to any fishing yarn, was scored the other day at hockey when the O.C. made a bold solo effort and landed, together with the ball and the goalkeeper, in the net ; whereupon the goalposts and the net collapsed about them in glorious array ! If you make a habit of this, sir, you won't go on furlough.

A gateway can be a thing of beauty and wonder. Buckingham Palace has a gateway ; and there is the famous Gateway of India at Bombay. Not to be outdone, we, too, have a Gateway. It was made in our small Troop workshop by an I.M.T.III and an O.S.I. (Those on English leave, please note.)

Much time and thought have been spent in its design and construction and when it was made—well ! Hang the Gate ! Everything hinged on this ! Alas ! The posts collapsed. Undeterred by such barriers (and gates), determination (plus logarithms and Jackson—the cementing syce) has won through. Behold the Gateway to the West—of 4 bar C !

A recent pamphlet states that we are to be issued with a G.S. Truck and a No. 8 Set. The official details of the No. 8 Set are : " Cancelled before design was completed." Pshaw ! We'll have no " truck " with such a Set.

" Lanterns, hurricane " have caused a tornado. We grieve with the Troop Q.M. (page one) that a Stable Piquet is not a Guard proper, and that it has been incorrect to issue oil proper for lamps proper to give light proper to attend to horses properly during the night. We hope he will not burn the candle at both ends in order to make a proper adjustment.

A Trade Board is at its height. I.O.R. Operators, Telegraph, are becoming good Operators, Visual, and vice versa. Very versatile ! We wish them luck.

A Jumping Course, including twenty varied jumps, has been arranged for the Annual Inter-Section Equitation Competition, of which more later. It only needs one such jump to make a rider lose his head ; or, rather, lose his seat and find his head, sez Oireland. Another recent arrival says that it is " very hard " Station.

On 9th June the Unit paraded independently to celebrate the King's Birthday. We must have looked a gay company to our M.T. Corporal, who thought he was the king who once hid in a tree. The Corporal was taking photographs of the line as we marched past. Was it O.K. ? (The line, ass ; not the tree.)

Sport. We have had some good games of hockey during the month, and have found some new opponents in the Military Detention Corps. We miss Corporal Brennan at centre-half, but are " managing " until he returns from leave.

v. 4th Indian Divisional Signals	Lost	0—5
v. ,, ,, ,, ,,	Won	1—0
v. Headquarters, Deccan District	Won	1—0
v. ,, ,, ,,	Won	3—0
v. Military Detention Corps	Lost	1—2
v. ,, ,, ,,	Won	2—1
v. " C " Battery, R.H.A.	Drawn	2—2

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OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Egypt Signals.

"W" Troop, No. 2 Company.

Abbassia, Cairo.
June.

Musketry.—The Troop is doing its share in the annual expenditure of ammunition. We are rushed off to the range before sunrise, I believe. They woke me up as they went out this morning. Up to press, reports state that No. 3 Company butt markers are failing badly. Perhaps it is the rifles. You probably know these old rifles that the Signals possess !

Departures.—Sergeant Gibbs, Lance Corporal Birkett and Signalman " Geordie " Storey to the U.K. We shall miss these two good N.C.O.s, and " Geordie," whom we can only describe as a brilliant conversationalist. We wish them good luck wherever they go.

Arrivals.—We welcome Sergeant Hart and Signalman Barrie from U.K., also Corporal Ransome and Lance Corporal Gant from No. 1 Company.

The April scribe is now back from the " Muscle " Factory, Alexandria, a thinner but wiser man.

Western Desert Reconnaissance.—The Troop were out from 24th to 29th April with " Z " Troop. The three photographs show : (No. 1) A late dinner by the camp fire. Left to right : Driver Kimpton, Corporal Holland, Signalman Scarsbrook, Driver Cloete and Sergeant Dunn. (No. 2) How " Dutchie " Holland got off his mark when the Troop Leader said, " You may go for a swim." (No. 3) Troop Rendezvous.

Another reconnaissance is in the offing, but more about that next month.

Swimming.—" W " Troop v. No. 1 Company, H.Q., and " M." Relay—disqualified. Water polo—won 3—1.

STUMPI.

No. 3 Company.

Not much of interest has happened during the month. The first half was given over to driving instruction for the second drivers, and the latter to the annual range practices and preparation for Individual Training, which commenced on 30th May.

Moves.—Lance Corporal Barlow and Signalman Mullen to No. 1 Company. Signalmen McGowan, Gammond, Nisbet, Jackson and Harrison have also gone across there for attachment during the I.T. period.

Arrivals.—On 13th May, Lieutenant J. E. S. Sanders, " E " Section, and numerous other ranks. There are too many to mention individually. We offer them all a hearty welcome and relinquish to them the top place on the " Duty Rosters."

Courses.—On 26th, 27th and 28th May, the Company, having previously reached the end of that distasteful part of military training—" Musketry ", fired on " G " Range. On these dates, the imaginary tribes that abound in the Black Hills district for Scheme purposes, must have been put to flight over a far greater area than usual ; even the instructors had " flags."

Individual Training.—On Saturday, the 28th, quite a few members of out-Sections returned to their parent Unit for upgrading. Lemonade flowed like water in the canteen, and such phrases as " When I came out here in February last," followed by the usual " Griff," could be heard all night. " Taff " eventually departed, seated himself in the moonlight, murmuring the while, " When I came out in 1925," whilst the school rendered " Go to sleep our little ' Beacon Boys.' "

Mechanised Married O.R.s.—A couple of months ago we had the pleasure of describing those monstrosities on which the married O.R.s reach barracks daily. Since then, the Ark must have been salvaged, because two have been reconditioned. The " Sunbeam " now has a horn as part of its equipment, and the owner has also been observed to use it. The " What Not " has been operated upon ; the owner now frequently uses a taxi !

" Batty "—the Learned.—Says: " When two people are talking together, it is an intelligent conversation; more than two is a 'Grip.' "

West comes East.—New drafts, new ideas, and new mysteries from the messing department. Shredded Wheat for breakfast! However did we afford it? Boiled eggs, camouflaged as rissoles, for supper! However did they think of it? Well, well; time marches on. Soon we shall have milk for " break," and parade for nature study rambles, as we hear they do in Blighty.

Sympathy.—For Taff, as he ran 3,000 dummies through a rifle after he had fired his " rapid."

TEE-NUH.

Corporals' Room.

At last we propose to contribute a regular series of notes. We will not commence by apologising for any previous failure in this respect, because, for quite a long time, we have either lacked a scribe or news.

The Mess is developing into a big concern, what with the formation of another Company and increases to Establishment. In other respects, it is almost a matter of life and death to obtain a cup of tea from our 3 x 2 service counter.

We have welcomed many new members from the U.K. during this season, and also bade farewell to many who have returned home. Changes have been so numerous that at the moment we are still learning each other's names.

Corporal (Swede) Peree, who could take it least of all, boarded the big boat on 10th April. We owe him a vote of thanks for his last good deed in making a trellis-work fence around the Mess. The next departure was in the nature of a final clearance, which took place on 12th May, when Corporals Morrison, Watson, and Henshaw and Lance Corporals Bosher, Pirie, Smith, Walker D. and Summers graciously vacated the best chairs we have and took the train to Alexandria. Only half an hour before they departed, Corporals Jenkins, Lee A., Marsh, Wood H. and Machin and Lance Corporals Vassila, Holmes, Houghton, Nurse, Morris and Sutcliffe arrived to spend the next five years with us. They were soon made at home, and during the evening, at a Mess meeting, we asked them to help swell our funds for future entertainments (sort of come to tea, but bring your own cup and saucer). They were quite agreeable, but afterwards we decided to change our ideas and let the funds swell themselves.

To complete the notes on " comings and goings," we must extend the welcoming hand to the wives of Corporals Bennett, Holland and Marsh. We need their help at our social functions very much.

As is the usual custom, a farewell evening was given to the home-going draft. They had voted in favour of having a free evening, and we supported the request. On 7th May, the Mess was gaily decorated, and with the barrels previously tapped, we all turned up to drink, dance and be merry. The Corps dance band, which was in attendance, played throughout the evening. The W.O.s, senior N.C.O.s and their ladies were invited, and the dancing, as well as the " gripping," continued until everyone was exhausted. It was voted an excellent function by all, and thanks are due to the work put in by Corporals Robertson and Williams and Lance Corporal Ross, who ran the whole affair.

After this event, when our funds were rather shaken, Corporal Pape and Lance Corporal Ross (Entertainment Committee) certainly proved that shows can be put on without the assistance of Mess funds. On Tuesday, 17th May, we commenced with a Games Tournament—" Old Blokes " v. " New Blokes "; in other words—those with over two years' service in Egypt versus those with less than two years. (I'm old, thank goodness.) No less than nine different games were in progress, and we were able to discover the " dark horses " amongst the new arrivals. A very enjoyable evening for all who attended.

R.S.M. Harris, who consented to referee this thrilling contest, declared the " New Blokes " winners, and a prize was presented to each member of the winning team.

The tournament was wound up with Corporal Jenkins at the piano and Corporal Ransom in harmony with his piano-accordion, or squeeze-box, as we know it. We must not forget those who assisted vocally. Lance Corporal King's rendering of " Little Drummer Boy " was very much appreciated. By whom? Perhaps only myself after all.

On Sunday, 22nd May, a Table Tennis Competition was organised. There were sixteen entries, and a very high standard of play was witnessed. Lance Corporal Marks, who was the winner, was presented with fifty cigarettes. Many are confident of taking the championship from him in the near future; the best man was not playing, says I.

The next effort by the Entertainments Committee was a whist drive and social evening on Tuesday, 24th May. The attendance was good, but as many had to be up early the next morning to shoot with their " muskets," the numbers depleted earlier than would normally have been the case. On this occasion, the W.O.s, senior N.C.O.s and their ladies had an open invitation. The evening commenced with nine tables of whist; only ten hands were played. The winning lady received a pot of jam, and the winning gentleman fifty cigarettes.

The tables were then cleared away and the floor prepared for dancing. A card dance was given, with prizes for the winning couple. Mrs. Best and Corporal Bryan were the lucky winners. On this occasion, " gripping " was definitely barred, and we all were kept amused by the continuous variety of entertainment provided. A song paper was supplied, and, with Corporal Jenkins at the piano, everyone sang heartily. Lance Corporal Ross then entertained us with a Guessing Competition. He made signs with his hands and body, which, he said, represented the name of a film. He put his show over very well, in spite of " barracking " in the loud speaker, and provided plenty of laughs.

One hand of " Tombola " was the next item. But what a " shouter "! He couldn't understand himself, a fact which made the game more complicated, as one needed to be an interpreter in order to win. Refreshments and more dancing followed, and the evening concluded with a Darts Tournament, for both the ladies and gentlemen. The lady's right hand was tied to the gentleman's left, the darts being thrown together from the coupled hands. Mrs. Bryan and Lance Corporal Sutcliffe, who were the winners, were rewarded with a pot of jam and twenty cigarettes, respectively.

We now look forward to a Games Tournament against the Senior N.C.O.s' Mess on Tuesday, 31st May, and also a dance and social on Saturday, 4th June.

The following returned from a P.T. Course at Alexandria on 21st May: Lance Corporals Bothamley, Burdon, Calver, Barlow and Barr. They all look very bronzed and sturdy, and are anxious to show " us weaklings " exactly how to cure rheumatism. We hope that they have all managed a " Q.1."

We had some successful candidates at the March examination for the 1st Class Certificate of Education. They were: Lance Corporal Marks, who passed in all subjects, and obtained a " D " in Maths.; Corporal Russell, who passed in Maths. and Map Reading; and Corporal Harris, who passed in Geography. Congratulations to each of you, and don't forget the old school tie, Tubby!

Corporal Robertson D. decided that a six months' rest at Alexandria would probably cure him of his momentary lapses, and so left us on 18th May. It will not be a complete rest as he undertakes the duties of Orderly Room Sergeant at the Single Soldiers' Change of Air Camp; he has been appointed A/Lance Sergeant whilst holding this position.

More next month, so, until then, cheerio!

LOFTY B.

Palestine Force Signals.

June.

General.—The month of May (heigho! etc.) saw many changes in the dispositions of the out-stations. No. 3 Section from Sarafand relieved us at Nablus and Jenin, thus releasing personnel to enable us to open up new stations in more or less hostile villages—chiefly in the Northern Area. The Manchester Regiment moved from Tiberias to Acre, where there is now a nucleus of Signals. Although there have been several casualties amongst the troops here, this Section has been able to dodge the bullets (touch wood); we hope that our luck will hold until these disturbances are quelled.

Nowadays, the gardening fever is at its height, and there are rumours of prizes to be presented later. At present there are only a few gardens in Carmel Camp showing results. The M.T. who have obtained—on a A.F. 108—two cyprus trees from Rosh Pinna, and a rose tree from Acre, are tying with the Workshops who " borrowed " a few tomato plants, and " acquired " several geraniums from divers sources. The opposition is bound to come later.

Correspondence.—
To N.C.O. i/c Pay.

Dear Q.—For the love of Mike give me a big pay this week, the dhobie is after my blood.

Yours hopefully,
——————Signalman.

Jottings.—N.C.O.: " I want all your empty petrol tins this morning."

Patrick: " Shure, you can have them all, but one of the empty tins has petrol in it."

D.R. (painting his Norton): " This must be a Yiddisher paint brush—one stroke puts the paint on, and the next one takes it off."

Overheard.—First Op. (over the 'phone): " What's the matter down there this morning? I keep ringing, but get no reply."

Second Op.: " I don't know, but I think something is shorting."

First Op. (a little hard of hearing): " Oh, so that so-and-so is messing about *again*, is he?

Finish.—Believe it or not, but in this land of the pronounced proboscis, there is a free " picture and tea " next week.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess, Jerusalem.

General Post.—Having broken the ice and deposited " Buckets, Fire, three of " beside me, I'll play the monthly " bleat " upon the ivories.

Arrivals and departures have been few. We welcome Corporal Philippson, the latest gift from the " Nuts and Bolts "; he sure can shake a " nifty " hand at solo.

Mrs. Carr, wife of the one and only Tom, and Mrs. Williams, better half of Corporal Williams, joined the Station, per S.S. Orantes, an increase to the pioneers of " Sunday Night at 7." May the wee " chips " of the aforementioned play ducks and drakes with the donkey park.

Staff Sergeant Yendole and Lance Sergeant Dowson of the attached have proceeded to out-stations. Pop in and see us some time, but don't wear your best tie; it will be like waving a red flag to a gallant Staff Sergeant-Major. Like the " Goodwin " Sands, the best of knives are liable to slip at any old time.

As a family man, may I add a few words regarding the remaining families who, since January last, have been going to arrive each month. At last the " trouble and strifes " have been warned to join their husbands in Jerusalem, and 18th June will find the families safely aboard the S.S. Modasa *en route* for Palestine. We should like to have them all in Jerusalem, but the powers that be have decided to share them amongst Sarafand, Haifa and " Jerusalborough." It is hoped that they will be visiting this Mess at a later date.

Oranges and Lemons.—As a tail-end to last month's contribution, we mentioned that the Corps of Military Police were being entertained to a Games Tournament in the Mess. Well, they were entertained, and after many hectic battles of darts, shove-halfpenny, and a host of other games, the end came in sight with Sergeant Robinson and Sergeant-Major Stoddard (C.M.P.) fighting a game finish on the shove-halfpenny board. The Mess required just one point to win, but the Police, with amazing sleuth-like skill, forced a draw—56 points apiece.

As a decider, the famous " boat-race " was introduced, and six gallant lads lined up beside the table with six gallant pints lying handy. They're off! The " coppers " were late in getting away, and, at the first furlong, the Mess led by half-a-pint. Over the second hurdle, "Alfie " fell in his beer, failed to recover, and gave the crimson " tit-for-tats " a clear pint lead. The Mess fought gamely, but eventually our guests passed the post still one pint the lead. " Jimmy Griffin," the first trophy put up for contest in the Mess, thus passed to the Police, and so ended a very enjoyable evening. Although " Jimmy Griffin " has left us on temporary loan, the price of victory resulted in a few more tie-ends swelling our collection.

The first " At Home " proper took place in the form of a dance in the Mess last Saturday evening, when from 9 p.m. until 2 a.m. about 75 members and guests danced to the efforts of London's leading bands through the medium of our latest addition to Mess property—a Philip's radiogram.

All agreed that the dance was a success, and here's to the next time. Many thanks to the committee and those willing helpers who assisted to make the show a " winner."

Congratulations from the Mess to the following, who, by virtue of going to bed early and saving the coal, are now the proud possessors of " Gongs, Rooty ": Sergeants Miles, Hunt and Stevens, and Corporal Perfect. Cads, all of them!

This month's tail-end concerns Corporal Weller, who, unfortunately is laid up in hospital at Sarafand. Speedy return, Sam.

FOUR X TWO.

No. 2 Wireless Company, Sarafand.

28th May.

Promotions.—We were all hoping for the " hat trick " under this heading, but Mr. Records played the ball straight back to the bowler. No drinks were scored.

Arrivals.—We welcome Mrs. Newman, the wife of our C.S.M. Mrs. Newman arrived here, ex H.T. Dorsetshire, on 12th May. Please remember you are entitled to five Palestinian pounds for five English pounds!

We also welcome Lance Corporal Walters back from leave, and also the new draft that he escorted here. They are: Signalmen Peckham, Joint, Richardson, Mitchell, O'Marah, Dean and Sayers. We hope he did his stuff with the money changers at Kantara, so that they were not unduly stung.

Lance Corporal " Croucher " McQuade is very pleased to be back here after a change of air; needless to say we are pleased to have him.

Re-engagements.—Corporal Smith R. P. L. and Lance Corporal Mintram E. have both signed on the dotted line, and are now all set for pontoons only.

Entertainments.—Whist drives and impromptu dances are still being held, with the usual success.

" Bomontie " Shield.—For the first time after many months, the old " Bomontie " Shield was played for on Saturday, 14th May. The Police arrived in force at 7.30 p.m., and, after oiling up, the party commenced.

Games were soon in full swing, and, from early results, it was evident that the Police had brought a strong contingent with the intention of retaining the trophy. But our lads were well trained, for at 10 p.m. the scoreboard read: Police, 27 points; Signals, 27 points—with two more games to be played. By this time the wicket was getting very sticky, and the light was bad; some of us could not see at all! The games outstanding were " Tip it " and " Beer drinking."

" Tip it " was played first, and we succeeded in winning the first leg. Then Sergeant Callard, of the C.I.D., did a little homework, and by standing behind our team enabled the Police to take the second leg. We are not for one moment suggesting any foul or unfair play, but his actions were certainly open to criticism. Amidst great excitement, the last leg was decided over the table, and the Police succeeded in winning this event, which made the score read: Police, 29 points; Signals, 28. We now had to win the Beer Drinking Competition to force a draw, but, unfortunately, we failed, and lost this event by a mere mouthful.

We might add, by way of an excuse, that the original captain of our side (Bill Stratton) was unable to take part, owing to over-training. When interviewed on this point, he said: " I cannot understand it; I was quite fit at rehearsals."

We congratulate the Police on their splendid victory, and hope that we shall have our revenge at an early date. The Police team was captained by Sergeant Callard, and our thanks are extended to him for the arrangements he made.

At the conclusion of the games, the impromptu concert, which was held from 10 p.m. until midnight, was very popular. There were so many first-class entertainers that we began to wonder whether we were in camp or at the London Hippodrome. The M.C.'s chair was well filled by Mr. " Cupid " Medlycott, who was ably assisted by his hard-working committee—Messrs. Farrer and Diggle.

Cricket.—Corporal Cole and Lance Corporals Waterston and Smith H. are batting very well this season. At each match it

is estimated that each consumes six cakes, seven chocolate biscuits and eighteen sandwiches, not to mention numerous cups of tea. Owing to duty, the last-named has found it difficult at times to be present, but so far has always managed to arrive at least five minutes before the tea interval.

In the actual matches, we have recently defeated the R.A.F., Ramleh, by eight runs; the R.A.F., General Hospital, by six wickets; and the 1st Battalion, Royal Scots, by five wickets.

Things We Want to Know.—Who gate-crashed at a private party, and then threw raw eggs in the electric fan?

Who spells "Anticipated"—"Antissepted"? Cheer up, Keefie!

Who takes $7\frac{3}{4}$ in topees?

W.O.s and Senior N.C.O.s' Mess.—Our monthly whist drive and dance, which took place on Saturday, 21st May, was voted a great success. The prizes for whist were presented by Mrs. F. W. Nicholls, the wife of our Commanding Officer. The attendance was so large—proof of the popularity of these shows—that we will have to find more accommodation in future.

Although the band (?) played all the latest tunes, the most popular number of the evening was "Let us be sweethearts all over again." Can anyone explain this?

Thanks are due to our P.M.C. and his committee, but he must realise that the P.M.C.'s pound is a monthly allowance, and not a weekly affair.

A social evening for members and their wives was held on Wednesday, 25th May. The fish and chip supper, eaten whilst we were seated on the sawdust floor, with soft lights twinkling from the candles in beer bottles, vinegar from the wine vaults, salt and pepper from the cookhouse, and the meal straight from the paper, was a novelty number that reminded one of home. I would describe this evening as a very happy family gathering, with "Claude" always prominent with the milk.

We started to play some tennis on 12th May, but a very heavy and most unusual thunderstorm on 16th May has completely ruined our Muttee Court. We have the "pie-makers" at it again, and hope to go in action some time next week. On those days when we were able to play, the form shown was very promising, and we should be able to select a very good team for singles, doubles and mixed doubles.

That is all this month.

YIMKIN.

Malta Signal Section.

Command Signal Office, Valletta, Malta.

8th June.

General.—Among the items of general interest this month, Combined Operations are most recent and fresh in our minds. On a somewhat larger scale than that to which we have been accustomed, plenty of work was anticipated. Our task was lightened considerably by previous maintenance work put in on defence communications, and everything went off in a very satisfactory manner indeed.

A.R.P. Squads seem to be fashionable these days, and were very active during the Exercise. Realism suffered when the civil population allowed curiosity to overcome their caution, and the sight of civilians examining tear gas generators, regardless of tears and diving aircraft seemed somehow all wrong.

Though of short duration, the Exercise was quite instructive, and when all reports have been studied, we shall, no doubt, hear more about it.

Back to the Fold.—Lance Corporal Shaw has rejoined the Section from his cruise with H.M.S. London. Leaving Malta on 19th April, he tells us that an 8in. shoot at the wireless-controlled Centurion preceded a trip to Palma. A trip ashore at Palma gave an opportunity of seeing Franco's soldiery, who patrol the streets in armed parties and appear to have things very much under control. At Valencia, air raids were witnessed from a safe distance, and considerable damage appeared to be done. The troops showed no anxiety to step ashore at that port.

As a contrast to Valencia, a short stay at Cordova showed a pretty Spanish town as yet untouched by the ravages of war. At Barcelona, air raids were a regular feature and forty refugees were embarked from there and landed at Marseilles.

After the sights of Marseilles, a further run to Palma concluded the more serious part of the cruise, and putting in at Villefranche, the happier phase of the trip began. Cannes, Nice, Monte Carlo and Mentone are all within easy reach, and were visited in turn.

Lance Corporal Shaw is very reticent about this stage of his holiday, but appears to have put in some good work with the camera and had rather a good time. The Casinos are still doing business, so "the system" failed, as we anticipated. Not content, Lance Corporal Shaw speaks of his next cruise!

Registrar.—Congratulations are extended to Corporal and Mrs. Crouch on the birth of a daughter. Corporal Crouch goes on leave to welcome home the little stranger, and seems relieved at the thought of turning over his housekeeping duties to more capable hands.

Medals.—Our heartiest congratulations to Sergeants Williams and Cutler on the award of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal (with gratuity).

In Conclusion.—We have an N.C.O. who once went to bathe and returned looking very blue and startled. Now he anxiously watches the daily temperature, and may be seen parting the ocean any day now. For the moment he will just sign off as

SKIP.

Tientsin Signal Section.

May.

General.—Things are still plodding along in the same old way well, nearly.

Rumours are fairly frequent of mythical advancing armies, and the local newspaper reports on the war out here are the subject of much amusement in the Mess. A typical example is one which stated that an aviator's machine was brought down in flames, whereupon he scrambled from the wreckage and—like Horatius of old—held back hundreds (or was it thousands) of the enemy until, feeling cheesed off, he committed suicide. What a hero! Banzai!

The summer is here, and so are the hordes of little devils—flies, bugs, etc. Talking of bugs, our tame Songbird has been appointed official bug hunter, complete with blow lamp. We think it is because of his love for animals, but as his bench friend remarked, we wish he'd keep them chained to his bed.

Technical.—At last the long-awaited new transmitter has been put into action; communication has already improved considerably. Our Foreman-of-Signals and Signalman Charlish are to be congratulated on their labours; they put in some long hours.

Inspections.—During the month, Major-General A. W. Bartholomew, C.B., C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O., C.-in-C., China Command, paid a visit to the area on a tour of inspection. We are sure that he found everything in an excellent condition.

Social.—The soccer season closed with a swell dinner to celebrate the Staff and Departmentals winning the Capstan Cup and the League for the second successive season. Two brilliant speeches were made; the political situation makes it impossible for me to comment on them. The President of the Football Association paid a special tribute to the clean play of the team throughout the season. An impromptu concert followed, with Molly Morgan and Songbird in action. To wind up the evening, two of our Podgy men entertained the Section in a demonstration of how not to hit each other.

Recreation.—More interest and competition has been created in tennis this season by the formation of a Military Tennis League. Teams are composed of two pairs and each corps has at least one team, and the Regiment about eight.

Up to date, the Section team has won its two matches, 6—0 and 4—2, and we are confidently expecting them to be at the top when the season ends. The following are the Section team so far: Lance Corporal Verlander and Signalman Welchman (Tientsin champions, we think), Sergeant Gresham and Signalman Little.

The Junior Staff Mess (with seven Signals) managed to beat the Sergeants' Mess in the annual cricket match. Things looked pretty bad when we batted first and had 5 wickets down for 29 runs, but a stand of 74 by Corporal Hall (39) and Lance Corporal Copsey (35 not out) made things look brighter, and we managed to win by 31 runs. Signalman Welchman took 3 wickets for 10 runs.

A week later we again saw the seniors off at indoor games, but only our prowess at table tennis enabled us to pull through. Plenty of "hooch" was drained, and we are hopefully looking forward to the return.

Obituary.—In memory of Sheils, one of our numerous collection of dumb animals. Maybe she wasn't so dumb.

MATA HARI.

THE TERRITORIALS AND SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

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

During the past few months there has been continued growth and activity. Experimental work has progressed, and members of the Unit have taken their share in producing results which, it is anticipated, will have a marked effect on certain aspects of anti-aircraft gunnery.

Captain H. Scarborough has left us, owing to his appointment at Edinburgh. Lieutenant E. E. Cassell has recently been offered an appointment in Palestine. To both these officers we wish good fortune and pleasant memories of their association with the Unit.

Mr. H. Green, who has been connected with the Unit for a number of years, is now well established as our storeman. Mr. A. Hoare, who is also well known to us, has recently become our civilian clerk. We wish them success, and a hearty welcome.

Preparations for annual training are well in hand, and the Companies will be occupied at Tilbury and Chatham on operating work in connection with gun control, and the construction and maintenance of lines during the combined Air Exercises. Following these Exercises, the Unit will be in Camp at Shoeburyness.

A. A.

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals Cadet Company.

Empire Day Parade.—The Empire Day Parade was a great success. Major A. Hemsley, T.D., of our parent Unit, gave the Cadets a short address on this patriotic occasion. In the course of his remarks he said: "The British are not a flag-waving nation, but just glance around a map of the world, and you will feel a thrill of pride at what your fellow-countrymen have done. We, in the Territorials, are pleased to have this Cadet Company attached to us, and for you to share our Headquarters and our activities. We have watched our Cadet Company grow, and are particularly delighted to see the keen enthusiasm and energy which has been put into it. Started only on 30th November last, you have no less than 53 cadets, most of whom are on parade to-night."

Major Hemsley was received with a smartly-given "Present Arms." After his address to the boys, he presented enrolment cards to 48 Cadets. Cadet C.S.M. Pitz F. G., who has done so much for this Cadet Company, was presented with a tie in the Regimental tartan (Mackenzie), and Corporals' chevrons were given to Cadet Monro T. E. G., the first Cadet to enrol.

Next year we hope to have double the number of Cadets on parade. We are very grateful to our Parent Unit, too, for all the kindness and courtesy they have consistently shown to us since we started.

P. K.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

The Priory, Exeter.

June.

Editorial.—Section training is now in full swing, and attendances at drills show an improvement on previous years.

The Recruits' Section in each Company is flourishing, and the officer in charge of recruits, together with his staff of N.C.O.s, will have a good muster at camp. If one can judge from their present rate of progress, they should all easily pass out to Sections by the end of camp training.

Each Company has held its first Section or Company Week-end Exercise, and a general improvement is very noticeable.

Since this Unit's last notes appeared, our camp site has been changed from Bulford Fields to Weymouth. To many the change appears welcome, but there are those who were eagerly looking forward to a further "Plain" Camp this year. The training last year at Bulford produced such good results, and it was hoped that a return visit this year would afford an opportunity of participation in Regular Army Exercises to those who missed them last year. Our last visit to Weymouth was nine or ten years ago, so that it will be fresh ground to most members of the Unit.

No. 3 Company is to be warmly congratulated on again heading the list at the annual shoot, which took place this year at Broadhembury. The weather could have been much kinder.

We heartily welcome the following officers to the Unit: Mr. N. H. Martin on 1st June and Mr. D. B. Crosse on 8th June.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

York Street Drill Hall, Devonport.

Training.—The principal event of the last month has been the Week-end Camp, which was held at Cornwood on 11th-12th June. The Company paraded under the Company Commander, Major W. J. L. Cornelius, at 2.30 p.m. on the Saturday and proceeded by road to Cornwood. This year we were provided with R.A.S.C. lorries, complete with drivers, from Granby Barracks, Devonport. They were attached to us for the whole Exercise; an improvement on the motley collection of civilian vehicles in which we have had to move about in the past.

The Saturday evening was profitably spent in checking and trying out instruments; the Cable Section laying some of their lines in preparation for the following day. On the Sunday, an Exercise was held along the Cornwood-Cadover Bridge road, the principal line of communication being between a Signal Centre and Divisional H.Q. in positions along the main artery. W/T communication was also established with the Brigade on the left flank.

Many of the men, who were experiencing their first taste of work in the field, seemed to settle down to the work very well. In the neighbourhood of ninety per cent. of the Company attended the camp.

"A" Section in action. A No. 1 Set working back to Divisional Headquarters.

"B" Cable Section about to start reeling in.

The Slumbering of Subalterns.—The officers of the Company were represented in full strength on this occasion. Yes, Mr. D. E. Herbert was there, in spite of certain omissions in the local press and in spite of certain activities in another sphere of art, depriving us of his genial company in what might have been his more leisured hours. Mr. R. D. Nash, who also found himself unable to remain with us for the night, turned up just as the foreboding clouds began to roll away on the Sunday morning.

The remainder of the subalterns slept under canvas in the rose garden, and the light of early morn saw the spectacle of Mr. Edwards—nymph-like—laving an alabaster skin, what time Mr. Clemas displayed a delicate line in pyjamas. Mr. Farr was to be observed, decent but unorthodox in lilac slacks, khaki shirt, and with a quaint camera, stalking unsuspected victims, while Mr. Shaw, resembling a Greek deity in a bath gown, shaved appropriately enough, from a rustic sundial. Rumblings from within a tent indicated the slumbers of Mr. Fennamore, while a distant drooping figure was on nearer approach identified as being that of Mr. Herbert, returning at 7 a.m. from his night of vigil at a radio station of the R.S.G.B. some eight miles distant.

The Adjutant and Major Cornelius and *entourage* were not present at these rustic revels, having spent the night within the comparative privacy of the inn itself.

"D" Section Office Group at Divisional Headquarters.

Corporal McDonagh.—Everyone in the Company is glad to learn that Corporal McDonagh, who has been very ill with double pneumonia, is now on the way to recovery, and we trust by the time these notes appear that he will be up and out once more. We all missed him at the Week-end Camp, but hope to have him at Annual Camp, which is rapidly drawing nearer.

Sport.—The P.S.I., C.S.M. Scott, is training some of the men for boxing, and it is hoped that a few more will take advantage of his valuable assistance. Those undergoing tuition appear to be coming along very well.

The multiplicity of competitions attending the shooting on the miniature range still seem to flourish like mushrooms on a dewy dawn, and one needs to invoke a *deus ex machina* in the form of C.S.M. Gibbings to unravel the complications of the scheme, which are far too involved for the lay mind. At any rate, everyone seems to be heading some list, even if only the "Outers" Trophy. One hopes the ammunition will last out the competitions.

ONECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

No. 2 Company.

Drill Hall, Gloucester Road, Brighton, 1.

General.—The Company continues to be fully occupied with recruit training. The attendances in the classes are very good indeed, but, as is usual about this time each year, every endeavour will be made to enable some of our personnel to complete the required drills before camp. Our aim is to raise the standard of efficiency much higher in order to ensure better results at annual training, especially as we have a Command Exercise this year.

Scheme.—A Model Scheme is to be held in the vicinity of Lewes on Sunday, 19th June. A full report will be published in next month's issue.

Annual Training, 1938.—After considerable delay we now learn that training will be carried out at Saxmundham. As there are only a few more weeks to go, everyone will, no doubt, start preparing straight away.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to Signalmen Bonsall, Pickard, Brewin, Frost and Cooper. May your stay be a long and happy one.

Departures.—We are sorry to lose Signalman Chatfield, who has joined the Regulars, and also Signalmen Edgar and Haddock, who have transferred to other Units. Other discharges are Signalmen Sharp G. L., Ripley J., Bradley, White, Wickens and Odey. We wish them all luck.

Congratulations.—To our anonymous informant, who said that he thought an Eastern Command Exercise was waking up the C.S.M. every morning during camp. Many a true word said in joke (?).

Conclusion.—That is all for this month. We hope to report further activity in next month's issue.

GEE BEER.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals, T.A. and Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Leeds.

Congratulations.—The heartiest congratulations of the Unit are tendered to Lieutenant (Q.M.) F. Tebbs, D.C.M., on being awarded the M.B.E. in the recent Birthday Honours List. No one can begrudge our Quartermaster this great honour, for he has truly deserved it. Well done, Frank!

Training.—As may be expected, we are now having a very busy time. Recently Schemes in co-operation with other troops of the Division have been held. The most important of these were those with the 69th and 70th Field Brigades, R.A., and with the 146 and 147 Infantry Brigades. In the Infantry Brigade Schemes, about 100 officers and Regimental signallers from each Brigade participated. In the R.A. Brigade Schemes, the R.A. Brigade Sections were engaged with all Batteries working.

In all these Schemes, the R.A. and Infantry Brigade Signallers bivouacked with us on Saturday afternoon and night, and so we got to know them very well, both on and off duty.

Recruits.—Recruiting has now closed down and we have practically reached the 20 per cent. above Establishment figure. About 150 recruits have been attested and during the Whitsun holidays the bulk of these attended a three days' Course of P.T., foot and arms drill, gas drill, etc. Excellent progress was made by all of them. On Sunday, 19th June, they will fire their Annual Musketry Course at Strensall, near York, and then all is set for annual training.

Welcome.—A very hearty welcome is extended to our new officers, Lieutenant N. E. Dixon (really an old soldier), and to 2nd Lieutenants Bigland, Morgan, and Jennings, recently commissioned. We all hope that you will be very happy with us, gentlemen.

Reprieve.—For C.S.M. Curtis B., by the Officer i/c Records. C.S.M. Curtis has been granted a year's extension as P.S.I. to Air Contingent Signals.

The Guards.—During Whitsun, No. 4 Company, Coldstream Guards, visited Leeds for the purpose of giving a demonstration, and we were able to offer them the use of our Drill Hall for accommodation. This, and other amenities, such as the use of our baths and the new cookhouse, was much appreciated. We are pleased to have been able to help.

Obituary.—It was with extreme regret that we learned of the death of Colonel P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C., in India. We at Leeds have always had a very warm corner in our hearts for "Percy" as he was affectionately called. Before the War he was one of our P.S.I.s, and an extremely popular one at that. We have followed his career with great interest. He was truly a great gentleman. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Mrs. Hitchcock and family.

Sergeants' Mess.—An excellent smoker and games night was held on 25th May against "A" Division of the Leeds City Police. The games finished all square, and we are looking forward to a few more of these nights. On Friday, 3rd June, we entertained the W.O.s and Sergeants of the Coldstream Guards. It was nice to have these visitors, and we enjoyed swopping yarns over a glass of beer.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

General.—Here we are again with the last notes before camp, to which we are eagerly looking forward. The "Q" Staff are now very busy putting the finishing touches to packing.

The last Week-end Training Scheme was held on 12th June for the recruits, and an excellent turn-out was made. It is very pleasing to say that all the Sunday Schemes have been very well attended.

We had the last of our social functions before camp on Saturday, 11th June, when the officers and N.C.O.s had a social evening, which included an excellent dinner very nicely served by our able cook, Sergeant Walker (Ernie), with the assistance of Signalman Small (four dots), who, we may say, always dines last, but not least. No returns when he finishes.

The event of the evening was, without doubt, the final of the Darts Handicap; the finalists were C.Q.M.S. Gibson and Corporal Olsen. To the surprise of all those present, C.Q.M.S. Gibson won two straight games, thus proving himself a worthy winner. The O.C. presented the prizes to the winner and runner-up (a fine set of darts in each case). Prizes were also presented to Sergeant Smith, Lance Sergeant Johnson, Corporal Alderson and Signalman Nickling. These prizes had been outstanding from last year's sports events at camp; better late than never.

We regret that, owing to lack of time, we forgot to mention our P.T. team in last month's notes. We offer them our hearty congratulations on obtaining their place in the Command P.T. Competition. An excellent performance.

Promotions and Appointments.—Hearty congratulations to Lance Sergeant Jones S. on his promotion to Sergeant. To Corporal Thornton on appointment to Lance Sergeant, and to Lance Corporal Pettit on his promotion to Corporal.

Strength.—We tender our hearty congratulations to 2nd Lieutenant Taylor on his appointment, and sincerely hope that he will never regret joining the Signals.

MIDBRO.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Officers' Week-end Exercise.—The popularity of St. Andrews as the scene of so many delightful training periods may have been the reason for bringing the officers together there for their Week-end Exercise.

In spite of instructions for officers to make full car loads, the parties arrived from their Company areas fit as fiddles (someone is sure to complete the musical simile and say they went home as tight as drums). It is not true. Certainly there were the usual bright moments, and one or two light-spirited duels, but no blood was drawn—only a few shirt cuffs and bow ties were left on the field. Unlike our French contemporaries, we exclude the press and movie men from such contests.

The Mess Meeting on Friday evening proved the exception to the rule. The reading of the minutes, instead of being the usual dull recital, proved, in the hands of P.A.D. an amusing entertainment.

The programme for Saturday's training has proved, in the opinion of all who attended, unique in its conception, and particularly beneficial in its results. Our Adjutant, Captain L. W. J. Dryland, has to be congratulated in preparing a series of questions which, with the discussions they engendered and the clear explanations he gave for each problem, will prove of the utmost value in fitting us for the task which awaits us at Aldershot.

It may be safely said of this Exercise that it has tremendously increased that knowledge of Signal matters for which we honestly strive. We were extremely fortunate to have Lieutenant-Colonel A. L. Harris, M.C., Commanding 1st Divisional Signals, with us. When he was able to say "Amen" to our solutions, it was particularly gratifying, but no less so when he found it necessary to correct or elucidate a doubtful point. It is not likely that any T.A. officer will ever know all the answers, but from this Exercise we leave knowing a good many more than we did before.

Rain prevented the golf foursomes competition being played in the late afternoon. This was a temporary disappointment as the winners this year were again to receive a handsome silver cigarette box each, the gift of Colonel F. R. G. Forsyth, M.C., D.L., who commanded the Unit from 1926-28. The draw, which took place on Friday, was followed by an auction, reminiscent of fat stock prices. Whether this will improve the form of the players, or—in the case of those who "fetched" the highest bids—give them the "dithers" through having a "price upon their heads," remains to be seen.

Sunday forenoon saw the officers in overalls which had obviously been made to measure—to whose measure we don't know. Practical work in cable-laying, W/T, Exchange and D.III operating, Signal Office duties, Despatch Riding, etc., was the order of the day. Plagues in the form of gas attacks, although improving the personal appearance of the officers, was rather inclined to slow up the proceedings.

We have recorded our appreciation of the help received from Colonel Harris. May we also place on record our pleasure at having with us our Hon. Colonel, Colonel R. J. Nicol, O.B.E., Lieutenant-Colonel C. Wheeler, C.S.O., Scottish Command, Colonel E. G. McHutchon, O.B.E., T.D., and Major R. E. S. Clephan, Scottish Command Signal Company.

Colonel F. R. G. Forsyth, M.C., D.L., was again with us, and the good sense and sparkling humour of his speech on Saturday

evening will be long remembered with delight. Colonel Nicol's, Colonel Harris', and Colonel Wheeler's remarks also were such as to make one feel a just pride in our Unit and the Corps.

These remarks would be incomplete without reference to our Commanding Officer, Colonel E. Birnie Reid. Truly there is no companionship like that of a companion in arms, and while the arrangements which he made for training were thorough and complete, the example set in creating a spirit of comradeship has, we feel sure, been largely responsible for what enthusiasm we bring to our work.

We have to continue in serious study for the work before us, but the task of the soldier should be to meet every emergency with coolness and courage. While undertaking a job bigger than our usual one we are assured beforehand of the goodwill of those with whom we co-operate. There will be no need, even in thought, for the old familiar " And you."

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

Officers' Week-end Exercises.—This Exercise took place at St. Andrews from 27th to 29th May. Although the weather for the first two days was not all that could be desired, the sun managed to shine on the Sunday for the Out-door Scheme. This Scheme was quite a success. Each officer took a turn at the various duties performed in the Sections comprising a Divisional Signals. At least two officers of this Company are not envious of a lineman reeling in on a Cable-layer No. 2, and they are thankful that the Scheme was not laid over a larger area.

Company Week-end Scheme.—This Scheme took place in the Thornhill area on the 4th and 5th June, and it was our first opportunity of seeing our " specialists " performing as a Section. Once again, rain marred the first day, but Sunday was bright and clear, and an exceedingly interesting days' work was accomplished. The Company got down to work, perhaps a bit slowly, but gradually warmed up, and finally got going with the true Signals' spirit. Several minor faults were noted during the day, but we hope to have all these eradicated before we proceed to Aldershot in a month's time.

Specialists' Trade Board.—On Tuesday, 7th June, the Adjutant, Captain L. W. J. Dryland, and his assistants came to Stirling to test the various Specialists Classes in their duties. Not all the specialists were put up for the Board, but those who did acquitted themselves well and, in consequence, our number of tradesmen has increased. A further Trade Board for the remainder of the specialists will be held before camp, when we hope to see quite a few more trade ratings on the Company Roll.

Presentation of Banners to the Pipe Band.—Captain James Cochran and C.S.M. J. Todd represented the Company at the Empire Exhibition last week, at the presentation by Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal, of her Banner to be carried on the pipes of the Pipe-Major. This ceremony is fully reported in Headquarters Notes. (See pages 306 & 307—ED.)

TWUCO.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals and G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

21, Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

High Honour.—The recent " Honours List " announces the bestowal of the Order of the British Empire on Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Robertson, D.C.M. Lieutenant-Colonel Robertson, until recently, commanded the Lowland Divisional Signals. The award is a fitting climax to many years' work in the Territorial and Supplementary Reserve cause. Colonel Robertson's Army career in fact dates back to pre-war days. He is well known, not only in local military circles, but throughout the Corps. His many friends will learn with satisfaction of the bestowal of the honour so worthily earned.

Master Mitchell.—We congratulate Lieutenant A. S. W. Mitchell, S.R., and Mrs. Mitchell on the birth of a son. May all that is good be the lot of Mitchell junior.

Church Parade.—The annual church parade of the Glasgow T.A. and S.R. Units took place for the services at St. Andrew's Halls and St. Patrick's R.C. Church on 15th May. There was

a strong muster of the 52nd Divisional Signals and G.H.Q. Signals, S.R. Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. Cumming, S.R., and Lieutenant-Colonel Niven, T.A., attended, together with a excellent turn-out of officers.

Our Unit's parade was headed by the pipe band, under the leadership of Pipe-Major Stuart Ritchie. The smart appearance of our lads called forth much favourable comment from spectators and friends of the Units who lined the route.

This parade is becoming more popular each year. The numbers attending this year's parade constituted a record. Unfortunately, the return march was marred by torrential rainfall, but the excellent catering arrangements at Headquarters did much to dispel any discomfort.

Ashdown's Army.—Major Ashdown, second-in-command S.R., and his little force descended on Gailes on 5th June for the week-end. Although Major Ashdown is a fairly recent arrival at Jardine Street, he is, none the less, a popular officer. This was evinced by the large attendance at his first Week-end Camp. A fair amount of work was done, and there was also a little leisure and enjoyment for all ranks.

The Princess Royal's Visit.—Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal visited the Empire Exhibition at Glasgow on 8th June. Although the visit was more or less a private one, in order that Her Royal Highness might view the Exhibition, it was an event of importance for the Lowland Divisional Signals.

The Princess Royal presented banners to our Territorial Units' pipe band. A guard of honour was present, commanded by Captain J. Anderson. The ceremony of the presentation of the banners took place in the Square outside the Royal suite. Many thousands watched the colourful scene, and the arrangements were carried through without a hitch. The visit of the Princess Royal was only too short. We are deeply grateful for the honour bestowed on our Territorial Units by Her Royal Highness. The beautiful banners will long remind us of the graciousness of our Colonel-in-Chief.

Last Lap.—Our Territorial Companies are on their last training lap. The Berwick Camp looms ahead and July will see our Territorial comrades make their longest camping trek since pre-war years. The finishing touches are being applied.

Recruiting has never been so brisk. There are now very few vacancies in any of the Sections. New and modern equipment has greatly helped matters, and there is no limit to the enthusiasm of the youngsters. We wish them luck.

The S.R.—The S.R. Publicity Department appears to be failing nowadays. It is difficult to get news of them. We hear they are immersed in work, which may account for their silence. The spell of the teleprinter would appear to be upon them. Even the Construction Company is quiet. Yet the Construction Units appear to be still gaining in efficiency.

By the way, their storage and equipment lay-out is a feast for the eye of the most meticulous "Q" man. The Lieutenant-Quartermaster is due for some credit for this happy state of affairs.

Things are steadily progressing with the S.R. They have a month or two in hand yet ere they depart for the South. We may have more news of them next time.

Parker.—Good old Jock collected yet another Efficiency Medal at the church parade. An old soldier is Sergeant John Parker, and an ardent Territorial. He has been at it since 1912 at the very least. Jock bought beer for all on his medal day and spent "pounds and pounds." Buying beer and winning medals, that's Parker!

Schofield.—Ex-Sergeant John Schofield is now the caretaker at Jardine Street. The very man for the job. He is general factotum and lord of all. Long may he be with us.

Blanchard's Bride.—We cannot recall an occasion when our WIRE notes contained news of a wedding, so it is with very great pleasure that we inaugurate our matrimonial news with the wedding of Sergeant Blanchard A., of the Permanent Staff, and Miss Catherine Gladys Hunt of Bromley, Kent.

The marriage took place at Glasgow on 3rd June. The best man was Sergeant Heasman E., and the bride was attended by Mrs. E. Tennant.

The bride's dress was of light blue with a three-quarter length navy blue coat trimmed with fur, and hat of dark blue and white to match.

The happy couple were the recipients of many valuable presents, including a handsome clock from the officers of G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

Sergeant Blanchard arrived in this country from Tientsin in January, when he was posted to 4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury. He was recently posted to Glasgow, where he is proving to be a zealous and enthusiastic instructor. Mrs. Blanchard is a cousin of Corporal Hall C. F., Royal Signals, Tientsin.

We wish Mr. and Mrs. Blanchard a long and happy married life. The 3rd June, 1938, will, we trust, be but the beginning of a partnership of all that is good and best.

[See also illustrated article on pages 306 & 307—ED.]

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Penally, after all, will see the Unit at Annual Training this year. There was natural disappointment at the cancelling of training at Salisbury Plain.

That we shall have a thoroughly enjoyable time at Tenby, there is no doubt. Some of the most successful training periods have been held here, and it is a popular venue with all ranks.

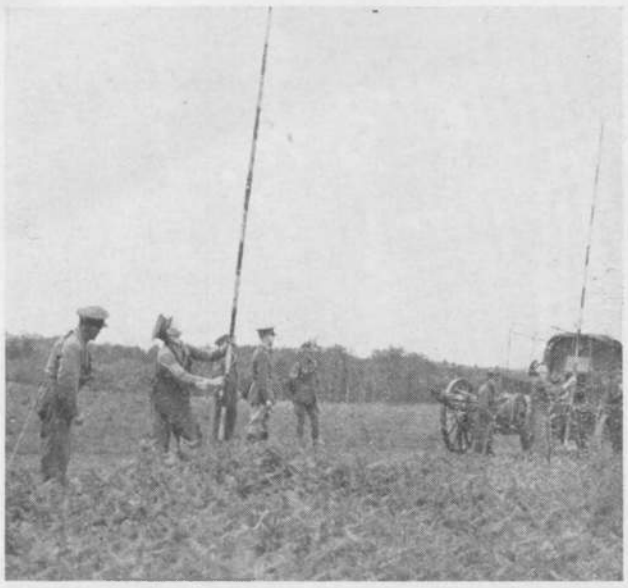
All Sections are keyed up, and are supplementing week-day efforts with voluntary Week-end Courses. No. 2 Company, as usual at this time of the year, are providing communications for R.A. Brigades. Mr. P. Fletcher, with his Section, assisted the 61st Medium Brigade, R.A., at the Gower on 19th-20th May, and received warm praise from the C.R.A. for the excellent work performed.

Mr. J. B. Senior and Mr. D. Stephens accompanied the 82nd Field Brigade, R.A., on a Scheme in the Cowbridge area on 22nd May. They, too, were commended for the good communication provided.

Officers were given a Technical Course on W/T at Cefn Mabley Park on 29th May; the No. 1 Set was employed. Bad weather later in the day caused an adjournment to the Drill Hall, where Captain R. H. Copeland (Adjutant) demonstrated the remote control instrument with W/T. Practice in R/T phonogram sending was also given.

Captain A. W. Bartholomew has assumed command of No. 3 Company, and we congratulate him. Mr. J. B. Senior takes his place in command of "B" Cable Section.

Captain W. G. Bale, Mr. G. I. Kemp and Mr. T. D. Jones, with "D," "J" and "K" Sections, held a Week-end Course at Cefn Mabley Park on 11th-12th June, gaining profitable experi-



"B" Cable Section at work.

ence in testing Divisional fullerphone circuits. Results were very satisfactory and reflect credit on these Section officers, particularly as the Course was a voluntary one.

The beautiful surroundings add to the enjoyment of all ranks in this area, as the singing round the camp fire at the end of a day's work testifies. Another Voluntary Course is eagerly anticipated in the near future.

Mr. J. B. Senior has lost no time in getting down to his new job as commander of "B" Cable Section, as the accompanying photograph shows. He also had his Section on a Voluntary Week-end Course on 11th-12th June at Cefn Mabley Park. Concentrating on cable drill, a good deal of work was put in with keenness and efficiency, which augers well for successful Schemes at annual training.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Trice (Commanding Officer), Major V. W. Hawkins (second-in-command), O.C. No. 1 Company, and Captain R. H. Copeland (Adjutant) were out on Sunday, 12 June to observe the progress of training. They were evidently well satisfied.

Shooting.—The Unit failed to win the coveted Victory Shield at the Territorial Meeting at Porthcawl Range, on Whit Sunday, 5th June. Of the fifteen teams competing, No. 2 Company finished fourth with 445 points, and No. 3 Company tenth with 391 points. The winners—246th Field Company, R.E.—scored 486 points to beat the holders, "A" Company, 5th Welch (second) by eight points.

Congratulations.—To Major C. J. Morley Peel, M.B.E., T.D., on being awarded the M.B.E. (Military Division) in the Birthday Honours List. To Captain R. H. Copeland (Adjutant) on qualifying for the Staff College. To Mr. E. O. A. Jobson and Mr. C. M. Jenkins on being gazetted 2nd Lieutenants in the Unit, 11th May and 14th June, respectively. It is hoped that they will thoroughly enjoy their period of service. To Mr. J. N. Evans on passing Certificate "A" Examination (written).

We are glad to know that C.S.M. Maynard has left hospital. He is at present with "A" Corps Signals, Aldershot.

It is with pleasure that we record the following promotions and appointments: Sergeant Woodyatt J. to C.Q.M.S.; Corporal Sutton W. F. to Sergeant; and Corporal Parsons R. to Lance Sergeant.

The W.O.s and N.C.O.s' Mess propose to hold their Annual Mess Outing on 26th June. It is to be a tour through Somerset.

THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

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

No. 1 Company.

Training.—The Company adjourned to Nazeing for the Whitsun vacation, and with the aid of the "Sun" Inn, the sun out, four good cooks and an abundance of technical equipment (all working), proceeded to enjoy themselves. Many gazed on the "Sun" at midnight for the first time after a pleasant journey on the "Main Line" (advt.).

Saturday afternoon and evening was devoted to settling down, testing, etc., in order to ensure a quick start on Sunday. "B" Section laid about eight miles of cable, their return to H.Q. just before closing time indicating a perfect working schedule. All their energy was not expended; no doubt this was due to the fact that they failed to find any concrete worthy of their efforts, for when safely ensconced in their "Bowers" they proceeded to expend further energy in a little playful mallet-slinging. One recipient was undoubtedly "Cross," but in the end he decided that "a stitch in time saves a good deal of hard work." It certainly made our tame medical orderly a very contented man for the remainder of the week-end. Apologies are due to the "A" Section N.C.O. who was prevented from crooning "Lovely to look at" by the absence of the "C" Sets from the Scheme.

A lot of useful work was done on Sunday. "D" Section provided two Divisional Signal Offices and all the Brigade terminals. "A" Section provided a No. 2 and No. 1 Set group between Forward Divisional Headquarters and the Brigades. The Scheme was continued on Monday morning. The only fly in the ointment was one of our lorries, now re-named the "Shove"-rolet.

On Monday afternoon we struck camp, and with many regrets turned our "bonnets" Stratford-wise. We could not help thinking of the quotation:

> And the night shall be filled with music,
> And the cares which caress the day
> Shall fold their tents like the Arabs,
> And silently steal away.

Births.—Our congratulations to Sergeant and Mrs. Sunderland on the arrival of a son. Names are at present unknown, but we understand on good authority that it will be 'Erb. Surprising how some people can anticipate a rise in allowances.

Things We Want to Know.—What was in the mind of a certain Superintendent when he told the D.R. Clerk to get a move on with the "Separation" Orders?

How many were necessary for a certain subaltern to be able to mistake his car for a greyhound?

233rd and 234th F.A. Brigades Signal Sections.

Ashburnham Road, Bedford.
10th June.

General.—Our monthly notes have created so much interest that complaints are being received regarding the difficulty in obtaining a glimpse of the WIRE. Your scribe suggests that a few more should purchase copies. It is quite possible that those concerned may be mentioned in dispatches and would never know about it.

Training.—The past month has been one of considerable progress. With the better weather and lighter evenings, each Section is able to get out into the open countryside and practice what has been preached in the Drill Hall.

Whitsun Week-end Camp was well attended, and in every way a success. The rendezvous was Blunham. Thanks are due to our host, Mr. H. Currant.

A prelude to each day's training was an hour's foot drill before breakfast. Several recruits have at last discovered that they have only one left foot. The daily Schemes were interesting, and much useful knowledge has been gained. Special mention must be made of the following:

Acting (General ?) Robinson: Without doubt a great soldier. Many thanks for useful information. Corporal Steinmetz and

Signalman Deverick: Who handled the catering and cooking with much satisfaction. Lance Corporal Stimson: A born snake-charmer. Corporal Giddings: Known to the young and old in Blunham as "Ted." Congratulations on the "Strip tease." Which did the policeman's wife enjoy most? 233, Office Superintendent: Keep quiet next time you decide to move office. What really did the lineman say when he found it wasn't a "dis." in the line? Last, but by no means least, is our world-renowned P.S.I.—none other than C.S.M. Tom Sayers. (India Signals, please note.) This soldier is guaranteed to make his mark anywhere. Should our readers doubt it, then phone Blunham Police Station or any R.S.P.C.A. depot. He has been overheard to say in his sleep, "I never did like cats."

Other News.—Signalman Minnis, having completed his term of engagement, will not be at camp with us this year. Divisional Headquarters and others will miss the notes of his bugle; we know that he will be much missed in the Canteen.

Here's to the next time.

BEDFORDIA.

The London Corps Signals Cadet Company.

(Affiliated to London Corps Signals)

The Hon. W. W. Astor, M.P., has kindly consented to become Hon. Colonel of the 1st West London Cadet Corps, in place of the late Sir Cyril Cobb, M.P.

During the month, we paid an evening visit to the Royal Tournament. There was a good muster, the party being nearly 100 strong, and the whole show was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

On Sunday, 3rd July, the Company is participating in a Field Day with the 1st West London Cadet Corps. The Signals Instructor (Sergeant Hobbs (T.A.)) is having a busy time preparing everyone for the "battle." Incidentally, it is felt that no small praise is due to Sergeant Hobbs for the time and energy he devotes to the unenviable task of initiating the Cadets into the mysteries of communications. The Commanding Officer of the London Corps Signals, T.A., kindly granted permission for him to give instructions during our Thursday evening parades, and his services are really appreciated.

We shall soon be at camp, and a record attendance is expected this year. New innovations have been promised for this year, but as arrangements have not been confirmed at the time of writing these notes, we shall have to omit them until the Camp Report appears.

Owing to heavy pressure of business, Cadet Lieutenant Baigent has been absent from his post as Commanding Officer. During this time, Cadet 2nd Lieutenant Mew, one of our newly-appointed Subalterns, has been acting for him. We hope to have Mr Baigent with us again in the near future.

S. M.

Haberdashers School Cadet Corps.

(Affiliated to City of London Signals.)

Since our last notes we have the following appointments and promotions to chronicle:

Appointments.—Cadet Lieutenant J. F. Cooper relinquishes the appointment of Adjutant, and is succeeded in this appointment by Cadet 2nd Lieutenant E. A. Littlefield. We are glad to welcome Mr. R. W. Hewson, who has been gazetted to this Unit as Cadet 2nd Lieutenant. Mr. Hewson comes to us with a record of ten years' service in the Artists' Rifles.

Promotions.—Recent promotions within the Unit (to cadet rank as shown in brackets) include: Sergeant Manley R. G. (Acting C.S.M.); Lance Sergeant Weinstock G. D. (Acting C.Q.M.S.); Lance Corporals Innocenti and Sedgwick (Corporals).

Certificate "A."—Congratulations to the following, who passed Part II (Written) of this examination in March: Sergeant Manley R. G., Lance Sergeant Brand M. J., Corporal Bayliss A. J., Lance Corporals Mordant D. F., Sedgwick R. H., Tapsfield H. A. and Trent P. T. These cadets had already passed the Part I (Practical, Signals Syllabus) in February, as recorded here previously.

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Annual Inspection.—This took place on 3rd June, and, as mentioned last month, we were fortunate to have Lieutenant-Colonel H. V. Thorne, C.S.O., London District, to inspect us.

After the Company had been inspected in line, and had marched past in fours to the band, it was seen in various phases of its training, which included a Traffic Scheme (L/T, V/T, W/T), a Flag Drill Squad, a Procedure Lecture taken by cadet N.C.O.s, Gas-mask Drill, Plane-tabling, and Rifle Instruction to recruits.

Colonel Thorne, who was accompanied by Captain H. R. Firth, Adjutant of the London Divisional Signals, to which we are affiliated, seemed interested in what he saw, and we must hope that he considered it satisfactory. He was certainly very kind in what he said at the Inspection, and encouraged the members of the Unit by the remarks addressed to them at the end.

Automatic Exchange Working.—A source of much interest this term has been the installation by members of the Unit of a small (10-line) auto-exchange, giving internal telephonic facilities between Orderly Room, Armoury, Stores, O.T.C. Headquarters, etc. This exchange was designed by R. G. Miller, an ex-member of the Unit, and now an officer in the Corps, and was constructed largely from parts collected from old junk shops, and installed at Scarborough in the days when 5th Divisional Signals were there, and Mr. Miller was with them.

He has now bequeathed it to us, and its successful installation here has been largely due to the active interest and resourceful ingenuity of another ex-member, L. W. Ellen, of the P.O. Engineering Dept. An improvement added by one of the cadets, at Mr. Ellen's suggestion, is the production of "calling" and "busy" tones by an interrupter made with a small electric motor and some pieces of Meccano. The installation, the maintenance of which has been undertaken by the cadets, is worked by two 12-volt car batteries, and to facilitate control of charging, etc., a power board has been made up with the help of the School caretaker, another good friend of the Unit. In a word, the Company's latest "toy" provides not only a most instructive and intriguing piece of apparatus, but, within its scope, most useful and serviceable inter-communication.

SPORTS NOTES

Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp.

14th June.

S.T.C. Athletics.—It is very much regretted that there has been so little mention made of athletic activities at the S.T.C. during the last few months. Possibly the reason is that there has been so much in progress that there has been little time available for our report.

To deal firstly with the winter season. In the cross-country world, the S.T.C. made themselves felt by once again winning the North Yorkshire and South Durham Harriers League. This is the third time in succession, and the first time that the trophy has been won by any one club three times.

Following on this success, the Training Battallon went on to the Garrison Cup, and, finally, the Northern Command Shield.

Most of the runners in these teams are now with Field Units, and we hope to hear more of their progress next season.

In the Northern and North-Eastern Counties Cross-country Championships, S.T.C. teams that were entered did very well against strong opposition.

Three teams—Senior, Junior and Youths—were entered in the North-Eastern Championships, which were held at Newcastle.

The Junior and Youths teams obtained third place in their respective races, and the Senior, sixth place. This qualified all three teams to run in the Northern Championship held at Stockton. The Youths' team gained sixth place at this Meeting, and the Junior eighth place. All these performances were most gratifying as the teams at the time were badly handicapped by an attack of influenza.

Here are the teams that took part. The following represented the Training Battalion in the Garrison Cup and Northern Command Shield: 2nd Lieutenant Sutherland, Royal Signals; Lance Corporals Strutt and Blades; Signalmen Lithauer, Howarth, Goodsir, Henley, Fraser, Williams E., Corpe, Walters, and Roberts D.; Boys Buddery W., Warren R. and Baldock L.

The following represented the Senior, Junior and Youths, respectively, in the North-Eastern and Northern Championships:

SENIOR.—Lance Corporals Strutt and Blades, Signalmen Craig, McKay, Mills, Goodsir, Potter and Ball.

JUNIOR.—Signalmen Falconer, Fraser, Miller, Lithauer, Jeeves, Howarth, Roberts D. and Law.

YOUTHS.—Sergeant (Boy) McKenna, Lance Corporals (Boys) Baldock, Thompson and Hopkins, Signalmen Buddery, Warren and Pritchard A.

Before dealing with individual efforts, mention must be made of the Inter-Company Meetings. This year, "F" Company won the three Meetings outright, and so once again won the Inter-Company Shield. Some very exciting races were seen, and competition was very keen. The Dismounted Wing were second in the final placings, and the School third.

It is very pleasing to see the Dismounted Wing placed so high; this indicates great hopes for next year. In "F" Company it is extremely gratifying to see the wealth of talent, especially among the younger boys.

In the Individual Sports, the results of which are published herewith, some fine performances were seen. 2nd Lieutenant M. A. Philp, "F" Company, ran exceptionally well in the 440 yards, returning times in the region of 53 seconds until he had the bad luck to tear a muscle in a heat of the 100 yards. Lance Corporal (Boy) Smith improved on his last year's jumping and cleared 5 ft. 5 ins. in the high jump on a windy day. He has worked hard on his style, and his "western" roll is greatly improved.

Signalman Finnigan T., who has added sprinting to his last year's javelin throwing as a boy, won both sprints in the very good times of 10.7 secs. and 24 secs. Other good performances were made by Signalman Kinnaird in the long jump with 20 ft. 3 ins.; Lance Corporal (Boy) Hopkins in the three miles—16 mins. 35 secs., in very windy conditions; Boy Murray R., with 17.2 in the hurdles; Lance Sergeant Fraser, with 156 ft. in the javelin throw.

After a most exciting fight, the Individual Cup was won by Signalman Craig of the School by one point from Signalman Finnigan T. The Pinsent Cup was won by "F" Company, with 87 points from the Dismounted Wing with 39 points The individual results are as follows:

WEIGHT.—1, C.S.M.I. Mayle (Dismounted Wing); 2, Corporal Ballard (Dismounted Wing); 3, 2nd Lieutenant Philp ("F").

DISCUS.—1, Lieutenant Stetham ("E"); 2, Corporal McGuigan (Dismounted Wing); 3, Sergeant Macdowall ("F").

THREE MILES.—1, Lance Corporal (Boy) Hopkins ("F"); 2, Signalman Craig (School), 3, Signalman Pritchard ("F").

JAVELIN.—Lance Seregant Fraser ("E"); 2, Boy Pavey ("F"); 3, Signalman Finnigan ("F").

HAMMER.—1, Corporal Routledge ("E"); 2, Signalman Chadwick (Dismounted Wing); 3, Lance Corporal (Boy) Thompson ("F").

POLE VAULT.—Signalman Lockie ("D"); 2, Corporal Trout (Dismounted Wing); 3, Lance Corporal (Boy) Robbins ("F").

100 YARDS.—Signalman Finnigan ("F"); 2, Driver Hack (School); 3, 2nd Lieutenant Thompson (Dismounted Wing).

880 YARDS.—Lance Corporal Strutt (Dismounted Wing); 2, Signalman Craig (School); 3, Boy Richards ("F").

HIGH JUMP.—1, Lance Corporal (Boy) Smith ("F"); 2, Boy Render ("F"); 3, Lance Corporal Elston ("F").

HURDLES.—1, Boy Murray ("F"); 2, Driver Hack (School); 3, Corporal Smith ("F").

220 YARDS.—Signalman Finnigan ("F"); 2, Lieutenant Thompson (Dismounted Wing); 3, Signalman Usher ("E").

ONE MILE.—1, Signalman Craig (School); 2, Lance Corporal (Boy) Hopkins ("F"); 3, Signalman Mackinnon (School).

LONG JUMP.—1, Signalman Kinnaird ("D"); 2, Lieutenant Howe ("E"); 3, Lance Corporal (Boy) Smith ("F").

440 YARDS.—1, Lance Corporal Strutt ("D"); 2, Lance Corporal (Boy) Richards ("F"); 3, Signalman Craig (School).

"F" Company, Training Battalion.

14th June.

Athletics.—The last Mackworth Meeting took place on Scotton Ground on 11th May. Having won the two previous meetings, we were fairly confident of winning the final. This was the case, and we add another trophy to those already decorating the club. The team are to be congratulated on their very fine performance and team spirit, and great credit is due to them for the amount of work put in during training.

The Company also won the Pinsent Cup by 87 points to the Dismounted Wing (runners-up) 39 points. Signalman Finnigan T., who put up a great performance, finished very close to Signalman Craig of the School. Congratulations, Mick!

Following the "S.T.C. Individuals" was "Young Soldiers, under 16 and under 15, Sports." The results were as follows:

YOUNG SOLDIERS.

100 YARDS.—1, Signalman Finnigan T. (11 secs.); 2, Signalman Sadd; 3, Boy Murray R.

220 YARDS.—1, Lance Corporal Boy Gosling (22 2/5 secs.); 2, Lance Corporal Boy Richards; 3, Boy Murray R.

HIGH JUMP.—1, Boy Keane (5 ft.); 2, Boy Beattie; 3, Lance Corporal Boy Holdsworth.

880 YARDS.—1, Lance Corporal Boy Richards (2 mins. 16 secs.); 2, Signalman Pritchard A.; 3, Signalman Warren R.

LONG JUMP.—1, Lance Corporal Martin (18 ft. 3½ ins.); 2, Signalman Finnigan T.; 3, Boy Green B.,

JAVELIN.—1, Signalman Finnigan T. (134 ft.); 2, Boy Weeks V.; 3, Boy Pavey.

WEIGHT.—1, Boy Murray A. (32 ft. 10 ins.); 2, Boy Weeks V.; 3, Lance Corporal Boy Gosling.

UNDER 16.

100 YARDS.—1, Boy Kite (11 2/5 secs.); 2, Boy Brown A.; 3, Boy Brodie.

220 YARDS.—1, Boy Kite (25 1/5 secs.); 2, Boy Martin A.; 3, Boy Brown A.

440 YARDS.—1, Boy Roberts (61 2/5 secs.); 2, Boy Harrison; 3, Boys Royle and Betts.

880 YARDS.—1, Boy Roberts B. (2 mins. 26 4/5 secs.); 2, Boy Perkins; 3, Boy Harrison.

120 YARDS HURDLES.—1, Boys Forsyth and Martin A. (20 1/5 secs.); 3, Boy Perkins.

HIGH JUMP.—1, Boy Hopkins K. (5 ft. 2 ins.); 2, Boy Kite; 3, Boy Erskine.

LONG JUMP.—1, Boy Martin A. (17 ft. 2½ ins.); 2, Brown A.; 3, Boy Kite A.

WEIGHT.—1, Boy Hopkins K. (29 ft. 6 ins.); 2, Boy Kite; 3, Boy Brown A.

DISCUS.—1, Boy Martin A. (80 ft. 6 ins.); 2, Boy Rowe N.; 3, Boy Hopkins.

JAVELIN.—1, Boy Overington (102 ft. 6 ins.); 2, Boy Perkins; 3, Boy Black.

UNDER 15.

THROWING THE CRICKET BALL.—1, Boy Giles (190 ft. 11 ins.); 2, Boy Lees; 3, Boy Eliot.

WEIGHT.—1, Boy Eliot; 2, Boy Sinclair.

The trophy for the best performance for boys under 16 years of age was won by Boy Martin A.

Cricket.—The Boys' team has played four matches with the following results:

v. Darlington	Away.	Lost by 2 wickets.
v. Darlington	Home.	Lost by 40 runs.
v. Ampleforth Colts	Away.	Won by 12 runs.
v. Ampleforth Colts	Home.	Drew.

Several promising young players of whom we shall hear a great deal in the near future have come to light early in the season.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

S.P.A. Athletics.—Ten teams entered for the S.P.A. Athletics this year, so that, for the first time, the Meeting became a two-day Meeting in the full sense of the word, the programme starting at 10.30 a.m. on both days.

It soon became apparent that the fight for first place was going to be a three-cornered one between the 5th Battalion, R.T.C., the Rifle Brigade and ourselves. After the first day, our position did not look too good on the score board, because almost the only scores recorded had been in field events, in which we were comparatively weak. However, we had got into every senior final in the track events, and our distance team had come second in the "three miles," giving us great hopes for the mile.

On the second day, we began to catch up gradually on the leading teams. We won the mile team race and the two miles relay and found ourselves second to the 5th Battalion, R.T.C.

After winning the hurdles, we had high hopes of getting first place, but we dropped a baton in the 440 yards relay and were just beaten by the Tanks in the mile relay. That clinched the matter, and the final result was: 1st, 5th Battalion, R.T.C., with 177½ points; 2nd, Royal Signals, Southern Command, 167½ points; 3rd, 1st Battalion, Rifle Brigade.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Cricket.—On 18th May a Unit XI travelled to Comber, where they were the guests of North Down, perhaps the most famous of Ulster Cricket Clubs. In view of the fact that the homesters fielded a side which included four of their Senior XI, two of whom are international players, our loss by 83 runs was no mean achievement. Once again the fielding of Signals was superb, and was favourably commented upon by several distinguished cricketers. North Down C.C., 147 runs for 9 wickets (declared); N.I.S.C., 64 runs.

A week later, the Royal Air Force, Aldergrove, provided the opposition at Cliftonville, our home ground. The visitors batted first, but were unable to master the bowling, and were dismissed for the meagre total of 36 runs. In reply, Signals compiled the useful score of 155 runs, including 47 by Signalman Hunt E. R.A.F., Aldergrove, 36 runs; N.I.S.C., 155 runs.

We opened our programme in June with a visit to Cherryvale, where Queen's University entertained us. Although the students fielded several of their 1st XI, we proved too strong for them and eventually ran out winners by 55 runs. Queen's University, C.C., 92 runs; N.I.S.C., 147 runs.

Our last fixture to date was the N.I.D. Cup match, which was played at Cliftonville on 8th June. The Royal Army Service Corps were our opponents, and although we had accounted for them rather easily in a friendly fixture some weeks ago, they were hopeful of turning the tables on this occasion. Winning the toss, our captain elected to field, and on a greasy wicket the R.A.S.C. could do no more than score 42 runs. To this we replied with a useful 129 runs, which included 31 by Lance Corporal Blount and 29 by Lance Sergeant Barron. Returning to the fray again, the opening bats of the R.A.S.C. seemed to realise that, to avoid an innings defeat, runs in plenty must be obtained, and in consequence went for the bowling tooth and nail.

A feature of this effort was a glorious 47 by Pte. Scott in twenty-five minutes, but although the opposition fared better than in their first innings, it was to no purpose, for the last wicket fell at 97, leaving us but a few runs to get for victory. These were not obtained without cost, and two wickets had fallen before the necessary 11 runs were scored. Still, it was a glorious victory, and we are looking forward with confidence to our semi-final tie. R.A.S.C.: 1st innings, 42 runs; 2nd innings, 97 runs. N.I.S.C.: 1st innings, 129 runs; 2nd innings, 11 runs for 2 wickets. Won by 8 wickets.

Soccer.—In passing, may we mention that the Unit has been presented with a miniature Cup in recognition of our having won the Garrison Soccer Challenge Cup for three years in succession. Good show!

Signal Training Centre (India), Jubbulpore.

"A" Company, Signal Training Battalion.

During the next few weeks, the Unit will be having an intensive period of sport, as there are numerous games to be played, the majority of which cannot be played during the monsoon.

Hockey.—Two teams were entered in the Brigade (Inter-Company) Hockey Tournament. Although the players made a gallant effort to reach the goal, they were outplayed in both their matches. They retired from the tournament with much credit for the good games in which they had participated.

Swimming.—"A" Company are again doing their best this year to get into shape for the Brigade Swimming Sports, which are to be held on 9th June.

The Company turned out a team last week to swim against the Battalion team of the 1st Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment. Very little strenuous practice has been carried out by any member of the swimming team, but the competition was, nevertheless very close.

TEAM OF FOUR. TWO LENGTHS (FREE STYLE): Lance Corporal Davies B., Signalmen Ryton, Robertson and Jones G.

TEAM OF FOUR. TWO LENGTHS (BACK STROKE): Lance Corporal Davies B., Signalmen Knight, Robertson and Sinclair.

TEAM OF THREE. Diving: Signalmen Knight, Barran and Jones G.

These three events were won by the Signal Training Centre, India.

The following events were won by the Leicestershire Regiment:

TEAM OF FOUR. TWO LENGTHS (BREAST STROKE): Sergeant Ellis, Corporal Clark, Signalmen Barran and Sinclair.

TEAM OF TWO. PLUNGING: Major Newington and Lance Corporal Goodchild, R.A.M.C.

INDIVIDUAL: 100 YARDS (FIVE LENGTHS): Lance Corporal Davies B.

The result of the competition, as will be seen, was a draw—three events each. Major M. T. L. Newington made the best plunge of the evening—48 feet 4 inches. The team are now looking forward to meeting the team from the 28th Field Brigade, R.A., on Tuesday next. At the Leicestershire Barracks, the teams were well supported, and we hope that they will receive great support when meeting the R.A. in our own baths.

Some time ago a change in the system of stoppages was made in the Unit, and all sports are now included in the fixed rate, which provides facilities for everyone to play: golf, tennis, swimming, hockey and football. These games are included in the Section Clock Competition, which has just commenced. Points are awarded on the basis of two for a win and one for a draw; the Section holding most points at the end of the competition will be declared the winners.

Tennis.—The Tennis Club is still in full swing. The stars of the Unit will have to hurry and get in all the tennis they can during the next few weeks, as the monsoon is drawing very near, for then they will have to turn to other things, as the courts will be out of play. Here is a chance for all those dark horses to show what they can do in the Inter-Section Competition.

Golf.—The Golf Club have just a few playing members at present, but can still give the outside Clubs a good game. We played the Nerbudda Club about two weeks ago, losing by five matches to one. Although this seems a big losing margin, the matches were very close, two of them being extended from the nine holes agreed upon to 12 holes to decide the winner.

A new Club House is nearing completion, after several months' delay; the golfers of the Unit will now have somewhere to run when the rain is too heavy for play. According to reports from various members of the Golf Club, this Club House will be made very comfortable, and will have a small garden at the front. We shall now be able to do our entertaining of outside Clubs in a better style than hitherto.

The Handicap Foursomes have just been completed, and Lance Corporal Henrick and Signalman Barran emerged the winners, after a fairly trying game, on Sunday, against Staff Sergeant Sims of the R.A.M.C., and Sergeant Ellis. Another one for Barran's mantelpiece!

SPORTSMAN.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Cricket.—A friendly cricket match was played at Peshawar between Islamia College and Peshawar District Signals on Saturday and Sunday, 28th and 29th May, and resulted in a win for the latter by seven wickets.

The College won the toss and elected to bat on a good wicket. Holdsworth and Hamid opened the innings for the College, and Buchanan and Seager were entrusted with the attack. Buchanan, who was bowling very fast and making the ball turn well, got Hamid lbw in his second over. Sher Mohd then joined Holdsworth, and this pair, playing excellently, took the score to 82 before Sher Mohd was well caught by Buchanan off Atkinson for 42. Latif then came in, and, in attempting a short run, was run out with an excellent throw in by Buirski, fielding at cover point. Holdsworth was the next to go, being bowled by Buchanan for 32. At the drawing of stumps for the day the College had secored 133 for the loss of seven wickets.

On resumption the following day, the College declared their innings closed at the overnight score.

The Signals opened up with Bradley and Atkinson against the bowling of Latif and Sher Mohd. This pair opened up very well, 29 runs being on the board before Atkinson was bowled by Sher Mohd for 11. Buchanan then joined Bradley and was out lbw in the same over before he had opened his account. Bradley, when he had scored 20, in attempting a leg glide off Latif offered a simple catch to mid-on fielding close in. Buirski, who had gone in after Buchanan, was then joined by Stodart. A first-class partnership then ensued between these two, and at the close of play were 57 and 43 not out, respectively.

ISLAMIA COLLEGE.

Holdsworth, b Buchanan	32
Hamid, lbw, b Buchanan	3
Abdul Khan, c Morrison, b Buchanan	0
Sher Mohd, c Buchanan, b Atkinson	42
Abdul Latif, run out	0
Wahid, b Buchanan	5
Cartland, not out	23
Hassan, b Buchanan	7
Taj, not out	2
Extras	19
Total for 7 wickets (declared)	133

BOWLING.

	O.	M.	W.	R.
Buchanan	14	2	5	37
Atkinson	3	–	1	17

PESHAWAR DISTRICT SIGNALS.

Atkinson, b Sher Mohd	11
Bradley, c sub, b Latif	20
Buchanan, lbw, b Sher Mohd	0
Buirski, not out	57
Stodart, not out	43
Extras	8
Total for 3 wickets	139

BOWLING.

	O.	M.	W.	R.
Latif	13	–	1	53
Sher Mohd	12	–	2	46

Brigade Signal Section, Landikotal.

Football.—In spite of our small numbers, we managed to hold our own with Company teams of the 1st Battalion, King's Regiment, no small achievement when one considers what their Battalion team did to our Unit team last February. Here are the most important results since the beginning of the Course:

v. "B" Company, 1st King's Regiment	0—0
v. "C" Company, 1st King's Regiment (Haxell 2, Morrison)	3—1
Section v. Course (Haxell)	1—0
Section v. Course (Section: Haxell; Course: Morrison 2)	1—2
v. H.Q., 1st King's Regiment (Lord, Morrison)	2—2
v. "B" Company, 1st King's Regiment (Haxell)	1—0
v. "D" Company, 1st King's Regiment (Haxell, Morrison, Duke)	3—4
v. "D" Company, 1st King's Regiment (Duke, Lord 2)	3—0
v. "A" Company, 1st King's Regiment (Haxell, Morrison)	2—3
v. H.Q., 1st King's Regiment (Haxell 3, Lawson, Hassett, Gamble)	6—1
v. "A" Company, 1st King's Regiment (Anders)	1—3
v. Drums and Signals, 1st King's Regiment (Anders 2)	2—1
v. Drums and Signals, 1st King's Regiment (Haxell 2)	2—0
v. John's Cafe (Haxell 2, Lord)	3—0
v. Drums, 1st King's Regiment (Haxell 2, Lord 2, Hassett, Duke)	6—0
v. "A" Company, 1st King's Regiment (Haxell, Morrison, Dumville, Hassett)	4—1
v. "B" Company, 1st King's Regiment	0—2

The second team has played quite a few matches with varying results—mostly good. We hope to play a team from the parent Unit at Peshawar in June; it should be a good game.

Hockey.—Since it is some time that sports notes of any kind appeared in the WIRE, these short paragraphs must, of necessity, cover a fairly long period.

As is customary, the arrival of the Upgrading Course personnel made a great difference in regard to the amount of talent available, and, indeed, some very promising youngsters were noticed.

There are no tournaments open to teams of British ranks in Landikotal, and, therefore, all our hockey is of the friendly variety. Even under these conditions some very good games have been played.

For the benefit of any ex-"L" Section members who may read these notes, a list of matches which have been played lately, and also the names of the regular team members, is appended:

v. 3/2nd Punjab Regiment	Lost	1—2
v. 3/9th Jat Regiment	Won	3—2
v. M.E.S.	Won	1—0
v. R.I.A.S.C.	Drawn	2—2
v. 3/2nd Punjab Regiment	Drawn	1—1
v. C.I.M.H.	Won	2—0
v. 3/9th Jat Regiment	Lost	1—4
v. " C " Company, 1st King's Regiment	Won	6—0
v. M.E.S.	Drawn	1—1
v. C.I.M.H.	Lost	0—1
v. " C " Company, 1st King's Regiment	Won	2—0

The regular Detachment team comprises the following: Signalman Barker; Havedar Sant Singh, Signalman Timson; Lieutenant A. C. R. Stead, Lance Corporal O'Hara, Signalman Colley; Lance Corporal Buirski, Signalmen Brookes, Haxell, Gamble and Lord.

More anon.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Hockey.—We were the ultimate winners of the Station Knock-out Tournament. Our opponents were our next door neighbours—3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop. (Better luck next time, " Cav." !) 3rd Indian Divisional Signals, 3; 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, 0.

HOT WEATHER LEAGUE.

Results to date:

v. 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop	Lost	0—1
v. "A" Squadron, 17/21st Lancers	Won	2—1
v. " C " Company, Rifle Brigade	Won	3—1
v. 78th Battery, R.H.A.	Lost	1—2
v. " G " Battery, R.H.A.	Lost	2—4
v. R.A.M.C.	Won	2—1
v. Detachment, Royal Tank Corps	Won	5—0

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Mounted Sports, 31st March, 1938.—One of the bright spots of our existence was the staging of these sports. Competition was very keen in the following events:

TEAM HANDY HUNTER.—1, Signalman Craggs and Lance Naik Asanul Haq, 237 points; 2, Lance Corporal Sneddon and Signalman Mohd Riyat Khan, 241 points. Best individuals: Signalmen Craggs and Ashmore tied with 108 points each.

The course comprised the following: A timed start over a double oxer into a compound; over a stile jump (knockdown 6 points); through a swinging gate (penalty for dismounting, 10 points); into a lane; right-hand turn over a bull finch; right-hand turn over a post and rails (knockdown, 6 points); through a double slip rail (dismount and replace—10 points for not so doing); into a walled enclosure; over a table jump; round the riding school; over a brush fence; over a post and rails, and into the enclosure again; out over a post and rails (knockdown, 6 points); left-hand turn over a double oxer (knockdown, 6 points); over a rodzianco jump, and back over a double oxer (knockdown, 6 points) to the finish. A penalty of one point for every second taken from start to finish plus the above.

This competition was very keenly contested, and some good times were recorded, considering the trickiness of the course. The only thing that marred the proceedings was the fact that Naik Hakim Khan broke his collar bone in going over the rodzianco jump when he was returning a very good time. He very pluckily carried on later and won the Individual Jumping. It was not until afterwards that it was discovered that his collar bone was broken.

INDIVIDUAL JUMPING.—1, Naik Hakim Khan, 2 faults; 2, Jemadar Ali Hussain Shah, 4 faults; 3, Signalman Glew, 6 faults.

The course comprised the following (all 3ft. 6in.): Brush fence, wall jump, post and rails, in and out, gate, double oxer and triple bar.

TEAM JUMPING.—1, Signalmen Glew, Rainford and Forrest, 16 faults; 2, Sergeant Yates, Signalmen Warren and Lall Khan, 16 faults. Best individuals: Signalmen Glew and Lall Khan, no faults.

As two teams and two individuals had tied for first place, and the two individuals were the best in their respective teams, they jumped off again for it. This tie jump was won by Signalman Glew with 4 faults to Lall Khan's 8 faults. A very close competition indeed.

KING'S MESSENGER RACE.—1, Signalmen Peacock, Ashmore, Tuck, Naik Mohd, Azam, Signalmen Mohd and Waras.

The first man had to run 50 yards, the second man to cycle 50 yards, the third man to ride 50 yards, and the fourth man to hop 25 yards. The fifth man was carried in a blanket, over a jump to the finish. The message was carried in a chatti of water and had to be delivered to the judge. Chattis could be stolen from other teams or broken. Our readers can imagine the usual sympathetic laughter at the spills.

V.C. RACE.—1, Signalman Marson and Lance Naik Atta Mond. This race also produced plenty of boisterous (?) fun—for the spectators, of course!

Some really nice cups, medals and cash prizes were presented to the winners by Mrs. A. B. McVittie, amidst resounding cheers. Roll on next year; it was a very enjoyable event, and our thanks are due to Lieutenant McVittie for giving us such a good show, and to all those who worked behind the scenes (and beside the jumps) for the smooth way in which the competition was run.

Hockey.—We have quite a nice little team, and have been giving a good account of ourselves in this sphere of sport. In the Station Tournament, competing against Regimental first teams we did not do so badly in beating " G " Battery, R.H.A., in the semi-final by one goal to nil, and losing to the 3rd Indian Divisional Signals on a neutral ground by 2 goals to nil. Both were excellent goals, scored in the second half of a very fast and enjoyable game.

In the Station Hot Weather Tournament we have made a very good start, and have not yet been beaten, although we have drawn two games up to the present. The results are as follows:

v. "A" Squadron, 17/21st Lancers	Away.	Drawn	1—1
v. 3rd Indian Divisional Signals	Home.	Won	1—0
v. R.T.C.	Home.	Won	2—1
v. " B " Company, 2nd Rifle Brigade	Home.	Won	2—0
v. " H.Q." Wing, 2nd Rifle Brigade	Home.	Won	3—2
v. " B " Squadron, 17/21st Lancers	Home.	Drawn	1—1

Soccer.—We are not quite so well up in this branch of sport, but it is early yet, as we have only played five matches to date:

v. 85th Field Battery, R.A.	Home.	Lost	0—1
v. " C " Company, 2nd Rifle Brigade	Away.	Won	3—1
v. " B " Squadron, 17/21st Lancers	Home.	Drawn	2—2
v. " B " Company, 2nd Rifle Brigade	Away.	Drawn	0—0
v. " G " Battery, R.H.A.	Home.	Lost	7—2

Cricket.—We have very few cricketers in the Troop, but in the Station Tournament we combined with the Detachment of R.A.M.C. at this Station, and reached the final.

In the semi-final round they beat " G " Battery, R.H.A., by a considerable margin, and in the final succumbed to the much stronger 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade Regimental team.

Malta Signal Section.

Athletics.—Former members of this Section will, no doubt, be interested to hear that once again we were able to retain the " Cisk " Athletic Cup. Due to the activities of Mr. Records, some doubts were entertained as to our chances after our stars, Lieutenant Panton, Signalmen Williams and Parrish had all left us. This proved to be idle speculation, and the dark horses came out and carried the day in no uncertain manner. Five Sections were entered by the R.A.S.C.; Royal Signals entered as one Section.

Individual placings were as follows:

100 YARDS.—Royal Signals, 1st and 3rd (Signalman Callan, Sergeant Cutler).

220 YARDS.—Royal Signals, 2nd and 3rd (Signalman Callan, Sergeant Cutler).

440 YARDS.—Royal Signals, 1st and 3rd (Signalman Callan, Lance Corporal Luscombe).

880 YARDS.—Royal Signals, 4th and 7th (Signalman Burgess, Signalman Carter).

MILE.—Royal Signals, 1st and 4th (Lance Corporal Luscombe, Signalman Carter).

1. Signalmen Carter and Burgess in the 880 yards.
2. Lieut. T. de B. Miller receiving the Cup.
3. Lance Corporal Luscombe Putting the Shot.
4. Signalman Callan winning the 440 yards.

HIGH JUMP.—Royal Signals, 2nd (tie) and 4th (Lieutenant Miller, Signalman Callan).

LONG JUMP.—Royal Signals, 1st and 3rd (Signalman Shreeve, Lance Corporal Luscombe).

SHOT.—Royal Signals, 1st and 3rd (Lance Corporals McConnell and Luscombe).

THROWING CRICKET BALL.—Royal Signals, 1st and 4th (Signalmen Burgess and Shreeve).

OLD SOLDIERS' RACE.—Royal Signals, 1st and 2nd (Major Bury Sergeant Cutler).

Royal Signals won by 15½ points from the Workshops Section, R.A.S.C.

In the tug-of-war, Royal Signals lost to the R.A.S.C. Supplies, who proved worthy winners. Major Bury, who won the Old Soldiers' Race, was suitably rewarded at the prize-giving with a bottle of Malta-brewed beer.

Sergeant Cutler, who did excellent work in coaching the team, is still able to produce some of the form he displayed sixteen years ago, when he ran for the Corps.

SKIP.

Tientsin Signal Section.

Hockey.—After a promising outlook in the practice games at the commencement of the season, the Staff and Departmentals team seemed to fall away in the league games, although in some games they were very unfortunate to lose. However, they ended the season in fine form and had some consolation in being the only team in the league to defeat the Tientsin Hockey Club—the ultimate league champions. The league results were as follows:

v. German Hockey Club	Lost	0—1
v. "A" Team, 1st Lancs. Fusiliers	Won	5—1
v. "B" Team, ,, ,,	Lost	2—4
v. "C" Team, ,, ,,	Lost	1—2
v. Tientsin Hockey Club	Lost	1—5
v. "A" Team, 1st Lancs. Fusiliers	Won	6—1
v. "C" Team, ,, ,,	Lost	0—1
v. "B" Team, 1st ,, ,,	Won	2—0
v. Tientsin Hockey Club	Won	3—0
v. German Hockey Club	Lost	1—2

Cricket.—The Staff and Departmentals again seem to have a very strong team. The first match of the season resulted in a win against the Tientsin Club. Scores as follows: Staff and Departmentals, 109 for 9 declared; Tientsin C.C., 151.

THE WIRE

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VOL. XIX.—No. 222 AUGUST, 1938 PRICE—SIXPENCE

Editorial Notes.

War Department Constabulary Vacancies.—With reference to the article published on page 300 of our July issue, dealing with conditions of service, rates of pay, etc. for those desirous of enlistment into the War Department Constabulary, we are asked to state that TELEPHONE SWITCHBOARD OPERATORS are particularly in demand in certain areas.

Obituary.—We regret to announce the death of Lieutenant Richard Luke Hansard, Royal Signals (retired), who passed away, as the result of an operation, on 12th May, 1938. Lieutenant Hansard transferred to Royal Signals from the Royal Artillery soon after the war, and served for a considerable time with Egypt Signals, Cairo. He retired, on account of ill-health, in 1928, and settled in Njoro, Kenya Colony, East Africa, where, with others, he developed " The Essential Oil Industries." It was whilst on a business visit to this country that he underwent a minor operation from which he never regained consciousness, and his end was as sudden as it was unexpected.

We tender our sincere sympathies to his relatives in their sad bereavement.

Exchange.—Officer warned for India during the 1938-39 Trooping Season is anxious to postpone his departure from England until the 1939-40 Trooping Season. He would welcome an opportunity of exchanging with a Junior Major or Senior Captain, who is either due for transfer to Home Establishment this Trooping Season or due for foreign service next or subsequent Trooping Season.

Correspondence to Captain " X," c/o The Editor, THE WIRE, 95, Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

Exchange.—Senior Major warned for India desires Exchange. Correspondence to Major " C.H.," c/o The Editor, THE WIRE, 95, Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

Aldershot—Annual Reunion of Royal Signals Old Comrades, 1938.—The Sports Ground at Aldershot has been the scene of many Reunion functions, but the general consensus of opinion seems to be that this year's gathering was the most enjoyable and successful of them all.

The Old Comrade guests, supplemented by representative contingents from Birmingham, Bournemouth, Portsmouth, Southampton and Salisbury, combined to tax accommodation to the limit, and the Sports Finals were run off before a record attendance.

After the final heat had been decided, Tea was served, and the visitors were left to their own devices until 9 p.m., when a Smoking Concert was held in the Regimental Institute.

The room was arranged cabaret fashion, and for two hours the guests were regaled with a selection of modern dance tunes played by a " Harmonica Band," consisting of a number of embryo " Larry Adlers," supplemented by a piano, ukulele, and a performer who contributed rhythmical castanet effects with a pair of dessert spoons. The audience, who were invited to join in the choruses, carolled lustily through a selection of songs—both old and new—with every evidence of enjoyment. Each item of a varied programme was received with vociferous applause, and the National Anthem at 11 p.m. concluded an exceptionally pleasant evening's entertainment.

During the concert, Colonel C. W. Fladgate, Chief Signal Officer, Aldershot Command, took the opportunity to address the visitors, and said what a great pleasure it was for him and all ranks of Signals in the Aldershot Command to welcome their Old Comrades at the Annual Reunion gathering. Firstly, because it offered an opportunity for all of them to renew old friendships, and, secondly, because it was, in his opinion, of great value to the younger element of the Corps just starting off on their military careers, as a typical example of *esprit-de-corps* and loyalty which they would do well to emulate. He referred to the prominent part Royal Signals displayed in the Aldershot Tattoo, and mentioned that he had received two

official letters of thanks from the authorities commenting upon the fact that every year "communications" were carried through with greater efficiency than ever, and that there was not a single weak link anywhere. Colonel Fladgate referred to the splendid war tradition of the Corps, which had been so firmly built up and established by the "Old Comrades," and said that he hoped the present members would live up to it. (Applause.)

On Sunday, the 26th, the Old Comrades paraded for Church, and the muster of 143 was the largest ever experienced for any event of a similar nature. Drawn up in their customary place of honour, the ex-Service Company extended far beyond the left flank of any of the Regular Units, and presented a most impressive sight to the large crowd of spectators which had congregated to watch the Parade. With commendable precision the Old Comrade Contingent "formed fours" and, on the word of command, the parade marched off in column of route for the Garrison Church.

At the conclusion of a singularly appropriate Service, the address was given by the Rev. E. A. Filch, O.B.E., K.H.C., Assistant Chaplain-General, Aldershot Command; many ex-members of the Corps will learn with regret of his impending retirement. He made the fact known immediately prior to leaving the pulpit, and, after informing the congregation of his intention to reside in the West Country, added that if it was possible for him to be of assistance to any ex-Servicemen in that locality, he would only be too happy to do so.

Re-forming after Church, the parade proceeded back to barracks, and the salute was taken *en route* by Brigadier R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C., representative Colonel-Commandant, supported by Colonel C. W. Fladgate. Before reaching the parade ground the Old Comrades Company—as on previous occasions—was momentarily side-tracked at the Wagon Sheds and, led by the Band to the strains of "Boys of the Old Brigade," marched through the ranks of the serving soldiers to take up their place on parade, preparatory to being dismissed.

After dismissal, the customary group photograph was taken. The latter is reproduced elsewhere in this issue, and copies can be obtained on application to Messrs. Wm. May & Co., Ltd., photographers, Aldershot.

The Old Comrades then adjourned to the N.A.A.F. Institute, where an excellent luncheon was efficiently served by a large staff of waitresses, augmented by members of the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess. Brigadier Willan, Colonel Fladgate and a representative party of Mons Barracks officers attended the luncheon, and the former made a formal speech of welcome to the exceptionally large gathering of Old Comrade guests. He said that all ranks of Mons Barracks had striven to make this year's function a record show, and he could see by the members present how much it was appreciated. He was very glad that so many old familiar faces were in evidence, and expressed pleasure at seeing a very considerable increase in the percentage of new ones who had attended for the first time. He hoped they would all continue to rally on these occasions and encourage others to keep in close touch with the Corps and their old associates.

Major J. C. Bray, O.B.E., responding on behalf of the Old Comrades, said how much they all looked forward to the annual Aldershot event. He was quite sure that the chief reason many more did not participate was because they did not realise and appreciate the welcome which always awaited them. They were, he said, very happy to see such a strong representative muster from Birmingham, Bournemouth, Portsmouth, Southampton and Salisbury, and hoped that all, particularly those who had attended for the first time, would not only come again, but persuade others to come with them and give their support to the Corps Association, which is doing such good and useful work. Major Bray then called upon his fellow guests to re-charge their glasses and drink to the health of their Colonel Commandant, Colonel Fladgate, his officers and all ranks of Royal Signals in the Aldershot Command, a request to which the assembly responded with enthusiasm.

During lunch, a collection was made which realised £3 5s. 10d. It was unanimously agreed that £1 5s. 0d. of that amount should be given to the staff of waitresses who had so ably assisted at their enjoyable repast, and the balance of £2 0s. 10d. be donated to the Association Benevolent Fund.

Replete with an extremely satisfying meal and in high good humour, the visitors repaired to the Sergeants' Mess to prolong their enjoyment of the old family environment as long as possible, but eventually the time for departure arrived, and they commenced their journeys home, carrying with them pleasant recollections of days long past which contact with old friends had revived.

As a preliminary to concluding this account, may we convey a vote of thanks from the Old Comrade guests to Colonel Fladgate, his officers and all ranks in the Aldershot Command for their kind hospitality, and congratulate R.S.M. Westwood and members of his various committees for the excellence of the arrangements which combined to make this year's Reunion such an outstanding success. Every effort was directed to ensuring the comfort and well-being of the visitors, and those who worked so hard at their appointed tasks will be gratified to learn how much the result of their labours was appreciated.

Finally, may we record the fact that the Old Comrades had nothing but praise for the Band of the 2nd Battalion, King's Own Royal Regiment, which played the parade to and from church, and afterwards performed before a large and appreciative audience. The pace set was ideal for such a composite contingent, and Bandmaster B. H Brown's thoughtful consideration was freely commented upon in very complimentary terms.

EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

BIRMINGHAM BRANCH.

At 9.30 a.m. on Saturday, 25th June, a party of eighteen Old Comrades of the Birmingham Branch set out in four cars from Cateswell House to attend the Aldershot Reunion. Trouble was experienced with one of the cars at Woodstock, and it was left behind at Oxford with the driver whilst the rest of the party packed into three cars to complete the journey. Not so comfortable, but still happy. The invalid car, having had a big end attended to was brought along by its indefatigable driver just in time for the Smoking Concert at Mons Barracks in the evening.

The party stopped at the "Tumbledown Dick," Farnborough, on the way down and at lunch connected with two London Comrades, Messrs. Clutterbuck and Lawson. We'll leave that part of the story to your imagination.

ROYAL SIGNALS OLD COMRADES REUNION, MONS BARRACKS, ALDERSHOT, 26th JUNE, 1938

Front Row : W. Wish, E. S. Huggett, H. S. Clutterbuck, F. Harrington, A. Bellenger, W. H. Realf, A. E. Lawson, H. Temple, D.C.M., M.M., H. P. Cotton, T. Sargant, J. R. Brown, C. Mepham, Colonel C. W. Fladgate, Major F. V. Merchant, M.C., D.C.M., Brigadier R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C., Major J. C. Bray, O.B.E., Lieutenant-Colonel J. S. Yule, O.B.E., Captain E. A. Longley, D.C.M., J. E. Campbell, J. Collyer, H. Dickinson, H. A. Foster, W. Murfet, F. Creed, C. F. Mays, F. J. Willis, G. S. Walshaw, W. Stedman, W. H. Barnes, W. Jeremy.

Second Row : W. C. Cayley, F. C. Goodman, C. Punter, A. Muntzer, C. Hoskyns, H. Temple, W. Askew, W. Ritchings, C. Foot, P. G. Brunt, W. Butler, H. Adams, M.M., G. Ruffle, J. Waller, Lieutenant-Quartermaster B. J. Rowe, M.M., R. H. Purseglove, J. H. Gould, T. Evans, A. H. Green, A. D. L. Graves, B. A. Cates, J. McDermott, J. Hutchins, G. H. Beatty, W. P. Hodges, H. S. Wood.

Third Row : H. G. Skinner, C. Nobes, A. Hicks, T. Gilbert, W. Bent, B. Tidmarsh, W. Baker, J. Preston, C. Urwin, J. Carnall, R. H. Aaron, J. Exell, H. G. Reaves, W. S. White, F. W. Jones, A. E. Barker, A. C. Dixon, F. Y. Early, F. J. Attfield, C. J. Cadwell, R. G. Sheale, D.C.M., A. W. Heath, R. A. Barker, C. Harrington, C. Goldman, J. R. Cadwell, A. F. Bennett, P. A. Simmonds, F. Kent, W. Stevenson, A. E. Cox.

Fourth Row : R. V. Pearce, R. Blackburn, M.M., F. J. McDonald, K. Jefferin, S. Whitty, E. Smith, A. Chick, J. Johns, F. Beagley, J. Bowcott, W. Clifford, W. F. Richards, A. H. Stockley, A. H. Cousens, A. R. Gillett, A. Strawn, H. Hose, E. Tye, F. Wood, W. Kneller, P. R. Andrews, H. F. Kirby, C. J. Bunney, A. H. Wright, W. G. Davies, P. T. Joy, A. W. J. Walker, J. Hills, C. F. Binks, L. H. Overington.

Back Row : L. Beck, G. Nicholls, P. Moss, W. Schwencke, F. Cole, G. De Lacy, W. Cargill, W. Job, A. Pout, W. Cleveland, G. King, H. Whittaker, A. E. Smith, T. Wathen, F. Cole, E. Hand, W. Johnson, D.C.M., M.M., C. Burgess, H. Hogben, A. W. Hoare, L. Winter, H. Berkeley, P. Hagan, G. W. Jenner, R. Peachy, R. J. Clark, D. Andrews, F. Morgan, H. R. Winton, A. B. Jenkins, W. M. Spargo, W. H. Baker.

Arriving at the Sports Ground, Aldershot, the party proceeded to enjoy themselves in no uncertain manner, and, wandering round, were delighted to encounter Colonel Holdsworth and Lieutenant Quartermaster Rowe from the home town. A record of our other encounters would require all the space in the next three numbers of the WIRE.

After witnessing an exciting Obstacle Race, the party gathered round a glass case containing a very fine silver model of one of the old cable wagons with a three-pair horse team and number six bringing up in the rear with his crook stick. The model is beautifully carried out, but Comrade Realf insists that there should be an earth wire on one of the front wheels !

The party visited Aldershot Town after tea and returned in time for an excellent Smoking Concert at 8.30 p.m. The end of the Concert found everyone merry and bright, in spite of the fact that it was bed-time. The absence of feathers in the beds and pillows received favourable comment and was voted conducive to healthy repose, sound slumber and what not. Passed unanimously by Bungalow No. 17. Come out in front that man who said " liar " !

Before " lights out," Alf Walker did his daily dozen by running round the bungalow in his new pyjamas (Signals colours). He followed this with some wonderful gymnastics on his bed to the accompaniment of a running commentary by Stan Whitty with humorous interpolations by Comrade Lawson.

A dixieful of Sergeant-Major's tea at 7.30 a.m. on Sunday morning put everyone in the right mood, and after a hearty breakfast the party was ready for the march to the Garrison Church in support of the Royal Signals O.C.A. Banner. Comments on all sides indicated that the Old Comrades marched very well and put up a good show. If there was any talking in the ranks one has to remember " So much to say—so little time."

The Reunion luncheon was an excellent finale to a very enjoyable visit and a masterpiece of organisation. The Birmingham Branch members who attended were all very grateful indeed and sincerely appreciative of the hospitality so generously shown them. With this in mind, we hope to double the number of visitors from Birmingham next year.

The party waved and yelled good-bye to the Sergeants' Mess, and started the return journey at 3.30 p.m. on Sunday. Tea at Banbury, where we witnessed a procession of the local townsfolk singing a hymn very well known to all soldiers. The party joined in heartily. It is to be hoped that they had all the words right. A short interval for the lubrication of man and machine at the " Tom o' Bedlam," Knowle, and we ran into Birmingham to finish up at our town rendezvous, the " White Swan," Edmund Street (kept by an old Royal Signals officer).

Mine host played a neat trick by taking our money, and, having distracted our attention to the other end of the room, drank all the beer himself. And was Alf Walker annoyed about that ? His next trick was just as good, and consisted of a round on the house ; so everyone was happy once more.

The party was heartily in agreement about the 1938 Aldershot Reunion. It was a magnificent occasion. Our final toast before breaking up for home was, " Here's to the next Aldershot Reunion." Our sincere thanks to Colonel Fladgate, R.S.M. Westwood and all concerned, not forgetting our local chairman —Colonel Danielsen—who so kindly provided us with a car and driver, thus enabling four members to attend who would otherwise have been disappointed.

BOURNEMOUTH BRANCH.

A representative party from the Bournemouth Branch, under the leadership of Major J. C. Bray, O.B.E., attended the recent Annual Reunion of Old Comrades at Mons Barracks, Aldershot, at the invitation of Colonel C. W. Fladgate, Chief Signal Officer, and all ranks of Royal Signals in the Aldershot Command.

Travelling by road, they arrived in good time to witness the Sports on Saturday, 25th June, and all remained to take part in the following day's Church Parade ceremony, which resulted in a record attendance.

Responding to Colonel Fladgate's speech of welcome, Major Bray, on behalf of the Old Comrade guests, expressed his thanks for the generous hospitality they had received, and paid a well-earned tribute to R.S.M. Frank Westwood and his enterprising band of helpers for their by no means insignificant share in the organising arrangements.

The whole party spent a most enjoyable week-end, and look forward with pleasurable anticipation to next year's gathering.

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, Warley	Motor Mechanic
2	Ex-N.C.O., Croydon	Storekeeper
3	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Electric Plant Attendant
4	Ex-Signalman, Croydon	Chauffeur Handyman
5	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Lorry Driver
6	Ex-N.C.O., Croydon	Attendant
7	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
8	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
9	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
10	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
11	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
12	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
13	Ex-Signalman, London	Motor Cleaner, G.P.O.
14	Ex-N.C.O., London	Factory Charge Hand
15	Ex-Signalman, London	Driving Instructor
16	Ex-Signalman, London	Lorry Driver
17	Ex-N.C.O., Nottingham	Attendant
18	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
19	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Packer
20	Ex-Signalman, Warley	Labourer
21	Ex-Signalman, Bury St. Edmunds	Electrician
22	Ex-Signalman, Bury St. Edmunds	Batman
23	Ex-N.C.O., Bury St. Edmunds	Telephonist
24	Ex-Signalman, Bury St. Edmunds	Labourer
25	Ex-Signalman, Warley	Labourer
26	Ex-Signalman, Bury St. Edmunds	Attendant
27	Ex-Signalman, West Riding, Yorks.	Postman
28	Ex-Signalman, Preston	Postman

GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following :

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from :
Signal Training Centre (India).
Officers' Mess, S.T.C., Catterick.
W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess, Depot Battalion.
C.S.M. (I.) Campbell W. P.

GIFT OF CLOTHING from :
Mrs. H. L. Hansard.

APPEALS dealt with :

1	Ex-Signalman, Hants	Grant	£2	0	0
2	Ex-Signalman, Swindon	Grant	£2	0	0
3	Ex-N.C.O., Yorks.	Loan	£10	0	0
4	Ex-Signalman, Farnborough	Grant	£3	0	0

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

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

Consequent upon the institution of the MARRIED ESTABLISHMENT authorised by Army Order No. 66 of 1938, the MARRIED QUARTERS ROLL and its Waiting List have been abolished.

Such information will therefore not be published under this heading in future.—ED.

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

[The figures in the last column indicate the pages in the "Corps Promotion Roster" (published in April, 1938) 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.]

Foreman-of-Signals Roster.

Promoted Warrant Officer, Class II (F-of-S, Q.M.S.).

1859005	F-of-S C.Q.M.S. Tate A.	4/4/38	10

Promoted Warrant Officer, Class II (C.S.M.).

*5430216	C.Q.M.S. Coombes L.	28/3/38	90

Promoted Company Quartermaster-Sergeant.

2309312	Sergeant Thomas R.	6/3/38	21
1417130	Sergeant Vignaux S.	9/3/38	21

Promoted Sergeant.

2310687	L/Sergeant Brunton W.	9/3/38	38
2308503	L/Sergeant Edge T.	23/3/38	39

Appointed Lance Sergeant.

2313794	Corporal Moody R.	28/2/38	46
2316825	Corporal Watson D.	6/3/38	47
2815537	Corporal Ross W.	9/3/38	47
2316566	Corporal Holloway W.	31/3/38	47

Promoted Corporal.

2321503	L/Corporal Mitchell A.	28/2/38	68
2323224	L/Corporal Gully H.	28/2/38	68
5882463	L/Corporal Harris A.	2/3/38	68
772695	L/Corporal Payne S.	4/3/38	68
2321460	L/Corporal Ransome H.	6/3/38	68
2318400	L/Corporal Sims E.	6/3/38	68
2321921	L/Corporal Maudsley B.	8/3/38	68
2317038	L/Corporal Taylor S.	9/3/38	68
2321213	L/Corporal Yaxley R.	14/3/38	68
52377	L/Corporal Postance C.	23/3/38	68
2321591	L/Corporal Higgins J.	28/3/38	68
2319507	L/Corporal Wood J.	30/3/38	69
2319622	L/Corporal Snowball J.	31/3/38	69

Appointed Lance Corporal.

2324410	Signalman Farnsworth A.	1/12/37
746271	Signalman Lightbofy J.	6/12/37
2319996	Signalman Peacock E.	7/12/37
2315493	Signalman Lewis T.	8/12/37
549867	Signalman Cooper J.	9/12/37
2322177	Signalman Hodgson R.	10/12/37
2323378	Signalman Poole W.	10/12/37
2317472	Signalman Salter H.	11/12/37
2318395	Signalman Hutty W.	13/12/37
2323199	Signalman Stokes A.	15/12/37
2320698	Signalman Bond D.	17/12/37
2318792	Signalman Bailey G.	18/12/37
2322435	Signalman Adams J.	22/12/37
2321419	Signalman Hutton J.	22/12/37
2320707	Signalman Carter F.	22/12/37
2320292	Signalman Austen A.	22/12/37
2323328	Signalman Robson J.	22/12/37
2320186	Signalman Nation G.	22/12/37
2321135	Signalman Henrick G.	23/12/37
2323042	Signalman Kerr A.	31/12/37

Discharges.

2306509	F-of-S Q.M.S. Tilford C.	14/6/38	10
* 533335	R.Q.M.S. Brown S.	30/5/38	84
1855804	R.Q.M.S. Wensley M.	31/5/38	5
2311782	R.Q.M.S. Eastes A.	28/6/38	5
2306517	C.S.M. Archbold J.	19/6/38	7
2311488	C.Q.M.S. Edmunds D.	28/6/38	18
2311099	Sergeant Hammond P.	9/6/38	27
2310828	Sergeant Peters J.	10/6/38	24
1850094	Sergeant Warren J.	14/6/38	31
*1857081	Sergeant Rand R.	15/6/38	93
2316076	L/Sergeant Durand A.	17/6/38	46
2317914	L/Corporal Hodgson M.	28/3/38	68

* Special Roster.

OFFICERS

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Transfers to Army Reserve.

2320098	Corporal Jones H.	1/5/38	53
2318228	Corporal Hawcroft W.	8/6/38	61
2320430	L/Corporal Cockram H.	19/5/38	75
2320708	L/Corporal Kitley G.	4/6/38	69
796899	L/Corporal Buttery A.	10/6/38	74
2320176	L/Corporal Pilkington H.	24/6/38	74

Plain Tales.

Well and Truly.—How I manage to find time to write to you these days is a mystery so deep that even Hooky, good as he is, couldn't tell you. Nevertheless, on 23rd June I contrived to attend the wedding at Birmingham of Sergeant Robson L. and Miss Violet Selina Hirst. Sergeant Robson is a P.S.I. with the 48th Divisional Signals and has taken a very important step on this occasion, for it is a well-known fact that P.S.I.s have practically no home life. One at least has his address written down so that when he does manage to get time off, he knows where to go. However, it was an excellent wedding and a marvellous reception. I have a pretty taste in these things. C.S.M. Walker H. officiated as best man and by great good fortune avoided dropping any bricks. An unexpected party saw Sergeant and Mrs. Robson off on their honeymoon from Snow Hill station and a little arrangement by Mr. Fred Clarke ensured an empty compartment. At least, it was empty at first, but what with confetti and rose leaves there was little more than room for two travellers. They must have sighed with relief when the train pulled out. Good luck to 'em.

Up to the Hilt.—The latest controversy concerns the wearing of swords by officers giving evidence in a Court of Law. Regulations say that an officer will wear his sword. A magistrate says he must not wear it in HIS court anyway. I am now waiting

for some learned judge to object to the spurs also. A sword, apparently, is an article used to kill or inflict wounds. Spurs were used in the sixteenth century to give extra life to jaded horses, or steeds, as they were then known. Both swords and spurs have become traditional articles of dress. A judge doesn't have to be baldheaded before he wears a wig. As the President of the Society for the Abolition of Everything said at Much Doing only last Thursday, " We must rid ourselves of all encumbrances. Down with watch-chains, stiff collars, Mess tins, hobnailed boots, rum issues, extra duty pay and the insidious CRA. Away with troop-ships, spine pads, medals and spinach. Who says a bob on the lucky old hook ? " He was arrested under a half-forgotten law of 1721 and was led away protesting that the tops of tram cars were quite superfluous. Which merely shows you—what I mean is, you never can tell, does it ?

Society News.—The following have left for the Canary Islands and decline to make any statements for publication. The Countess Fibre, whose aunt, it will be recalled, married one of the Loston-Paydefor family. Mr. and Mrs. Ukann Larfe. Inspector Faceache. Sir Wrykely Hunstankingley, Bart., known as the Hooker, Mademoiselle Colette Demany of the Extranian Intelligence Bureau and several others whose names have never been mentioned and who are, indeed, unknown. I only refer to these people because I would like you to understand that it is quite impossible to continue the serial until they return.

Colonel Harvey K. Adenoid, QRU, GB, stood on the quay at Northport with Major Snogge-Sapp, and watched the yacht draw away.

" Well, I suppose we must let 'em go," said the Colonel.

" Yeah. That's right, Colonel." Major Snogge-Sapp waved a surrep— surrepti—ahem—waved secretly to Mlle Colette and blew a kiss.

" Help, help ! " cried a voice. " I'm drowning."

" Someone in the water, Bill," said the Colonel, training his telescope on the distant hills. " Yes, there he is. Hi ! Who are you ? "

" Ethelred Huckle-bubble-bubble-berry," gurgled the drowning man.

" Never heard of him, have you, Bill ? "

" No, sir. Don't know him at all."

" Well, I guess we'd better get on back."

BECOME A REGISTERED READER TO-MORROW.

Second Prize.—This month we give three yards of beautifully engraved spun-yarn to the recruit who said that a carnation was where the Territorials went in full dress every time a king was crowned.

BARLEUX.

Glasgow University Officers' Training Corps Signal Unit.

Hay Lodge Park Camp, Peebles.

Training.—The Signal Scheme went off without too many hitches on 18th June. The cable party succeeded in laying several lines which fulfilled no apparent useful purpose. We did, however, manage to defend the Tower of Empire against the fierce ravages of the Scottish Nationalists.

Camp.—Annual camp is now in progress, at least in so far as we appear to be making some headway with the work detailed for us. Our main triumph has been the installation of telephones for the various Units at camp, in the Officers' Mess, and for the Colonel, etc. The officers do like a phone with which to play ! There is a great deal more of camp on which to report, but it will be as well to wait till we return to Glasgow and give a full survey of all the points of interest.

In the meantime, we must say adieu, since our P.S.I. does not believe in giving us too much spare time, even to write WIRE notes.

STONE AGE.

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Through Four Countries to Arabia.

Before commencing the main body of this article I should like the following points to be understood :

(1) That not being an Arabic scholar, I cannot guarantee my translations to be correct.

(2) That past and present members of Egypt Signals will not think some of my descriptions superfluous, as these notes are written primarily for readers who are not stationed in, or do not know, Egypt.

(3) Some of the statements regarding our journey may be incorrect as they were taken from desert police and village residents, and I cannot vouch for their truthfulness.

A convoy was made up in Signal Barracks on 30th May for three purposes : (*a*) to reconnoitre the desert route from Cairo to Akaba ; (*b*) to test various types of tyres ; (*c*) to gain some knowledge of the range of the No. 9 Set. The convoy comprised four Morris 8-cwt. trucks, two Morris Leaders, and two Morris 15-cwt. vans (from No. 1 Company) with Major Kennett in command. The party comprised the following : Guest of Honour—our Acting C.O., Major Tyrrell ; O.C. Convoy—Captain M. S. Wheatley ; Navigating Officer—Lieutenant B. J. Walker ; Administration—Sergeant F. Dunn and fifteen other ranks (mostly I.C. Drivers).

We moved out of Signal Barracks at 8 o'clock (see photograph No. 1) and headed for Port Suez, which is due east of Cairo, along some eighty miles of good tarmac road ; in fact, it is so good and so unchanging as to become monotonous.

Turning left in the centre of Suez, we ran some five miles up the side of the canal to Kubri Ferry. Here we had a slight hold-up (10,000 tons of it, in fact) (see photograph No. 2).

We then ran the cars in groups down on to the ferry. The first load was the four 8-cwts., the second the two Leaders, and the third the two 15-cwts. The crossing (see photograph No. 4) was completed so much easier than we anticipated, under the skilful direction of the ferrymaster, that the O.C. promoted him to Admiral on the spot. The whole crossing only took twenty-seven minutes.

Once ashore on the east side of the Suez Canal, we halted for a light lunch. During the halt we opened the radio and worked speech to Cairo on a 14-ft. rod aerial (80 miles). At one o'clock we moved on, still working due east, across the war-time battle-fields, which bear traces of trenches, and still have miles of barbed wire entanglements stretching away on each side of the road.

After about seven miles, we suddenly came upon a tarmac road, a fact which I think rather surprised us all. This road led us across some very bad country with soft sandhills on either side ; and it would have been a bad business if any of the vehicles had left the road. On reaching the hills the tarmac ceased, and we ran on to a gravel road leading in to the Mitla Pass (see photograph No. 3). Here the road is quite good, but calls for some careful driving in places, owing to its loose surface.

Safely making the Mitla Pass, we arrived at the Wadi Haj (Valley of Devils), of which I will have more to say anon, and then out on to an enormous plain stretching for miles on either side. Here the track forked, one going north to El Arich and Jerusalem, the other slightly south-east to Akaba. The route we now take is known by the Arabs as the " Pilgrims' Way," as this was the route taken by Mohammedans walking to Mecca. It is now little used for this purpose as the rail and sea route is available to all. The area we were passing through is also said to be the Wilderness where the Children of Israel wandered for forty years, though I now understand that this has been disproved.

Driving on across the plain for three hours, we crossed a range of low hills, and dropped down to the town of Nekl. This was once a township of some 7,000 inhabitants, and existed solely as a resting place for the pilgrims, there being plenty of water, food and entertainment to be found here. Now the population is about twenty, half of which comprise the police outpost. The native sergeant showed us round, and we visited the disused mosque, fort and the Governor's house. Here also is a saint's tomb, of which it is related that anyone visiting the tomb and wishing for a male child will have the wish granted. The married members of the convoy fled in terror.

Leaving Nekl, we moved some fifteen miles before stopping for the night to enjoy an excellent meal put up by Corporal (Darky) Williams. Up to now the cars had made the journey trouble free and showing the fine averages of 14 m.p.g. for the 8-cwts. and 10 m.p.g. for the Leaders. After dark we tested out the radio to Cairo, and worked " 9/7s " speech to that place on rod (160 miles). During the night the temperature dropped to 51 degs. F., with a very heavy dew. We were all having a well-earned sleep, so it didn't worry us much.

Moving off at 5.30 a.m. next morning, we made a halt at 8 a.m. to call " K " Section by radio ; they were away at Sollum on the Western Desert some 520 miles from us. We thought that this was going to be a triumph with a capital " T," but after exchanging signals " 6/8s," things just faded out, so nothing really useful was learned.

Soon we arrived at El Themed, which is just a well and a small Police post. Here the local Arabs come in every two days to water their camels, and photograph No. 5 shows that we arrived just at the watering time. There must have been some two hundred camels here. I understood from one of the Arabs that they have a grand drive up to El Arich once a year to sell them. Here at El Themed the Frontier Police Corporal (interpreted by Major Kennett) stood on his authority and refused to let us take the southern route through the mountains, so, like good soldiers, we respected his orders and struck north to the police post at Kintella ; and then south-east from there.

This took us some seventy miles out of our way. Nevertheless, this route was good going over a wide plain, suitable for any type of vehicle, and we could easily make 25 m.p.h. At mid-day, as the shade temperature in the driving cab with windscreen open was 80 degs. F., and radiators at 150 degs., readers will be able to gather that it was rather warm outside.

A halt was made some twenty miles from Akaba for lunch and to prepare for the descent of the mountains down to the sea. On first entering the hills the scenery became, perhaps, the most beautiful in Egypt, each range of small hills opening on a saucerlike plain ; for some fifteen miles, each hill appeared to be a different colour to the remainder. Finally, this brought us to a large stretch of very hard, white sand, about three miles long. It reminded one of Daytona Sands, and the O.C. convoy gave us a thrill by treading on the ——. Sorry, that's telling tales out of school.

At the end of this we reached Ras-el-Nagb (Head of the Pass) and provisionally entered Palestine, although the actual frontier is well down the Pass. Here, again, the native policeman did not seem keen on letting us proceed down the Pass, and gave us gloomy details. But having come nearly three hundred miles, the convoy went on, though rather warily, not knowing what was round the next bend. The track just took the width of the Leaders, and we slowly edged down, round hair-pin bends and in places almost down stairs, the gradient of 1 in 3 needed engine in bottom gear and the handbrake on.

The mountains here made grand scenery, which a camera cannot adequately reproduce, although I tried with photograph No. 6, which shows something of the nature of the track. After about half-an-hour, we had all safely negotiated the path through the pass (2,700 feet) and came into what appeared to be a river bed of very soft gravel which hardly held the tyres, and so down to the seashore of the Gulf of Akaba. We ran eastward round the coast to select a camp site, finally halting just on the Palestine-Transjordan Frontier.

After making camp we all went for a welcome bathe, though not venturing too far, having been informed that this particular part was known as Moya Gharweet (Deep Water) and was the playground of sharks. We were visited by the civil wireless operator from Akaba, who doubted our word that we had come via the pass, telling us that we were the first military convoy to come that way. Other troops have come to Akaba, but always via Jerusalem, Beersheba, and the Dead Sea Valley. He doubted whether we would be able to climb back up the pass. Radio test from here gave speech to Cairo, nearly 300 miles away, on rod aerial. This was no freak, as speech was " 9s " at each period over our stay of about 36 hours.

The next day a fishing trip was arranged. The net result of two hours' fishing was : officers, 1 red mullet ; other ranks, nil. (See photograph No. 7.)

C

THROUGH FOUR COUNTRIES TO ARABIA.

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The party also went round Akaba village, which holds little of interest, and then on round the coast to the frontier of Arabia. There is no definite mark to show this, so we erected a cairn, upon which we left our " Signals " mark to commemorate our trip. (See photograph No. 8.) We were advised not to go into Arabia, owing to the slight danger of hostility ; so, taking police advice, we returned to our camp.

In the afternoon, some excitement was caused by a large shark some twenty yards from the shore, and we were told that it was one that the natives feared, as it had already carried off two boys and had bitten off the leg of another. (See Note 3 at start.)

The next morning, reveille was at 4 a.m., and an early start was made, in order to get up the Pass before the temperature rose. At 7 a.m. a test call was made to Cairo on rod aerial tucked in between two mountains, and, to our surprise, speech was " 9s " each way, thus defeating all theories of screening.

The climb up the Pass was much easier than anticipated, and could have been made (I think) in second gear, though " bottom " was ordered for all cars. The ascent only took twenty-eight minutes from bottom to top, and radiator temperatures only increased 8 degs. This says much for the present issue of Morris cars. At the top, a few minutes were spent looking round the cars. The O.C. then decided to drive on until 5 p.m. and get as near to Cairo as possible. At that hour we had reached the Wadi Haj (previously mentioned), where the O.C. decided to make camp for the night (forty miles from Suez), after, perhaps, the longest day's driving any of us will ever do. The Wadi Haj is said by the natives to be possessed of devils, and every few yards large piles of stones testify where pilgrims had camped and put stones to keep them away. The camp site certainly was full of scorpions and huge brown spiders. (I mentioned them to my native servant on my return, and he said that these spiders were the devils, and could change their form at will after dark.) Anyway, no one came to any harm during the night.

Next morning, 3rd June, we moved out at 7 a.m., and made for the Canal, which was crossed by 10 a.m. A short halt was made to see a French liner go through, and, oh, those dames on deck, the first white women for 520 miles.

Moving on, we made for home, along the familiar Suez Road, arriving back in Signal Barracks at 3.45 p.m., tired but happy in the thought of a hard job well done. Not one breakdown, not one puncture. Some say " lucky," but I think that the O.C.'s " Well done " to the men covered it all.

In this article I have tried not to be technical and have kept a true narrative. It may lack in humour, but no funny incidents occurred, although the party was a very happy one. Another such trip to a different place would be welcomed. To the O.C. the whole party say, " Thank you, sir."

F. H. D. (Egypt Signals).

Reunion Dinner, Nos. 31, 32, 33 and 34 Divisional Signal Companies, 1938.

Members of the four original Indian Signal Companies held their first Reunion since their formation in 1911, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, London, on 11th June. Colonel L. H. Queripel, C.M.G., D.S.O., took the chair.

This Reunion was unique, as some of the members had not met since before the War, but there was no difficulty in recognising old friends ; in fact, except that most members were a " little thin on top " and a little grey, they had not altered much.

The attendance was very good, considering that it was the first Reunion after all these years. The number present was 20 officers and 36 B.O.R.s. Three of the four original Commanding Officers were present, the fourth being unable to attend.

Members began to arrive at 6.30 p.m. for dinner at 7.30 p.m., and this hour constituted the Reunion proper. As members arrived, they were " called to the bar," and it was really interesting watching what happened when old friends met. Here one saw the true spirit of comradeship.

A seating plan was displayed, and there was no difficulty experienced in finding our seats.

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This hour passed all too quickly, and at 7.30 p.m. members were requested to " file in " for dinner. (Six courses of the best.)

Dinner over, the Chairman called for " One Minute's Silence " for those comrades who had " passed on." This was followed by several toasts and speeches, in the following order: (1) Colonel L. H. Queripel, C.M.G., D.S.O. (toast to " The King) ; (2) Colonel R. G. Earle, C.M.G., D.S.O. (toast to " H.R.H. Princess Royal ") ; (3) Colonel H. I. Allan, D.S.O. (toast to " Our Indian Comrades "). In the course of his speech, Colonel Allan mentioned the names of some of the old Indian officers who were familiar to all members present. The Chairman, with reference to items (2) and (3), read messages of greetings received from H.R.H. The Princess Royal and General Sir R. Cassels, Commander-in-Chief, and the Signal Officer-in-Chief of our Indian comrades. These greetings were much appreciated by all present.

Time would not permit the reading of all greetings and good wishes received from those unable to attend. This was explained, and thanks were expressed to all who had written. This was followed by speeches from the following officers, on behalf of their Companies : No. 31 Company, Brigadier-General H. S. Franklin, C.M.G., D.S.O. ; No. 32 Company, Major-General L. V. Bond, C.B. ; No. 33 Company, Brigadier C. J. S. Le Cornu, O.B.E., M.C. ; No. 34 Company, Major J. McConville, M.C. Speeches were brief, to the point, and very witty. Some remarks worth recording were : " What a fine lot of men," and " that undoubtedly it was due to the hard training that members had received as young men in the old Companies, and that perhaps, if it had not been for this hard training some members might not have been present that evening." Everyone was agreed on this point.

Speeches over, members " stood easy " for a short time to re-assemble later for what proved to be a lengthy discussion on the business side of the Reunion.

The first item was to discover a suitable title to be known by in the future which would embrace all Signal and Wireless Companies over a certain period. Finally, it was proposed by Brigadier-General H. S. Franklin, C.M.G., seconded and carried, that in future the Association should be known as " INDIAN

REUNION DINNER Nos. 31, 32, 33 and 34 DIVISIONAL SIGNAL COMPANIES, 1938.

(SEE KEY ON PAGE 351)

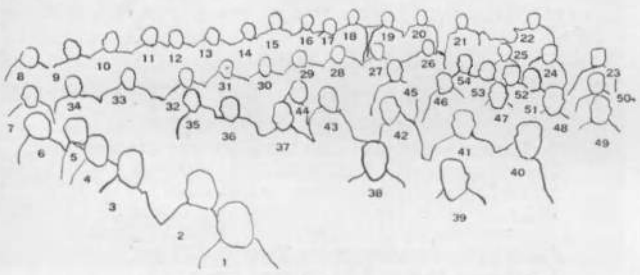
SIGNAL UNITS, 1911-1919, O.C.A." This would entitle any officer or B.O.R. who served in any Indian Signal and Wireless Unit in any area between 1911-1919 to become a member. Anyone interested may obtain full particulars from the Secretary.

The subscription fee was discussed and decided upon, and the approximate day for next year's Reunion will be the SECOND SATURDAY IN JUNE, 1939.

Business over, the members broke off for a " last one " before saying good-bye until next year. So ended what all considered was a happy Reunion and a wonderful evening.

The Committee wish to thank the General Secretary, Signals Association, for the help he gave during the organisation, and to express the hope that, although he was unable to attend the Reunion this year, he will be able to do so next. A photograph and a list of names of all who attended is published with these notes.

W. A. DOWLEY, Secretary,
Indian Signal Units, 1911-1919, O.C.A.
29, Eckington Gardens, New Cross, S.E.14.



(*Key to photograph on page* 350)

1. F. Wood.
2. W. H. Fox.
3. E. Spencer.
4. W. Clifford.
5. A. F. Page.
6. H. T. Diffey.
7. Colonel L. H. Morse, M.C.
8. F. Wise.
9. H. Shepherd.
10. Captain A. R. Simpson.
11. Colonel J. H. Knight, D.S.O.
12. T. H. Stevens.
13. W. R. Gough.
14. Captain E. Fiddaman, M.C.
15. F. Harris.
16. A. H. T. Brunning.
17. C. Elliott.
18. R. E. Baldwin.
19. H. Rose.
20. Captain E. A. McCulloch, M.C.
21. Major Humphries, M.C., D.C.M.
22. W. A. Dowley.
23. Major N. Gurdon.
24. Captain Moore-Bennett, M.C.
25. Major Morrell.
26. Major J. McConville, M.C.
27. Colonel C. L. Day.
28. Colonel F. Booth.
29. Colonel H. I. Allan, D.S.O.
30. Brig. C. Le Cornu. O.B.E., M.C.
31. Col. R. G. Earle, C.M.G., D.S.O.
32. Colonel L. H. Queripel, C.M.G., D.S.O.
33. Brigadier-General H. S. Franklin, C.M.G., D.S.O.
34. Major-General L. V. Bond, C.B.
35. F. Godding.
36. W. Pelham.
37. B. Vesey.
38. F. Soan.
39. H. Portwain.
40. H. J. Ralph.
41. T. Earwaker.
42. E. J. Lewis.
43. C. Whiteley.
44. C. McLaughlin.
45. J. Blunt.
46. S. Larner.
47. T. E. Johnstone.
48. S. Adney.
49. P. Clewlow.
50. W. Gough.
51. R. Whilliers.
52. F. E. Roberts.
53. F. Frost.
54. H. Green.

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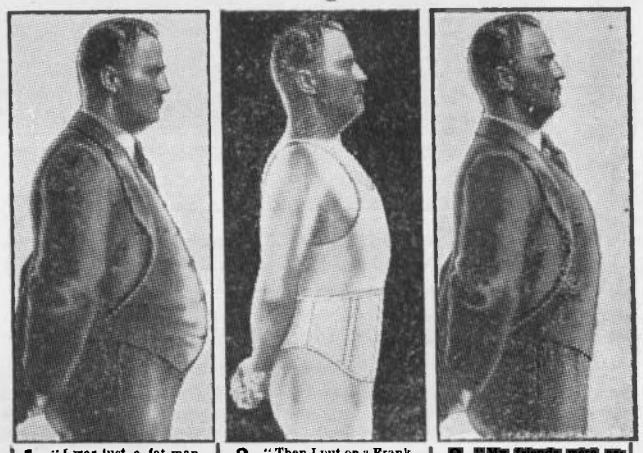

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SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

School of Signals.

Furlough is only a fortnight distant, and all ranks are feverishly preparing for it. Night and day there are the sounds of hammers, saws, drills, etc., as every man works upon his own private ark, designed to carry him home over the flood waters that will assuredly be rising soon.

Seriously ; the farmers (hardy souls) of Yorkshire have been getting rather more rain than they can have bargained for ; the opening of the heavens is now a daily and somewhat commonplace occurrence. As the foul weather has attached itself to Catterick only, maybe it finds a spiteful delight in the mass cursing which its presence invites.

There are too many new arrivals in the School to be mentioned individually ; but we wish them all a happy tour here.

Why is it that a man (?) who spends hours and hours resting his elbows on the N.A.A.F.I. counter requires elbow pads on the 30 yards Range because the ground feels hard when he assumes the " lying load " position ?

Cycling has taken a very strong root in this establishment, and the burning question of the moment is, " Which person cycles along country roads and finds hedges ' pop ' up and scratch his face ? " R.A.P.C., please note.

Several " Schoolites " have left us for " Civvy Street " and Training Centres during the past month. We wish them the very best of luck in their new sphere of life.

S. O. S.

Sergeants' Mess.

Our Entertainments Committee continue to provide most of the material for elusive WIRE notes.

Early in July an outing was arranged for wives and lady friends of members to the Darlington Hippodrome. This allowed wifie to have an evening away from the cares of married life, and to order her own Guinness whilst hubby held the fort, and (where applicable) the baby. This was voted by one and all a very good show, even though the fish and chips were cold, and the guide (?) wore trousers.

A similar outing followed later in the month, when hubby took his normal place (men only) and wifie her usual stance (on the doorstep). This event again gained full marks for the Entertainments Committee, and, we are afraid, a "hangover" for one or two members.

A very brief entertainment took place in the Mess recently when (unfortunately) few members were present. Our Caterer, who couldn't turn the beer tap on, invited those present to try their strength. Our burliest member won, with the result that for a few hectic seconds there was decidedly more beer flowing than was required, and the Caterer, with tears in his eyes, was forced to watch the unaccountable profits for the next six months flow out slowly on the tide.

Sergeant Hayhoe P. has left us for civilian life. He had qualified for his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, and, having increasing trouble with his waistline, decided to try a civilian suit—and left. Sergeant Hayhoe was a very popular member, a good cricketer, hockey and billiards player, and one more of the " pillars." Our best wishes go with him in his new venture.

The following little effort surely deserves a place in this contribution :

AN ODE TO MOTORISTS.

To those owning cars who have just been copped,
Try riding a cycle, don't risk being stopped ;
And when you're travelling late at night,
Make sure that your lamp is burning bright.

For if your " transport " a light should lack,
A fellow in blue will be on your track ;
He'll take your number and name *and* bike,
And then for a while, like me, you'll hike.

ELBOW BENDING.

We know of a soldier fond of his ale,
Who recently told this amazing tale :
When asked on parade why his tunic was torn
Beneath both arms, where the serge was worn,
Replied, " Well, sir ; the thing's quite new,
But there's really so much saluting to do."

Headquarters, Training Battalion.

As Headquarters' scribe is absent this month, a report of the sporting activities of the Battalion is " locked up " for a while.

The W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess continue with their " Mess Personalities." It is hoped that they help some of the past members of the Mess to conjure up past friendships and experiences.

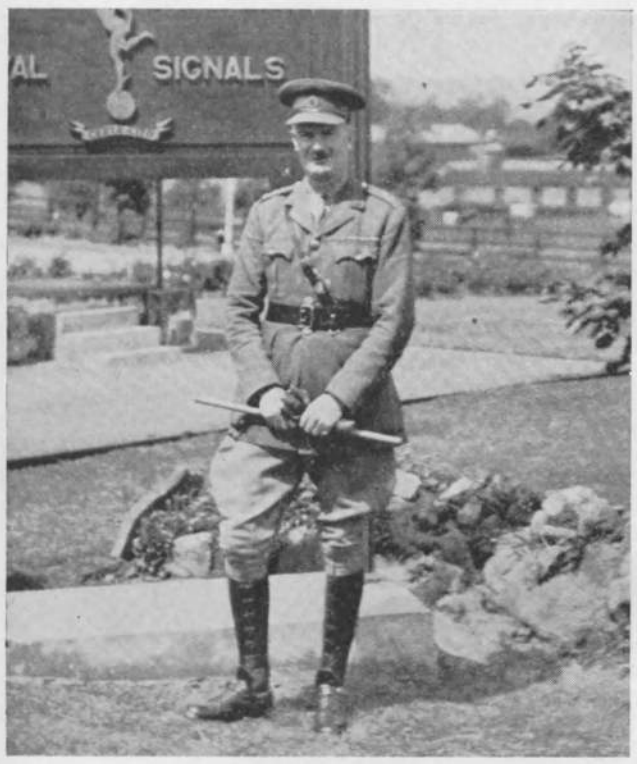
The photograph on page 353 is the first of the Battalion members of the Officers' Mess. Why shouldn't they be seen, too ? It is hoped in time to come to complete this series without mishap ! Chasing subjects for photographs was always an exciting pastime, but the roar is invariably more fearsome than the bite !

More next month.

"D" Company, Training Battalion.

Two " Rs " feature in the news this month, namely—Ranges and Rain, and plenty of both, too. From the Ranges come tales of woe because they were too much affected by the presence of the second " R." We have to inform our readers that nobody has had the cheek this year to put a twopenny block of chocolate in the magazine instead of a clip of ammunition.

The Company has said good-bye to many faces since our last issue of notes, and it has been rather hard to keep track of all the postings. To those who have left us to venture in other spheres we wish the best of luck. Numerous recruits have



Lieutenant Colonel R. T. O. Cary, M.B.E., Officer Commanding Training Battalion, Royal Signals

joined us from the new "A" Company, Depot Battalion. We offer them a hearty welcome.

Tourist Trophy Races seem to have attracted the attention of one of our happy throng, because he has just bought a wonderful piece of junk (in a dictionary it is called an automobile) for the large sum of fifty shillings (and not from the well-known tailors). It is a 1066 model, run rather cheaply on soap and water with a dash of paraffin. There is one snag ; the rear wheel of this wonderful tricycle has to be kept up by a boulder and a dozen bricks. One of our readers—there are only a few—asked the owner of the car to " swop " it for a pair of roller skates.

Grey hairs have commenced to grow on the heads of several men of the Company, for Mr. Records has issued the first of his provisional warnings for " holidays " abroad. India seems to be the most popular of the many resorts mentioned.

The Company Office clerks had a great shock at the end of the N.C.O.s' Drill Course. The copies of the " Manual of Elementary Drill," which were issued for this Course, had two sets of amendments to be entered. When the books were returned, they were amended up-to-date, with one or two exceptions. (Now what did the N.C.O.s learn on the Course—drill, or duties of a good clerk ?)

The upper lip of one of our happy band has attracted the attention of many new recruits to the Company. It is like this, " Benny " ; they all want to know when your moustache is going to grow. Please let us know how long it would take you to grow a beard.

For those who keep a " Company Who's Who," here are two additions to your large collections. The first is " The Rainbow Man." Often seen in Richmond and surrounding districts, dressed in clothes of every colour in the rainbow—hence his name. His trade is Driver (I.C.). " Little Lord Fauntleroy " is the other addition. Born in Rotherham, Yorkshire, he came to Signals in order to show us his cheque book, and also how he can draw " Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck." This unfortunate person is a Draughtsman by trade. His favourite hobby is going to a certain Soldiers' Home and posing as a very raw recruit ; he is not much better, so the impersonation is very easy. Look out for further celebrities next month.

ACK PIP BEER.

"E" Company, Training Battalion.

The fateful day again draws near, and the lowly scribe once more takes his pen and writes. Annual Weapon Training has commenced, and again the arms and climatic conditions received their usual proportion of censure. Everyone is sorry that the " pen pushers " are not firing, as they always manage to be near the top of the points scoreboard, but perhaps it is better to consider the sheep on the Ranges (Third detail, No. 5 target, please note).

Lance Sergeant Jones, Corporals Dicks and Routledge are returning to India to settle with the Dhobi ; meanwhile, disillusioned and broken hearted, the " Lyons " of " E " Company are contemplating emigration to a place as far away as possible from the scenes of humiliation.

Old friends in Meerut will be interested to know that the referee who was in charge of the Meerut District Cup for three years has dodged it again. Perhaps he is not satisfied with the football grounds in India.

The Company Office staff deals with many kinds of queries, and can usually cope with them. But when we are asked who winds the electric clock, then ——— ? Perhaps the Orderly Sergeant for the 5th inst. can explain.

The Company walking team is again in full training, and walks are taking place every evening. Their longest jaunt so far was to Darlington, when they walked on the average of five miles an hour. We hope it will be possible to enter a team in the next big walk in the North of England.

We want to know who took the can back on the back of the lorry. Who has six whips for sale, and where they are kept ? Who is spending his annual holiday in Malta, and why ?

C. S.

"F" Company, Training Battalion.

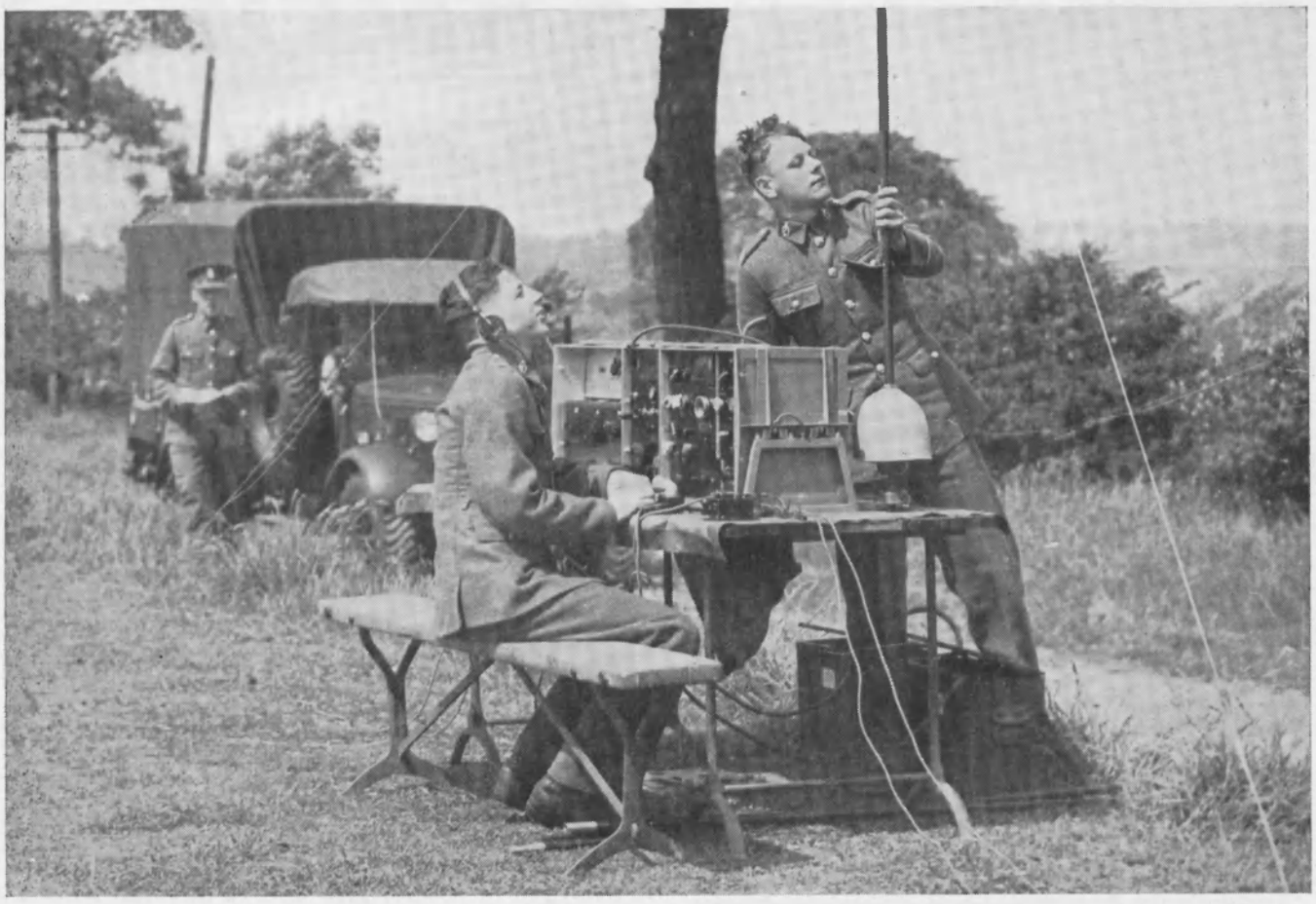
General.—The Company departed for Leeds on 19th June to take part in the Northern Command Tattoo. On arrival at Leeds Station, each boy received a pork pie, a banana and a cup of tea. This pleased the civilians, who probably believe that an army marches on its stomach. After this meal we formed up directly behind the Band and proceeded to march to Roundhay Park. Thousands lined the route and cheered us as if we were Preston North End returning with the Cup. Many remarks were passed which greatly amused us. One dear old lady remarked, " Why, they are only babies." If she could only have seen the hair on my chest (both of them) ! Having arrived safely at our destination, we were issued with camp equipment, and prepared to settle down.

Up to the present, the weather clerk has been very unkind to us, and the rain has rather spoilt it for the lads. Despite the inclement weather, they still manage to get an occasional game of cricket during the very few bright periods.

Rehearsals were carried out with very few hitches and quite a few laughs. The " General," feeling a little tired between turns, decided to lean on the back of the scenery and relax, but the scenery was not meant for such rough usage, and Le Hardy finished up in the arena, accompanied by a large portion of plywood and a red neck.

This year, Sergeant Rigden and Lance Sergeant Barlow are not taking the parts of the Sailor Boy and his Girl Friend, but Buddery, as the Golliwog, provides many a laugh. People often wonder whether it is a mask he wears or his natural face.

Departures.—We said good-bye to some of our great sporting personalities, who have left us for the following Stations : Signalmen Finnigan T. and Finnigan E. to 3rd Divisional Signals ; Signalman Sadd A. to 2nd Divisional Signals ; Signalman Rixon to 1st Divisional Signals. We miss them very much, and are wondering who will take Terry's place as a crooner.



BOYS AT WORK.

Arrivals.—A new Recruit Squad is in Catterick at present. They are wearing out their new boots and the Training Battalion Square, under Sergeant Pack and Corporal Hoar. May their stay with us be a very happy one.

Things We Want to Know.—Who gave the order to get the tent boards out and give them a good shaking ?

Who mistook the N.C.O.s for gasmen ?

Which N.C.O. wanted to pay for a taxi journey he never had ?

Which N.C.O. counted the distance from Roundhay to Briggate by a taxi ride ?

Jews' Mail.—552, Perham Down. " Can't see Popeye. Am now confirmed bachelor. 552, Catterick."

A.F.S. "Am on Provisional Boat List. ' Chota Chief.' "

Obituary.—In memory of my brown horse which is now black.

SPEEDY.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess Training Battalion.

Departures.—In last month's notes we welcomed Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Walker A. R. to the Mess. This move, however, has not materialised as he has been posted to Southern Command Signals. Congratulations, sir, on being in the Birthday Honours List.

Marriages.—Once again we have need of this paragraph. Stan Dunningham has gone and done it. (Aubrey, please note.) Jock Laurie has named the date as being 23rd July. (Nick also please note!) Congratulations are extended to C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Laurie and to Sergeant Stan and Mrs. Dunningham. May they live long to enjoy their married bliss.

Sick List.—Former members of the Mess will, no doubt, join in our great " sorrow." Big Bertha, who has taken an enforced rest, has been replaced by Snow White and her " nine " dwarfs. It has become necessary to run a slate to save arguments as to whose " go " is next.

Sea Trips.—Four members have been " ordered " abroad for their health : C.Q.M.S. Harvey to Malaya, and Sergeants " Bill " Green and Ashford, and Lance Sergeant Fletcher to India. " Mick," meet me at the " Bus Stop."

Weapon Training.—The Unit is in the throes of firing the Annual Course ; the first batch has just finished, and the arguments about the " bulls " which were missed are numerous.

Vacancy.—A perfectly good seat in the Q.M.'s department awaits a R.Q.M.S. What offers ?

Achievements.—After an Extraordinary Mess Meeting, held last month, the Workshops and Q.M. Branches fought out the final of the Games Tournament amidst great excitement and not a little advice. The Q.M. pair played " phat," and with a wonderful pitch of 88 saved the match from another draw. As the trophy is a Shield, the usual custom of " filling up " was not necessary. Who said " stingy " ?

A Grave Libel.—Once upon a time a Commanding Officer was inspecting a Guard.

C.O. to member of the guard : "Am I properly dressed ? "

Guard : " I haven't had a good look at you yet, sir."

C.O. : " Well, have a good look ! "

Guard (after due deliberation) : " I think you can do with a shave, sir."

Total collapse of C.O. and Guard Commander.

Mess Personalities.—This month's personality is Sergeant Bill Pack, i/c Recruits (Boys).

ASH.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

2nd Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters.

General.—The Unit has been quite active during the past few weeks. Various Exercises have been satisfactorily carried out. Unit H.Q. went out on the 2nd Divisional Signal Exercise, 28th-29th June, and the change of work and scenery was very refreshing for all the tired-looking clerks (we hope). There are a few more Schemes in the offing, including a Command Corps Skeleton Exercise and a Staff College Exercise, details and interesting points of which will be notified in next month's edition.

Our affiliated T.A. Units have also given us a visit.

There is one point of interest that has been noted on every Exercise. We hear that gas masks have replaced rifles as the soldier's best friend, but regarding the number of primus stoves and tea swindle supplies carried with Sections, we beg to differ.

Signals Week.—Aldershot Signal Units had their Annual Signal Week from 21st to 27th June. Cricket matches, band concerts, dances and smoking concerts were in great demand. Saturday was the great day, as the finals of the sports were run off, and a merry party assembled on the sports ground.

Obstacle Races gave the audience great enjoyment, and the teas, served in the N.A.A.F.I. tents, " went down " very well.

On the Sunday, we paraded with the Old Comrades for Church. The band was provided by the 2nd Battalion, King's Own Royal Regiment ; our own band had to depart in a hurry to Eastbourne.

The week's programme went off with flying colours, and it is hoped that as many familiar faces will be seen again during next year's Reunion.

Concerts.—The mosquitoes, I beg your pardon, " The Morse-Key-Toes," have again broadcast their show to the inhabitants of Mons Barracks. It was held in the N.A.A.F.I. Concert Hall during Signals Week. Corporal Brackenbury, with his Harmonica Band, nearly raised the roof ; Driver Farrelly gave good impersonations of film stars, trains, cars, etc. There were also guest artistes, who gave exceedingly good performances.

If a full description of the concert was published, other Units would have no room for their WIRE notes. Because all the other artistes taking part in the concert are not mentioned in this epistle, I sincerely hope they will not be disheartened. Let it suffice to say that the show was really enjoyable from beginning to end, and everyone taking part showed real talent.

Overheard.—Q. : What is understood by advancing and retarding the ignition ?

A. : When advanced, the engine goes forward ; when retarded, the engine goes back !

Departures.—Signalman Keating to Slough, on a Vocational Training Course in Instrument Making. We wish him the best of luck and hope to see him when he is just plain " Mr."

No. 1 Company.

General.—Sucking pencils and even tapping on the table does not appear to be much help these days in producing items of interest.

The Company still seems to plod along in the same old sweet way ; same routine and same grouses. The general grouse now is that we have a fortnight of Schemes on our programme. One must admit that it relieves the monotony of everyday life, but why not a fortnight ago, when the weather was bright and warm, instead of now, when the wind bites as we turn the corner, and the rain clouds threaten ?

At the moment, we have a contingent of the O.T.C. with us. They came from Belfast University, and are with us for a fortnight. We still have two other University Contingents—the Bristol and Liverpool—to come.

Arrivals.—We extend a very cordial welcome to our new O.C., Major Gem, and hope that his stay will be both a long and happy one. We often wonder why No. 1 Company have so many changes at the helm. It has been suggested that the Company hold a Reunion Dinner for our former O.C.s. They certainly seem to come and go with alarming speed and regularity.

We welcome Signalmen Page and Dunn from the Training Battalion, and fourteen Drivers (of what), who have been posted from Catterick to undergo training as Drivers (I.C.).

Draft.—Recently, Mr. Records has been busy finding reliefs for the various members of our Corps whose tour of duty overseas expires during the coming trooping season, and names have appeared in Orders at intervals. Nearly half of this Company have been provisionally warned that their presence will be required overseas.

TASHY AND LOFTY.

No. 2 Company.

COMPANY HEADQUARTERS.

General.—With " E " and " F " Sections away with their respective Field Regiments, and " G " Section existing on paper only, No. 2 Company, as such, finds itself hard pressed to supply not only man-power, but material for these notes.

Certain aspects of Company life present an almost " Gilbert and Sullivan " appearance. The C.Q.M.S., when not performing his additional duties as C.S.M. and Company Runner, may often be heard trying to prove to some unfortunate member of an entirely different Company why he should do a spot of fatigue for him.

Signals Week passed off very successfully. Many happy reunions were effected, and old memories revived. A very happy thought was the display of the silver model of the cable wagon with six-horse team at the Sports. It was certainly a

centre of attraction, and must have given many members, both past and present, food for thought.

Signals Week was fittingly wound up by a Church Parade, at which the Old Comrades turned up in force. Needless to say, No. 2 Company turned out as strong as possible, and " he " enjoyed the experience.

" What do they know of England, who only of England know ? " A study of the " Provisional Warnings " indicate that quite a number are in danger of learning more of England. That is, of course, if the above quotation can be regarded as true. At any rate, they will be able to study the home country from afar—in abstract, as it were. Here's wishing them all a happy tour.

Departures.—Corporal Sharpe to Singapore—the land of pineapples and noodles. I wonder how many of Malay Signals have tasted the latter ? Corporal Sharpe had a rousing send-off. The whole of the Company—to a man—was at the station to ensure that he did not miss the train.

J. P.

" E " SIGNAL SECTION, ATTACHED 10th FIELD REGIMENT, R.A., DEEPCUT.

Departures.—Signalman Kinson to his long-awaited " Voc." Signalman Bergman (Gripper), next runner-up in a few days' time.

Coming Departures—Trooping Season.—A few of the local inhabitants, who have protected the Hog's Back for a long time, have been sorted out by the powers-that-be. They are now studying the map (not the Aldershot one) in an endeavour to locate such places as Malaya, Hong Kong, Egypt, and, last but not least, India.

Provisional Warnings.—Lance Corporal Mellor, Signalmen Ansett and Hillery to Malaya ; Lance Corporal Wyers (Chalky) to India ; Signalman (Slug) Phipps to Hong Kong (the Chinese girls have certainly got a treat coming) ; Signalman McMeecham to Egypt.

Monthly Grip.—There was great rivalry between Signalman Phillips (alias " Honk ") and Skipper Bergman for the Grippers' Shield. " Honk " won by a short head.

Jews' Mail.—Thirk, India. " Reserve a bed space for me. Shall be seeing you soon. ' Chalky.' "

" Darkie " Burge, Malaya. " Be seeing you soon, Mick. Ex-' B ' Cable."

" Gripper " Thompson. " Remember me to Rachel at Stranglers. ' Bergy.' "

TONTO.

" F " SIGNAL SECTION, ATTACHED 16th FIELD REGIMENT, R.A., EWSHOTT.

Arrivals and Departures.—Since our last contribution to the WIRE the following N.C.O.s and men have left us : Corporal Sharpe J. to Malaya Signal Company, and Lance Corporals Dix and Plummer ; Signalman Grant H. proceeded on a " Voc." Course prior to returning to civilian life. We wish them all the best.

To counteract their loss, we welcome : Signalman Sadd A. from " F " Company, S.T.C., and Drivers (I.C.) Reavill F. and Shorthouse S. from No. 1 Company. We hope that their stay with us will be a long and happy one.

Trawsfynydd.—From the 11th to the 25th June the Section was under canvas at Trawsfynydd. For those in the know, we need not say a word, but to those who have yet to pay that place a visit, we recommend that they prepare for rain, and plenty of it.

During the first week the weather was perfect, and the Section took advantage of it. Amongst other things that we did, we think the most interesting was the trip to Harlech, and the climb to the top of the mountain at " Devil's Gap." This visit was undertaken in order to prepare certain members of the Section for the ascent of Mount Everest, which they will be making some time this year.

Section Gossip.—Excitement reigns in the Section at present, for we are all watching the provisional draft warnings. We are losing our " Heart-throb No. 1," Driver Vesty, who is hoping to take an Egyptian tour during the winter. Corporal Cuthbertson is having his boot-laces fur-lined for China ; his signature tune now is " Near East, Middle East, and now Far East." At present it will suffice to say that at least half the Section have been warned for service overseas.

There is a rumour that our famous duettists—Signalman Staton and Driver Vesty—have been approached by a prominent member of the B.B.C. staff to sing in the Saturday night " Palace of Varieties." During an interview with these two budding " Bings," we learned that although this was true, they had turned down the offer, and had decided to soldier on.

Congratulations.—To Lance Corporal Ward on dropping the " U." To R.S.M. Chapman of the 16th Field Brigade, R.A., on attaining that rank.

Sale and Exchange.—One charging set for sale. Apply to the Section " Tiffy " any evening when he isn't at Winchfield.

One B.S.A. motor-cycle ; plays a complete record of the Aldershot Tattoo. Will exchange for a vacuum flask. Apply to Robert Taylor Meese any morning before a Scheme.

Conclusion.—For this month, Scouters, we must say *au revoir*.

WIGA.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Time marches on, and notes again have to be prepared for the WIRE.

We have had rather an eventful time at Aldershot during the past month. What with the Tattoo, Horse Show and Old Comrades' Week, things have certainly been on the move, and time has flown. Better brains than mine will, no doubt, give full details of the Old Comrades' Week, and I will just say that it was a grand sight to see some of the pioneers of the Corps marching to Church behind their Old Comrades' Association Colours.

Writing of marching has just reminded me that Mr. Records has seen fit to give several of Three Companyites their marching orders for distant parts in the form of Provisional Warnings for overseas.

Here is a list of those who are staggering to their feet after the blow : Corporals Evans, Funnell, Snell, Brackenberry and Lunniss, Lance Corporal Stott, Signalmen Webb, Platt, Stephenson, Head, Connor, Edwards, Marvin, Cox and Elmes, Drivers Ward and Stephens.

Arrivals.—We welcome Signalman Bush, who has returned from the Army Reserve, Signalman McKowin from No. 2 Company, and Driver Ward from No. 1 Company. It is hoped that they will find a comfortable spot in the Company.

Departures.—Lance Corporal Treadwell to a Vocational Course prior to returning to civilian life. We wish him the best of luck. Signalmen Davis H., Davis G., Brockman and Davies E. will all be under the sign of the " Voc." by the time these notes are published. Good luck to them, too.

It will no doubt be of interest to some of the older hands of the Corps to hear that C.S.M. Callegari of No. 1 Company left the Service last week, after completing twenty-six years with the Colours. He has been successful in obtaining employment with the Territorials at Balham, and so starts his new military career. We of No. 3 Company wish him the best of luck, and would like him to know how we miss his quiet smile, and trust that he will make the Territorial Army a brighter movement.

Congratulatory.—Congratulations to R.S.M. Spindler on his recovery to health after his operation and general overhaul.

S. E. W.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

VIRTUS IN ARDUIS.

Opening Chorus.—The leave period having descended upon the tribe, we are working short-handed at present, so that the main event of the month is work, and bags of it. Until we get together again and discuss the scandal and happenings on our various vacations, I shall be unable to do justice to the affairs of mice

and men. There is more going on " back-stage " than most people wot of !

Perhaps one day I shall be in a position to reveal all, unless *Thompson's Weekly* news reporters are on the scene before me. Some of us have had part of our leave, though the promise of heat waves throughout the summer has not been fulfilled. Someone certainly blundered during my fortnight.

Swift Serenade.—To the Corps Bands, both dance and military, who made such a success of Signals Week. We realise that there cannot be much pleasure in staying up late every night, and we hope you all heard some of the nice things that were said about you.

To the Despatch Rider Display Team for putting up such a fine performance at the Horse Show.

And last, but not least, to our " Bill," on being chosen to represent the Corps at cricket on three occasions this year, besides playing for the Command regularly.

Sea Shanties.—May be sung on troopships this year by the following stalwart A.B.s—that is, of course, if they are not otherwise engaged : Sergeant Wigzell and Signalman Liley, bound—not for the Rio Grande—but for China. In the chorus, *sotto voce*, will be Sergeant Grieg, visiting India, accompanied by Sergeant Cox. Solo for Egypt is Lance Sergeant Dymond. What a band ! If you take any more, Mr. Records, we shall have to train our fitters to work the Set.

Wedding March.—A lost chord !

Come into the Garden, Maude.—You'll see all kinds of queer things ; roses blooming in December, nuts in May, and trees.

Passing by the window, Daisy may be seen where the sweet little violet grows. When the poppies bloom again, bluebells I'll gather 'neath the shade of the old apple tree. Gather ye rosebuds while you may, or oranges and lemons. I prefer making a bunch of dandelion daisies and daffodils, together with marigold and mignonette ; but maybe we'll just have to whistle while we work.

Situations Vacant.—For a sleuth to work on " Things we'd like to know " for all the WIRE scribes. Must be a super snoop.

Fare Thee Wells.—To a Vocational Course at " Brum."—Signalman Goldsby. Latest news is that his hands are sore. Rub the grease off your hair into them, Tom ! On second thoughts, our " Wedding March " is not such a " Lost Chord." Play it for Signalman McLennan. The organist's music had hardly died away before he had sailed, per S.S. Perseus, for Singapore.

Palestine Post.—Austin and Bill. " Not this time, my hearties —see above. Were your letters written in invisible ink ? "

Last Movement.—Signing off till next month. Cheerio !

FRANKIE.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

15th July.

Officers.—Under the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess notes appears a list of members who will be leaving us during the following trooping season. It is regretted that, owing to lack of space, it is not proposed to publish a complete list of officers who have been warned for posting from 3rd Divisional Signals.

Barrack Reconstruction.—The Officers' Mess is now complete, and plans for the rebuilding of the whole barracks have now been seen. The programme shows work as starting next month and finishing in March, 1941.

Training.—A happy party returned from a fortnight by the sea last week. From the number of congratulatory messages received it would appear that Signals acquitted themselves as well, if not more so than usual.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

General.—Comparatively speaking, we are now back to normal, most of the members having returned from recruiting marches and the Combined Exercise.

There are many happy faces to be seen now and much ribald laughter as we vie with one another in recalling personal experiences. One " mush "—the dear Steve—will tell you that barmaids are to be seen and not heard when their ways are fickle.

Oh, we must tell you this one. Three members—trying to spend a quiet evening—went to the pictures, where they were shown "A Damsel in Distress," but having seen her before, they departed quietly, after an unsuccessful attempt to obtain a refund. They felt very much distressed themselves. We are not surprised at the facts, nor are we supposed to mention names, but as our readers can probably guess, one of them was the " Guest Gardener," the second an Irishman, and the third—well, try this : "An egg is no good when it is, but when good is nice with—beheaded." Join the words, and the anagram will fit.

Departures.—On our return from Portsmouth, where some of us had been guests of the 1st Battalion, K.O.S.B., we heard that C.S.M. Stevenson, M.C., had left us to take up an appointment with 55th Divisional Signals, T.A., Liverpool. As Printer's Pie remarks, " Our loss is their gain."

Arrivals.—We welcome the arrival of Q.M.S. (F-of-S) " Hooky " Walker to Southern Command Signals. We hope that he and Mrs. Walker will enjoy the pleasantries of Bulford, and that we shall see him in the Mess.

Agony.—How nice it must be to sit back in a comfortable chair where the pen is mightier than the crook-stick, and tick off a few names. Mr. Records has done it with many ticks. We are to lose the following during the coming trooping season : R.Q.M.S. Adcock and Lance Sergeant Stevens to India ; Sergeant Brooke, Lance Sergeants Mundy and Roberts to Egypt ; Lance Sergeants Teal and Whitefield to Hong Kong Signal Company.

We suppose there are more to come, but during this trooper we don't think they will touch

ERGIE.

Corporals' Room.

General.—Whilst sitting back and awaiting the boat, it occurred to us that no notes had appeared in recent months in respect of the Mess. We therefore decided to take a chance.

Once again the Mess have held their annual dance in the Garrison Institute, and, as usual, it proved to be one of the best functions in the Garrison. Thanks are due to the Corps Dance Band, who, as always, put up a marvellous show, and also to the members of the committee.

The Mess nowadays appears to be very deserted. Exercises, detachments and Army sports appear to be the main reason, to say nothing of a few guards and piquets for those remaining behind.

The billiard table has been enjoying a well-earned rest. This was only made possible by the absence of Lance Corporal Hockings, who, no doubt, will make up for it on his return.

One detachment has just returned from the Combined Operations, and all that can be heard in the Mess is varied opinions concerning a troopship. A lot of us are certainly going to know more about them in the near future. Although this detachment was away for a period of three weeks, it was strange to note how many returned to Bulford (of all places) for a week-end. I suppose there was some reason for it.

Arrivals.—It is believed that the following have arrived since our last notes : Corporals Newton, Preston, Robinson and Cannings ; Lance Corporals Lewis, Carter, Ewer, Percival, Oxley, Justice, Burfield and Birkett.

Departures.—Corporal Golding A., complete with family, to the Training Battalion ; Lance Corporals Carter, Lewis and Ewer to the Vocational Training Centre.

Drafts.—The Officer-in-Charge of Records has informed us that the services of the following N.C.O.s will be required during the forthcoming trooping season : INDIA : Corporals Harrison A., Hastings J. and Bruton S. ; Lance Corporals Adams J., Butler F., Hockings N., Light J., Balsom S. and Burfield R. EGYPT SIGNALS : Corporals Johns H. and Canning E., and Lance Corporal White J. SARAFAND : Corporal Moore J. MALAYA SIGNAL COMPANY : Corporal Jordan E.

We give Units to which these N.C.O.s may be posted some idea of their abilities in regard to sport : Corporal Harrison,

hockey, and not a bad snooker player. Corporal Hastings, a good athlete, in fact a good all round sportsman. Corporal Bruton, hockey, and throws a crafty dart and dice. Lance Corporal Adams, javelin and rugby. Lance Corporal Butler, cross-country and counter-shieking. Lance Corporal Hockings, rugby, football, billiards and snooker (we suggest his new Unit arranges for the provision of a second billiard table). Lance Corporal Balsom, rugby and billiards (provided he has a 28-oz. cue). Lance Corporal Light, hockey. Corporal Johns, hockey and football. Lance Corporal White, rugby. Corporal Jordan, rugby, hockey and cricket, and he can also tickle the ivories. All these N.C.O.s have represented the Unit in the particular branch of sport mentioned.

Sport.—Congratulations to the following members of the Mess on their performances in the Army Individual Championships: Young Soldiers, Javelin—Lance Corporal Adams, winner with a throw of 146 ft. 1 in. Army, 100 yards—Lance Corporal Barrett R., second, beaten by only 9 ins. in 10.2 seconds.

Agony.—Looking at a certain N.C.O.'s blazer.

MULLER.

R/T Section, D. & M. Wing, A.F.V. School, Bovington Camp.

Wareham, Dorset.

11th July.

General.—With the end of the present Course in sight, everyone is looking forward to the August "Break." The motoring element of the Section are making preparations to burn up the roads, and re-bores and road maps have been the main topic during the last fortnight. A "back to the garden" movement did hold sway for a day or two, but the recent gale effectively destroyed this—and the gardens. One member did return with a few vegetables, but doubt was expressed as to whether they came from his allotment.

One other topic of conversation at the present time is the loss of Spanners, Adjustable, 6 in. Besides being a sore subject to our I.M., it is also held responsible for the "bread and butter being taken out of his mouth." Bear up, Joe; try toast and dripping!

Since our notes last appeared, we have had very few social or sports events at the Station. C.Q.M.S. Griffith, who represented the Mess in the Inter-Mess Tennis Tournament, was decisively beaten by our best player in a grudge match. If only our best player got in more practice, H. W. Austin would have to look to his laurels, but what with WIRE notes to write, and other things to do, I can't spare the time!

With no promotions, births or marriages to report, we bring our contribution to a close, adding No. 1 of our new signature tunes: Sergeant Smith J.—"Locks, Bolts and Bars."

WEEPIN' WILLO.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Things are now very quiet as "F" and "G" Sections are away at Colchester for the sommer months.

The main topic of sporting interest this month was the annual sports. No. 3 Company just managed to pip us on the post for the Inter-Company Cup, while "G" Section just failed to take the Inter-Section Cup. Better luck next time.

Arrivals.—They come and go, and then sometimes come again. Welcome to Signalman Severn D., who has rejoined us from Catterick, and to Signalman James from S.I.C.D.

Departures.—Signalmen Galer and Gottlieb to the S.T.C. Best of luck to Signalman Boyd, who has gone to Slough on a Vocational Training Course.

Stop Press.—Many anxious faces are scanning the notice board for trooping lists. At the present rate of warning notices, the Unit will have to close down.

"F" SECTION, COLCHESTER.

Narrative.—On the evening of 1st July, the quiet little village of Colchester was invaded by the combined forces of "F" and "G" Sections. They arrived in the midst of one of England's wonders—a rainstorm.

Both Sections had travelled by road from Canterbury to join their respective R.A. Units, and we know that all members will wonder when I say that the journey was completed "complete"; even the usual D.R. forgot to break down outside a haunt of liquid refreshment.

"F" Section was surprised to find that a garage had been allotted to them. This good luck is due to the gunners becoming mechanically minded. We are hoping our stay will be a happy one.

Departures.—None yet, but many are going to have the privilege of "seeing the world." Those concerned are anxious that Records should know that they still have much of Great Britain to see before going further afield. We often wonder why an Army so short of men at leave time is so anxious to broaden the mind of its "cogs" by travel at trooping times. Even the soldier wonders sometimes.

Things We Want to Know.—Are bachelors allowed to travel on the week-end lorry?

What shall be christen this lorry?

Is it true that line lorries are being equipped with sails?

Which lineman was so engrossed in his work that he was "completely" carried away?

Did Dorman Longs really build the Wheatstone Bridge?

Howler.—Lineman: "Can you hear me, exchange?"
Exchange Operator: "No."
Collapse of lineman.

Agony.—What has happened to the red tam o' shanter Corps

To ex-C.Q.M.S. Gaffney, D.C.M., M.M. "Going sunbathing to Ponky. Nuggett I."

To T. Etheridge. "How about a line? Where are you? Wilce."

F. B. RAM.

No. 3 Company.

"J" SECTION.

General.—But for a few Schemes and a couple of Drivers, life has been very quiet, that is, excepting the din we hear from "Rupert."

We cannot be sure, but think that some of our chaps are contemplating a transfer to "Ponki"; "Fazzle" has been talking a lot about it lately, and a couple from Fighting "K" (note the emphasis on the "K") are going for the long boat ride soon.

Athletics.—At last we saw Jock receiving that coveted and elusive trophy—the Inter-Section Athletic Cup. It was very sad to see one N.C.O., who rooted out his old, faded blue running shorts and his best tunic with nice bright stripes for the purpose of receiving the Cup, and then saw a very old friend go up in his first issue to receive it instead.

In this competition, "J" Section only dropped two points.

May we also congratulate No. 3 Company on winning the Inter-Company Cup.

Departures.—We are very sorry to lose Lance Sergeant Brown to the N.I.S.C., Belfast.

Howlers.—Somebody who was asked what a potential drop was, replied, "a bank crash." The same individual, when asked what a potential was, said: "An Insurance Company."

Jews' Mail.—To "Nasty," Hong Kong. "What about it? Tich."

BALLBOY.

5th Divisional Signals, Catterick Camp.

The Unit, or at least the small proportion of it which is left, is now concentrating on preparations for the Annual Inspection by the General Officer Commanding 5th Division and Catterick Area, which is due to take place on 26th July. By the time these notes are in print, we hope to have earned the usual good report.

It seems likely that there will be very few other ranks here to take part in the inspection, as we are supplying two detachments for Demonstration Columns; one will be touring Lancashire, and the other will be visiting the industrial areas of Yorkshire. Our strength will be still further depleted owing to No. 3 Artillery Signal Section proceeding to Aldershot with the 21st Anti-Tank Regiment, R.A. Lieutenant (T.M.O.) A. Trapmore and Lance Corporal Robertson are proceeding to Berwick-on-Tweed at the camp of the 52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals (T.A.).

C.S.M. Archbold, C.Q.M.S. Baldwin, Signalmen McTernan, Widdowson and Parker have departed and are now enjoying the fruits of civilian life.

The following have departed for Vocational Courses, and we wish them every success: Lance Corporals Cordner and Chatfield, Driver Tiltman, Signalmen Nightingale, Beech, Scott and Kelly.

A cordial welcome is extended to the following, who have recently joined the Unit from the Stations stated: Captain E. D. Good, Royal Signals, our new Adjutant, from Waziristan District Signals; Signalmen Wikner, Fenton and Ratcliffe from the Training Battalion; Lance Corporal Copping from the Depot Battalion; Signalman Allan T. from 4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury; and Signalmen Hughes, Jones and Parkinson from the South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.

The married strength of the Unit is rapidly becoming larger, and the following have recently entered into double harness: Signalman McMullen D. to Miss L. Crookes at Scarborough on 6th June; Lance Sergeant Shipton W. to Miss L. Wilkinson at Nunburnholme on 6th June; Corporal Fielding G. to Miss M. Tompkins at Ossett on 2nd July; Corporal Sanderson W. to Miss J. Grey at North Shields on 2nd July; Signalman Hamilton to Miss H. Mollison at Glasgow on 5th July. Congratulations and best wishes to them all. We hope to have further news under this heading next month.

Births have been very few, in fact the only one to record is the arrival of a daughter to Lance Corporal and Mrs. Scriven T., Pamela June, born at Scarborough on 14th June.

The best wishes of the Unit go with the following on their posting to other Units: Driver Hopwood to Northern Command Signal Company, York; Signalman Robinson to the Depot Battalion; and Signalman Lissetter to 4th Divisional Signals Canterbury.

Northern Ireland District Signal Company, Belfast.

Victoria Barracks, Belfast.

General—Please note the change in our address. Before using the new address, however, glance at the draft lists and then work out whether or not it will be quicker to wait with your news till we come out to join you.

The drafts are certainly a shock this year; many who considered themselves fixtures now find themselves faced with the prospects of a few weeks in a hammock, and cries of "Where are you going?" "Are you happy in the Service?" and "So you can't take it" are heard from reveille to lights-out.

Here is a tale of a hospital patient, who was asked by the M.O. if he drank, and, on receipt of the answer "Occasional pint," was given two Guinnesses and a double whiskey as a sedative, caused a certain amount of amusement. This has nothing to do with the other fellow going in, though. Indian readers may be able to sort out which is which when I tell them that the two patients are Corporal Gill and Signalman Hunt. Sammy is now out, but Hunt is still in, wondering how it is done.

Cars still dash around barracks and cease to dash when they reach busy thoroughfares—much to our embarrassment, and Topper's.

Schemes are the order of the day, and technical knowledge of sets and cars are steadily increasing. The M.T. staff are hoping that the knowledge of cars will increase much more rapidly than is the case, and also frown on practical demonstrations at the Albert Clock. Incidentally, which laddie keeps on chatting about his private car, and then sends for assistance on his first run in one of ours?

This paragraph is going to look like a nominal roll of the Company, but it is only the draft list!

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To India: C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Forrest, Lance Sergeant Oliver, Corporals Thomson, Maguire and Ogden, Lance Corporal Roy, Signalmen Dawson, Davidson and Morrice. Egypt can expect: Signalmen Bartlam, Brightwell, Cartlidge, Heslop and Greenwood. Malaya's hopes are: Signalmen Garner, Conboy, Westbrook and Slavin. Hong Kong: Corporal McLaren, Signalmen Busby, Scoffin, MacCuskir, Carter and Goodsir. Aden: Signalman Jones. Malta: Signalman Hunt (I.M.). Tientsin: Lance Corporal Melly and Signalman Watson. Shanghai: Lance Corporal Blount.

Arrival.—Lance Sergeant Brown from 4th Divisional Signals on 8th July. He is just beginning to understand us, and seems to like being here. All he has to do now is to get to know the local inhabitants and the address of the nearest registrar and he will have qualified as a Niscovite. Welcome, Topper; and may your carburettor float never be punctured.

Things We Want to Know.—Who has substituted a "Guide to Civil Employment" for a "Corps Promotion Roster"?
Why pick on a Police Inspector?
Why does Tommy want the cars fitted with wings?

Agony.—Pokey drill. We are still hard at it.

Finale.—That's all, folks.

SPUD-CAN.

LONDONDERRY DETACHMENT.

Nothing very unusual or exciting has happened since our last contribution to the WIRE, unless we include the draft warnings. They were a surprise. The H.Q. scribe will, no doubt, publish the names of those concerned.

At the present time, we have with us Lance Corporal Reece, Signalman Morrice and Cassidy from Magilligan, the camp being temporarily closed. We welcome them back to civilisation.

The plasterers have made a few alterations to the walls of our establishment, and great plans are proposed for the future. The fortnight we spent in temporary shelters wasn't so good, though.

Signalman Goodsir, our electrician, who has been visiting various small athletic meetings, won a clock and other prizes. We leave our reputation for athletic activities in his hands. We still have the goldfish (including the silver variety); the tadpoles have now been discharged, as their services were no longer required.

We read of the sports activities of H.Q. All seemed to be going well, but we were sorry to hear they lost the Cricket Cup match. However, the result sounded very creditable.

There seems to be no further news, so we will "Q" till next month.

HEC ME.

BALLYKINLAR DETACHMENT.

We must apologise to readers for the absence of notes from this Station in the last two issues of the WIRE; this was due to lack of news.

The time of year has arrived when most people perspire. Those in India do so from heat, while we at home perspire in case we have to go there. Well, Mr. Records has surely put the

cat among the pigeons by earmarking some twenty-eight N.C.O.s and men for this year's trooper. This will necessitate the amendment of inventory boards ; some names that have been recorded therein for six or seven years will be deleted. Hard luck, boys ; but there you are—reliefs must be found.

The N.I.D. Sports held on 15th and 16th June resulted in an easy victory for The Northamptonshire Regiment, who are stationed here. They made the most of the training facilities which are available. The C.O., C.S.M. and F-of-S paid us a visit during the sports, at which they were acting in an official capacity. As I did not see the team in action which represented the Company in the Medley Race, I am unable to comment on their performance. We know that they were unplaced, but they were not last. Well done, Snug and Co. !

We conclude by sending the Company cricket team our congratulations on reaching the semi-final in the N.I.D. Cup, and hope that they retain the trophy.

SAND 'ILLS.

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 pag. 344.

The subscription is only 2/- per annum.

Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

ARMAGH DETACHMENT.

Arrivals.—Hooch—le Bubs II (ex-W/T Polygon, Egypt, please note). One Corps coloured Notice Board to tell the world in general, and the R.U.R. recruits in particular, that this is a W/T Station, and not a hospital. Several million gallons of Donegal sunshine. One solitary hair on the head of the beloved Balnis.

Clubs.—The writer has been instrumental in forming a Hiking Club here, and members may be seen taking the air any night between the hours of 8 and 11 p.m. As membership is strictly limited, I regret to say that further applications from members of the Corps who are desirous of joining cannot be entertained.

Salaams.—The Staff (Corporal Ogden, Signalmen Balnis and Clarke) send their *salaams* to all friends at home and abroad.

NEDGO.

GREYPOINT DETACHMENT.

General.—I noticed in the July WIRE that I have been absent on duty, just because I didn't carry D.A.G.s through the notorious jungle. My gallant crew may query the duty part, but we are all agreed that we have been absent from Belfast. And how we missed it, even to the extent of two members paying 12s. 6d. for a taxi from there as they missed the last train. With their usual lack of consideration, the railway insist on the last train leaving at 10.30 p.m., whereas the " locals " don't throw out their guests till 10 p.m.

On 5th June the 188th (Antrim) Battery, R.A. (T.A.), proceeded to Greypoint for their annual training. A crew of four —Corporal McLaren, Signalmen Couch, Garner and Wild—went with them to maintain communication with H.Q., Belfast, the target-towing launch and shore communications. The launch party soon got a nautical slant on things, while the shore party are prepared to take any other party of Signals on at manning guns. The conversation in the tent during the evenings was a curious blend of guns and ships, with a bit of " East of Suez " thrown in. The only stay-at-home was really pleased when he was warned for service in Malaya, as it enabled him to hold his own in the " East of Suez " competition, even if it was only in anticipation.

We found the Antrims a splendid bunch to soldier with, and our interest in their shooting was as keen as their own. Considering the fact that they were only formed during the latter part of last year, the shooting was very good, while their general demeanour in camp was up to " Regular " standard.

It was during this period that two of our crew went to Bangor in a " Ladies Only " compartment. They wondered at the stares of the fair occupants and the smiles of people on the platform. Missing the last train, as usual, they paid five shillings for a taxi, and then one discovered that he had lost thirty shillings. After bewailing his fate for hours, and casting aspersions on the honesty of all taxi-drivers, he came to the horrible conclusion that the " tack " was absolutely essential. That was on Monday.

On Friday (pay-day) he discovered the missing money in the pocket of his pyjamas. He still boasts of his four-day tack, but our readers should have heard the remarks that night

The other two had a fine evening in Holywood, but their hitch-hike back to camp was a flop. It was only a plain hike, as the only vehicle to offer them a lift was a bus. To add insult to misery, when they asked a villager where they could get a drink, he said, " There's the pump ; wait and I'll get you a glass." They gave him a sad " good-night."

Moves.—On the 15th, Signalman Westbrook arrived in relief of Garner, who went to Belfast. On the 16th, Garner took his place in the N.I.S.C. Medley Race team at the N.I.D. Sports at Ballykinler. Westbrook went back to Belfast on the 17th, when Garner returned. However, Jock had a trip in the " Sir Robert Whigham " (the target-towing vessel), and seemed to enjoy his short stay.

The 19th saw the Antrims go and the Lancs. and Cheshires take over. They are the 177th and 178th Batteries, R.A. (T.A.), mostly Liverpoodlians. (I've always wanted to use that word since I was stumped by it in a cross-word puzzle.). With the arrival of the Lancs. and Cheshires, we had four moves of accommodation, but at last were comfortably settled. We must thank the Brigade for their courtesy in having a fatigue party to put up our various tents for us. On the last move, we even found a Lance Bombardier scrubbing the floor-boards for us !

When a fatigue party, which had been detailed to assist the W/T crew from the launch, reported at the jetty, they found a Signalman just trying to pick up a D.A.G. They were very annoyed. " Put that down ; I was detailed to carry that," yelled one of the party. Lofty put it down.

The 27th will never be forgotten by the launch party. The seas heaved, the boat rocked, the wind howled, the rain pelted, and the R.A. party looked very sick—several went beyond merely looking sick. The Signals, with an " East of Suez " air, carried on as usual, except that they seemed very anxious to know if there was any roast pork for dinner. The remainder did not seem to be much interested in this problem.

The R/T was much appreciated by those who were allowed into the Station. The C.O. of the Brigade stated that it was exactly the same as the trans-Atlantic phone at present in operation, but the Master Gunner didn't seem to be so well versed. When asked to speak by R/T, he held the mike to his ear. Maybe that was why the person on the launch speaking to him yelled at the phone from a distance of three yards.

The high-spot came when the R.A. Signal Sergeant wanted to reprimand his signallers on the launch for inattention. He spoke to one on the phone and, very clearly, we heard : " The beauty of this thing is, if you don't want to listen to him, all you have to do is switch off." The operator controlling the switch must have forgotten to explain that switching off the receiver switched on the transmitter, and the Gunner's " Switch him off " left the rest of his remarks free to go on the air. It was a most unfortunate coincidence that the Sergeant was finished when the Gunner wanted him switched off. As it is, I don't think the Gunner concerned is quite so keen on R/T.

More Moves.—The 3rd July brought the 17th Heavy Battery (Regulars), who got down to business without any delay, and Tuesday saw them—and us—finished. And so, on Tuesday, the 5th, we all returned to Belfast.

Finale.—Camping is a very good sport during fine weather, but Ireland never has any fine weather—at least, not enough to notice.

SPUD-CAN.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

General.—Many thanks to the Ladies' Coronation Club for providing the Junior N.C.O.s and men of "A" Company with a very pleasant social evening on Saturday last. We hear the ladies intend this to be a regular feature during the monsoons. More power to their elbows!

All our hopes and best wishes for a quick recovery go to Corporal Poole, who is at present in hospital. The Band are missing you, Paddy.

Arrivals and Departures.—Major R. H. Wall, Royal Signals, returned to Jubbulpore after eight months' leave in the U.K. He is looking very fit.

Lieutenant D. J. Goldsmith, Royal Signals, departed on a leave at home.

There have been several postings to and from this Unit, and we wish all the best to those who have gone, and extend a welcome hand to those who have joined.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to R.Q.M.S. Taylor A. and C.S.M. Ellerton-Long on their appointment and promotion respectively.

Marriages.—Congratulations also are extended to Lance Corporal Green on taking the matrimonial plunge. All the best, "Dodger," and may all your troubles be little ones.

Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess.

Swimming.—The "Ashes" Trophy (the same old Piala, which was made by the one and only Bill Merritt twelve years ago) has again been competed for.

Swimming matches, at home and away, have been held with the W.O.s and Sergeants of the 1st Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment, and very successful shows they have proved.

At home we suffered defeat, but only by the narrow margin of two points. Away, we proved victorious, and this was all the more to our credit since our team was sadly depleted. Mention must be made here of the gallant and fine efforts made by Mrs. Woolhouse, who, in the away match, was suffering with a cracked rib. Her speed through the water materially assisted us to victory.

All the performers did right nobly, and whilst it is not possible to mention all names, it would not be fair to omit Lance Sergeant Bob Hart, who is certainly our star swimmer, and Sergeant "Taffy" Isaacs, who excelled with a supreme effort in the plunging, and, with Sergeant Benfield, did some really good diving. C.S.M. (now R.Q.M.S.) Taylor and Sergeant "Darky" Farlow both had the misfortune to suffer slight injuries in the Obstacle Race; nothing serious, but enough to cause them to count five when the iodine was applied.

Mention must be made of the fun caused in the Pillow Fighting event. In one case "all-in" tactics were resorted to when both contestants had slipped round under the pole and neither would drop off. Staff Sergeant Simms, R.A.M.C., one of the attached members, was our unlucky one. He finished up with a lovely (bite) wound!

On the occasion of both matches, tea was provided for all in the respective Messes. R.S.M.s Nash and Harvey gave very suitable and amusing speeches, and the "Old Pot" was presented and received with due ceremony each time. Fifty-two members of our families made the journey to the "Ridge." A replica of this famous trophy is being made for the Leicesters to take away with them when they go to Razmak this winter. We hope it will help to recall memories of our happy association with them.

Meanwhile the "Pukka Piala" will rest in peace until we take up the challenge next year against the Sergeants of the K.O.S.B., who are due from Calcutta in relief.

Billiards.—We have a new Open Billiards Mess Champion in the engaging person of Sergeant Benfield. "Ben" carried too many guns for Farrier Staff Sergeant Agar in the final, and left us all wondering "How good must Joe Davies be?"

The handicap is now in progress and by all appearances "Ben" is after this "Pot," too; and this despite the millstone of —100 to carry! However, one or two lesser lights are still saying "Sez him," and we wouldn't be surprised if one of our scratch players came off best.

"Jacko" has one consolation; no one appears likely to beat his fifty break for the bi-monthly cue. Is this statement too early?

We had a delightful snooker match versus The Leicestershire Regiment on our table on 29th June, with five pairs to each team. We won by three games to two, but had an inferior aggregate. In the return match we hope to be superior on all counts.

By the way, our system of paying for billiards is very good. We will tell you about it some day.

Tennis.—Now that the monsoon has commenced, "Beating the Book" (the rain) has become quite an art.

Owing to unforeseen circumstances, the Mixed Doubles Final has yet to be decided. The cry is still "Oy, Oy, Chota!"

Agony.—With reference to the story in the notes of a certain Unit last month regarding a Depatch Rider and an Operator, we do not know where the D.R. went, but we've a good idea where the Operator was.

A New Recipe.—The Y.M.C.A. cook has a novel idea for poaching eggs, his method being to suspend a plateful of raw "hen fruit" under the hot water tap, for the prescribed four minutes.

The result of his efforts, however, has so far NOT met with universal approval.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

"A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Upper Topa.

7th July.

General.—This month has seen the departure of most of the Unit from Topa to Waziristan to help Waziristan District Signals in the present Frontier disturbances. Quite a few of our fellows were withdrawn from the Upgrading Course to proceed with their Sections, and, at present, there are only fourteen candidates from "A" Corps Signals for the Trade Board at the end of the month. Half of them are being tested for BIII ratings, and the remainder for BII. We wish them every success. Those who, unfortunately, were unable to undergo the test should remember that the Special Procedure Pamphlet will bring in the extra money.

The personnel of Murree Wireless Station thought they were "bomb-proof" when the Waziristan moves were in the air, but three unfortunates returned to Topa ready to go out with the Pack Section a few days later. It is rumoured that those left in Murree have been heard to say that they have never enjoyed themselves so much since the "Five-String Menace" left them. Unofficial reports, carried at great risk, indicate that Razmak is now suffering very badly again from this "pest," although it is a definite asset in repulsing the tribesmen.

We have enjoyed excellent weather, after a few days of exceptionally heavy rain early last month; in fact, it has been a little too warm at times. But the monsoon is very close at hand now, and we shall have to be prepared for another spell of dampness and discomfort for a week or two. This period of rain must be known as the "Dhobi's Paradise," as he has very

little work to do, and it is very seldom that he delivers clean washing more than twice a month, although he still collects the same amount of money!

The drafts will, we presume, be doing their best to be posted to this Unit next trooper; we are actually sending people to Poona for Cooks' Courses—a rare occurrence! Signalman McCormack has just returned, and Signalman Grint is at present studying the mysterious art, while an Indian cook is waiting to go on the next Course. We are looking forward to some wonderful culinary activities in the near future, and would remind those unfortunates, who are doomed for India this year, to remember this important item.

After our spate of promotions during the last three months, we have had a slack period, and there is nothing to record this time.

A Fair was held on the lower parade ground during last month, and, despite heavy rain during the morning, the optimism of C.S.M. Cooper had its reward. A fine afternoon resulted in a good attendance, and a handsome profit to encourage us.

Our weekly whist drives are very successful, despite the small number present in the Station, and everyone passes an enjoyable evening each Tuesday.

We are holding a Fancy Dress Dance to-night, and numerous invitations have been sent out; the attendance should be quite good. It has not been found possible to run a Signals Dance Band this year, but we are well served by the dance bands of the R.A.F., and the South Wales Borderers.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Cope, Hedley, Thomas, Collings and Kelly B. joined us from "W.E.S.," Cherat, and Signalman Trower from 2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta, last month. The former five are only staying a short time, as they are all going home for Vocational Training Courses this year.

Now that half of the year has gone, the cry of "Roll on, the Boat" is heard louder than ever, especially from two "Hore-Belisha" soldiers who are for home with less than three years in the country. Their cry is "Roll on, October," although they have had very little time to see this wonderful country. Maybe they are not very fond of the Mystic East!

More Low-Down.—I received the following epistle from the Frontier the other day, and as it came from one of the "Fighting Packs" it would be a pity to disappoint the writer. Here is his little effort:

"I'm sure that we tough Punky wallahs who have to rough it on the North-West Frontier of India are glad to see the departure from Malaya Signal Company of that romantic mystery guy of the East—one Tando (T.B.C.)—who was fortunate in spending a 'long week-end' (only) in foreign parts. Take my tip, you Blighty-ites, don't let him grip you, for he doesn't know what soldiering is.

"'One who does,' 324."

PEDLAR.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

General.—The heat wave continues and quite a number of us are looking forward to the second-half Courses which commence at Topa about the middle of July.

A number of Sections had been anticipating an alternative joy ride to Mir Ali and other happy hunting grounds of the Faqir of Ipi. However, much of the excitement appears to have died down, and once again the Unit has settled down to normal routine.

Arrivals.—We welcome Lance Sergeant O'Brien P., who has joined us from the W/T Station, Poona.

Departures.—The following have left us for the destinations indicated: Lieutenant D. E. Harrison, Royal Signals, to 3rd Infantry Brigade Signal Section, Waziristan; C.S.M. Oakes F. and family, to whom we wish a safe and speedy voyage on their journey to the United Kingdom; Lance Sergeant Edwards W. and wife to the W/T Station, Simla. The best of luck, Bill.

Promotions.—We offer our congratulations to Lieutenant-Colonel E. P. C. Collin, Royal Signals, on his recent promotion.

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Courses.—Lieutenant J. M. S. Tulloch, Royal Signals, passed the examination for Higher Standard Urdu at Rawalpindi during April, 1938.

Sergeants' Mess.

Life in the Mess has been somewhat quiet during recent weeks, and the only real upheaval occurred when a young army of white and colour-wash inexperts performed on the interior decorations. The colour of the floors blended admirably with the walls for a short period, but we are now experiencing the calm after the storm since a battalion of sweepers removed the debris.

On 25th June a novel and exciting cricket match was held at Chaklala versus the M.T. Section, I.A.S.C.

Each batsman was given two overs only, and each member of the team took his turn at bowling. Each time a man was out, five runs were deducted from his side's score.

An idea of the lusty hitting from some members of both teams can be gained from the scores published below:

M.T. SECTION, CHAKLALA.

Major Harris			13
Captain Beecher			3
Major Holmes			15
Sergeant Cartwright			8
Sergeant Lovelock			23
Sergeant Shaw			11
Sergeant Harnett			2
Sergeant Southwell			22
Sergeant Ridley			0
Sergeant Stapleton			9
Sergeant Mills		—10	
Sergeant Ledlie			9
Byes			2
Wides			1
		—10	118=108

ROYAL SIGNALS.			
Major Jee	..	..	10
Lance Sergeant O'Brien	..	—19	
C.Q.M.S. Wyeth	..	..	8
Mr. Dutton	..	..	2
R.S.M. Day	..	..	22
Sergt. Cadell	..	..	3
Mr. Shaw	..	..	10
C.Q.M.S. Sutcliffe	..	—10	
Sergeant Chamberlain	..	..	7
Condr. Seymour	..	..	27
Sergeant Ravenhall	..	..	4
Groundsman	..	..	12
Byes	..	..	5
		—29	110=81

It was a most enjoyable game, and we eagerly await the return match, which takes place shortly.

Two test team probables were discovered. One, a demon underhand bowler, who did not take any wickets. Did he shake them ? I'll say he did ! Also another, who baffled them on two occasions when he had his back to the wall to prevent them performing a double hat trick against him. This catastrophe was just avoided by pluck and sheer stonewalling.

Gem of Wisdom Heard in the Mess.—A certain celebrity gazed wistfully at the clock, which had stopped. Nodding his head sadly, he muttered : " It don't belong in 'ere, it ain't ticking."

Agony.—Why does a certain N.C.O. hide his head in shame when he hears the cry " By itself 53." We hear he was at the railway station all the morning loading up mules.

What has gone wrong with Dicky ? Does he really think that he is the little boy whom Santa Claus forgot ? This seems to be his " non-stop " record these days.

ODE TO A WOULD-BE SWIMMER.

We have a Feed Major, known as the Squirt,
At his job he's efficient and most times alert ;
While learning to swim in the river last May,
His cries for help were heard miles away.
We very soon had him on land, safe and sound,
And in a few months' time, he'll be homeward bound ;
He still cannot swim, but looks devilishly cute
As he twitches and pitches in his blue swimming suit.

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

July.

We had decided to start these notes by apologising for our failure to produce the usual monthly effort in May. Knowing how much readers look forward to the sparkling satire that falls like the perspiration from my brow " upon the place beneath " —you idiot—you imbecile, dolt, dithering staggering imbecile ! The lad will read his Shakespeare. Honestly, our almost distressing modesty forbids an apology, for how do we know that in apologising we are not committing the unforgivable sin of imagining that we are flattering ourselves. (Note.—For " unforgivable sin " read " crass folly " or " irredeemable crime " or I bulgiya.)

Putting aside all thoughts of light banter, we, the undersigned, are committing the " U.S.," " C.F.," " I.R.," " B " and " I " by actually being out of bed at 3 p.m. on a July afternoon and writing WIRE notes, and we may wander a little in our efforts. Should I be discussing the sheer delight of meat pies, and then suddenly switch to large, juicy melons, or iced lager, then remember the mad dogs and Englishmen, and sigh a little at our lot. (At this point he broke down and manly sobs shook his manly frame.) As a matter of fact, I was about to crack another of our amazing wisecracks, when a neat hold on the " jugular " from the rear suspended operations. Too late ; inspiration has flown like a soldier from his bed at reveille.

Seriously ; my ghastly attempts to " bolster " being apparent by now, skip this and turn to our new big feature on " Communal life in an Indian Village." You will love every word of it. Order now to avoid disappointment.

At the beginning of May, four of the " Bright Young Things " left us for Topa and a BII Course. It seems that a Course is the essential preamble to a little more of the " necessary," a fact that is tough on some chaps I know, and tougher still on the " real good egg " who always lets himself (or is let) down badly at the Trade Board. I appear terribly cynical, but weeks of magnetism and electricity, " C " Sets, No. 1 Sets, aerials, etc., have turned my brain.

A further depletion of our numbers has been caused by the " Merry Murree Makers." We are led to believe that things are not so easy as they were last year, but I expect enthusiasm is still high and competition keen.

" Much water must flow under the Kalapani Bridge " (the real article—old Rissyites, please note) before my turn comes round ; even so, my endeavours are hardly amorous, and run more to " the daughter of the vine."

The operators preparing here for a BI Course are under a definite handicap. It is extremely trying, but as one of the villainous and unscrupulous instructors, I had better remain unbiased until the bitter end. Notwithstanding our hard external appearance, we do hope that Dame Fortune will smile, and that several new BI's and BII's will blossom out before the training season.

The Annual Musketry Course was fired rather late in the year, and whilst the results were good, 300 yards at six in the morning imposes a terrible strain on the eyes, and reflecting on the lads with their strings of lead horses out on exercise—we almost broke down again, this time in unison.

In May, a challenge to " Benny Sellars " burst in amongst us in the person of Signalman Bailey. As a tribute to the warmth of his reception, he immediately attempted to sign on, but the quota system left him speechless—but not for long.

One of the old 'uns, Sergeant Madeley, has left us for Quetta. We wish him and Mrs. Madeley all the best.

The freedom of the ranch is extended to Sergeant and Mrs. Lacey (and Robin), and we hope that they will soon settle down in " Rissy."

A few hardened travellers recently undertook the Chud climbing on a trip to the Wireless Experimental Section at Cherat in anticipation of an enjoyable change. They welcomed us heartily, and we gave of our best in the hockey match which had been arranged. All signs of tiredness due to the journey were soon forgotten.

I think our blood boiled as much as the water of the old bus, considering the numerous stops it made. A convenient dance, held on the night in question, repaid all our efforts, and it was a sight for sore eyes to see those laddies' toes twinkling to the Scottish airs rendered by bagpipes. I never thought they had it in them. Even the old bus was gay that night, as there were half a dozen arguments in progress as to who was to drive, and an orchestra leader on the radiator cover obstructed the view. No wonder that we only received refusals to our kind offers of a lift to homeward-bound dancers. Next morning there were sighs of real joy that limbs were safe, no fat heads, and visions of horses with the accompanying " circular motion " fading into the distance.

The tennis courts received a visit after a certain amount of luxurious stretching exercise, but we were pained to see how the love of horses had instilled itself into some hearts that those concerned must ride a pony. Tut, tut ! Our thanks are due to the lads of Cherat for their combined efforts to give us a visit worth remembering, and we cannot show enough appreciation.

Lester has a dreamy look in his eyes whenever he spots a horse trough. This might account for his speciality of walking around in a dream all day.

There is a difference of opinion regarding the future that the stars foretell, but they have appeared to suffer a set back, owing to their inability to guide us aright. I am not burbling, but just coming round in my own way to a notification of some night marches during the last couple of moons, when we sallied forth to tackle the dangers of the darkness. No stirring individual experiences can be related, not that we want them, as they only provide food for a good " grip." The job was carried out as smoothly as possible.

Standing : Lance Corporal Duncan, Lance Corporal Jones, Signalman Bolton, Signalman Gobey, Signalman Lester.
Sitting : Lance Corporal Beenham, Corporal Strong, T.S.M. Gould, Captain P. B. G. Gambier, Corporal Wood, Sergeant Heffernan
In Front : Lance Corporal Gully, Signalman Cochrane.
Absent : Lance Corporal Bristow, Lance Corporal Williams, Signalman Simpson, of Peshawar District Signals.

The stars just wink with a grin and carry on ; we do the same and sip the cup that cheers with hearty gusts while the horses munch their feed with that lack of feeling they express so well. Night marches are nothing to them, so why should we worry ? They do the work. Sez you !

Sport has imitated the world's stock markets, and fluctuates with the weather. With no great games in the wind, we are not too concerned at this show of irregularity, and just take our chances while we may.

Friendly matches of hockey, football, cricket and tennis have been played and now we are turning to the sphere of aquatic sports. Opportunities for these competitions are rare, but we have visited the R.H.A. (with their own bath) on two occasions, and have had a pleasant time. No one boasts of passing the red light doing forty, by which we convey that speed does not count. The non-swimmers are having a break in order to master the art by lessons throughout the week. Helpful remarks have been given by tried and true swimmers, but very little improvement could be discerned in those receiving advice.

" Dizzy " by name and " Dizzy " by nature—to wit, U/Lance Corporal Duncan—has gone dizzy at the great heights he recently attained on his appointment. He is down to earth again now, and working to discard the " U," which, we hope, will not take long, although it gives us plenty of time to work up a thirst. As we have said before, thirst must be appeased periodically, Dizzy.

We regret that our C.O., Captain P. B. G. Gambier, is in hospital, and hope that we shall soon see him about again. Meanwhile, Lieutenant R. C. Yule is carrying on with the task of running the Troop. His series of lectures for N.C.O.s should prove interesting, and with every Lance Corporal a potential Brigadier—anything may happen.

In our previous notes, we spoke of our achievement in the world of sport, namely, the winning of the " Jack " Hockey Cup and the " Perry " Football Cup Tournaments. The accompanying photograph shows most of our stalwart lads who played some fine games.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Here we are again, battering out a few notes for the WIRE and trying to keep Peshawar on the map. Not that any words of mine can glorify Peshawar ; that I leave to the popular authors of several novels I have read lately. It is a good thing that they mention the name of Peshawar from time to time, otherwise I should never have recognised the place. I must have been on leave when they were here gathering material for the novels in question.

General.—The first Up-grading Course at Landikotal has just finished, and, judging from the smiling countenances of several of the candidates, the money is as good as in their pockets. The second Course went up to Landikotal on 8th July to begin the grind for more " pice," so let us hope that they will not be disappointed.

Arrivals and Departures.—R.Q.M.S. Strange F. has arrived from England, and is taking over the duties of R.S.M. from R.S.M. Bramley F., who left Peshawar with his family on 7th July for embarkation per S.S. Rajputana, ex-Bombay, on 9th July, for passage to England, where he is taking up an appointment as Technical Maintenance Officer. Congratulations, sir ; and good luck in your new sphere. Lance Corporal White V. has joined the Unit on posting from Jubbulpore. We hope he likes the Frontier.

Leave.—People are still trickling away on leave and returning all bronzed by the sun ; very handsome they look, too.

Griffin.—I have heard on good authority that one, " Tommy Fuller," formerly of this Unit, has been and gone and done it.

Is this a fact, Tommy ? If so, all of us send salaams and hope that life in the " holy state " will be all that it should be.

Sergeant Cheesman C. (the uncrowned king of the Khyber) left Landikotal for the more congenial surroundings of Nowshera, thereby fulfilling the ambition of his lifetime. A battalion of infantry arrives in Landikotal shortly, so that will just about even things up.

Strength Increases.—Landikotal Brigade Signal Section — one goat. What is the price of chocolate biscuits, " Busty " ?

Notes of Interest.—Owing to a general change-over of personnel in No. 2 Company, we have noticed quite a few people in Peshawar who have spent the last few years in Detachments and, consequently, are strangers to this Cantonment. We were told (although we doubt it) that one of them walked into the Orderly Room and asked the duty clerk for a " limejuice." He thought it was the Canteen—or something !

Heard About Town.—Officer : " You can take your respirator off now, Sergeant."

Sergeant (in an aggrieved tone of voice) : " I've got it off, sir."

SILO.

Waziristan District Signals.

Wana Brigade Signal Section.

May.

General.—Owing to our sudden re-appearance in these columns it is anticipated that some of our readers may believe that they now have cause to bring actions for compensation for heart attacks, heart balm, etc., against the writer of these notes, or/and Wana Signal Section. Such an action would, no doubt, furnish the plaintiff with the means of realising the ambition of every self-respecting soldier.

To counteract this, and to safeguard ourselves, we have arranged for the co-operation of the War Office, the Indian Government and Mr. Hore-Belisha to raise the price from £60 to a sum outside the applicant's means. In spite of this, however, there is still danger, owing to circumstances over which we have no control (with apologies to the B.B.C.). It is, therefore, with intrepid daring that I take up my courage (Dutch bottled) in one hand, and my pen (at intervals) in the other.

As you have probably guessed, there is little news to report ; these notes are written solely for the purpose of giving our B.O.R.s the glorious thrill of seeing Wana in print.

Our modern mechanised army—to wit, " Mechcol "—were called upon to defend the green and pleasant pastures from the wicked men of the Hills. Though the aforementioned wicked men had the assistance of Captain Blood, Raspution and Budli, the mere presence of our mighty " Mechcol " completely demoralised them, and after several daring excursions into " no man's land," the aforesaid " Mechcol " personnel were compelled to return empty handed, empty stomached, and bleary eyed. (N.B. This was due to lack of sleep.)

Arrivals.—Signalmen Cass, Smith R., Cook G. and Towson, all from H.Q. Section, and Signalman Small from Razmak Section. Lance Sergeant Collins has also arrived after six months' vacation at Jubbulpore. We wish them all the very best and sincerely hope that they will enjoy their stay at Wana.

Departures.—Lance Corporal France to H.Q. Section and Signalman Gray to Razmak Section. Our very best wishes go with them.

Gymkhana.—A Brigade Gymkhana, which was held here about three weeks ago, proved a great success. Bert can certainly handle the mules and A.T. carts. There were several falls in the B.O.R.s' Race (Burgess note), but all concerned are O.K., and no injuries were received.

Medals.—We all offer our very best wishes to Joe Carrott on managing to scrape through and get the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

Sport.—Football is played nearly every night against the Ghurka teams, who are very strong indeed, and most certainly need no coaching. Signals win occasionally, but it is all in the game, and everyone enjoys himself. Lance Sergeant Collins, who has returned from Jubbulpore, has strengthened the hockey team considerably ; his position is inside left. The hockey grounds at the moment are out of play, owing to re-conditioning, but it is hoped that games will be available next month.

A few tennis enthusiasts can also be seen on the courts these days between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. It can therefore be seen that Wana Signal Section is not lacking in sport.

We played the Tanks at cricket on 12th June, and beat them. Plenty more games are on order, and it is hoped that the Tanks will get their own back in a very short time. Here's wishing them all the best, anyhow.

Mail.—To 2325118, Palestine. " Drop a line ; have information your advantage. From 2032499, Woolly, Wana."

Operative 68, 5th Div. " When am I coming home ? Dave."

E. V.

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

"B" Corps Signals, Karachi.

July.

Now that No. 4 L.M.A. Section have returned from Quetta we are up to strength once more in Karachi. After their stay of some fourteen months " up country," they all appear to be jubilant at having returned to the fold, and are as happy as lambs.

During the past month we have had three interesting arrivals. R.S.M. Bevan joined us from U.K., and we hope that his stay with us will be pleasant.

C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Vignaux were presented with another son —David. In due course we shall expect to hear many a squabble between the two youngsters as to the priority in which the 'phone should be answered.

The other arrival was notified in a memorandum found on the office desk one morning—" To Farrier Corporal and Mrs. Fuller, a son, Michael Eric Fuller (8¾ lbs.), born 28th June, 1938, Military Family Hospital. In rations, 29th June." We presume that he must have been born p.m., otherwise he must have been hungry on the 28th. Here's to you, " Shoey," and the bairn.

" Wilt thou have, etc., etc. ? " Such was the question put before Lance Corporal Twiddy on the first day of June, 1938, when he undertook to take unto himself a wife. The happy bride was Miss Eileen Vandervelden, and we wish them everything that will bring happiness to them in their adventure.

The parade in celebration of the King's Birthday was held on the Brigade Parade Ground, and if cameras do not tell lies, the Unit maintained the reputation of the Corps. Even the C.O.'s charger appears to be happy—or was it highly amused ?

Lieutenant E. H. Clarke has rejoined after spending eight months' leave in Blighty, and as he is due for the Home Establishment during the forthcoming " trooper," we wonder if it is too much to surmise that he is now chalking up the calendar.

One optimist, who is taking his discharge after eighteen years' service, " figured " on a boat in July, and coolly dispensed with the remaining pages.

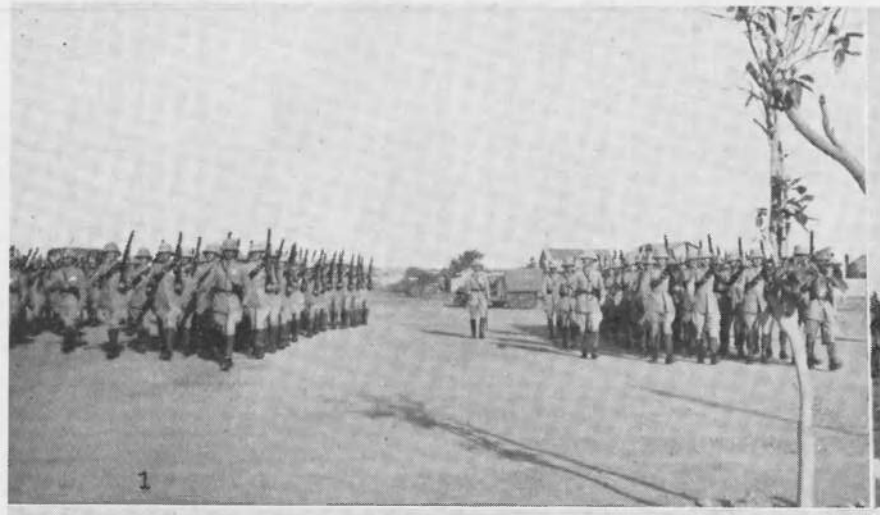
Handshakes to U/Lance Corporals Williamson, Hankin and Usher on their recent appointments.

Thanks to the untiring efforts of Signalman McKay, the Unit Club is now looking something, and the Committee are doing everything possible to bring it back to its old status. The only snag appears to be the bar ; it is a dickens of a job to rake up fourteen annas on a Wednesday.

We tender our regrets to Signalman MacDonald on his most unfortunate mishap, and hope that he will soon be restored to good health.

The long anticipated dances have commenced, and up to the present they have proved to be a huge success. We do not possesss the setting of palm trees, guitars and dusky maidens that one reads about in the Singapore news items, but we do certainly see life at these dances. Gout, lumbago and prickly heat are forgotten when the band strikes up its haunting melody. A sudden rush from bottles and glasses. " May I have the pleasure?"

"B" CORPS SIGNALS AT THE PARADE IN CELEBRATION OF H.M. THE KING EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY, HELD AT KARACHI, JUNE 1938.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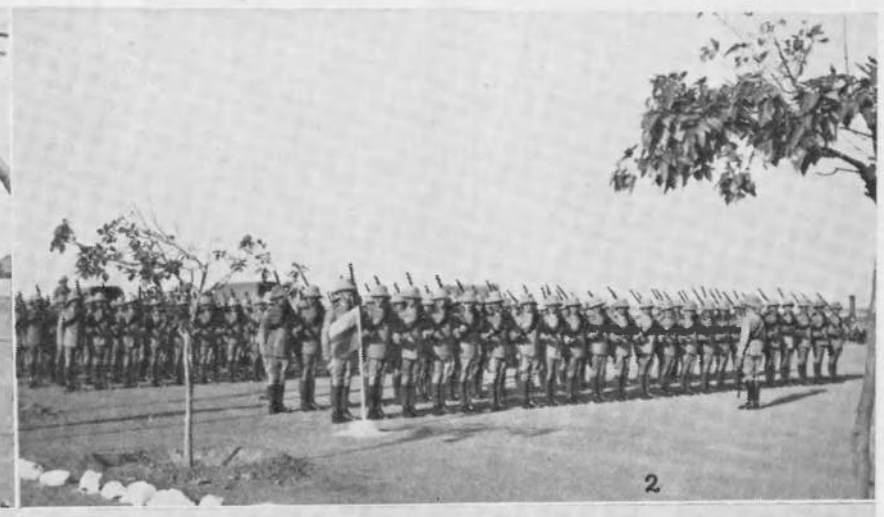
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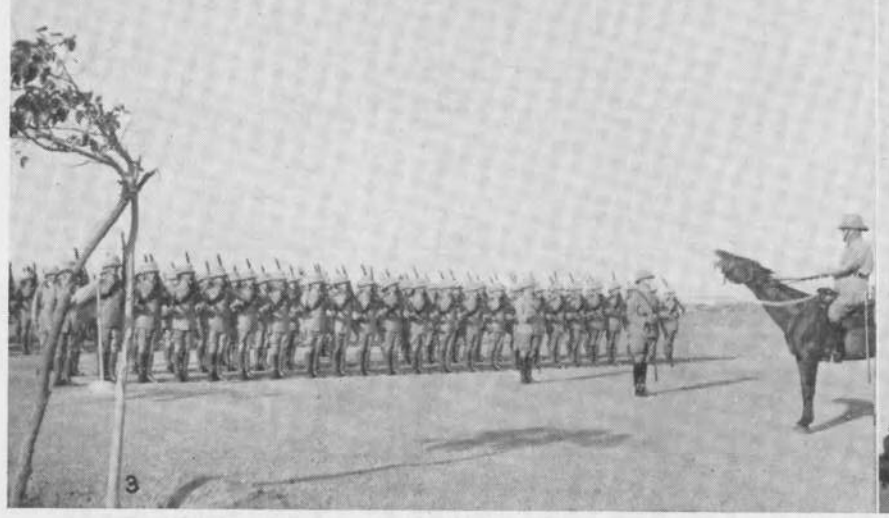
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A flickering smile that means " yes," and away they go. Paradise is found at last—until next morning, when the bugle sounds. Dream girls have vanished to their homes, feet are prepared for a spot of twinkling at P.T., arms to hold a rifle for inspection, and the scent of Ashes of Roses gives way to a perfume of garlic. Still, youth will have its fling, and even the older ones were noticed to be able to " shake a hip " ; so, on with the dance.

The cabaret items were very much appreciated ; the talent necessary for a good concert party seems to be with us.

CHARZI.

Sergeants' Mess.

Hello, " soaks " ! Sorry, I mean " folks "—or do I ? Please don't die of shock at seeing WIRE notes from " B " Corps Signals Sergeants' Mess : it *has* happened before.

General.—As most of our readers know, the long-awaited new Mess was completed in late December, 1937, and has been officially occupied since January. It has now taken on an appearance of use and comfort—the " newness " having worn off. Under the very able and efficient directorship of Sergeant Cosens, the Mess Gardens are now looking very well, with lawns and flower beds " in the pink." Well done, " Tich " ! Keep going—and what's a few cows, anyway.

Arrivals.—During June we had three arrivals to the Mess ; Lance Sergeant Connor from Sialkot early in the month, followed by Lance Sergeant Young, also from Sialkot, and our new R.S.M.—Mr. Bevan—from " Blighty Cantonment " per " Civvy " boat. We wish them all a happy stay with the Unit, and particularly in the Mess.

Departures.—" Schooly " Richards left us for temporary employment in Hyderabad (Sind) for two or three months, but will return to the fold anon. In the meantime, " Schooly " Harrison (attached to 1st Battalion, K.S.L.I.) is deputising, and is a regular supporter of the Mess.

Other Arrivals.—Congratulations to Lance Sergeant and Mrs. H. W. Jones on the arrival of a daughter (Anne Elizabeth) in England, and to C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Vignaux on the arrival of a son (David), at the British Families Hospital, Karachi. May they keep you awake at night.

Rumoured Arrivals.—Several eyes peruse orders daily for the long-awaited boat list, especially by those expecting their families from home this year. Within the next two months or so expectation will be evident in " Jonesnicholmyddletons-cratchers " at any rate.

Mrs. Bevan and family will, it is anticipated, be joining husband and father respectively in October.

Wedding Bells.—Perhaps it was only the telephone bell after all, but did we hear a dog bark that " Schooly " Harrison was taking the fateful step, or is it slip ?

Entertainments.—Have been moving apace these last two months. We have had a very enjoyable whist drive and dance, which was open to the Station, early in June, and a social evening with the Corporals' Mess during the middle of the month.

Games tournaments abound. In May, a Mess tennis " Do " was organised and run very efficiently by Sergeant Smith C. A., to whom many thanks are due. In the Singles, C.S.M. Laing defeated C.S.M. Coombes ; in the Men's Doubles, C.S.M. Laing and Warrant Officer Instructor Collins (A.E.C.) defeated Sergeant Raymond and Lance Sergeant Jones ; and in the Mixed Doubles, C.S.M. and Mrs. Laing defeated Sergeant and Mrs. Frampton.

What's a good cure for the " Neebyjeeby's," Mrs. Laing ? (Betty Boop's Special Scotch, eh ?) And did they play ? I'll say.

A word is due on the subject of the Cups, which are presented to the prize winner and runner-up. We don't know how he does it, but our P.M.C. (C.Q.M.S. " Bert " Snow) goes out empty-handed, and returns with piles of Cups, all " given " to the Mess. It was a fine show and all honours go to C.Q.M.S. Snow for " winning " the Cups. Well done !

A Games Tournament was held between the Officers and the Sergeants' Mess over a period of two weeks. The tennis was drawn, the rifle shoot was won by the Sergeants, the revolver shoot by the officers. The finale took the form of an indoor games tournament, which was won by the Sergeants, and so we eventually won the tournament.

During the second week of June, the Sergeants' Mess played the Corporals' Mess at cricket. We lost by five runs. At a critical moment, when the final wicket was falling to a catch, with one run on our credit side, the bowler and catcher (Lance Sergeant Wellock) was knocked down by the batsman, and so was unable to make the catch. This enabled the Corporals to put on six more runs to win.

In the evening a social was held. This function was quiet, but very enjoyable. Matters were evened out by the Sergeants winning the majority of games.

In the near future a Miniature Golf Course is to be constructed in the Mess grounds. We hope to keep you informed about our prospective " Var-duns " or " Bobby Joneseseses " next month.

During July, the U.J. Club Team Championships (Tennis) are being held, and in the Unit "A" team (of six) there are four members from the Mess. As the other teams to be entered have not yet been selected, we do not know how many more there will be, but the general standard of play of Mess members is exceptionally good.

If " Ginger " Tant and " Tim " Healey see these notes, they have an assurance that the Mess is looking forward to seeing them back, and hope they are having a good time in Blighty. We hope you didn't get " fed up," " Tim," and don't forget to have your voice trained. We'll want that " Boomp, boomp, boom " at camp next year.

Well, this is the " B " Corps Sergeants' Mess calling all Signal Units, home and abroad. This concludes our programme for July, 1938, so good-night everybody, or rather, *au revoir*.

CATERER.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

July.

" Yaru, you're driving me karezy,
What Khanai do ?"

This converted chorus was heard early this month when the Unit (and I) proceeded to show the Staff College just how the Army should be run. Someone has informed me that the spelling is at fault and that the correct designation was " Starve College Exercise."

Additions are Few.—This time we only have to welcome Lance Sergeant Knight and family from Waziristan. We trust that they will enjoy their sojourn at Quetta. Lance Corporal Pearson has returned from Loralai to resume his acquaintance with this Garden City.

We hear many rumours of boats and their complements. If we can depend on their accuracy then the Government is running a boat for the special benefit of those due for the Home Establishment. The vessel sails in October at the latest, of course !

Tennis is in full swing, and matches are in progress with other Clubs in the Garrison. The first match resulted in a win for Signals by 49 games to 27. Further favourable results, it is hoped, will be published in the next issue. With regard to our successes in the latest hockey and football tournaments—well, the other teams must be given some encouragement, or they wouldn't enter.

Annual weapon training has been completed and the results are quite fair, more so if one reflects on the large number of rifles that are not firing correctly. It is an extraordinary thing that these faulty weapons should be allowed.

Renovation is now in full swing throughout the Unit. The new bungalows have been painted green, while the older pre-quake buildings are now in process of being whitewashed.

And so, for the present, good-bye everybody.

RONKAY.

No. 2 Company.

This is Station 2 I.D.S. opening up on a wave width of nineteen canteen fairy cycles. Our theme song has not yet been designated, but is expected to be something like, " Oh, for the wings of a dove ! " or " When my troopship gets home."

The Unit recently moved into new temporary quarters ; long huts divided into eight rooms, each room containing five or six men. We are making them presentable, and at the period of writing, a gang of R.S.M.'s fatigue men sally forth (or fifth) each morning armed with large brushes and quantities of green paint. So much for huts.

With regard to our Company. Being young and patriotic (Curly, please note the words), I would fain say THE Company. We have had quite a few inspections lately, not just kit inspections, but combined inspections of kit and stripped equipment. " Ew nac ekat ti ! " This phrase is heard quite frequently of late.

A week-end camp has just been established at Kahan Tangi from Friday morning to Monday morning weekly. It is forty-five miles from Quetta. It will make a pleasant change from routine. Facts and snaps will, no doubt, be published in a later issue as the first camp takes place during the ensuing week. So much for the Company.

S. VAU KHAN.

Zhob Signal Section.

May.

General.—Here we are again, after a slight absence. Since our last appearance in these columns we have taken part in various Column Exercises over the bumps of Baluchistan. We have also had a change of Commanding Officer. To our new one—Captain E. V. McCormack (including his family)—we give a hearty welcome to our midst, and hope their stay will be a happy one.

Most of our readers will probably have read of the exploits of our O.C. on the running track some years back, and it is therefore needless for us to relate that, since his arrival at Zhob, sport is going with a swing. We have splendid football and hockey teams with numerous budding Perrys and Tildens on the tennis courts. Although a small Unit, we can certainly be described as a sporting one.

Functions in the nature of socials and dances have become a monthly affair, and our latest one on the lawn proved a real success, thanks to the energy of Lance Corporal Moon and Signalmen Fulcher and Harding, who have taken a keen interest in the light fantastic.

At present we are brushing our football team into shape for the Baird Tournament, and have high hopes of success.

Our Urdu classes have been well patronised, and Jonah—our human whale—can be seen nightly demanding M.B. in his best rendering from Saigal's " Lament."

We desire to thank Mrs. McCormack and Mrs. Conway for their assistance in making our functions such a success, and our stay in the Zhob a happy memory. We are a very happy little family, and thanks to our sporting Commanding Officer, everything is A1 at Lloyds.

Our Institute has taken on a new lease of life ; its new curtains, lights and furniture look very cheerful and homely. The Canteen is booming, and " Willie," the Caterer, says he will become a grocer's curate when he buys his civilian suit.

Visits.—During March we had a visit from our O.C.'s brother, Captain McCormack, late R.A., who, with his genial Northern Irish accent, soon established himself as a firm favourite. He even turned out with the football side and scored the winning goal against the Police. We wish him luck in his travels.

Expansions.—When our " Q " bloke arrived here, he had a surcingle for a waist belt ; but—ye gods and little fishes—it has now developed into an elephant's howdah strap. He still has that quaint old smile, and never seems to worry. They say fat men are happy, and he looks it. " When I was on the Frontier in——" No, " Q " ; we have heard that one. He is now applying for a support for his Frontier Medal.

Arrivals.—Mrs. Beach and Kath. from U.K. We offer them a hearty welcome and hope their stay in Zhob will be a happy one. To Signalmen Massy and Menhennick we also tender a hearty welcome. They are big assets to our football team.

Our latest arrivals from " B " Corps Signals include Signalmen Rose and Houlton ; both Fitters. We wish them a happy time with us. Anyone requiring a " Course of blank cartridge dog-shooting " or " Defitting of M.B. tops " should apply to Edgar, who is an adept in both.

To Corporal South from 2nd Divisional Signals and an old Sandemanite Column fiend we wish a happy holiday in the land of Chromium and Paley Khan.

Departures.—Corporal Spong to Bere Island, the land of the O'Sullivans, with a wedding ring and a complete outfit. Many happy returns of the day. Hope you enjoy your leave.

Signalman Hall C. has also gone on leave. Congratulations, Nobby, on picking up your " First." We wonder whether you will want a new hat, pith, solar, khaki, when you return ; the " Q " chappie has a rare assortment of all sizes and shapes.

Corporal Chrystie has proceeded to Home Establishment, complete with a civilian suit, puttie tape tie and brewers' labels. We hear that he has been posted to "A" Corps Signals, Aldershot. Their Corporals' Room funds will soon commence to increase. Be sure and have an interpreter from Auchtermuchty for him ; even the friends of Paley Khan could not converse with him.

Signalman Greetham—the man with a smile—to " D " Troop, Aldershot. Never let him use a hack saw ; it is his favourite musical instrument. He might have been a great asset in the Great War ; the Hindenberg Line would have been an easy task for him to cut through. Good luck, Hughie ; we miss your smile.

By the time these notes are in circulation, we shall have lost another Zhobite in the person of Lance Corporal Pearson, who departs on 9th June to 2nd Divisional Signals. Good luck, " Pip," at your new Station. Girls, beware ! The Sheik arrives !

Convalescence.—We are very pleased to see Corporal Stares once again with us after his recent illness, and hope that he will soon be his old self again.

Agony.—To C.Q.M.S. Vignaux, " B " Corps. " Congratulations ! Pens and pencils are not on the S.R.S."

C.Q.M.S. Conway sends his best wishes to Jack Ivey, S.T.C. Sample post is only a half anna.

Howlers.—Current is the thing that flows down a stream to drive the turbines in a dynamo.

Football.—Results :

v. Zhob Police	Won by 1 goal.
v. Hodson's Horse	Won by 3 goals.
v. 1/10th Gurkhas	Won by 4 goals.
v. Zhob Police	Drawn.
v. Hodson's Horse	Won by 2 goals.

Hockey.—Results :

v. R.I.A.S.C.	Drawn.
v. "A" Squadron, Hodson's Horse ..	Won by 2 goals.

PALEY KHAN.

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

6th July.

This is a strange monsoon. Its arrival and departure has left us in the " somewhat sticky " stage. Nevertheless, Trimulgherry is too good to moan about. Perhaps it is the sight of the bronzed and healthy arrivals from Wellington that makes us long for really cool climes ; or perhaps it is the wearing of a gorilla-like disguise, called a facepiece, for half-an-hour or so which brings the warm blush to our face.

When the rain does come, it chooses inopportune moments, usually managing to stop sport in the evening. At our recent Inter-Unit Equitation Competition, it drove many spectators

in a huddle behind macs and trees for a brief spell, but did not succeed this time in marring the enjoyment.

This annual competition passed off quite happily, with Sergeant Dilworth "topping the pole," closely followed by Naik Moh'd Lall. As both these are "Roughs," the Best Individual Cups went to Lance Naik Sardar Khan and Signalman Daulat Zar. The Team Shield was won by Headquarter Section. It was a very pleasant evening.

Meanwhile, talent found in that competition is preparing to appear in the Secunderabad Horse Show at the end of this month. We hope that the horses will "rise" to the occasion, and that none of the competitors will have the "jitters" as they take the "jumps." Our Maidan looks quite gay with its practice bars, walls and ditches.

Sport.—We hear rumours of a tennis tournament being arranged by 4th Indian Divisional Signals, and all those who wield a racquet will be asked to appear. Two of our members are complaining of rheumatics in the arm; handicapped elbow sort of thing.

The Officers and Sergeants played the Corporals and remainder twice during the last month at tennis, finishing up all square on both occasions—71 all. Heigho for the rubber!

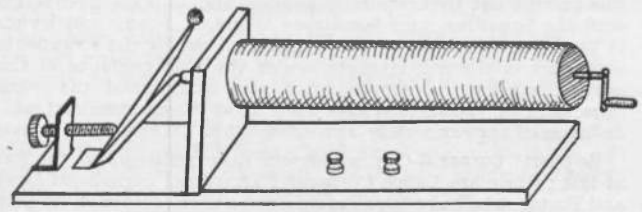
We have only played two hockey matches (outside fixtures) this month, and have to admit defeats in both. Both games were with 4th Indian Divisional Signals, and the scores were 1—6; 0—3.

4th Indian Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry.

21st June.

The Great Vocational Training Mystery.—Once upon a time we knew all about the vocational training system, which, of late, has become an object of doubt; an obscure mystery enshrouded in a maze of pamphlets.

Claude E. Teale devoted sixteen yards of time to this problem, and now makes his own Wrigleys. G.B.S. tackled it, and within six short months we found him recording for Brunswick the haunting cry of the "Lesser Mango Fly" and the raucous screech of the "Common Hollow-Ground Razor!" Therefore



it is not surprising that we should be intrigued by the "New" system. Can anyone enlighten us?

P.S.—We know all about the excellent 9d. lunches.

Picture Problem.—The above sketch is, we assure you, an actual diagram of an infernal machine lately unearthed on the ancient site of an instrument farm in Trimulgherry. I, the Editor, "Jason" (six feet, blonde, one hammer toe, etc.), believe it to be a device designed and used to determine the sex of new-born base-boards. What do you think?

The prize for the most original suggestion will be two square miles of numnah, a free ride in an Army lorry, and an autographed portrait of Paddy M'Ginty's goat.

Individual Training.—It has reached the Trade Board stage and looks like costing somebody a lot of money. Successful? RATHER! Watch this page next month for the "Song of the Money Bee."

Congratulations.—To Corporal Watts S. upon his recent appointment to the A.F. (I.), Madras.

Departures.—Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Pocock, R.E. (I.A.), left us for England on twelve months' leave pending retirement, after a splendid Farewell Dance given to him in the Sergeants' Mess. Other departures are: Sergeant Elmes to Meerut; Corporal Taylor S. and Lance Corporal Weech to Jubbulpore; and Corporal Watts S. to Madras.

B.O.R.s' Ride.—In the eyes of many a hazardous undertaking; this feat was tackled and successfully completed by no fewer than ten members of the Unit. At times, we admit, that although the spirit was most willing, the flesh inclined towards temporary weakness. However, judging by the standard set by the Honourable Society of Feet Pickers and Loose Reiners, the effect on the whole was quite noteworthy.

Promotions and Appointments.—There has been a considerable amount of this lately. That slowly unfurling roll of honour—Part II's—proclaimed very often the closer approach to giddy heights, and many were to be seen diving into haverbags just to test old Nap's theory. Is it true? The theory, we mean.

Lance Corporals Sadler (the violinist) and Mozley became paid; closely followed by Lance Corporal Hatton attaining his second tape. Signalman Field achieved the seemingly impossible, was made up, paid and extremely well back-dated, all within ten or so days.

Lance Corporals Taylor S. and Mitchell A. then leaped upwards, the vacuum being filled by U/Lance Corporals Ball and Kilburn into the paid lists, and then there was a fanfare of trumpets and crashing of cymbals when U/Lance Corporal Hanson entered.

Entertainments.—Of late much has been done for the entertainment of the Unit. The chief feature is a weekly "Do" (Who? I'm a little deaf, you know) at the Sergeants' Mess, incorporating dancing, whist, darts, dinky-do, and all the how's your fathers, not to mention short excursions into the realms of devil-may-care, made possible by fairish quantities of the world's best liquor.

JASON.

Sport—

Prelude.—All "friendlies" (more or less).

Tennis.—Juniors versus Seniors. "J.s" won.

Cricket.—

Seniors beat Juniors.

v. 65th Battery, R.A.	Lost
v. "C" Battery, R.H.A.	Lost
v. "C" Battery, R.H.A.	Lost
v. 18th Battery, R.A.	Won
v. "C" Company, West Yorkshire Regiment	Won

Hockey.—

v. 65th Battery, R.A.	Lost
v. 65th Battery, R.A.	Lost
v. 65th Battery, R.A.	Drawn
v. "C" Battery, R.H.A.	Lost
v. West Yorkshire Regiment	Lost
v. West Yorkshire Regiment	Won
v. West Yorkshire Regiment	Won
v. 18th Battery, R.A.	Lost
v. 18th Battery, R.A.	Won

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

No. 2 Company, Egypt Signals.

Headquarters.

Abbassia, Cairo.
June.

Arrivals.—We welcome back to the fold two palefaces—Signalmen Leah and Benham—who have just completed a three-months' tour in Blighty. From what we hear it was well worth the money.

Tour de France.—A famous race with all heads down. We were heart-broken to learn that Signalman Leah, with two famous riders from No. 2 Company, failed to complete the circuit owing to a slight wind—approximately a 90 m.p.h. gale, explained our three gallant riders. "It was so strong that it smashed my machine," said one of the trio. But we are told that the wreckage was sold for five francs, and so saved the situation.

We should like to know what it is like hiking in the South of France, and if it is true that Signalman Leah contemplates leave in Australia next year. Do you really think it's worth it, "Laurie"? You know a faint heart never won a fair lady.

Work.—Plenty in hand, and plenty to come.

Jews' Mail.—"Dutch" and Brook H. to Cavill, Trim: "Stick it, Charlie. We hear that W.O. are sending the Queen Mary out next year with the wives. We're doing O.K. How about the "Motor Launch"? It is well below water-level now, with the prop well bedded in the weeds."

P. C. J.

"F" Troop.

Beginning.—None of our readers have yet heard of "F" Troop (Artillery Signal Troop) as we are brand new; most of us arrived in Egypt on the last boat—we must arrive sometime.

Middle.—Most of the Troop were immediately "gripped" for I.T. and various Upgrading Courses. Owing to the Courses, the Troop is very unsettled, for no one seems to know who's who, or why; but when we get together, great things may be expected.

Cricket.—The team is not quite up to "Test" standard; we have lost every match, despite the noble stands made by the Croydon "Erbs"—Lawrence and Pescud—who have to their credit 75 per cent. of our runs.

Swimming.—We put up quite a decent performance in the Section polo and relay, and of five matches played, we have won three and lost two, against much more experienced teams.

The Lighter Side of Life.—In the Mess Room, David said: "Is this apple sauce made of apples?"

And the rather Junior N.C.O. on the B.I Course said: "What if both stations are on 'F' Procedure?"

Jews' Mail.—Crack. "You still owe me a letter. Nobby."
"134" wants to hear from "522."
Nig. "Give 'Blondie' my love. 'Tollie.'"

End.—You have just read the introduction to a series of startling disclosures, which will be even better than Walter Winchell's scandal column. Watch us!

CLARICKO.

"W" Troop.

General.—The majority of the Troop are engaged on Upgrading Courses. As far as the operators are concerned, it is rather a stiff gradient. We stagger from lecture room to lecture room under a burden of heavy technical volumes and notebooks. We sit down and stare blankly at a blackboard absolutely smothered with strange combinations of letters and figures called "formulae." One formula of my own will give some idea of our class. It is: "Density/Power." Work it out! We have decided that "E. and M." is O.K. if one does not weaken. When the instructors finally release their "grip" on us, we hope to be potential Signalmasters.

Possibilities.—The use of old "Chatties" as porous pots in Leclanche cells.

To operators: A "G" message is a short, urgent message from a "G-man."

Breezy.—What is this refreshing sea breeze smell that creeps through the room? Oh, it's Perrin and "Tough" Tommy Fairclough, who now have schoolgirl complexions all over.

Leave.—Our O.C. Company, O.C. Troop, Lance Corporals Byron and Gant, Signalmen Dixon and Brown J. to U.K. during the early part of July for three months' furlough. They have earned their rest, and we hope that they have a grand time. We hope to hear all about the Empire Exhibition at Glasgow, and remind Byng Byron that we are fully aware that the grass in England is still green. Do bring us back a few original ones, Byng.

Stop Press.—To "Roycon," 4th Div. "We like your notes, and the cry is—"More"!

STUMPI.

"Y" Troop, Attached 8th Hussars.

Apology.—Firstly, we must apologise for the absence of WIRE notes from this Section. We know that it was a great disappointment to all our millions—sorry, thousands—of readers when they found that the notes from "Y" Troop were missing. They promptly blamed the Editor and lack of space. No; the blame was ours. Our scribe was suddenly dragged from our midst and set down in the verdant pastures of Egypt Signals, where he is now browsing peacefully. Aren't you, Taff?

Departures.—There have been many during the last few months. We have lost nine of our stalwarts, including our revered Section Sergeant—Sergeant Lewis C. L.—who has left us for the greater delights (?) of the parent Unit. Our loss is their gain. Old, but true. To replace him we received Sergeant Couperthwaite W., to whom we extend the usual welcome, and hope that his stay with us will be a long and happy one.

Courses.—Eight of our "young hopefuls" are attending Courses of Instruction at Egypt Signals, whither they wend their way each morn at the unearthly hour of 7.30 a.m., and return, crammed with knowledge, at 12.15 p.m. They can be seen at any time (admission free) wandering round Main Barracks, with glassy stares in their eyes, and muttering Ohm's Law or the tensile strength of sundry metals. All so very technical and confusing to the uninitiated.

If some unfortunate and misguided individual disturbs them, he is either slowly strangled or consigned to the lower regions with despatch and promptitude. If left alone to their own devices, they are quite harmless and content to ooze along and mumble into their venerable beards. (All learned men have beards. I have one, too, but that is because I need a shave.)

Communications.—Recently we had two reconnaissance trips to the Western Desert. Communication was maintained by No. 1 Sets, using the Wyndham Aerial. Results were very good, and signal strength "R9's" both ways by key. The first test was carried out by Corporal Singleton and Lance Corporal Bell with the Squadron, and Signalmen Williams, Fraser and Ryness in barracks. The second test was carried out by the Regimental Signallers of the 8th Hussars, under the able guidance of Corporal Singleton. Communication was maintained the whole time, and a speech strength of "R6-7" was attained at a distance of approximately 270 miles. "X" Troop, please note.

Grippers' Corner.—Our wanderers have returned to the fold at last; they are Lance Corporal Richardson, Signalmen Lewis and Porter, who have been indulging in a slice of leave in Blighty. You may visit our abode (visiting hours 2 to 4, or by appointment) and see us with resigned expressions squirming in an iron "grip" applied by either one or all of the "tourists." One of them has been making discreet enquiries about "Allowances for the Married Man," and has taken out an option on a "bags, ration" and a bicycle. He won't, however, disclose any details,

not even under the influence of a straight lemon; will you, Richie?

Query.—We would like to know who sallies forth resplendent in a straw "boater," a blazer of a delicate damson shade (purple to you), and wearing the old school tie. Shades of Narkover!

Cercle Francaise.—We have two budding linguists in the Section, who probably have their eyes on the "Special." If one speaks to them in English, they reply, "*Je ne comprend pas que vous dire; parlez vous en Francaise, si vous plait.*" Of course, we think that they are using darn bad language, and so bad feeling ensues. Still, even Gunga Din couldn't *parle Francaise,* and look at the man he was.

Dress.—Recently a drastic change in dress to shorts and puttees was received with a chorus of jeers and fruity noises from our friends the Hussars. We always had our retort ready: "Before you joined." (Loud sneer from the "old hand" in the corner.)

Tailpiece.—This is my first effort, and you, as the jury, must decide whether I "live or die." The defence rests.

A. R. R.

"Z" Troop.

General.—As usual, we brazenly make no apology for the absence of notes during the last three or four months, or was it four or five?

Of course, there is little or no news; there never is when we want something to write about. Even the scandal-mongers shut up like oysters when they see us hovering about. However, we newshounds have the flair, so here goes. All rights reserved. (Cassandra, please note.)

On 30th May a party, comprising Captain Wheatley (formerly the Officer i/c), Major Tyrrell (our new C.O.), Major Kennett, Lieutenant Walker, C.S.M. Hobbs, Sergeant Dunn ("W" Troop), Signalman Crerar and Spreadbury ("Z" Troop) and several others left the Unit for Akaba in Transjordania. According to all reports, the trip was excellent from every point of view.

The Mitla Pass, which impressed everyone in the party, in more ways than one, was negotiated with very little difficulty. The scenery was of the silent grandeur type that one reads about. We are told that the going was quite good all the way—quite smooth in fact.

Sergeant Dunn and Signalman Spreadbury, with a No. 9 Set erected in a "bug," provided the communications, which were excellent, and caused a good deal of comment in the Unit. The atmospherics at night were rather bad. Both No. 9 Sets used Wyndham Aerials, but it was proved by experience that a 24-foot mast aerial on the Akaba Set working to a Wyndham Aerial was almost as efficient. Strength of signals at no time dropped below "R7." We are also informed that the Akaba No. 9 Set worked to a No. 1 Set belonging to "K" Section stationed at Sollum. The approximate distance between these two places is 500—550 miles.

On arrival at the Akaba hills, which are 2,000 feet above sea level, a contingent of the Palestine Police said that the lorries would not be able to get down. They did! We have been asked by the driver of the "bug" to state that his "bug" was "marvellous" on the journey downward.

The party stayed at Akaba for two nights. Bathing was good, but restricted, owing to the presence of sharks in the bay. Fishing boats were used, but the fishing was not a great success.

The trip back by the same route was uneventful. No one was sea-sick, land-sick or home-sick, and with the exception of a break at Koubri on the Suez Canal for a spot of bathing, all speed was made in the direction of Abbassia, where the party arrived, tired but happy, at 6 p.m. on 5th June.

Arrivals and Departures.—Although rather belated, we hasten to mention the arrival of Sergeant Skitt G., our new Troop Sergeant, and Signalmen Beale and Donaldson. They know us by now, so it is rather useless to give them the usual welcome. Our departures are: Sergeant Ivison to "F" Troop; Signalman Benham to C.H.Q. Mufti (alas!) to the same Troop, and our "Better Half" to "W" Troop.

1. Camp at Akaba.
2. Half-way up the Akaba Hills.
3. Top of mountain pass at Akaba.

Amidst laughter and manly tears we said good-bye to Lance Corporals "Joe" Parry and Cyril Oxley of this Troop, and also a host of other "time- and tour-ex" lads, who left us for Blighty on Friday, the 13th, a real black day for us.

Jews' Mail.—Greatly to our pained surprise, the young gentlemen in "Z" are quite as "Shylock" as those in lesser Troops, and it is with deep regret that we include the following under this heading:

Ted Drake. "Please drop a line to 'Jock,' ex-T8."
Lance Corporal Funnel. "Please perform the same service for 'Tomo,' Egypt."

Will Sergeant Aitken, last heard of in Palestine, please communicate with Signalman Beale of this Company?

By the Way.—Corporals Surfleet and Hutley and Lance Corporal Oliver will be thinking of returning from leave in

Blighty by the time these notes are printed. We wish them good luck in their ventures—especially to " George."

Congratulations.—To " Gerry " Sayer on attaining the first rung of the ladder.

Swimming.—Swimming has been a great success for some people. " Z " won all the Relay Races, except one with " J " Section. In the case of the polo matches, we had a walk-over in one, drew with " W " and " D," and lost all the others. The team is to be congratulated.

The Lighter Side.—Cracks are few and far between now, but we would like you to know which man pointed to his sump and gear box draining bolts when asked for the location of his suspension bolts.

Individual Training.—Individual Training has started, and Volume II, Part II. Some worried expressions, frowns and muttering lips are to be seen all day and every day.

LETA.

Corporals' Room, Egypt Signals.

Entertainment has been varied and plentiful during the past month, and the Mess and its surroundings have been transformed in many different ways to suit each show. Corporal Pape and Lance Corporal Ross have organised the events throughout, and a vote of thanks has been accorded to them by all Mess members for their excellent work.

We invited the W.O.s and Sergeants to a games tournament on 31st May, when a barrel of beer was firmly in position, and " Charlie " Ransom was kept very busy in supplying everybody's requirements. The evening was very hot, but this did not deter the spirit of the games. We found our seniors to be an easy team, and could therefore afford to keep our jackets on and play steadily. The final result was a draw, but as points were not given to us for the " Boat Race," we can consider ourselves the winners.

During the evening the R.S.M. drew the result of the sweep for the Annual Rifle Course. Lance Corporals Roberts and Bunny secured level points, and decided to shoot it off on the Miniature Range; Lance Corporal Roberts, who scored most, obtained the prize.

To complete the games tournament, we provided a team against the seniors on the Miniature Range the following morning, and did we shake them! The score must never be made known The final result of the complete tournament was a very satisfactory one for us.

On Saturday, 4th June, a whist drive and social evening was organised. It provided a good evening's entertainment for everyone. Ten tables were filled for whist, and Miss Sherwood, Corporal Hutley and Mr. Kent were the winners. A suitable prize was presented to each of them.

Dancing followed, and during the intervals two hands of tombola were held, and also a ladies' dart tournament. Corporals Mullins and Holland received handsome sums of money for their tombola prize, and Mrs. Holland, who proved herself to be the champion lady dart thrower, received a packet of cigarettes, which, we understand, " Dutchy " enjoyed.

The next big event, which was a rather unique affair, was held on Tuesday, 14th June. The area surrounding the Mess was turned into a fair ground, which included a coconut shy, dart throwing, throwing the ball into a bucket, quoits, fortune telling, and a treasure hunt; a roundabout could not be provided owing to the two-stroke engine being indisposed and owner on duty. Over a hundred were present on this occasion, and the coconuts were soon won. Lance Corporal Bunny (our Cyril, to you) provided the fair ground music; his box of tricks for once in a while was appreciated.

Fortune telling proved to be very popular with the ladies. Corporal Williams was doing the telling, and is now provided with a bodyguard to protect him against fifty burly husbands. The treasure hunt caused plenty of laughter; the witty clues shown on the chart were the work of Corporal Hutley. There were over a hundred entries. Corporal Surfleet won the fifty piastre prize.

A short whist drive was then held, the winners of which were Mrs. Bennett and Sergeant Dunn.

Refreshments having been served, a game of musical chairs which followed caused plenty of laughter and thrills. The prize for this event was eventually awarded to Mrs. Boon. Everyone left for home at 1 a.m., after having enjoyed every minute of the evening.

The next gathering of members and friends was on Sunday, 26th June. The entertainment on that occasion was billed as a " Beetle Drive and Dance." This event, which proved to be a new departure in Garrison entertainments, was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Three prizes were awarded, Mrs. Best, Mr. Andrews and Sergeant Dunn being the recipients. (Cigarettes for the gentlemen and chocolates and jam for the ladies.)

After refreshments had been served, we had some dancing. The " Statue Dance " competition was won by Mrs. Bryan and Corporal Jenkins, and the " Card Dance " by Sergeant Stone and Miss Seymour. The one hand of tombola resulted in Mrs. Penn going home fifty piastres better off.

This was our last show to date, but ideas are being gathered up by our entertainments committee to provide more during July.

LOFTY B.

Palestine Force Signals.

General.—The situation reports and the *Palestine Post* still make interesting reading: some days there are hold-ups by the brigands; on others, the bright young *effendis* sling bombs into the nearest cafe and then run for it, or else the Arabs are murdering the Jews and vice versa. Once upon a time it was left to the Arabs to start riots in the evil-smelling *Sûks*, but now the Yiddishers are getting all het up.

Part of the Brigade are moving up to patrol the famous barbed-wire fence which is being built between Syria and Palestine (provided the Arabs leave any part of it to be patrolled). The idea of this fence is to prevent the Syrian bad lads from encroaching on this side of the border.

Billiards.—In the Brigade H.Q. Billiards and Snooker Handicaps, we supplied the two runners-up—Signalman Hamilton and Corporal Powner. May the watch and razor give eternal satisfaction.

Arrivals.—At long last the families are really here. Sergeant Dendy, Corporals Powner and Walsh have dashed away to Port Said to meet their respective families, and we take this opportunity to say *Saida* (or *Shalom*), hoping that they will enjoy their stay. I believe that one of our D.R.s is to be congratulated (?) since Dame Rumour credits him with twins.

M.T. Signature Tune.—" The speed cops will get you if you don't watch out."

Cricket.—In between this, that and the other, the Section has found a very good team, as the Irak Petroleum Company, Haifa Club, R.A.S.C., etc., have discovered. One or two of the brighter bats have compiled their 50's, and so earned the reward given by Sergeant Newton to those who get 25 or more. Sergeant Newton, on the other hand, has drunk the forfeit of those who have compiled 0—" or less."

CURFEW OVER HAIFA.

The curfew tolls the knell of parting day,
  And Wogs and Yidds are homeward hurrying seen;
But we of Signals are ever working on—
  Except the crowd in the Canteen.

The billet rings with every laughing voice,
  For curfews bring forth happiness, I ween,
But the Signal Office keeps on carrying on,
  In between trips to the Canteen.

A certain gloom o'ershades the happy throng,
  And glistening tears replace the laughing e'en;
For Signals cannot possibly carry on
  If there's no Allsopps left in the Canteen.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

Headquarters, Jerusalem.

Front page news this month heralds the arrival of the remaining families from U.K. We offer a warm welcome to the following, and trust that their stay in this country will be everything that could be wished for: Mrs. Crouch, Mrs. Miles, Mrs. Litchfield, Mrs. Vize and Mrs. Lavender, all to Jerusalem; Mrs. Dendy, Mrs. Powner and Mrs. Walsh to Haifa; and Mrs. Cox to No. 2 W/T Company, Sarafand. Of course, the kiddies arrived, too, and here's wishing all the windows in the numerous surrounds the best of luck in the near future.

The families for Jerusalem were met at the Mess by Mrs. Steward, wife of our Commanding Officer, and a very inviting breakfast awaited them.

It is hoped that September will bring the families who are affected by the recent Army Order concerning the Married Establishment out here, too.

Social activities in the Mess have been somewhat curtailed, owing to the local outbreaks of terrorism in the City, which has resulted in the enforcement of a curfew. It has been a case of "go to bed early and save the coal." Nevertheless, one "At Home" went off very well, just prior to the curfew, and it looks very promising for the future.

A gathering of the clans recently points to a Combined Mess photograph, which will soon grace a prominent place in the Mess. The proofs give us the impression that it will be a good effort, and so next month's WIRE will give the critics something to comment upon.

Apart from the arrival of the families, no new faces have appeared in the Mess, but it is believed that one or two of the attached members will be leaving us. Cheerio, cads, and don't forget to take "one" off the ice for the train journey.

Apologising for the briefness of this month's contribution, and with a promise of a "bumper" for the next number, we sign off.

FOUR X TWO.

No. 3 Section.

NABLUS DETACHMENT.

These notes must, of necessity, commence with the subject of work. During this last month, the Section has been working extremely hard. H.Q., 14th Infantry Brigade, moved to Nablus Fort during the latter part of May, and communication has to be kept with many outstations in all parts of "The Triangle." Every available set and man is in use.

There are mad scampers round the countryside, led by Lance Sergeant Mulholland, of L/T fame, to supply all stations with batteries. In fact, the old timers are reminded of the Pony Express days, way back in '98.

Tel Aviv and its delights are missed by everybody, but the *esprit de corps* stands the strain, and everyone is pulling his weight.

We must again apologise for the lack of sports notes, but there has been little time for recreation. On 10th June we played the Palestine Police at cricket on a field which had, apparently, been recently ploughed. They earned a well-deserved victory by a short head.

King's Birthday.—The Section turned out every available man for the King's Birthday Parade. Men on duty were exempted, so five or six stalwarts with half-an-hour to spare represented us.

SARAFAND DETAILS.

The Nablus Detachment are fortunate enough to have time to spare to write WIRE notes—we haven't.

No. 2 Wireless Company, Sarafand.

24th June.

Introduction.—On perusing the Part II Order Book, we find very little to report upon this month. The only new arrivals are a couple of camp wallahs. But why bring that up?

Musketry.—We have just fired our Annual Musketry Course on the Richon Range, and have succeeded in maintaining the previous high average of the Unit. The early reveille for the purpose of firing before the sun got really bright, was not at all popular, but we all agree it is a job well left behind.

Congratulations are extended to Corporal Brightmore on winning the first prize, presented by the Commanding Officer, with a score of 88 out of a possible 95. We are unable to quote with any confidence who won the second and third prizes, as there were quite a number with scores of just over 80. We are sorry to say that one individual failed rather badly, but he has

GLOSSEX (See No. 2 Wireless Company, Sarafand, Cricket Notes)

GLAMPSHIRE (See No. 2. Wireless Company, Sarafand, Cricket Notes)

assured us that next year he is going to charge the target with his Scouts' pole as a bayonet.

Cricket.—Without encroaching on the Sports Secretary's preserves, it may be of interest to note that we are playing, on an average, two matches a week, and, so far, defeat has not been experienced.

A very interesting and amusing Inter-Section game was played between "Glossex" and "Glampshire" in which Glampshire succeeded in winning by one wicket. The teams as published in Orders are as follows:

"GLOSSEX."—Frank Cairns (capt.), Leslie Sayers, Scarrott A. B., Moore A. P. F., Harold Webb, Phil Norris, No Ball Quinn, Jack Taylor, Duleep Richardson, Plum Greenstreet, Stenson (Beedy) R. E. S., Tich Winder.

"GLAMPSHIRE."—Herbert Trudgett (capt.), Bill Fayerman, Struddy Waterson, Stan Chilcott, Ringrose W. G., Patsy Medlycott, Williams C. B., Wally Morris, Fleetwood O'Marah Eddy Diggle, Don Webster, Hedley Cole.

Of course, twelve a side is nothing unusual here. The accompanying illustrations also show Umpires Smith and Whitaker.

Athletics.—We congratulate a certain "Gerry" and an uncertain "Howard" on doing the 100 yards in ten seconds dead. This may not sound hard, but you try it along the beach with the sea flapping round your ankles, with two M.P.s in the rear, and especially after having just made a rope exit from the balcony of a really first-class hotel.

Things We Want to Know.—"Who is Sylvia?"

Warrant Officers and Senior N.C.O.s' Mess.

Wild Cat Hunt.—By far the most important event of the month was the surprise visit of a wild cat one evening at about 11 p.m. This animal strolled in, and then started "flying" round the Mess. It jumped to the picture rail without an effort, and then proceeded to show us just what it could really do. We didn't stay long after we had used all our darts, and one brave warrior shut the doors from the outside and rushed off to get the "cat-killer," a handsome dog named "Dandy." Of course at this hour "Dandy" was comfortably in bed under the blankets and mosquito net, and was not at all pleased about being disturbed as he was not on from twelve to four. He was eventually convinced that a cat was in the vicinity, and immediately got the sillies.

By this time the cat had succeeded in getting in the Mess kitchen and was playing havoc with the crockery, but Sergeant Cole had got the consent of members present to muck in on the damage. The dog bravely entered the kitchen, whilst we all bravely watched from the doors and windows—naturally from the outside. After a slight scramble, during which we saw more plates, basins, cups and saucers, etc., smashed to the ground, the dog got a wonderful grip on the cat and proceeded to shake it as if it was a rat. Instead of the cat screaming, it was the dog who "pen and inked" and "chained me up."

The cat continued "flying"—and it really could "fly"—around the kitchen, whilst the dog made an inglorious exit, tail between his legs, retiring to bed, and wishing he had never left it.

The show had lasted for an hour, and the cat looked good for many more hours. It was then considered necessary to use a .22 to finish it off. The "Tracker" wanted to fire the all-important round, but after very carefully studying the musketry scores, the weapon was entrusted to Corporal Cairns, who succeeded in killing it after three shots. It was voted an excellent show, and the P.M.C. allowed the expenses to be borne by the P.M.C.'s pound.

Dances.—Our monthly whist drive and dance continues to break all records. The last one was held on Saturday, 18th June, when the attendance easily topped the hundred mark, of which well over fifty were ladies. I am sure the new entertainments committee will boost up these shows even more.

YIMKIN.

Malta Signal Section.

Command Signal Office, Strada Torre, Valletta.

9th July.

General.—With the hot weather firmly established, summer pursuits are once again in full swing. Bathing, sun and sea, has its adherents, but benefiting by past experiences our prize pair

have not yet found it necessary to sleep on knees and elbows. Small parties are proceeding weekly to camp at Ghain Tuffieha ; the first proceeded this week. These short breaks from normal routine make an agreeable change and are beneficial to all who participate.

Sports.—Organised sport is rather difficult with so few individuals available, but we have managed to field representatives to assist the Staff and Departments at cricket.

A Tennis Cup is now available for competition in the Section, and preliminary rounds are proceeding apace. It would be rather difficult to forecast the winner at this stage, as unexpected new talent has somewhat confounded the prophets.

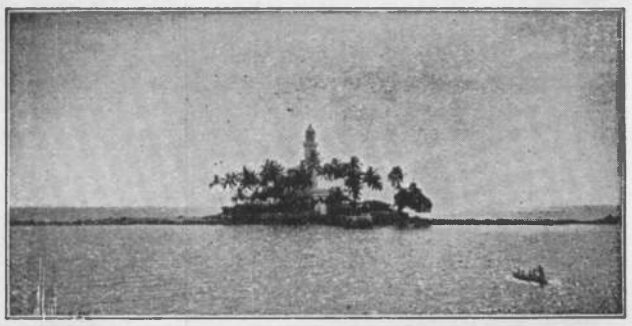
Casualties.—Lieutenant T. de B. Miller and Q.M.S. Goodridge are at present in hospital, and we look forward to the time when they both will be fit and well to resume their duties.

Under this heading it may perhaps be in order to hazard a prophecy that Lance Sergeants Freeman and Rowe and Corporal Drake expect to leave us soon for a spot of leave in the United Kingdom.

This Month's Skate.—We strongly deprecate the action of the lecturer on the evils of smoking, who forces his point by smoking his audience's cigarettes. What a man !

Stop Press.—Late observations reveal Major F. H. Bury, C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Holt, Sergeant Purcell, Lance Corporal Beard, Signalmen Watson, Burgess and Freeman as entries in the Command Tennis Championships. Good hitting to them. Whilst on the subject of sport, did we mention darts ? Winners on !

SKIP.



Malaya Signal Company,
Headquarters Detachment, Fort Canning.

As a very new " Malayan " indeed, and, moreover, as my last effort at writing notes for the Corps Journal was some time ago when serving with the Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop at Risalpur, it is with some trepidation that I take up the cudgels on behalf of the Headquarters of this Unit.

We have just said good-bye to Lance Sergeant Durand, who has left the Service to take up a position as Confidential Assistant to the Defence Committee of Malaya. He thus qualifies (so I am informed) for the title of Tuan Besar, which appears to be the local equivalent of " Rajah Sahib," or, as our American friends tell us, " Big Shot." As he is still employed in the same Headquarter Office block, we are sure to keep in touch with him.

The Unit marched past His Excellency The Governor on the parade ground at Farrer Park on the occasion of the Birthday Celebration of His Majesty The King. As the Alexandra correspondent is telling us all about it, I will not say anything other than that it was a jolly good show on the part of the Corps.

Meeting a member of the Changi detachment with a friend in Singapore the other day, we were regaled with tales of their adventures in the jungle and swamps en route for the high lights of the big city. It appears that just when the lights were faintly visible through the dense undergrowth, the coolies almost gave up the ghost, and protested their inability to carry on any further. Nothing daunted, the two adventurers carefully removed and folded their " civilisation suits," seized the " chungles," and themselves cut a path through the remaining jungle, the coolies meanwhile keeping the tigers in the rear at bay by singing Dorothy Lamours' song from her recent film " Her Jungle Love." (Advt.)

We are looking forward to the forthcoming trooping season, not so much because it marks the first (or yet another !) milestone in our stay here, but that we are expecting to see many new faces this year. Some of our new-comers are in such a desperate hurry to taste the well-known delights of our " sun-kissed beaches " and so on, that they couldn't even wait for the trooping season to start, and are even now (we believe) on their way.

Laundry is very cheap here ; it is only 4s. 8d. per month for as many articles as an individual cares to send, but it is understood that it can be made twice as cheap in Ordnance circles, where " combined operations " seem to be the order of the day.

The following is a list of the present staff at Fort Canning : W.O.II (F-of-S) West W., M.B.E. ; Lance Sergeants Jackman C., and Cook T. ; Lance Corporal Bellis R. ; Signalmen Barrett D., Brown C., Browne F., Jones H. and Soppett E. ; Sapper Hill J. (R.E., attached) ; Private Bridges F. (Inniskilling Fusiliers, attached).

JACKO.

[It is regretted that, owing to technical reasons, it was impossible to reproduce the photograph of the " March Past " which accompanied the notes from this Unit.—ED.]

Alexandra Detachment.

Although three months have passed since we last chronicled the activities of our little Detachment, I find very little to write about.

The outstanding event was the King's Birthday Parade. This took place at Farrer Park instead of the Padang. The official reason for this change was that more people could see the Show. Signals were well represented, three officers and forty other ranks taking part. As we are scattered all over the island of Singapore, there were not many opportunities for practice parades. We only had one, so that everything taken into consideration, I think we put up a good show. About 2,000 troops marched past the saluting base (a record number, I believe). The salute was taken by Sir Shenton Thomas, Governor of the Straits Settlements.

The " new draft," now nicely settled down, are already well versed in the noble art of " gripping," doubtless in preparation for the benefit of the new arrivals, the first of whom will be with us soon.

The Unit lines and sports ground certainly present a very colourful appearance since Sergeant Abrahams took a hand in the matter.

The operators (medium wave) are once again " on the job " providing communication for the R.A. gun practices, which are now in operation.

The old " C " Mark 1 Set in the Station has been given a new outlook on life ; it has been installed in a new cabinet. The " Brasso " tin has now been thrown away, although Jimmy still needs some for his feeders.

The Entertainments Committee has once again been put into motion, and up to now a series of whist drives and tombolas have been held with success. I believe there is some danger of a dance being held in the near future, although nothing definite has been decided. Our representative on the committee is " Paddy " Smyth.

Free for All.—Busty, 5th Div. " How is the fish trade ? Taff."

To 1st Div. " Men who could possibly be of assistance here : the Div.'s 'All India ' runner for position of Post Corporal ; the Div.'s ' Week-end ' expert for post of Heart-throb Adviser ; the Div.'s P.T. dodger for marker on Pay Parade. Claude."

To Shorey. " Is Ginger still doing right-hand marker at the synagogue ? Nick."

Which chappie decided to take in washing in order to buy more beer ?

A sign of things to come : Indents for the homegoing draft have been submitted.

An old saying, often heard of late : " Roll on the boat."

And so once again will leave you.

SLIM (R.H.S.II).

THE TERRITORIALS AND SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

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

The special experimental work in connection with the transmission of information for anti-aircraft guns has been continued.

The Annual Trade Testing Board was held on Wednesday, and Thursday, 6th and 7th July, and a large number of N.C.O.s and men presented themselves for examination. We congratulate those who have passed, and it is satisfactory to be able to record this increasing interest in technical matters.

The arrangements for annual training have been completed, and the Unit, in taking part in the Air Exercises, will be able to demonstrate the results of anti-aircraft signal training.

A.A.

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals Cadet Company.

We recently held a very successful field day on Richmond Common, and a record attendance of Cadets made the occasion memorable.

Slowly but surely the Cadet Company is going ahead. We now have over 60 on the roll, and can, therefore, congratulate ourselves on having been very fortunate indeed in our recruiting since 30th November last, when the Cadet Company made its debut.

The 23rd Armoured Car Company (The Sharpshooters) from St. John's Wood, kindly loaned us an armoured car and the services of one officer and three other ranks. We are very grateful indeed to them for their help and co-operation.

On other field days in the future we hope that they will be with us as well.

Just at the moment of going to press, camp is the main topic of discussion. Of this, we hope to say more in these hospitable columns in the near future. There is no doubt that the Cadet Company is now definitely "on the map." In our early beginning, and at the present moment, the wholehearted interest, support and kindness of our Parent Unit, and, in particular, Colonel G. C. Wickins, T.D., have been our greatest encouragement, and are a happy augury for the future.

P. K.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—The past month has seen preparations being made for the various Company and Section Exercises, the finals prior to annual training at Weymouth.

Half the camp period will have passed by the time these notes appear. If the weather on St. Swithin's Day can be taken as an indication, we may reasonably anticipate some fair weather.

No. 1 Company had an opportunity recently of trying out some new apparatus, and the preliminary trials were so successful that great things are expected in camp.

From reports so far received, employers are generally very favourable towards the release of personnel for annual camp, and a high percentage of attendance is expected.

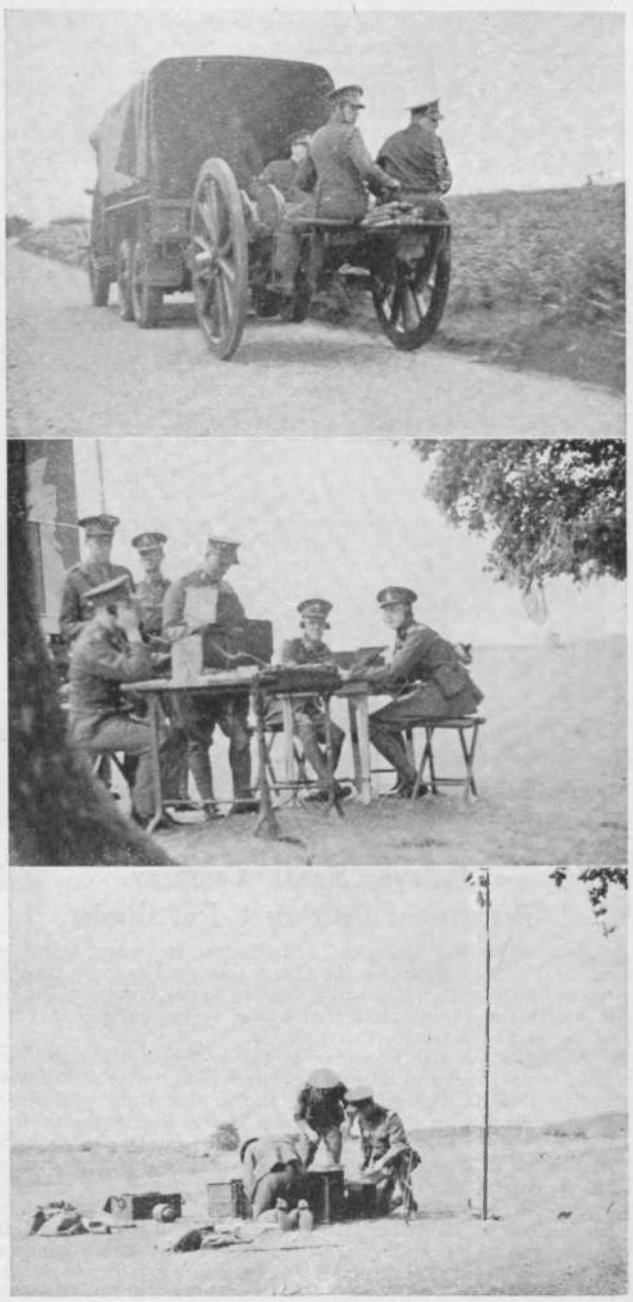
MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

York Street Drill Hall, Devonport.

Training.—Another week-end camp has taken place since the last issue of these notes, this time in the Tavistock-Princetown area. The Company paraded at the Drill Hall on Saturday, 9th July, at 2.30 p.m., and shortly afterwards set out by road for Tavistock for the Drill Hall of the 223rd Battery, R.A. (T.A.), where, through the kind permission of Major D. F. Brown (the Battery Commander) No. 1 Company was able to bivouac for the night under shelter.

The early part of the evening was spent in trying out apparatus



1. Near Princetown, but not too near
2. All set
3. At the parting of the ways—soon to be literally correct

on Whitchurch Downs, the men returning for a meal shortly after 7.30 p.m.

The officers of the Company dined at the New Market Hotel, in Tavistock, where they were very pleased to have Major Brown as their guest at dinner.

The Stillness of the Night !—After being paid out, the men amused themselves in various ways, some going into Tavistock, many playing games on the premises, others turning in early. A few members of the R.A. Battery kindly came along to the Drill Hall and ran the canteen, where the troops were able to get all they wanted in the way of refreshments.

The men slept in the Drill Hall on palliasses; the sergeants were quartered in the billiard room, and the officers (with one notable exception) slept on the floor of the Officers' Mess. By 11.30 p.m. the whole building was wrapt in silence (!). The stillness was quite uncanny, and the sergeants were so quiet that the P.S.I. got quite worried about it, and had to go along to make quite sure they really were there.

Early morning saw all ranks stirring, while the recruits, under Corporal McDonagh, put in some useful work before breakfast. Incidentally, the Company is very pleased to have this N.C.O. back again after his recent illness.

The day might have been better, but the rain was only of the lighter variety. The Company moved off to its positions shortly after 9 o'clock, and communications were established between the two offices at Merrivale and Moorshop Smithy on the Princetown Road. The No. 2 sets went off on their own, and, we understand, worked very satisfactorily. By the lunch break, at 12.30 p.m., the weather had taken a turn for the better, and remained cheerful the remainder of the day.

The various Sections returned independently to Tavistock, where they collected at 4 p.m., returning in convoy to Plymouth some time later.

The week-end training, as before, proved very useful to everyone concerned, and a feature of the occasion was the conference and discussion of the Scheme conducted by the Company Commander on the next drill night. One was glad to see that when he asked for questions there was no reticence on the part of any Section, a fact which indicated the keenness and interest shown in the Exercise by all ranks.

The Adjutant, Captain C. W. Knight, and R.S.M. Sibley attended the week-end from H.Q., and the officers of the Company present were : the Company Commander (Major W. J. L. Cornelius), Lieutenants P. W. Shaw and G. K. S. Edwards, 2nd Lieutenants R. D. Nash, L. H. Clemas, D. E. Herbert and R. W. Fennamore.

The Company was very sorry to learn of the accident to Lance Corporal Gynn A. M., who fell off the cable wagon and was taken to hospital with concussion. All ranks wish him a speedy recovery.

The Company misses 2nd Lieutenant A. L. Farr, who has had to go to London, thus depriving "A" Section of his valuable knowledge and help. However, we shall look forward to seeing him in camp, which is now but a short way off.

Billiards Tournament.—The final of the tournament was played on Thursday, 14th July. Corporal Jolley G. defeated Sergeant Youlden A. A. by 200 to 123. The Company Commander, at the conclusion of the match, presented the winner with a box of a hundred cigarettes, the loser receiving a box of fifty.

ONECOY.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals, T.A. and Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Leeds.

General.—Week-end Schemes have ended, and when these notes appear we shall be enjoying the sea breezes at Morecambe.

The Colonel-in-Chief, H.R.H. The Princess Royal, is to honour us with a visit on Wednesday, 3rd August, so this camp will be a very eventful one.

We wound up our pre-camp training with an all-night Scheme on 9th-10th July. This was set by H.Q., 49th (W.R.) Division, and all the main offices were fully represented. The R.A. Batteries and Infantry Battalions were represented by umpires supplied by the Staff. In spite of the fact that certain Staff Officers were equipped with very sharp pliers, which they frequently used, communications were kept going continually, and we upheld our reputation.

G.O.C.'s Inspection.—On Tuesday, 21st June, the G.O.C., 49th (W.R.) Division, Major-General P. J. Mackesy, D.S.O., M.C., inspected the Unit at work. The attendance was excellent, and with everyone on their toes, all went well.

The Tattoo.—We were pleased to welcome C.S.M. Johnson J. and other N.C.O.s from Catterick for the Northern Command Tattoo. The weather was most unkind, but Signals put up a great show, which was much appreciated by all ranks of this Unit.

Obituary.—It is with great regret that we announce the death of another old member of this Unit—ex-C.Q.M.S. Dalgluish J.

" Jimmy," a Post Office engineer in civilian life, rendered yeoman service to this Unit. He was known as the " Doctor," owing to the uncanny way in which he could diagnose and repair faulty instruments. He was indeed a model to any young T.A. soldier. We could ill afford to lose him.

M. S. R.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Aberdeen.

Headquarters and the three Companies left their Home Stations at Aberdeen, Stirling and Kirkcaldy on Friday, 8th July, for Aldershot, under the command of Colonel E. Birnie Reid. Our task this year will be an exacting one, as we are to take part in the Aldershot Command Corps Skeleton Exercise and the Staff College Exercise.

Much extra hard work has been put in by Companies in preparation for this, our big opportunity. The judgment of results must be largely a matter of perspective, so when it is understood that T.A. work is a part-time job, we can do no more than enter upon the task with the determination to put what knowledge we possess to the best possible practical use.

We started in good humour, for which the L. & N.E. Railway Company were largely responsible. The comforts of the journey and the excellent time kept will make this—the longest trip yet taken to our Annual Camp—one to be remembered as the least exhausting.

Southerners may not fully realise what pipe music means to a Highlander, but everyone who witnessed our arrival at Aldershot will know how delighted we were at the thoughtfulness and kindly gesture of the responsible authority in sending the composite Pipe Band of the Gordons and Argylls, who greeted our arrival with the strains of " Highland Laddie," and during the process of detraining played appropriate Highland music.

The incident added a thrill to the warm welcome we received from Colonel C. J. Wallace, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., A.A. and Q.M.G., 1st Division, and Lieutenant-Colonel A. L. Harris, M.C., Commanding 1st Divisional Signals, and goes to prove that there is something more than technical efficiency required in knitting together the various parts of the great Service in which we are privileged to serve.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals and G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

21, Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Lucky Lothian.—Lieutenant Lothian, S.R., Edinburgh, and Mrs. Lothian have been presented with a baby boy. Long live little Lothian, say we !

Edinburgh.—It is not so easy to get news of our comrades in Edinburgh. Doubtless, when the Edinburgh detachments are well established the all-important WIRE correspondent will be appointed.

However, stray shots of Edina's activities reach us now and

Scots wha' ha'e, and Sassenachs wha' ha'e nae

again. Week-end camping would appear to be the strong point these days.

Another Edinburgh—Gailes Outing took place on 9th and 10th July. Gailes is now the venue for all our week-end camps. Right good were the two days spent in Ayrshire. The Edinburgh mob is finding its feet.

Foreman-of-Signals McLellan.—By the recent discharge on reaching the age limit of Foreman-of-Signals McLellan W., the S.R. has lost a fine soldier and a technician of wide and varied experience. There was little in the Army signalling game that Wilkie did not know.

May, 1914, saw him embark with the 52nd Divisional Signal Company for Gallipoli. Our friend did great work on the Peninsula. There was not a nook or gully on the Helles side that Wilkie did not know. Many a line he helped to lay, and many a break he repaired under fire.

The Lowland Division's great effort on 12th July, 1915, found Wilkie in the thick of it. He was wounded that day, and, later, was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal.

Sapper McLellan, as he then was, afterwards returned to his Unit and did excellent work in Egypt, Palestine and France. He was attracted to Jardine Street after the war, and here his accomplishments did much to assist the newly-formed S.R. Units.

So we say good-bye to a very old friend. We understand that he has taken up a responsible position in the north of Scotland. The S.R. and T.A. wish Foreman-of-Signals McLellan all the luck he deserves.

Promotion.—We have to congratulate Sergeant Aitchison, Edinburgh, on his promotion to Foreman-of-Signals.

August.—August promises to be a great month for our S.R. and T.A. Units. The T.A. Companies will no sooner have returned from annual training than they are due to appear at the Empire Exhibition. The S.R. are also staging a show at the Exhibition Services Pavilion.

Our T.A. wireless experts are blossoming forth. They have taken upon themselves signalling and certain broadcasting arrangements in connection with a great marathon race which is to commence on 6th August at Gourock, and finish at the Empire Stadium at Ibrox. Between one thing and another, our lads have a busy time ahead of them.

Jimmy Macmaster.—It is ten, twenty, aye over thirty years ago since Jimmy Macmaster came to Jardine Street as Caretaker and Officers' Mess Steward. Jimmy was a landmark in the Territorial world in the west of Scotland. An ex-Cavalry man, and one time Royal Engineer, many a tale Jimmy could tell of the Army in the old days.

Jimmy saw many changes at Jardine Street. He was an authority on the history of every Unit housed there during the last decade. A kenspeckle figure in his long-coated uniform, Jimmy was always excellently turned out. He was always a welcome visitor to the Sergeants' Mess. A dram and a yarn with Jimmy was something to be prized.

The Officers recognised Jimmy Macmaster's worth by presenting him on a recent date with tangible tokens of esteem and appreciation. We wish our old friend a long and happy retirement. May his good lady and himself find the rest and contentment they have so worthily earned.

All Set.—By the time these notes appear, Berwick Camp will be a thing of the past. It is to be regretted that the well-intentioned effort to run a special visitors' train from Glasgow was unsuccessful. However, we are grateful for all that is being done for the friends of the Units, and quite a few of the old brigade will visit the camp on the Borders.

Sergeant John Christie, T.A.—Sergeant Christie has resumed duty with his Unit after spending several very useful years as Sergeants' Mess Caterer. The Mess did well with John at the helm. His business instinct and sound judgment did much to place the Mess in the position of security it enjoys to-day.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Cardiff.

15th July.

Recruiting has now finished, and the Unit finds itself thirty below establishment. This is no mean achievement, considering the excellent type of recruit obtained. C.S.M. Greenwood has every reason to be proud of his Recruit Squad, for they are shaping up like seasoned soldiers. Competitions in camp should be of a higher standard than for many years past.

A voluntary Week-end Course was held at Cefn Mabley Park on Saturday and Sunday, 2nd and 3rd July. Divisional and Brigade Signal Offices were run entirely by recruits and first-year men. Communications and office work were good.

The officers had a day's practice on the Sunday, at Cefn Mabley Park, where they carried out the various duties of a Signal Office staff, following a lecture by the Adjutant. It was good training, so much so that Sunday, 17th July, will be spent at the Drill Hall, Cardiff, entirely on a repetition of these duties, but this time with " live " traffic.

Major (Q.M.) W. S. Catleugh has recently undergone an operation in Llandough Hospital. We are glad to report that he is progressing well, and has already returned to his home to convalesce. It is hoped and expected that he will be available for camp. We all congratulate him on being awarded the Territorial Efficiency Decoration. His service is unique in the history of this Unit, for in addition to this later honour, he is the holder of the Territorial Efficiency Medal for twelve years' service in the ranks.

The season's most successful smoking concert was held at the Drill Hall, Park Street, on 23rd June. The occasion was marked by the presentation of medals to No. 2 Company team —the winners of the "Western Mail " Challenge Cup for miniature rifle shooting—by Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Trice (Commanding Officer). He congratulated them on their fine performance, and

expressed the hope that they would be successful in bringing off the double next year by also winning the T.A. Victory Shield.

It was a pleasure to see such a large attendance, which included Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Trice (O.C.), Major V. W. Hawkins (second-in-command), and fourteen other officers, together with about 250 other ranks.

The concert talent was provided by an impromptu Unit band of accordions. Splendid turns were given by Sergeant Sutton W. F. P., who delighted the crowd with his mystifying conjuring tricks, and Sergeant Dowers F., who gave a monologue in his inimitable style which is always popular. A most enjoyable evening was rounded off with community singing.

The Regular and Territorial Armies were well represented at the Royal Agricultural Show, Cardiff, in July. Exhibits of different arms of the Service were housed in the Recruiting Pavilion, and were a great attraction.

The 53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals were conspicuous with their display. The Despatch Riders' motor cycles (500 c.c. Nortons) were much admired by old and young; the former, no doubt, recalling stirring rides during war time on their "Douglas" machines.

The No. 1 Set proved popular, the public being invited to speak and to listen; transmissions were made between the Show Ground and the Drill Hall, Park Street.

A scale model showing, in miniature, all types of communications employed by a Divisional Signals, earned considerable praise for C.S.M. Greenwood E. W., who constructed the model. The Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Alderman O. C. Purnell, who, in an official capacity, was visiting the show, remarked on the ingenuity and patience involved.

The W.O.s and N.C.O.s' Mess Annual Outing took place on 26th June. About sixty members left Cardiff at 8.30 a.m., arriving at Wells for lunch and a tour of the Cathedral; then on to Cheddar and to Bristol for tea. New members were duly initiated, each member receiving a small "token" to mark the "date" and occasion.

C.S.M. Forse T., President of the Mess, and his committee, as usual, made splendid arrangements, and everybody enjoyed themselves. The party returned safely to Cardiff at 11 p.m.

Congratulations.—To Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel L. C. Bell, M.C., on attaining that rank. He will be remembered as a popular Adjutant of the Unit during the period 1924-1928.

To Mr. C. S. Morgan on being gazetted 2nd Lieutenant to the Unit, 24th June.

THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

Valedictory.—It is with many regrets that we note the departure from the Unit of one of the oldest items on the inventory—Lieutenant (Quartermaster) C. J. Sharp, D.C.M., who has been associated with the Unit in many capacities since 1920.

Lieutenant Sharp enlisted in the Middlesex Regiment on 10th October, 1900, and transferred to the Royal Engineers (2nd Signal Company) on 2nd August, 1912. After serving as Acting R.S.M. of "B" Signal Depot and C.S.M. in 2nd Divisional Signals, he took his discharge on 15th November, 1920, and re-enlisted on 14th December, 1920, in the 54th Divisional Signals as an Instructor. Promoted R.Q.M.S. on 14th December, 1926, Mr. Sharp held this appointment until the creation of the rank of Lieutenant Quartermaster in 1934, when he was commissioned.

During his career he served at St. Helena (rumour whispers that he charged Napoleon three-quarter value for a pair of breeches he had had altered, but this is strenuously denied), South Africa, China and France. His travel lust is not, however, entirely satisfied, and we understand that a visit to Spain on a Non-intervention job is not altogether unlikely.

The roseate hues of those many medal bars will be missed at camp, but no longer shall we have to crawl under a table when service is under discussion, or fear "Barney's Bull"—sorry, "Barney's Bill"—after the annual store check. We hope to see you, sir, almost as much in the future as we have done in the past.

Lieutenant Quartermaster C. J. Sharp, D.C.M.

Arrival.—We extend a welcoming hand to ex-R.S.M. Stone G. E. as successor to Mr. Sharp. All the fine things that 43rd Divisional Signals have been saying have not escaped our notice, and it is with a feeling of great confidence that we congratulate him on his promotion to Lieutenant Quartermaster.

No. 1 Company.

Training.—The Quarterly Trade Board was held on 5th July The reward for diligence during the past few months is some thirty increases in pay at camp. To the successful candidates we offer our congratulations and trust that they will not rest on their laurels. To those who failed, we say better luck next time; we know that you will then produce a more satisfactory result.

When these notes appear in print, we shall once again be at Brighton; we are due to proceed there on 31st July for the purpose of putting into practice the many things learnt on the landscape model, etc. We hope that some of the old hands will pay us a visit. "What about it, Jock?"

"A" Section have been giving exhibitions of wireless technique at H.Q., and on the "Flats." All stations are surrounded by small children and the "sweet young things" of Stratford and area. So far we are able to report that all stores and personnel have been accounted for (we hope).

"B" Section have been busy. The two detachments have spent a lot of time polishing wagons and hurling rude remarks at one another. We understand that one detachment led by a couple of hub-caps. Their industry was a case of "love's labour lost," as a couple of mechanical "layers" arrived for them during the past week, and we foresee that camp will be of more than usual interest to them.

"D" Section's efforts have centred around preparation for the Trade Board; many of the Section foregoing their Sunday morning "mike" in order to increase their speed.

A strange apparition appeared on a drill night a short while ago. Closer inspection revealed it to be a fat headache, a bulging notebook and Sergeant Cook S. from a Course at the London District School.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Lance Sergeant Morris J., Corporals Ely A., Smith C. and Parrish F., Lance Corporals Hubble, French and Bolton W. on attaining the ranks and appointments shown.

To the list of "Famous Twirps of the Company" must be added the name of the "D" Section Sergeant whose effort at tennis with one shoe has only been surpassed in recent years by the C.S.M.'s now famous spur trick. "Gertcha, why bring that up?"

We read with satisfaction of the promotion to Sergeant of our ex-P.S.I., Sergeant Hancock. Nice work, Ernie. Don't forget that we are still watching you. "What's the time?"

Recruiting.—Tremendous strides have recently been made in recruiting up to our strength. The Company now stands more than 100 per cent. stronger than a couple of years ago, and we shall soon be advertising "only a few more left."

Corrigendum.—In our last notes we understood from Sergeant Sunderland that the new arrival was to be named 'Erb. Mrs. Sunderland, however, decided on Robin. (No doubt hoping that one day he would reach the rank of ——.)

Things We Want to Know.—Which "B" Section recruit asked who were the two new blokes in the Section?

Sergeants' Mess.—The scribe regrets the absence of notes last month, but must plead lack of time. The Mess at Bay Lodge has quite an oriental atmosphere lately, as many members are discussing Hong Kong, Shanghai or some other eastern spot.

Very soon we shall be on the main line for Brighton. We understand that the menu will be augmented by some weird and wonderful dish from a place called Cornwall, which, I understand, is a small county in the south-west corner of England. We shall see—or taste!

(Note.—Our scribe seems to have little or no geographical knowledge outside the London Telephone System.)

233rd and 234th F.A. Brigades Signal Sections.

Ashburnham Road, Bedford.

General.—Our notes will be brief this month as annual camp is approaching, and our efforts are required on the finishing touches.

Our recruits have come on well, and are looking forward to their first camp.

Another Week-end Camp was held on 2nd-3rd July at Blunham. The attendance was good, and some useful work was carried out. In addition to this Week-end Camp we supplied the communications at Barton Airfield during the race for the King's Cup on 2nd July. Barton Airfield is one of the turning points in the course. We were kept very busy during the whole of the race from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Corporal Giddings, our expert lineman, was in charge of the cable-laying operations, and we are pleased to state that as all the cable was buried (there was at least a mile of it) his wife now approves of his new waist line.

Annual Camp is at Brighton again this year. We move off on 31st July, and hope to arrive at 1 p.m. Lance Corporal Simpson (our snake charmer) has promised to bring his "Gob Stick" for the purpose of charming us on the long journey down to the sea. We hope to have something to say about camp in the next bulletin.

Things We Want to Know.—Can a certain railway engineer play the saxaphone, clean an engine, attend drills, and do snake charming all at once and in two different places? If so, will he report to Lance Snake Nospmis.

Now that there are three "Brights" in the Unit, are they going to pool their pay to provide father with the necessary at annual camp?

Is it necessary for the P.S.I. to have beer thrust on him after Drills?

Agony.—Chota Chief. "See heading and write."

BEDFORDIA.

The London Divisional Signals.
(City of London Signals.)

Signal House, 20, Atkins Road, Clapham Park, S.W.12.

The absence of WIRE notes for the July issue is very much regretted, but it was due to lack of material.

Training.—Since Easter, a large number of well-attended Week-end Camps have been held both on Lord Chesham's land at Latimer, Bucks, and on Captain G. H. Tuckwells' land at Compton, near Guildford.

During evening drills at Headquarters, the main effort has been directed to increasing the proficiency of all ranks in morse, and to prepare for the Trade Boards, which are held on the Tuesdays during July.

No. 1 Company carried out three successful Sunday Trainings at Headquarters.

Officers' Floor Scheme.—A very successful Indoor Exercise was carried out on 3rd July by the officers on a floor map. Lieutenant-Colonel H. V. von S. Thorne, C.S.O., London District, and Lieutenant-Colonel P. G. Whitefoord, M.B.E., M.C., G.S.O.2, London Division, very kindly collaborated in setting the Exercise and assisting the Commanding Officer with the work of the Directing Staff. A feature of the Exercise was the use of scale models of vehicles, guns, tanks, etc., to show the position of the various Headquarters and of the components of the Divisional Signals.

D.R. Display.—This has continued successfully, and a large number of Displays have been given. A full report of the season's activities will be published later on in the year. Suffice to mention that during one week, the Display travelled 580 miles, and gave eight performances.

The necessary arrangements for a journey of this nature provided most admirable training for all concerned.

Increase in Strength.—A very hearty welcome is extended to C.S.M. Callegari, formerly of 2nd Divisional Signals. After twenty-six years of Regular Army service he has decided to join the T.A. Long may he remain a valued member of the Unit. School of Signals, please note.

C.O.L.S.

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SPORTS NOTES

"F" Company, Training Battalion.

Athletics—Our star athletes have put up some very good performances at the three meetings in which they have taken part. Lance Corporal Boy Smith put up an excellent show in the Northern Command Enlisted Boys' High Jump by jumping 5 ft. 6 ins. He tried to jump 5 ft. 9 ins., but was unable to clear it. The relay team won the Command Relay by yards, but the time was slower than last year. Everyone of our entries received a medal, and—all round—we did exceptionally well. The results were as follows :

ENLISTED BOYS—220 YARDS.—1, Lance Corporal Boy Gosling ; 2, Boy Murray R.

YOUNG SOLDIERS—100 YARDS.—1, Signalman Finnigan T. (11 secs.).

YOUNG SOLDIERS—880 YARDS.—2, Signalman Richards (2 mins. 10 secs.).

BOYS—220 YARDS.—1, Lance Corporal Boy Gosling (26.2 secs.) ; 2, Boy Murray R.

YOUNG SOLDIERS—LONG JUMP.—1, Signalman Finnigan T. (18 ft. 10 ins.) ; 2, Lance Corporal Martin.

YOUNG SOLDIERS—MEDLEY.—1, "F" (Boys) Company (20 secs. slower than last year).

BOYS—HIGH JUMP.—1, Lance Corporal Boy Smith (5 ft. 6 ins.) ; 2, Boy Render A. (5 ft.).

BOYS—LONG JUMP.—1, Lance Corporal Boy Smith (18 ft. 11 ins.).

NORTHERN COUNTIES (JUNIOR EVENTS).

JAVELIN.—Pavey, 3rd (143 ft. 10 ins.) ; Signalman Finnigan T. (standard).

DISCUS.—Lance Corporal Boy Verlander (113 ft. 7 ins.) ; Signalman Finnigan T. and Lance Corporal Boy Smith A. (standards).

WEIGHT.—Boy Murray A., 3rd (33 ft. 6 ins.).

HIGH JUMP.—Lance Corporal Boy Smith A., 3rd (5ft. 4 ins.).

ARMY ATHLETICS (BOYS).

BOYS—HIGH JUMP.—1, Lance Corporal Boy Smith A. (5ft. 3 ins.).

BOYS—LONG JUMP.—1, Lance Corporal Boy Smith A. (19 ft. 8 ins.).

EX-BOYS.

YOUNG SOLDIERS—JAVELIN.—1, Lance Corporal Adams (146 ft. 5 ins.) ; 2, Signalman Finnigan T. (116 ft. 5 ins.).

DISCUS.—1, Signalman Billett (114 ft. 9 ins.) ; 2, Signalman Boston (84 ft. 9 ins.).

YOUNG SOLDIERS—880 YARDS.—2, Signalman Roberts D.

OPEN—100 YARDS.—2, Lance Corporal Barrett.

100 YARDS.—Sergeant Murphy, Lance Corporals Barrett, Whayman and Smith.

220 YARDS.—Corporal Collen, Lance Corporals Barrett, Whayman and Smith.

HURDLES.—2nd Lieutenant Lyall, Sergeant Murphy, Corporal Moore and Signalman Parkinson.

4 x 440 YARDS.—Lieutenant Barnes, Signalmen Griffiths, Phillips and Roberts D.

4 x 880 YARDS.—Lieutenant Barnes, Corporal Hastings, Signalmen Griffiths and Roberts.

MILE.—Corporal Robinson, Lance Corporal Valentine, Signalman Batchelor and Barnes.

THREE MILES.—Corporal Robinson, Lance Corporal Valentine, Signalmen Batchelor and Pritchard.

JAVELIN.—Lance Corporal Adams and Signalman Dean.

SHOT.—Signalmen Boston and Athow.

HAMMER.—R.S.M. Herbert A. and Sergeant Murphy.

DISCUS.—Signalmen Bain and Boston.

HIGH JUMP.—Corporal Moore and Signalman Healey.

LONG JUMP.—Lance Corporal Penman and Signalman Kinnaird.

POLE VAULT. Lance Corporal Peacock and Signalman Athow.

This list shows quite clearly that nearly every member of the team had to perform in at least two events, and therein lay our weakness. Generally speaking, our athletes are good enough, but there are not enough of them.

But there was one thing that was very encouraging indeed, and that was the large proportion of young soldiers now in the team. For two or three years past, the old "stagers" have been shaking their heads and saying disparaging remarks about the athletic abilities of the younger generation. This year, at any rate, they have had no excuse for doing so, for we have plenty of very promising young entries.

On 8th and 9th July we sent over six representatives to Aldershot for the Army Individual Meeting. Lance Corporal Barrett, whose name still stands as the record holder for the "Young Soldiers' 100 Yards," entered for the Open 100 Yards, and was only just beaten into second place by less than a foot. As a result of this fine effort, he has been picked to represent the Army in the Inter-Service Meeting at Uxbridge on 27th July. Good show !

We had other successes, too. Lance Corporal Adams and Signalman Finnigan T. were first and second respectively in the Young Soldiers' Javelin. Signalman Roberts was second in the Young Soldiers' Half-Mile, and was in the final of the Young Soldiers' Quarter. Signalman Bosten was second in the Young Soldiers' Discus to Signalman Billett of "A" Corps Signals, who threw 114 ft. 9 ins. with a full-size discus and set up a new record.

Stop Press.—The "Mile Medley" relay team have just won their race at the R.E. Annual Sports, and have returned with four handsome pewter pots—pint size, too.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Athletics.—The results of the Inter-Unit, Southern Command Championships, held at Tidworth Oval on 14th and 15th June were as follows :

1.	2nd Battalion, Middlesex Regiment	87½ points.
2.	1st Battalion, King's Own Scottish Borderers	75½ ,,
3.	5th Battalion, Royal Tank Corps	60 ,,
4.	Royal Signals, Southern Command	53 ,,
5.	2nd Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment ..	37 ,,

Only winners and runners-up of the three area championships are eligible to enter for the Southern Command Meeting, so it is not surprising that we found ourselves up against much tougher opposition than we had done in the S.P.A. Meeting. The team was almost identical with the one that had represented us in the S.P.A. Meeting :

Northern Ireland District Signal Company, Belfast.

Cricket.—On 14th June, Cliftonville II's provided the opposition at Cliftonville. Signals won the toss and batted first, but could only put on 92 runs. In reply, Cliftonville compiled 74 runs, leaving us winners by a bare 18 runs. The Cliftonville XI included several schoolboy cricketers from the Royal Academy. Against older and more experienced players they shaped very well. Cliftonville II's, 74 runs ; N.I.D.S.C., 92 runs.

A week later we tried conclusions with the East Lancashire Regiment at Holywood. In view of the fact that this Regiment was to be our opponents in the semi-final of the "District Challenge," the result of this game was eagerly awaited. Signals, who batted first, were dismissed for 106 runs, of which total Signalman Jones contributed 36 not out, Lance Sergeant Barron 19 and Corporal Thomson 18. At 117 for 7 wickets the East

Lancashire Regiment declared, and thus won the first game of the rubber by three wickets. East Lancashire Regiment, 117 for 7 declared ; N.I.D.S.C., 106.

On the following day we entertained the Royal Air Force, Aldergrove, at Cliftonville. Scoring in this game was comparatively low. Batting first, the R.A.F. put together 57 runs, and all we could do in reply was the meagre total of 64. Definitely a bowler's day. R.A.F., Aldergrove, 57 runs ; N.I.D.S.C., 64 runs.

At Lisnasharagh, on 29th June, the Co-operative C.C. entertained us. We had looked forward to a rousing match because this team competes in one of the local minor leagues, and have a moderate reputation. However, they were all dismissed for 22 runs, to which Signals replied with 108, including 28 by Signalman Hunt E., 19 by Corporal Thomson, 17 by C.S.M Bishop, and 15 by Lance Corporal Blount. Co-operative C.C., 22 runs ; N.I.D.S.C., 108 runs.

On 4th July we again travelled to Holywood to beard the lion in his den. This time we avenged our previous defeat. The East Lancashire Regiment could do no more than score 37 runs, and although Signals could only contribute 60, we felt amply rewarded for our lapse of a few weeks back, and looked forward confidently to our meeting in the Cup. East Lancashire Regiment, 37 runs ; N.I.D.S.C., 60 runs.

Queen's University provided the opposition at Cliftonville on 6th July. In an earlier game we had beaten the students rather easily, but on this occasion the teams were better balanced. Queen's compiled the moderate total of 85 runs, and in return Signals contributed 96, of which Lance Corporal Blount claimed 24 and C.S.M. Bishop 19. Queen's University, 85 runs ; N.I.D.S.C., 96 runs.

On the following morning we travelled again to Holywood to play the Cup semi-final. Winning the toss, the East Lancashire Regiment elected to bat. They paid us the compliment of reinforcing their XI by the inclusion of Lieutenant Eccles, who also plays for the Free Foresters. When their opening pair had compiled 33 runs, rain fell very heavily, and the game was abandoned until next morning.

On resuming, the wicket was still greasy, but our opponents batted steadily to make 136 runs, of which Lieutenant Eccles contributed 33. At this stage the light began to fail, and once again the game was postponed until the following day.

A total of 136 was a fairly formidable one against an XI who had previously dismissed us before we had reached treble figures. Nevertheless, we resumed with every confidence, and with five wickets down for 80 runs, and Signalman Scoffin in grand form, the issue still remained in the balance. Alas ; batsmen who had done well in our previous encounters with the opposition just failed to make the grade, and we were all out for 90 runs.

Frankly, the result was disappointing, since it was generally conceded that with a little bit of luck we might easily have done better. Still, such is the game, and we wish the East Lancashires " good hunting " in their final round against the South Wales Borderers from Londonderry. To Signalman Scoffin, who scored a glorious 33 before he was caught, we take off our hats. And so, for another month, " the world goes by."

Signal Training Centre (India), Jubbulpore.

Golf.—We are seeing quite a number of enthusiastic Sergeants from the Mess, all of whom are feverishly getting into trim for their Mess Tournament. We expect to find some promising H.C.s amongst them.

Competitions are fast and numerous these days. The Handicap Stroke Challenge Cup was won by Staff Sergeant Sims of the R.A.M.C., and the Barton Handicap Singles by Signalman Knight, after a tough game against Sergeant Nicholson.

It is with regret that, in the very near future, we are to lose all our star golfers, to wit, Sergeant Wright, Lance Corporals Henrick and White, and Signalman Barran, all of whom are on the provisional boat list. Come on, you golfers in Blighty cantonment, get yourselves posted to Jubbulpore and help to put our team on the map again for next year's trophy matches.

Hockey.—Nil. The hockey grounds are out of play, and so the obvious conclusion is—no hockey.

Football.—There are no competitions at present, but the stars of the Company have been " keeping their feet in."

Tennis.—The Company tennis courts are very bare nowadays ; everyone must be afraid of getting a wet shirt.

Swimming.—Ha, ha ! We have something here. Well done, "A" Company on winning at the Brigade Swimming Sports held in June. The Company team won the following events, and finished with 24 points against the next competing team's 18 points. Results :

Two Lengths Free Style	.. .. ..	Won
Two Widths Free Style. (2nd)	.. ..	Lost
Diving	.. ..	Won
Plunging	.. ..	Won
200 Yards (six lengths). (2nd)	.. ..	Lost
Two Widths (back stroke)	.. .. ..	Won
Two Widths (breast stroke). (3rd)	.. ..	Lost

Each member of the team was presented with a medal by Brigadier H. R. C. Lane, D.S.O., O.B.E., the Brigade Commander, who had a few good words for each team.

SPORTSMAN.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Hockey.—This Unit has been going great guns again this month. A good number of friendly games of hockey have been played, and a fair amount of undiscovered talent has been discovered. We have also participated in the District Hot Weather Hockey Tournament, which we won.

The Unit I.O.R.s have done exceptionally well in the Indian Troops Hot Weather Hockey Tournament. Up to date they have played three matches against Battalion teams ; two games were won and one drawn. Considering that they have a comparatively small number to choose from, we consider this to be a good performance. In these matches they have been assisted by Lieutenant W. A. K. Stodart, Lance Corporal Moseley and Signalman Seager. For the benefit of those B.O.R.s who have left the Unit, this is the first time in the history of the B.O.R.s' team that they have won both the Hot and Cold Weather District Tournaments in the same year. We won the Hot Weather Tournament this year without conceding a point or a goal.

Unit Tournaments.—Summer evenings have been pleasantly passed away by an Indoor Tournament, which was inaugurated by Captain R. C. B. Stuart. Seven teams were entered, two by the officers and Sergeants, two from the Corporals' Mess, and three from the Signalmen's Mess. The games so far have been very interesting, and the table stands as follows : Sergeants : "A" team, 2,021 points ; " B " team, 1,944 points. Corporals : "A" team, 3,027 points ; " B " team, 2,167 points. Signalmen : "A" team, 3,305 points ; " B " team, 3,457 points ; " C " team, 3,116 points.

The Tournament games comprise billiards, snooker and darts.

Tennis.—Under the guidance of R.Q.M.S. Strange F. a Tennis Tournament has been organised. That noted philanthropist—Salig Ram—has presented a Cup, which is to go to the winner of the Singles. In conjunction with this Tournament, both a Unit Doubles and Singles has been arranged. Results are not yet to hand.

P.S.—Salig Ram's thirty-nine brothers have not yet presented anything ; not even a jar of oil.

SILO.

"B" Corps Signals, Karachi.

Tennis.—Karachi possesses a climate ideal for tennis, therefore it is not surprising to state that the standard of play of other ranks is considerably higher than that of other Stations less fortunately situated.

Not more than a dozen of our players are good enough to enter for tournaments outside, but that does not prevent the others from enjoying themselves, as they obviously do.

This year opened with the Services Open Tournament, for which officers and other ranks of the R.N., Army and R.A.F. are eligible. Of the six that entered from this Unit, Sergeant Smith was most successful, winning the Open Singles, and the

Open Doubles with the invaluable help of W.O. MacCulloch. In addition, he was runner-up with Mrs. Watford, also of the Signals, in the Mixed event.

The end of this tournament saw the beginning of the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess Handicap Tournament. C.S.M. Laing emerged the champion, winning the Handicap Singles, the Men's Handicap Doubles with W.O. Collins (A.E.C.) and the Handicap Mixed Doubles with his *Memsahib*.

Next came the Unit Handicap Tournament. This was a very open affair, no player gaining more than one title.

Signalman Rosbotham deservedly won the Singles; Major J. E. F. Paton and Captain Gray the Men's Doubles; and Mrs. Paton and Signalman Nicholson the Mixed Doubles. Throughout, the standard of play was good, and some remarkably keen games were witnessed by enthusiastic spectators.

The next and perhaps the most disappointing tournament for us was the Services' Handicap Tournament, which was open to other ranks only. In this, we did little or nothing, although Sergeant Grose of our Corps, but not of this Unit, reached the final of the Men's Singles, when he lost in a long three setter. Perhaps the most outstanding performance was that of Sergeant Frampton and Lance Corporal Stokes in the Men's Doubles. Playing very well together, they all but beat a very strong pair in the semi-final.

In next month's WIRE we hope to record the winning of the team championship. We possess three good teams, of which one should retain the Cup for us. "A" team especially possesses a very good chance, comprising as it does such stalwarts as C.S.M. Laing, W.O. Collins, Sergeants Grose and Smith. The latter has not played since the Open Services' Tournament, when he contracted a severe and painful " tennis elbow."

Football.—The season commences within a week or so, and we hope to field a team that will surprise the natives. Too long has our star been in the descendant. Neither do we boast of having put Signals upon the football map of India—Northern or otherwise.

No. 2 Wireless Company, Sarafand.

Tennis.—Tennis is now in full swing, and the court is occupied every afternoon. Four of our ladies, who decided that the early hours of the morning was the best time to play this game, arranged to play every morning at 6 a.m. They did turn up a couple of mornings, but nothing has been heard or seen of them since. Furthermore, one of the two mornings on which they did play was a Thursday, a day that is sacredly reserved for male members only. Ladies, pack that lark in !

Cricket.—The members of the Mess played the members of the Men's Mess at an all-day cricket match on Whit Monday. Our Mess batted first, scoring a mere 95. The Junior Mess thought it was an easy thing, but things went wrong, and they were all out for 26. Modest in victory is the cry, so we'll say no more. A couple of photographs of the teams are enclosed. We feel sure the Editor will find space in which to publish them.

Malaya Signal Company.

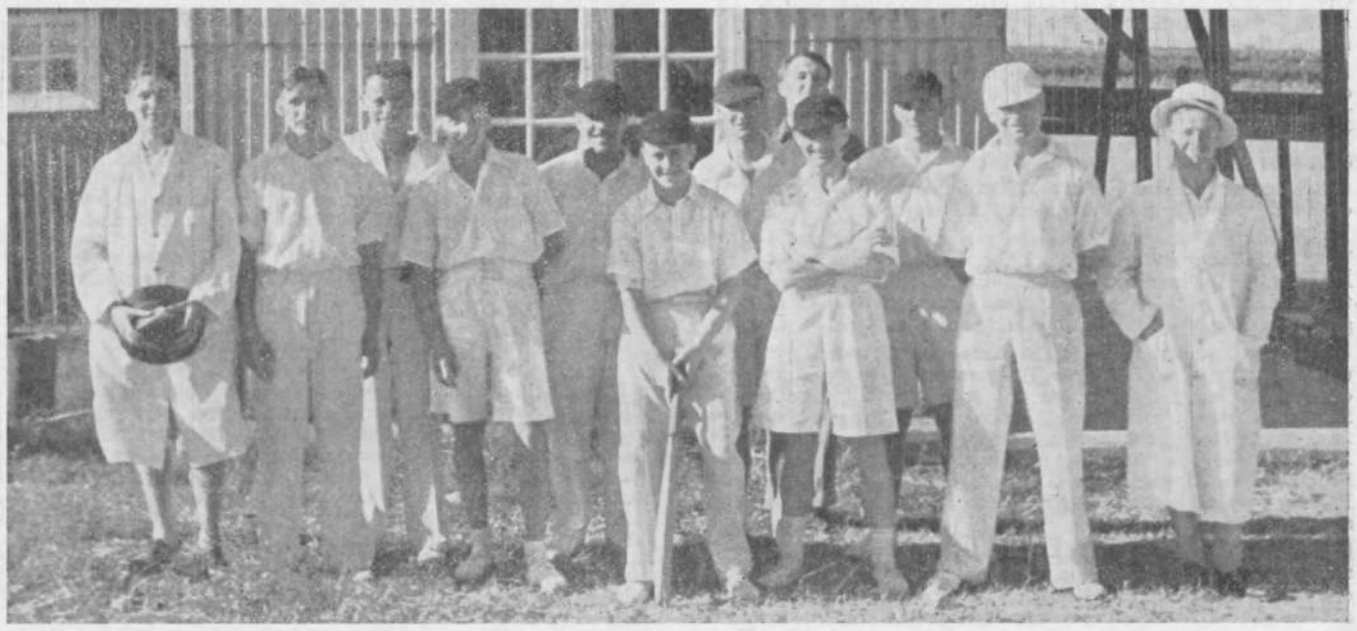
Alexandra Detachment.

The last three months have seen the beginning and end of the Alexandra Area Small Units Football League. We made very strenuous efforts to gain distinction, but all we could manage was to become the strong men of the league, finishing up as we did at the bottom. Our weakest link was the goal. Mrs. McDonald's boy—Tubby—our usual goalkeeper, took Dixie's old position at centre-half, leaving the sticks to Smart and " Sailor " Parsons, who both put up a good show. Smyth and Corporal McAuliffe proved a strong combination at full-back.

" Bing," who has developed into a good half, played some excellent games in that position. Peck had the misfortune to fracture his right wrist during our first game against the R.E.s at Pulau Brani, and so was out of play for the remainder of the league games. For most of the matches we brought in three players from Changi—C.Q.M.S. Nix, Lance Corporal Lambert and Signalman Mottershead. The results of the matches were as follows :

24th March.	v. 11th Battery, R.A.	Drawn	1—1
10th April.	v. 31st Battery, R.A.	Drawn	2—2
12th ,,	v. R.A.O.C.	Lost	0—2
13th ,,	v. R.E. (P.B.)	Lost	0—2
17th ,,	v. H.Q., R.A.	Lost	0—2
20th ,,	v. H.K.S., R.A.	Lost	1—3
25th ,,	v. H.Q., R.A.	Won	3—1
13th May.	v. 11th Battery, R.A.	Drawn	2—2
30th ,,	v. H.K.S., R.A.	Drawn	1—1

WARRANT OFFICERS AND SENIOR N.C.Os MESS, No. 2 WIRELESS COMPANY, SARAFAND



MEN'S MESS, No. 2 WIRELESS COMPANY, SARAFAND

Cricket.—A detachment cricket team has been started, and a fairly presentable side is being moulded from a crowd of probables and "also-rans." So far, the results have been good, and promise to be better as practice is acquired.

During the past few years, cricket to us has been a sport to watch and read about. It was decided at the beginning of this season that, if the number of people interested agreed with the idea, cricket gear should be bought, and the "Town" Signals (as "Tando" once so scathingly designated us) would then enter the cricket arena. I am glad to say that there was a definite majority for the Ayes; 21—2, in fact.

During my first season here, or perhaps I should say on Pulau Brani, we had what was called an Island team. There were three Units on the Island, and competition for places was rather keen. That was in the redoubtable Twitchen's day, but now, here in Alexandra, the Signals, for various reasons, do not combine with the other Units for sport, and there are times when it is very difficult to turn out a respectable team.

But turn out we do, and I think it can safely be said that we always give the opposing team a good game. Up to date we have played five matches, and, as the results prove, for such a small number of players available, we have done well; only in one match did we go down heavily. Curiously enough, that was against our old opponents, Changi Signals. Did the caps get your backs up, Changi? (Several of the Alexandra folk, before setting out for Changi, raided the Dhursi, where they purchased caps of gruesome design, probably with the idea of startling the Changi-ites.) It certainly did, but not in the way we expected. There are no excuses, Changi, except, perhaps, that it was not our lucky day. But, of course, there is the return match. Results of matches played:

———	v. R.E.s (P.B.)	Royal Signals, 51; R.E.s, 63.
18th June	v. R.A.O.C.	Royal Signals, 99; R.A.O.C., 81.
21st June	v. R.A.O.C.	Royal Signals, 72; R.A.O.C., 110.
23rd June	v. R.A.F.	Royal Signals, 128; R.A.F., 86.

ALEXANDRA DETACHMENT v. CHANGI DETACHMENT

Played at Changi on 2nd July.

ALEXANDRA DETACHMENT.

Lance Sergeant Walker, not out	30
Lance Corporal McDonald, lbw, b Dackham	4
Corporal McAuliffe, run out	4
Signalman Smart, lbw, b Strong	17
Sergeant Taylor, b Strong	0
Signalman Northall, c Dackham, b Strong	1
Signalman Harris, c and b Strong	2
Signalman Peck, b Strong	0
Signalman Parsons, b Goldfinch	0
Signalman May, b Strong	0
Signalman Holmes, b Strong	0
Total	58

CHANGI DETACHMENT.

Signalman Mottershead, b Smart	30
C.Q.M.S. Nix, b Peck	6
Sergeant Gordon, c McAuliffe, b Peck	1
Lieutenant Stirling Wilkinson, retired	36
Signalman Strong, b Harris	0
Signalman Dackham, b Smart	0
Lance Corporal Lambert, b Northall	32
Signalman Carlson, b Harris	2
Signalman Sherratt, b Smart	20
Signalman Goldfinch, b Northall	0
Signalman Stewart, not out	14
Extras	13
Total	154

Well done, Changi! You must have been preparing for this game ever since our last meeting. Alexandra are now discussing ways and means of avenging this tragic day.

More anon.

TAFFMAN.

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

SECRETARY AND EDITOR :
Mr. W. BUTLER, 95 BELGRAVE ROAD,
LONDON, S.W.1
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VOL. XIX.—No. 223 SEPTEMBER, 1938 PRICE—SIXPENCE

Editorial Notes.

Cable Wagon Centrepiece.—Our attention has been drawn to the Editorial paragraph referring to the loose leaf supplement to our July issue.

We regret the ambiguous phraseology and take this opportunity to correct any misapprehensions which at present exist.

It was, of course, intended to announce that copies of the *photograph* of the Centrepiece could be purchased from The Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Company, Ltd., 112 Regent Street, London, W.1, price 3s. 6d. each.

Passage to Malaya, Singapore.—The wife of a Sergeant, Royal Signals, serving with Malaya Command Signal Company, is desirous of joining her husband at Singapore under private arrangements, and offers her services as children's nurse in exchange for passage. Correspondence to "Mrs. J.," c/o The Editor, THE WIRE, 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

Passage to India.—The wife of a Corporal, Royal Signals, is desirous of joining her husband in India under private arrangements, and offers her services as nurse to an officer's family in exchange for passage to Karachi. Thoroughly experienced with children of all ages, and willing to remain in service with the family after arrival until alternative arrangements can be made. Correspondence to "Mrs. S.," c/o The Editor, THE WIRE, 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

Passage to India.—Wife of senior N.C.O. offers her services as nurse-companion to an officer's family in exchange for passage to India during December. Correspondence to "T/C.S.M.," c/o The Editor, THE WIRE, 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

Compilation of "Wire" Contributions.—It is noted with satisfaction that the uniformly high standard of contribution submitted for publication by their predecessors is being maintained by present Unit Correspondents, but as the latter are obviously not yet entirely *au fait* with general "lay-out" requirements, we republish the following suggestions for future guidance :

1. Show name of Unit, full address and date of writing, at the head of Notes.
2. Write Sports Notes on separate sheets, and not interspersed among other items.
3. Type all Notes with an open space between the lines. This allows room for editing the copy, and facilitates the printer's work.
4. When Notes are duplicated, the top (and most legible) set should be forwarded for use. Faint and blurred sheets often have to be retyped in fairness to the compositor.
5. Use simple language and write concisely. Involved and incomprehensible sentences should be avoided.
6. Be careful in the spelling of names, whether of persons or places—particularly if they are of foreign origin.
7. Avoid all unnecessary use of quotation signs (" ") and other punctuation marks.
8. Set out Sporting details in a methodical manner.
9. Notes and Articles written in biblical parody cannot be accepted for publication, and should NOT be submitted.
10. The use of *nom-de-plumes* is permissible, but all contributions should be endorsed with the full number, rank, and name of the contributor, not necessarily for publication, but as an indication of good faith only.
11. No notice is taken of anonymous contributions. Contributions should preferably be endorsed by an Officer of the Unit, and despatched in time to reach the Editor by the

16th of the month. " Copy " received after that date will normally be held over for insertion in the following month's publication.

Photographic illustrations, cartoons, and humorous sketches are particularly desirable, but as blockmaking is a highly technical process, the following points should be strictly observed :

1. Photographs for reproduction should be clear in every detail, free from heavy shadows, and adaptable for enlargement or reduction as circumstances necessitate.
2. Prints only are required—not negatives—and indifferent pictures should not be submitted.
3. Avoid the use of clips or pins for fastening photographs to contributions. The resultant mutilation frequently renders the picture unfit for blockmaking purposes.
4. Diagrams, cartoons, and sketches must be drawn in Indian ink on good quality paper.
5. Coloured ink drawings cannot be utilised.
6. All " lettering," " captions," etc., should be printed legibly, and in proportion to the size of the drawing.

In order to obtain uniformity of style throughout the magazine, all abbreviations should be studiously avoided, and when reference is made to dates, correspondents should place the figure before the month, and spell the latter out in full.

It would greatly facilitate the work of this office, and the printing staff, if contributors would very kindly note the above hints when preparing Notes for publication.

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, Croydon	Postman
2	Ex-N.C.O., London	Lineman
3	Ex-Signalman, Dundee	Postman
4	Ex-N.C.O., Sheffield	Labourer
5	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
6	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	P.O. Engineering Dept.
7	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	P.O. Engineering Dept.
8	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Postman
9	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Fitter
10	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
11	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Colliery Worker
12	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
13	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	P.O. Engineering Dept.
14	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Painter
15	Ex-Signalman, Bury St. Edmunds	Labourer
16	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Labourer
17	Ex-Signalman, Bristol	Motor Driver
18	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer
19	Ex-N.C.O., Brighton	Telephonist
20	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Driver
21	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
22	Ex-Signalman, Reading	W.T. Operator
23	Ex-Signalman, Reading	Postman
24	Ex-Signalman, Reading	P.O. Engineering Dept.
25	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Postman
26	Ex-Signalman, Dorset	W.T. Operator
27	Ex-Signalman, Hants	W.T. Operator
28	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	W.T. Operator
29	Ex-Signalman, Wilts	W.D. Fire Brigade
30	Ex-Signalman, Tidworth	Wireless Electrician
31	Ex-N.C.O., Wilts	Driver Postman
32	Ex-N.C.O., Salisbury	W.T. Operator
33	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
34	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Batman
35	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Labourer
36	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Postman
37	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
38	Ex-W.O., London	Messenger
39	Ex-Signalman, London	Cleaner
40	Ex-Signalman, London	Motor Driver
41	Ex-Signalman, London	Cleaner
42	Ex-N.C.O., Chatham	Clerk

Nos. 26 to 32 inclusive, Salisbury and District Branch.

North of England Old Comrades' Reunion, 1938.—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, 1st and 2nd October.

The organisers 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. C. Lawrance, Hon. Secretary, North of England Branch, Signals Association, Headquarters, Northern Command, York, at his earliest convenience.

" A CORDIAL INVITATION IS EXTENDED TO ALL."

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following :

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from :
Zhob Signal Section.
3rd Indian Divisional Signals.
Lance Sergeant R. H. Whitwell.
Officers Mess, S.T.C., Catterick Camp.
Eastern Command Trust (Grant from Tattoo Funds).

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APPEALS dealt with :

1	Ex-Signalman, Southampton	Grant	£2	0	0
2	Widow of ex-Signalman, Berks.	Grant	£2	0	0
3	Ex-N.C.O., Farnborough	Grant	£1	0	0
4	Ex-N.C.O., London	Loan	£10	0	0
5	N.C.O., Canterbury	Loan	£2	0	0
6	Ex-Signalman, London	Grant	£3	0	0
7	Ex-N.C.O., London	Grant	£2	2	0
8	Ex-Signalman, Derby	Grant	£2	0	0
9	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Grant	£3	0	0

(Signed) T. H. L. Spaight, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

[The figures in the last column indicate the pages in the " Corps Promotion Roster " (published in April, 1938) 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.]

Foreman-of-Signals Roster.

Promoted Warrant Officer, Class II, and Appointed F-of-S., Q.M.S.

2307911	C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S, C.Q.M.S.) Diamond G.	15/6/38	10

Appointed Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant.

*5764824	W.O.II (C.S.M.) Taylor A.	31/5/38	84
2311590	W.O.II (C.S.M.) Donaghy M.	1/6/38	7

Promoted Warrant Officer, Class II (C.S.M.).

*5763746	C.Q.M.S. Ellerton-Long A.	31/5/38	90
2309185	C.Q.M.S. Dunn	1/6/38	18
2309683	C.Q.M.S. Webster H.	21/6/38	18
2309714	C.Q.M.S. Harvey C.	29/6/38	18

Promoted Company Quartermaster-Sergeant.

2308397	Sergeant Waldron D.	21/6/38	21
1850276	Sergeant Kitchen H.	21/6/38	21
2313942	Sergeant Nokes H.	21/6/38	21
2306771	Sergeant Collins H.	21/6/38	21
2306788	Sergeant Offord E.	21/6/38	21
1857234	Sergeant Warner A.	29/6/38	21
2314166	Sergeant Wells A.	29/6/38	21

Promoted Sergeant.

2309842	L/Sergeant Millen G.	20/6/38	39
2308424	L/Sergeant Phillp P.	21/6/38	39
2314450	L/Sergeant Knowles J.	29/6/38	39

Appointed Lance Sergeant.

2318390	Corporal McLaren A.	7/6/38	46
2315565	Corporal Chidgey E.	7/6/38	47
2318453	Corporal Maguire W.	18/6/38	47
6285	Corporal Buckley H.	20/6/38	47
2316822	Corporal Goat A.	29/6/38	47

Promoted Corporal.

2323326	L/Corporal Hudson C.	8/2/38	67
2318820	L/Corporal Smith D.	18/6/38	67
6396623	L/Corporal Russell H.	20/6/38	67
2314919	L/Corporal Boughton E.	21/6/38	69
2321223	L/Corporal Oxley C.	21/6/38	69

Appointed Lance Corporal.

6396907	Signalman Standen S. F.	1/1/38
2927776	Signalman McLeod J.	1/1/38
2319882	Signalman Wood A. E.	1/1/38
404942	Signalman King E.	2/1/38
2318957	Signalman Graham W.	3/1/38
2324101	Signalman Stanley R.	6/1/38
6456262	Signalman Light J.	7/1/38
2323711	Signalman Morris S.	8/1/38
2320045	Signalman Hills R.	9/1/38
2320534	Signalman Rowden W.	11/1/38
2309561	Signalman Lynch C.	12/1/38
2322050	Signalman Strype H.	13/1/38
3592751	Signalman Rawcliffe J.	14/1/38
3853189	Signalman Pickles L.	15/1/38
2323216	Signalman Murray D.	22/1/38
2323860	Signalman Barnett G.	23/1/38
2324100	Signalman Macaulay J.	23/1/38

*Special Roster

Discharged.

2307828	W.O.II (R.Q.M.S.) Gradden E.	29/7/38	5
2306510	W.O.II (C.S.M.) Callegari F.	10/7/38	8
2310455	C.Q.M.S. Baldwin D.	15/7/38	18
2314099	Sergeant Crabtree R.	3/7/38	23
3645240	Sergeant Hayhoe P.	22/7/38	29
2307416	Sergeant Percy A.	29/7/38	24
2314586	L/Sergeant Meldrum G.	1/7/38	38
2317908	L/Sergeant Ellis F.	6/7/38	45
6909542	L/Sergeant Relf J.	18/7/38	43
761933	Corporal Lawes R.	15/7/38	67
2317913	Corporal Forster H.	19/7/38	53
2323083	L/Corporal Shillito G.	13/7/38	78

Transferred to Army Reserve.

4386053	L/Corporal Vickers J.	17/7/38	70
2320660	Corporal Parker W.	23/7/38	60

Glasgow University Officers' Training Corps Signal Unit.

Headquarters, University Avenue, Glasgow.

15th August.

The lazy influence of the summer vacation makes it very difficult to fulfil our promise of last month to give an account of the interesting events of camp.

On 11th July, the camp was visited by Major G. H. A. MacMillan, M.C., of the War Office, who made a short inspection of the Signals during the morning's training. General Sir Charles Grant, K.C.B., D.S.O., G.O.C.-in-C., Scottish Command, visited the camp on the 15th, and saw the Signal Unit at work on a Traffic Scheme. The main inspection for us, however, took place on the 18th, when Lieutenant-Colonel C. Wheeler, C.S.O., Scottish Command, inspected the Signal Unit in all its activities.

The camp this year was composed of Artillery, Signals, Infantry and Medical Units from Glasgow, and Infantry and Medical Units from Aberdeen. In spite of the fact that the Signal Unit was by far the smallest in numbers it was well represented in all the Inter-Unit and Inter-Contingent sporting activities that took place. These activities included rugby, soccer, tennis, golf and cricket matches, a swimming gala, and a sports meeting with the usual field and track events.

The Signal Unit took second place in the Glasgow Inter-Unit Squad Drill Competition. This was surprisingly good, considering that nearly the whole Unit had to be paraded, and there was little opportunity to pick and choose as in other Units.

In all other respects, the camp was very much the care-free life of all other camps. The Signal Unit contribution to the " camp spirit " was the performance of a court martial of an Officer/Cadet whose conduct was not altogether that of an officer and a gentleman. The drums rolled and the court room echoed to the clamour for the sentence ! The blacking and blanco were easily washed off again.

In the practical examinations for Certificates "A" and " B " we had the good fortune to have only one failure in "A" and

no failures in " B." We are now enjoying a rest until activities are resumed in October, when we hope to welcome a large number of recruits to the Unit. Naturally we feel that ours is the best Unit in the O.T.C.

But before we close for another month, may we place on record the following howler :

Examining Officer : " Why is the microphone ' dis ' ? "
Candidate : " Because there's no hydrogen in it, sir ! "

Culled from the " Glasgow Herald."—" . . . the Signal Unit provided the camp with a telephonic connection between the various Units—a much-appreciated convenience."

STONE AGE.

Signal Unit, Queen's University, Belfast, Officers' Training Corps.

Red-Hot News.—It is reported from reliable sources that Sergeant McDonald W., our P.S.I., was added to the Married Establishment with effect from 1st August. The members of Queen's University O.T.C. will join with his many friends in the Royal Corps of Signals in wishing him and his lady the best of luck, and in tendering their heartiest congratulations.

Annual Camp.—The Unit's annual camp training at Mons Barracks, Aldershot, from 8th to 21st July, provided an eye-opener for those who imagined camp to be a rest-cure. The journey to Aldershot was not without incident, and tested the tempers, nerves and digestions of quite a few people. In spite of rising at 5.20 a.m. on board the steamer at Heysham, we contrived to miss the " Ulster Express " at 7 a.m.

A faithful few were detailed to guard the arms left in our reserved carriages, whilst the main body endeavoured to persuade the railway staff to permit the removal of our baggage from the boat to the train. After some deep thought by the station officials, we managed to get away, with our baggage, by a later train, changing to the " Blackpool and Fylde Coast Express " (blessings on its restaurant-car crew, who produced our much-needed breakfasts at short notice).

We reached Euston only an hour and a quarter late, to find our arms neatly laid out and under guard on the platform. We eventually reached Aldershot, via Waterloo, and counted it a day when the lorries deposited us in Mons Barracks.

Training got under way on Saturday, the 9th, after we had been welcomed by the C.S.O., Colonel Fladgate. On Monday, the 11th, we were entertained by the Welsh Guards Signal Platoon. Our " Twelfth of July " Demonstration took the form of an Exercise near Pyestock, followed by Night Operations, conducted efficiently and soberly. (Who sent " Same to you " in reply to " OL " ?)

On Wednesday, the 13th (the day of the traditional " Sham Fight " at Scarva), we embussed at 2 p.m. for a " mystery tour " ; our destination and time of return was a secret. It proved to be a visit to the Command Signal " Sham Fight," officially the Command Signal Exercise, and we eventually found ourselves at 1st Divisional Signals H.Q., near Odiham, where things were being done by 51st Divisional Signals.

After poking our noses into all their affairs (we owe apologies to several sleepers we disturbed and thanks to officers and N.C.O.s who acted as guides) we chased an elusive Brigade H.Q. right off the Aldershot Command map. When we finally caught it, concealed in a wood, we had the privilege of having the whole Scheme explained to us by the Brigadier, 3rd Infantry Brigade.

By this time several of the young ladies of Aldershot were feeling disappointed, and our troops were getting rather hungry. The second trouble was cured by a welcome stop for ham and eggs at a road-house, but the first was not so easy to deal with. We returned to Mons Barracks at 9.30 p.m. What happened to this scribe later on that night will be better left unsaid !

Arms drill each morning at 7 a.m. provided an opportunity of sorting out those who had been " hitting the bottle " the night before. The Sergeants' lungs were exercised in an effort to " waken the dead " (and the dead were not in the cemetery). Further Signal Schemes kept the interest high and the cadets late in coming off parade on the succeeding days. On 15th July, a visit to the 4th Tank Battalion shook our livers up considerably. Lectures were judged by some to provide an excellent opportunity for catching up on the previous night's lost sleep, but one Lance Corporal can testify to the rousing effect of a lecturer's piece of chalk.

Night Operations on the 15th had to be cancelled owing to rain, and a Traffic Scheme indoors took their place. Although preceded by a drinking competition in the canteen (O.T.C. Signals from Bristol and Manchester had arrived in Mons Barracks), they went moderately well, in spite of the linemen having to go out on some of the cables, which seemed to be suffering from enemy action.

Week-end leave was taken by many on 16th and 17th July ; there must have been some strange doings in London !

OFFICERS

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The subscription is only 2/- per annum.

Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

On Monday, the 18th, Lieutenant-Colonel Neale, 2nd Divisional Signals, inspected the Unit at work. We have it on the authority of our P.S.I. and other competent observers that we achieved a new world's record for accidents and mishaps to a Signal Scheme. The Inspecting Officer arrived just after the complete disappearance of 200 yards of cable, which had kindly been removed by a wandering tank; our L.T. batteries all appeared to be about one quarter-charged; and the flies were so fierce that one N.C.O. had to be removed to hospital. The scene presented to the Inspecting Officer's eyes was one of bustle and activity, but we suspect that he saw through it all.

"Classification" on the 19th was favoured by good weather, as were the practical tests for Certificates "A" and "B" on the following day. That was a great day for the fortunate possessors of Certificate "B"; they were actually permitted to take a rest!

The last day of camp wound up with an inspection on parade by Colonel Neale, a march past the Inspecting Officer, and an address by him. His remarks helped to soothe those who had just previously been disappointed by Major Westropp's reading of the results of the Classification and Practical Examinations, which provided some shocks (both ways) for the prophets.

Our departure on the afternoon of the 21st was uneventful, except for the troubles of a certain private car which would not start. (Anyone know why?) Heysham was reached just before midnight, where we joined our Infantry and Medical Units on their way from Strensall, and then the tall tales began to be unfolded.

We must not omit to thank all those in Mons Barracks who helped us during our stay. Special thanks are due to Major Westropp, Major Farnall, Lieutenant Elliott, "K" Section Storeman and our D.R. lorry-drivers.

Questions Department.—"Mac." How many drinks are necessary before "pulling-through" a rifle?

Is it true that a Court of Inquiry is to be held to ascertain why the Unit did not lose any equipment at Aldershot?

Do fish and chips really taste better in the *News of the World* than they do in the WIRE?

Casualty List.—The O.C. Unit on 12th July. L/Corporal D——, stung! Both are now discharged from hospital.

NOSE-DIVE (*nee* SMIFF).

Corps Cricket.

The last Corps match of the 1938 season was played at Bovington Camp on 5th and 6th August, against the "Ironsides," a strong past and present team of the Royal Tank Corps, and resulted in a draw.

Although the Corps team was not at full strength, it was only lack of time that prevented an outright win.

After winning the toss, Royal Signals took first knock on an "easy-paced" wicket, and steady batting brought the score to 120 for 3. At this stage two wickets fell quickly and things were not looking so bright, but Major Mathew and 2nd Lieutenant Dickson put on 85 runs for the sixth wicket before the former was out for an invaluable and sound innings of 32.

2nd Lieutenant Dickson was undefeated with 78 to his credit after an innings full of enterprise, and is to be congratulated on such an excellent performance in his first Corps match. Lance Corporal Williams also batted well for his 79, which included nine boundaries.

The innings terminated for 275, Corporal Stutchfield emerging with the excellent analysis of 6 for 47.

The "Ironsides" started off well and aided by several dropped catches, finished the day with 70 for 2 on the board. On the match being resumed next morning, however, our bowlers got busy and our opponents were dismissed for a total of 155, chiefly due to some very fine bowling by Lance Corporal Williams, who took 6 for 65.

Being 120 runs behind, the "Ironsides" were made to follow on, and this time they put up a more stubborn resistance. Again there were too many catches put on the floor, and their second innings eventually realised 231, of which Captain Loup contributed 90.

We were thus left with 112 runs to make and an hour in which to get them. Our batsmen went all out for the runs and Captain Cole and 2nd Lieutenant Hayles hit up 40 and 30 respectively in quick time. Three more wickets fell quickly in an effort to force a win and, eventually, when six wickets were down for 92, time was called, and the match ended in a draw.

ROYAL SIGNALS.

1ST INNINGS.

Major L. C. Boyd, c McDonald, b Barnes	12
Lance Corporal Williams, b Stutchfield	79
Captain E. S. Cole, c Howard-Jones, b Stutchfield	16
2nd Lieutenant B. R. M. Hayles, run out	26
Corporal Lundie, c Stutchfield, b Barnes	0
Major F. A. H. Mathew, b Stutchfield	32
2nd Lieutenant D. A. Dickson, not out	78
2nd Lieutenant J. B. Birkett, b Stutchfield	0
2nd Lieutenant J. H. StG. Hammersley, c and b Stutchfield	3
Major L. B. Nicholls, c Howard-Jones, b Stutchfield	0
Signalman Harding, st Warren, b Loup	6
Extras	24
Total	276

BOWLING.

Barnes, 2 for 58; Pritchett, 0 for 51; Stutchfield, 6 for 47; Scrafton, 0 for 27; Offord, 0 for 25; Mordaunt, 0 for 6; Loup, 1 for 17; Howard-Jones, 0 for 21.

2ND INNINGS.

Major L. C. Boyd, b Barnes	3
Lance Corporal Williams, run out	5
Captain E. S. Cole, b Stutchfield	40
2nd Lieutenant B. R. M. Hayles, b Barnes	30
2nd Lieutenant D. A. Dickson, not out	8
Corporal Lundie, b Stutchfield	0
Major F. A. H. Mathew, not out	0
2nd Lieutenant J. H. StG. Hammersley, c and b Stutchfield	0
Extras	6
Total (for 6 wickets)	92

Major Nicholls, 2nd Lieutenant Birkett and Signalman Harding did not bat.

BOWLING.

Howard-Jones, 0 for 18; Barnes, 2 for 29; Scrafton, 0 for 13; Stutchfield, 3 for 26.

"IRONSIDES."

1ST INNINGS.

Captain Warren, c Williams, b Nicholls	32
2nd Lieutenant MacDonald, b Williams	29
2nd Lieutenant Howard-Jones, b Williams	58
Captain Loup, b Williams	6
Lieutenant Scrafton, b Cole	2
Captain Pritchett, st Hayles, b Williams	5
Sergeant Mordaunt, b Williams	4
Lieutenant Offord, b Cole	1
Pte. Barnes, lbw Cole	7
Capt. Uniacke, not out	0
Corporal Stutchfield, b Williams	2
Extras	10
Total	156

BOWLING.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.
Lance Corporal Williams	17	1	65	6
Captain Cole	15	0	71	3
Major Nicholls	3	0	10	1

2ND INNINGS.

Captain Warren, b Williams	1
2nd Lieutenant Howard-Jones, b Cole	39
2nd Lieutenant MacDonald, c Williams, b Lundie	26
Captain Loup, lbw Cole	90
Lieutenant Scrafton, b Nicholls	3
Captain Pritchett, c Mathew, b Harding	12
Sergeant Mordaunt, c Boyd, b Lundie	10
Lieutenant Offord, st Hayles, b Nicholls	10
Private Barnes, lbw Williams	1
Captain Uniacke, b Cole	6
Corporal Stutchfield, not out	0
Extras	33
Total	231

BOWLING.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.
Lance Corporal Williams	19	1	68	2
Captain Cole	19	2	59	3
Major Nicholls	8	0	40	2
Signalman Harding	5	1	17	1
Corporal Lundie	6	2	16	2

Duty and Pleasure.

A Canadian Officer's Impressions.

(With acknowledgments to " Royal Canadian Signals Monthly Bulletin.")

I thought that perhaps the odd reader might be interested in a few impressions I gained on my recent trip to Cairo, Malta, Gibraltar and England. I went as a Canadian delegate to the International Tele-Communication Conference, representing the Department of National Defence, and took advantage of the trip to see what I could in connection with the Army both abroad and in England, more especially, of course, regarding Signals. Perhaps the most logical way would be to follow through in the order in which I travelled.

The ice and snow of Canada faded away on 8th January, and the green fields near Greenock were a welcome sight on 16th January; then a small hurricane in the Irish Sea and the usual drizzle on the landing stage at Liverpool. I only had four days in London on the outward journey, but what a four days! First, the War House to arrange for visits, etc., on the return journey, then Hawkes & Co., to arrange to borrow more uniform and clothes, Thos. Cook & Sons, to fix up the rest of the journey, and lastly Canada House, took up nearly all the time. A London show, yes, a perfect fish lunch at Scotts, etc., and then to Dover and Calais.

The most marvellous thing I saw in London was the automatic traffic control at Piccadilly Circus, which operates according to traffic density. The traffic seems ten times as thick as when I was last over, some nine years since.

The trip from Calais to Paris was normal, and the four hours or so in Paris was an interesting break. The night trip to Toulon was something to remember—with no dinner till 9.30 p.m., and the berths cross ways in the train, which appeared to be doing 60 m.p.h. on a road bed built for 20. However, we arrived on time.

Toulon was a most pleasant surprise; a nice, warm, sunny day which made one quite forget the snow at home. It seemed by the number of ships that the whole French fleet must be in port. I took several snaps before discovering that my camera might be seized, as it is against the law to use it in harbour. The Orient Line, with 350 first-class passengers, was a big change from the C.P.R. with 33, but most of the party registered a preference for the old C.P.R. We had the best part of a day in Naples, where we motored out to Pompeii and decided human nature had not changed much in the last twenty centuries. In Naples we saw a Blackshirt Battalion and a Battalion of Alpine troops, not to mention a part-worn but very beautiful volcano.

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Sailing out we passed the Isle of Capri, which I wasn't sure even existed, except in the song, until I saw it. By night we were passing Stromboli, which was doing its stuff and pouring molten lava down one side of the mountain and showing the lights of a peaceful village on the other.

Our passengers were mostly Australians going home.

The next thing we knew, Count de Lessep's statue welcomed us to the Suez Canal at Port Said. We had no sooner stepped ashore than we were attacked by Ali Baba and the forty thieves, in the form of porters; it was little short of a free fight (with odds against you) to get the baggage through customs and on to the train for Cairo.

Our first meal in Africa was one of the worst I have ever eaten and was not made any better by being served by Sudanese dressed in nightgowns with tarbushes on their heads.

Our time in and about Cairo was most enjoyable. "Egypt Signals" were extraordinarily kind; they showed me everything they had, dined me in Mess, not to mention the hospitality extended by most of the Signals officers. Many will remember Nanney-Wynn who spent two years with us in Camp Borden; I found him married and a proud father. "Potty" Watson, another of our two-year visitors, was an A.L.O. with the R.A.F. I saw one of the liveliest polo games I have ever seen at the Gezira Club, the Gunners versus the Irish Hussars.

Our impression about Egypt's ancient kings was that, judging by the splendour of their mummy cases, they evidently started preparing to die as soon as they were crowned. Tutankhamen's funeral trappings were a marvel to see.

We did the usual tourist sights in our spare time, and I also spent a day and part of a night on a Desert Exercise with the Mounted Brigade—all mechanised. The Exercise was one designed to test control by W/T and the supplying of a mobile force by air. It was a grand sight to see the whole force moving in formation across the desert.

I found that Egypt Signals are getting 100 miles R/T with No. 1 Sets (using the Wyndham aerial), and I was very interested in the "sun compass," which is extensively used in the desert and accurate enough to land up within a mile on a 60-mile leg; it is really an ingenious extension of the sundial.

Our next stop was that most interesting little island, Malta, where we landed on 9th March. Malta was interesting and instructive from the moment we sailed into Grand Harbour under the guns of two forts, till we sailed away seven days later. A most efficient island, too, as the goats not only supply the milk but they deliver it, too, being milked on the front door step into the jug that eventually, I presume, goes on the table.

I learned a good deal here regarding Fortress Signals in Malta. We lunched at St. Anton Palace, the Governor's summer residence, lunched on a warship with a fellow-Canadian, went to the pony races, where we left some of our money (as usual). We visited several old forts and points of interest, among which was St. Paul's Bay, where you biblical students will (perhaps) remember St. Paul was shipwrecked when being taken a prisoner to Rome. He christianised the island in about two months. The island, of course, is chock full of history. The most interesting period to me being the period when the Knights of St. John lived there for about 300 years, till Napoleon captured the place on his way to Egypt. A few months under Napoleon's merry men has left a deeper mark on the island and its people than the last century under the British. It's a grand spot.

Next we sailed for Marseilles, where we transhipped to our third P. & O. liner in order to come to London via "Gib." On the way to "Gib.," two German bombers flew over us twice as we were opposite Majorca, but, thank goodness, no bombs. At "Gib." we found the combined Home and Mediterranean fleets of the British Navy at anchor, licking their wounds after fleet exercises south-west of the Rock. The day we arrived was stormy with black storm clouds, which provided a perfect background against which to see the fleet. One felt proud to be British. I found Major Martin, R.A., as General Staff Officer in "Gib." I had last seen him in Sarcee when we were on an "m.s.c. practical" together.

The First Sea Lord came on board our ship for the journey home; as a result we were honoured by an escort of four destroyers almost as far as Tangier. The journey up the coast of Portugal and across the Bay of Biscay was not quite as pleasant as our sunny days in the Mediterranean, and we landed into the Channel on the tail end of a nasty fog.

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Tilbury, then London, where I commenced a busy period at the War Office, visiting a large electrical works, the Signals Experimental Establishment, etc. Lieutenant-Colonel R. D. Harkness, of "B" Corps Signals, Montreal, was in London, so we went together and spent an evening with the London Divisional Signals, T.A. We had supper in their Mess before the evening training, and were then shown over all their accommodation and watched their training. We came away wishing our N.P.A.M. were as well treated as regards uniform, boots and M.T., not to mention Regular Army Adjutants and Assistant Instructors, but we also felt that the average N.P.A.M. Signals Unit was just as efficient as their T.A. opposite numbers in spite of getting considerably less help.

The remainder of my time in England was spent visiting Signal Units, etc., to note any changes in equipment and organisation. The 3rd Divisional Signals at Bulford I found equipped much as when I last saw them, except, of course, for the fact that M.T. had replaced the horse. The Mobile Divisional Signals was in a state of formation and still trying to arrive at a suitable establishment to fit in with its functions within the organisation of the Mobile Division.

"A" Corps Signals seemed to have changed least, and was still equipped with 120-watt sets. New equipment for all, of course, like prosperity, was "just around the corner." The Signal Training Centre at Catterick was perhaps the busiest place visited (except the War Office). Apparently Signals were experiencing a certain measure of priority as regards recruits, and so were at almost double their normal strength. Here, again, the number of horses had dwindled and the amount of M.T. multiplied.

Major Laurie, Lieutenant Houston and Q.M.S. Portsmouth of Royal Canadian Signals (P.F.) are with Royal Signals for six or seven months, going through a summer's training, and finally they will take part in any Exercises there may be in the autumn. On their return, they will be stationed at the C.S.T.C., Vimy Barracks, equipped with the very latest information from our allied Corps.

P. E.

HOME STATIONS

3RD DIVISIONAL SIGNALS. BULFORD CAMP

Panoramic Photograph Co. Manchester

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Headquarters, Training Battalion.

Battalion notes of interest are sadly lacking this month. Company activities have taken first place, and these, no doubt, will be reported by those concerned.

Much interest has been taken in the recruiting side of the Service lately, and the Battalion has staged exhibits at the following places with success: NOTTINGHAM, 1st Exposition; LONDON, Charing Cross Underground Station Exhibition (Boys' Training); GLASGOW, Services Pavilion, British Empire Exhibition. The photograph accompanying these notes is the second of our series of officers of the Battalion. There are about thirty officers and our photographer has a busy time in front of him.

Captain P. R. Hyde, Adjutant, Training Battalion.

"D" Company, Training Battalion.

The hails and farewells of the past month have been numerous. May we offer a hearty welcome to all new arrivals to the Company, and tender our good wishes to the many departures.

Wedding bells feature in the news this month. Sergeant Dunningham was married to Miss Lucy Davison at Scalby, Yorkshire, on 21st June. (We apologise for the late publication.) To both Sergeant and Mrs. Dunningham we tender our hearty good wishes for the future. There is also news of a forthcoming marriage. Corporal Matthews J. B., known from Waziristan to Catterick Camp as "Public Gripper No. 1," has decided to take a trip down the aisle and utter that well-known phrase "I will." Good wishes to Corporal Matthews and the future Mrs. Matthews.

The stork has returned from furlough and given us two births for publication. Congratulations to Lance Corporal and Mrs. Graham on the birth of a daughter, Hilda Cartner, on 27th June. Our good wishes are also tendered to Lance Corporal Buscall and his wife on the birth of a daughter, Catherine Teresa, on 13th July.

C.S.M. Pearson has left us for "Civvy Street" after 23½ years' service. As he is residing quite near to Catterick Camp we hope to see him quite often. Good luck Mr. Pearson in your new life.

Driver (I.C.) Adams H. produced the necessary shekels and departed from our happy band once more for civilian life.

After quite a wait "Blue Book" news has once again been published. Sergeant Offord was promoted to C.Q.M.S., C.S.M. Harvey was promoted to that rank, and Lance Corporal Vitale (Display Team) has dropped the "U." Congratulations to them all.

Signalman Kendrick S. will be walking in the London-Brighton Road Walk (Services Section) on 3rd September. By the time that these notes are printed we hope that he will have secured every available trophy.

Who thought that a Pledge Office was part of a pawnbroker's shop where people became tee-totallers?

Which bright "E.S." said "That velocity was what anybody put down a hot plate with"?

Yids' Correspondence.—"Benny" 685, "A" Corps: "Brother arrived safely. Keeping an eye on him. Benny 686."

ACK PIP BEER.

"E" Company, Training Battalion.

The Catterick Garrison Horticultural Show was held on the 27th July. We should like to congratulate Lance Sergeant Smith ("D" Company) on winning so many prizes, and also Sergeant Waight on keeping the flag flying for "E" Company.

Another winner of note was Mrs. Waight for the best home-made bread. We intend to ask her to supervise the cooking of our Sunday dinner in the near future. Sergeant Hopkins has been working on his garden. Has he something up his sleeve, or the seeds something under the ground?

The waifs and strays who have been lodging with " D " Company have returned to the fold. Perhaps they will tell us of their many experiences regarding breakfast at 7.30 a.m., and the " old soldier " who brought them tea at reveille. (Newbigging Joe will be very sorry about this.)

If any one has a cure for boils, please apply to Signalman McKenna. (Not brickdust and treacle.)

Mr. Hore-Belisha has presented the mess-room with knives, forks and spoons, and our turnstile system of checking has been a huge success. We did, however, lose a knife one morning, but with the aid of the Company C.I.D. the missing article was recovered on the mess-room floor. We are curious to know who refused to have breakfast that morning, and sent home for a set of " eating irons." Perhaps the N.C.O. who suggested having a glass of beer with his dinner can tell us ?

We have sent a detachment to Glasgow to take part in the British Empire Exhibition. We hope that Signalmen Young and Wood will leave their school ties behind, and the " dice shaking " to Signalman Sawley. We will try and persuade the Band to play them back from Richmond Station.

Lance Corporal Fowles has left us for 4th Divisional Signals, and Signalman Herbert has joined the civilian brigade. We are waiting to hear how that £5 a week job is going on and if the racing system is paying for his annual holiday. Signalman Bland is at present on a Vocational Training Course at the S.T.C. Printing Press. Perhaps he will get a job at York after all.

We congratulate Sergeant Waight on passing through eighteen years of undetected crime, and the award of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. Perhaps the next award will be the Newbigging Hall Victory Medal.

The book, *Ways and Means*, written by " Stooge " Carroll will not be published, as the proof has been placed in the Catterick Library. We would like to know more of his experiences in London. (So would Percy.)

The Company cricket team have been fulfilling cricket matches away from home. The last trip was to West Hartlepool. We have since heard plenty of scandal concerning " Badgy " and the basket of washing in the dance hall. Has the missing sports coat been found yet ?

Major A. J. Harris, O.B.E., our Company Commander, and Lieutenant S. F. M. Howe, are at present enjoying a well-earned rest, and we hope that they will return fit and well. Our C.S.M. has returned from a trip to the seaside. What do you think of dance bands, sir ?

C. S.

"F" Company, Training Battalion.

General.—After tolerating a month of Leeds weather, everybody was looking forward to leave. Despite the fact that we were congratulated on our excellent performance by the Tattoo Producer, a lot of boys still think that they earned the V.C. for carrying on in the pouring rain whilst standing ankle deep in liquid mud. It was certainly an achievement that was carried out by the boys in that spirit typical of " F " Company. There

"F" COMPANY, TRAINING BATTALION.

BOYS AT PLAY.

was very little weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth as the buses departed for Leeds station, and Catterick for once seemed like a little heaven after the incessant rain and heaps of mud at Roundhay Park. Having straightened out our kits, and packed our leave necessities, we entrained for civilian beds and late reveilles.

It may probably be of interest to some of the other ex-boys to read the following. " Joner " (he of the big feet) who has a " tape," is hoping to get a " pip." Good luck to him ! Smith Marcus also has a tape, and is on a Course prior to entry into the Royal Army Pay Corps. Jackie Bowler is in the D.R.L.S. bunk at Mons Barracks, and, according to reports, all he has to do is see that the D.R. spells his name correctly.

Exhibitions.—The following left for Glasgow and Charing Cross Exhibitions : C.S.M. Johnson, Sergeant Boy McKenna, Lance Corporal Boy Robbins, and Boy Lawrance to Charing Cross, where they exhibited the " 9 " Set and dismantled Sets for the benefit of would-be apprentices. Sergeant McDowall, Lance Corporal Boys Hope and Holdsworth, Boys Buddery G., Camp, Green B. and Signalman Davy, went to the Empire Exhibition at Glasgow.

Congratulations.—To Lance Corporal Barrett for running for the Army. An example for all boys, and an ambition which some boys may yet achieve in the next few years.

Marriages.—C.Q.M.S. Lawrie entered double harness on 9th July. He was married at Edinburgh to Miss Ann Duncan Ollason. Congratulations.

Old Timers.—Recruit Boy : " How long will it take us to pass off the square, Corporal ? "
Corporal : " About ten weeks."
Recruit Boy : " How long did it take you ? "
Corporal : " About six weeks."
Recruit Boy : " Ah ! but you're not a real soldier ; you joined up during the war."

Jews' Mail.—To Cocky, Bulford : " What's the matter, have you got writer's cramp ? "

To Spike, Aldershot : " Dick's coughed up ; broke his heart ; have spent it. Razz."

Things We Want To Know.—If Vicky waxes his moustache ?

If Terry Finnigan has seen his photograph plastered all over the front of Whitehall ?

SPEEDY.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess Training Battalion.

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome is extended to Lance Sergeant Goat, on promotion ; Sergeant North J. (A.E.C.) and A/Sergeant Edwards, R.A., attached A.E.C. May their stay be a happy one.

Departures.—Warrant Officer II Instructor Griffiths F. A., A.E.C., to York ; C.S.M. Pearson C. to " Civvy Street." Best of luck, and not too much work.

Appointments.—Congratulations to Lance Sergeant Goat on attaining that appointment.

Socials.—On 11th July we entertained "A" Division of the Leeds City Police to a cricket match and an indoor games tournament. We managed to force a draw at cricket by holding the fort till time was called. The indoor games materialized into a sing-song, and was also a huge success. Our thanks are due to two friends from 5th Divisional Signals for their help on the musical side.

Mess Outing.—On 28th July we held the Annual Mess Outing. Leaving Camp at about 10 a.m., in five bus loads, we proceeded via a very picturesque route to Bylands Abbey, where a halt was called for lunch at a country farmhouse. Then on to Saltburn, where tea was taken. After an hour at Saltburn we went on to Redcar, where races on the sands for both the kiddies and grown-ups were held. The " Spud " and Spoon Race was a very exciting affair, the " spuds " often being lost in the sand.

After this, the buses left for home at intervals, the last one arriving about midnight. It was a great pity that R.S.M. Sherman was unable to leave with us in the morning, but he turned up at Saltburn plus a flat tyre, so altogether it was not a too successful day for him.

Overseas.—In addition to the names published in last month's notes, the following have also been provisionally warned for India : Lance Sergeants Barlow, Jones J., " Skin " Turner and Goat.

Long Service and Good Conduct Medals.—Congratulations to Sergeants Pack, Waight, Goodison, and Lloyd, on not being " found out." The accompanying photograph shows the Commandant presenting the medals to the Signal Training Centre recipients after Church Parade. Our quartette are Nos. 4, 5, 6, and 7 in the above order.

ASH.

WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS' MESS TRAINING BATTALION.

(By courtesy of Messrs. Avison's Garrison Studios, Catterick Camp)

ALDERSHOT NEWS

"A" Corps Signals.

No. 1 Company.

General.—At the moment every one is on a well-earned leave, for during July we were very busily engaged with 1st Div. on the Aldershot Command Skeleton Exercise and also on the Staff College Exercise. After the Exercise there was plenty to do in taking down the airline and picking up cable, a matter which some folk are apt to overlook.

Several N.C.O.s and men have just returned from Burley Camp, near Bournemouth, where they have spent a very nice fortnight swimming, sun-bathing, and helping the London Corps Signals in their spare time.

Arrivals.—We welcome Signalman Knott from Canterbury, and also Lance Sergeant Scrase and Corporal Williamson, temporarily attached, while waiting for the boat after a six months' vacation from India.

Promotion.—Congratulations to Sergeant Millen on attaining that rank.

No. 2 Company.

"Where's the WIRE notes?" I wonder how many times this question is asked during the first week of any month, and how many harassed men creep away to some secluded spot in order to exercise what little literary genius they may or may not possess, and then a month later we hear a grunt of "Nothing as usual"? A journalist's life is, indeed, a hard one, for like the canners of Chinese eggs, we cannot please everyone.

Last month has been chock full of interesting events; indeed few of us can remember a busier period. During the first fortnight we (hereinafter sometimes called the Company) fought two great wars, the Aldershot Command Skeleton Exercise and the Staff College Exercise. From both of these engagements we emerged with flying colours and an armful of bouquets. The latter have been filed at the bottom of the Company Clerk's rubbish cupboard (I should, perhaps, say his desk) for future reference.

Seen at the Sports.

These two Exercises are by no means all our collective training commitments, but who wants to go through all their bad dreams again. But everything has its funny side, even if it is not always apparent at the time. Humour seems, so far, to have been somewhat lacking during this training season. Apart from a "Generator Spasmodic" that was issued by Ordnance in error for the real thing, and a "Terrier" telephone that transmitted atmospherical speech, life has been free from amusing incidents, but we live in hope.

The second half of the month was more acceptable to the greater half of the Company who, according to reports, enjoyed a fortnight's "holiday with pay." The unlucky ones still have it to come—in true Army fashion.

Many have often remarked that the modern Army cannot rise with the lark. We assure these folk that sounding Reveille on the morning of the aforesaid leave was a waste of breath. Some members of the khaki clan must have not only risen with the lark, but also with the bats and owls the night before. Never before has the Orderly N.C.O. been so popular at such an unearthly hour. It is said that he narrowly escaped being kissed in one bungalow, apart from being mobbed in a couple of others, not because he resembled Robert Taylor in any way, but because "he bore 'mid snow and ice, those passes with the strange device—'Has permission to be absent from his Quarters'."

As is usual, a few arrivals and departures have taken place, and we tender our regards and wishes to all concerned.

Judging by the number that have been warned for draft, we shall soon be in the throes of a depression. However, men must come and men must go—those sun-tanned warriors from the Empire's Frontiers need a change on the home front, but whether the need is mutual or not makes no difference in any case. Pro-

visional warnings, inoculations, and clearance certificates are the order of the day.

REARGUARD.

No. 3 Company.

These notes will be the first published from this Company. Although some of our readers are aware that the Company has been formed again, to some of the ex-"A" Corps fold this information may be in the nature of a surprise.

The role of the Company is to function as a C.M.A. Section, and our first big job takes place this month in the Bulford Area. Major S. J. Fielder, R.Signals, commands the Company, with Captain F. C. Seely, R.Signals, commanding the C.M.A. Section. We have No. 6 A.S.S. on our strength, and they are at present with their Brigade at Longmoor, being due to return to us in September. Lieutenant D. Mansel, R.Signals, commands this Section.

Up to the present we have not left Aldershot for more than three days, but it is not unlikely that we shall find ourselves between Luton and Bedford, during September. Those readers who remember Ware and Saffron Waldron will appreciate the distance and why it makes a good change.

Returning to the subject of personalities in the Company, our C.S.M. is C.S.M. Crockford, with Sergeant Simpson as A/C.Q.M.S. Lance Sergeant Watts is the Section Sergeant of No. 6 A.S.S., and Lance Sergeant Pearson is C.M.A. Section Sergeant. The Company Clerk is Signalman Gwillim.

Since the Company was reformed in March, many have left us to take up Ministry of Labour Courses. Signalmen Herbert and Pocklington have already proceeded to Southampton and Leeds respectively.

Regarding " Jason's " Great Vocational Mystery, published in the August issue of the WIRE, might we just say that it would greatly help Company Clerks in the U.K. if our colleagues abroad would get down to this question. As a guide to the submission of A.F.B. 2517, those finishing in March, 1939, should submit their applications in July, 1938, to reach Headquarters not later than the last day of that month.

H. G.

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

General.—Another Signals Week has passed. The programme was similar to that of past " Weeks," although many remarks were heard to the effect that horses were more than ever conspicuous by their absence, and we understand that some of the visitors were disappointed because we could not oblige them with a display by our motor cycle display team. We were more than compensated, however, by the display team's stirring performance at the Aldershot Show at a later date. The dismounted sports aroused the usual spirit of rivalry between Units in Mons Barracks, and we congratulate our team on gaining second place.

The Unit paraded as strong as possible for the " Old Comrades " Annual Church Parade, and we were very pleased to see Brigadier Willan, D.S.O., M.C., a former Commanding Officer on parade, to take the salute.

Training.—Although these notes are somewhat belated, we are pleased to report that " E," " F," " L," and " J" Sections are continuing to prove their merits to the Headquarters of their formations at Bordon, Tilshead, and Soberton Camps respectively. They are all bronzed, fighting fit, and well.

It is worthy of note that we have an addition to our family of Sections as No. 3 Artillery Signal Section have arrived for duty with 21st Anti-Tank Regiment, R.A. They have been posted to us from the 5th Divisional Signals. The Section is now enjoying the sunshine at Oxney Camp.

The Headquarters of the Unit, assisted most valiantly by the 51st (Highland) Divisional Signals, had to cope with the many problems which beset our Commanding Officer during the Corps and Staff College Exercises. Too much cannot be written in so short a space concerning the whole-hearted support given us by our Territorial comrades during these two Exercises.

May we, therefore, be permitted to express our personal appreciation to Colonel E. Birnie-Reid and his Officers, W.O.s, N.C.O.s and men for their services so kindly and cheerfully rendered, and at so much personal sacrifice.

In July, the Manchester, Belfast, and Bristol Universities Contingents of the Officers' Training Corps, commanded by Captain E. C. S. Dickson, Captain J. A. H. Patton, M.C., and Captain R. R. Melhuish, respectively, spent a couple of weeks in Mons Barracks undergoing intensive training under the supervision of Major V. J. E. Westropp, Royal Signals,

Officers.—Congratulations are extended to Major C. Childs and Major A. E. Winton, D.C.M., on their recent promotion.

2nd Lieutenant W. C. Ramsay has joined us from 5th Divisional Signals, in command of No. 3 Artillery Signal Section.

Major W. L. Laurie and Lieutenant R. L. Houston, Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, proceeded to 3rd Divisional Signals on conclusion of their attachment to this Unit.

The following officers of this Unit have been provisionally warned for service overseas during the forthcoming trooping season : Lieutenant H. B. de M. Hunter for India ; Lieutenant D. R. Yearsley for Malaya ; and Lieutenant G. G. L. Hinde for Egypt.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants.—Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. H. S. Nokes on his promotion to that rank.

Sergeant Blower and Lance Sergeant C. Brown have arrived from 5th Divisional Signals with No. 3 Artillery Signal Section.

Q.M.S. (Pompey) F. T. Portsmouth, Royal Canadian Corps Signals has left us for 3rd Divisional Signals on conclusion of his attachment to this Unit.

Junior N.C.O.s and Men.—Another batch of twenty recruits joined from Catterick ; a further sixteen are due on the 16th of this month. They are all to undergo training in the trade of Operator Signals.

Overseas.—The following N.C.O.s and men have been provisionally warned for service overseas :

INDIA—Sergeant F. S. Andrews, Lance Sergeant W. Hardy, Corporals Dollimore and Norton, Lance Corporals McClarron, Heward and Thomas R., Signalmen Gray W., Booth L., Fairweather J., Tate L., Walker J., Powell D., Barratt W., Brown E., Brown H., Jacob R., Gardiner W., Mitchell W., Price N., Paul J., Parent A., Robson S., Phelan J., Preston J., Shearer J., Taylor W., Thompson D., Woodhead, Chapman R., and Sykes R. EGYPT—Lance Corporals Knox D and Parker G., Driver (I.C.) Hill A., Signalmen Tingle J., Lang A., Dickson L., McKirgan T., Mercer D., Appleton, Cochrane J., Edmonds, Waller A., Miles J., Malcolm J., Owens R., and Lowton. MALAYA SIGNAL COMPANY—

C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Kavanagh, Sergeant R. G. Cooke, Lance Sergeant Page C., Corporals Humby V., Thompson G., and Missen S. V., Lance Corporal White E., Signalmen Marsden A., and Stuart K. HONG KONG SIGNAL COMPANY—Lance Corporals Husband E., Gorman J., Johnson H., Spare D., Hill J., Hannam A., and Salter, Signalmen Pennington R., Sewell H., and Statham F.

Since these provisional warnings were received, some slight alterations have been notified by Records. Sergeant Cooke now goes to Hong Kong Signal Company. Corporal Dollimore has received orders to join the 18th Infantry Brigade Signal Section (forming with 2nd Divisional Signals). The Section proceeds to Palestine early in September.

Tennis.—We entered a team in the Command Unit Championships, and here are the results. R.S.M. F. H. Westwood and Lance Corporal Hurley, runners-up Unit Doubles. Lance Corporal Hurley, runner-up, Unit Singles.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters.

General.—WIRE notes again! As soon as one month's notes are sent off, it is almost time for the next lot of copy. Our office correspondent has conscientiously maintained a diary of events that occurred during the Command Corps Skeleton Exercise (11th-16th July) and the Staff College Exercise (18th-23rd July), for which we think space should be found.

The 55th Divisional Signals gave us valuable assistance during the Exercises, and we understand that they enjoyed their new role. We did hear of some who were caught playing cards (or was it ha'penny nap?) outside the General Staff Office. Of course, we found it necessary to ask them to observe the niceties of the game, and to refrain from playing in the vicinity of the centre of Operations. It simply isn't done.

During the Staff College Exercise and its "game of make believe," we wondered whether the students were staggered by the Stop Press in the *Daily News Bulletin*, which was received by W/T.

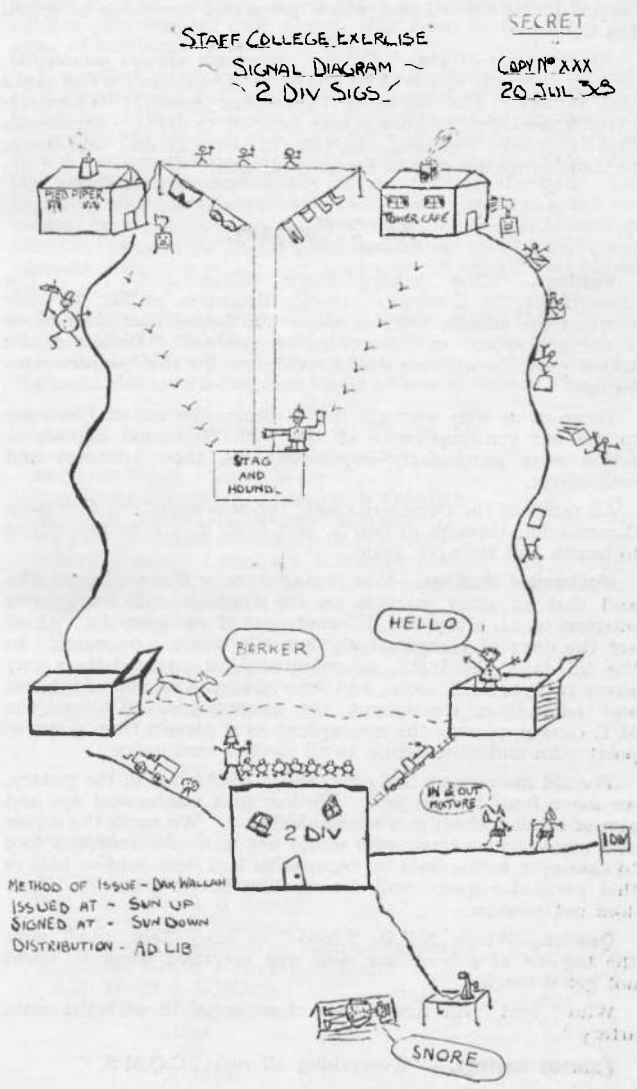
By the way, we now know what a suit-case looks like after a three-ton lorry has passed over it. We must look up our "book of words" to see whether this sort of thing is covered by third party insurance.

In the lay-out of the Unit Office "Unofficial" Signal Diagram, it will be seen that the Basingstoke by-pass was an ideal position. Darts in the "Stag and Hounds," hot water to shave with, and a "Lounge" when our tour of duty was over.

One of the Orderlies (T.A.), hot and bothered after a run, hurried into the Signal Office, and gasped: "The line to the 4th Guards Brigade is dizzy; the wireless aerial is 50 feet short of Div." These Exercises always bring out new ideas and this seems to be the latest.

Arrivals.—Although we welcomed Signalman Golder N. (a draughtsman) last month from the Training Battalion, we shall soon be saying good-bye, as he has been selected for a tour of foreign service in India. What a shame! He could type as well.

Information.—For the information of all concerned, Lance Corporal Morris wishes it to be known that his latest baby weighs 20 lbs. He is not much more himself. How is it done, "Morrey"? Is it an advertisement for Nestles?



No. 1 Company.

July means, or should mean, summer, and summer, of course, means Exercises. We did our share by participating in two five-day Schemes, and were ably assisted by our affiliated Unit—55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

With their assistance, we were able to turn out a full Company, and " Don " Section became a reality instead of the " Q's " nightmare.

The distances covered were not great, as both Exercises took place within the Command, but, nevertheless, everyone worked hard, and we understand that the Exercises were successful. The " big hand " must go to our " Terrier " friends for their keenness and efficiency, which did much to uphold the traditions of the Corps.

An account of the Exercises would not be complete without some reference to our Cook Sergeant, the duties of which were so efficiently carried out by Sergeant Stanley, who is normally the local " Tiffy." He certainly turned out some good " chow."

Part IIs.—After twenty-seven years of service, C.S.M. Callagari has left us for civilian life. Our best wishes go with him. Signalman Hayne has also gone to a soft (we hope) billet with "Standard Telephones."

Arrivals have been numerous, and at the moment we are running three different recruit training classes. Amongst them and worthy of note is Signalman Cairns, who was the first recruit under the scheme which permitted reservists to rejoin the Colours.

At this time of year " Cruise " notes are always seasonable, and Mr. Records seems to be trying hard to decimate our ranks still further. The following have been warned : Corporals Wright and Green and Signalman Bennett to China ; Signalman Bowe to Aden ; Signalman McNulty to Sierra Leone ; and others to those delightful spas in Egypt and India !

No. 2 Company.

Postings.—" The moving finger writes, and . . ." The strength of the Company steadily decreases as Mr. Records shatters the false security of those who hoped that their name would not appear in the writing on the wall. Details of the actual postings will, no doubt, be given by the Sections concerned.

Those of us who were privileged during the recent Exercises to see our contemporaries of the 55th Divisional Signals in action were particularly impressed with their keenness and enthusiasm.

All ranks of the Company regret the absence of our Company Commander, through ill-health, and wish him a speedy return to health and strength again.

Mechanical Musings.—Was it Napoleon or Messrs. Lyons who said that an army marches on its stomach ? Nowadays we progress on an altogether different part of our anatomy. Gone are the days of comparatively leisurely troop movement. In the old days, the P.B.I. or mounted Unit pursued their way along an appointed route, and were always a source of interest and admiration throughout the countryside. To-day, the M.T. convoy poisons the atmosphere as it careers from point to point. An undoubted curse to all civilian road users.

The old smoothness has gone, and, like the boy in the pantry, we move from jam to jam. We live in a mechanical age and almost think and act in a mechanical way. We recall the driver of a maintenance truck who would not move his vehicle a foot to ease up a traffic hold-up because he had been told to halt in that particular spot. Still, for all that, it is a great life if one does not weaken.

Queries.—Which N.C.O. " teed " in his " Tele. 110 " with the tag-end of a boot-lace, and was surprised when he could not get through ?

Who " teed " the feeder lines of an aerial in with the main artery ?

Famous Sayings.—" Everything all right, C.Q.M.S. ?"

" Situation well in hand."

" He does not want a map whilst there are sign posts and cable lines about."

" Strong in the arm and weak in the head, etc., etc."

Things Overheard.—"Another career blasted," said the driver of the P.U. when he discovered the loss of the R.S.M.'s suitcase, and then found that it had been very neatly run over by a three-tonner.

" How many lines are through now ? "
" Two and a half pairs, sir."
" What do you mean by two and a half ? "
" Two metallic and one earth return."

Scene : The Sergeants' Mess. Time : When all good soldiers should be in bed.
Voice from outside : "Are you awake, caterer ? "
Caterer : " Yes."
V.F.O. : " Two bars of chocolate, please."

Things We Would Like to Know.——We should like to know the names of the three W.O.s who, on completion of their second scheme with the (?) Divisional Signals, went to bed, but could not rest until the Pipe Band arrived to lull them to sleep with some Highland airs.

No. 3 Company.

Arrivals.—We welcome Signalman Stubbs to the fold from 4th Divisional Signals. He was originally destined for Palestine. Welcome also to the following recruits from the Depot and Training Battalions : Signalmen Pollard, Hall J., Rose, Muir, Hall A., Wright, Ord, Anderson, Jones and Sanchi. They are now undergoing an intensive Course in the handling of " stink-horses."

Departures.—We have said farewell to Corporal Revill, who has been lucky enough to obtain employment as a P.O. Lineman at Oxford. All ranks wish him the best of luck. The three " Ds " (the Paymaster's nightmare) have left us for Vocational Training : Signalmen Davis H., Davis G. and Davies E. Signalmen Brockman and McKowin have also gone.

Wedding Bells.—Congratulations to Signalman Newell on his recent marriage to Miss Adela Lucy Barbara Butcher at the Parish Church, New Alresford.

S. E. W.

1st Anti-Aircraft Group Signals.

Chawton Park Camp, Near Alton, Hants.

9th August.

General.—We have been very busy during the past few weeks and the unit may now be found in the area between Longmoor and Micheldever with Unit Headquarters at the above address. The A.A. Brigade Exercise has been superseded this year by special trials in this area. By the time these notes appear we shall have settled down at Blackdown again.

The favourite " roostering place " whilst out of camp seems to be the " Horse and Groom," except for one curly headed N.C.O., who was often seen tearing down the highways on his " stinker " singing something about " Little old lady passing by." We are afraid sobriety and daylight must have caused this cessation of visits to that well-known hostel, or, perhaps, it was the use of matches.

Every one seems to be enjoying life here. There are " hitches " of course, but they are too numerous to mention.

Major E. J. Murphy, R.Signals, was admitted to hospital on 18th July. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Service Overseas.—We publish a list of those who will be wintering in summer climes in the near future.

SARAFAND : Captain F. S. Whiteway-Wilkinson, R.Signals, Lance Sergeant Glass J. M.

INDIA : Lance Corporal Judd, Signalmen Leach, Murray, Morton, Taylor T., Ecclestone, Browne, and Riseborough.

EGYPT SIGNALS : Signalmen Lund, McGuire, Hogg, Gummer, Howell, and Spendelow.

GIBRALTAR : Lance Corporal Hodge and Signalman Dickens.

MALAYA : (Sailing on 14th September, 1938), Signalmen Hilton and Moffat.

HONG KONG : Lance Sergeant Ient, Corporals Howard and McCarthy, Signalmen Mackenzie and Grace.

Attachments.—Lieutenant W. J. A. Nicks, R.Signals (S.R.) was attached to the Unit from 2nd to 15th August for annual training.

Congratulations.—To Captain F. S. Whiteway-Wilkinson on his promotion to that rank, and also to Lance Corporal Snowball on his step up the ladder. Greetings also to " Little Willie " on attaining manhood.

Marriages.—We congratulate Signalman Phillips L. G. on taking the bold step. He was married to Miss Margaret Veronica Halligan at St. Joseph's Church, Guildford, on 30th July. Quite a number of the Unit witnessed the ceremony and attended the reception which was held at the Royal Hotel, Stoughton. An enjoyable evening—and morning in some cases—was spent by all. We wish the happy pair the very best of luck and happiness.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we record the death of Brian Norman, son of Signalman Austin, who died at the Louise Margaret Hospital, Aldershot, on Sunday, 7th August, at six weeks of age. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Signalman and Mrs. Austin in their sad bereavement.

Departures.—The undermentioned have left us for the Units stated. Corporal Poulton to School of Signals, and Lance Corporal Macaulay to 2nd Divisional Signals for duty in Palestine. We wish them the best of luck at their new Stations.

Queries.—Can bachelors go on the " Passion Lorry " ? If not, why not ?

What's wrong with " Sammy " ?
Who was " Little Old Lady " ?
Who is Judd Major ?
Why is Sammy (the old 'un) back in circulation ?

Tailpiece.—Heard on morning H.F. run. Message between two gunners with signalman on exchange duty :

1st Gunner : " Plane obscured."

2nd Gunner : " Please repeat."

Signalman (butts in) : " Plane secured."

Agony Column.—Malaya, Hiram P. Peck : What price " Blighty " ? Johnny Blackdown.

JAY EM GEE.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

16th August.

Training.—Our chief occupation since last month has been the job of filling up gaps, and rendering assistance in one way and another.

We supplied a number of switchboard operators and search-light telephonists for the Tattoo. Their job was not an easy one, because for a whole fortnight the men concerned seldom get to bed before 1 a.m.

The Tattoo was as picturesque as usual, but to one who has seen the last half-dozen shows at Tidworth, it appeared to lack that final touch which a show like the Royal Signals Motor Cycle Display would have given. Perhaps we shall be able to do this next year, for judging by the overflow of recruits in Field Units, we shall be well up to strength in Despatch Riders.

A demonstration at O.T.C. Camps with wireless sets and the mechanised cable-layer No. 1 was another of our jobs. We also assisted at the Southern Command Staff Duties Exercise.

When 48th Divisional Signals (T.A.) took the field as a Divisional Signals, we were able to help in regard to the provision of personnel, the No. 9 Set Detachments, a nucleus of a Cable Section, and Signal Office superintendents. We also undertook to run the messing throughout the Exercise.

Officers.—2nd Lieutenants P. T. S. Brown and A. J. Deane-Drummond have arrived from the Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp.

Sergeants' Mess.

Two more sides met once again on 23rd July to do battle with stick and ball. They were named the " Wiltshire Barbarians " and the " Wiltshire Dumplings." The " Barbarians " were recruited from the officers of the Unit assisted by others of lesser degree who were qualified by being able to grit their teeth, and what choice specimens they found in " Big Bill Phillp," " Helio Bonce," " Ergie," and " O'Rafferty."

The " Dumplings " were a lovely lot, the prize dumpling being a fine specimen known among the lesser fry as " Tarra " (R.S.M. Herbert). One of the opening pair was a lovely, dainty little thing from the Highlands by the name of Jock Watt.

The game had all the thrills of the latest Test Match, and certainly caused much laughter ; after all, isn't that why games should be played—for the enjoyment of the thing.

The climax of the first innings came when Captain Morton (R.Canadian Corps of Signals) was put on to bowl. He said he couldn't bowl. Someone replied, " Now's your chance to learn " (or words to that effect). However, he only had to get the last wicket ! Each ball that he put down was more than a trifle wide, and the harder the batsman (Futile Steve) tried to get at them, the more fury did his smiling countenance register ; he just wasn't able to hit the ball. When the umpire signalled each wide, Steve, who was not quite versed with the " willow " game, thought that the umpire was indicating by how much he had missed the ball. Smiling Steve, much to the amusement of the fielders, corroborated each signal. The team were reduced to a state of helplessness by their laughter.

The end of the game had a most fitting climax. The last ball of the match was due, and the scores were dead level. The ball is bowled ; there is a sound of rushing wind as the batsman swings his bat through the air. The ball is mishit, and travels slowly towards the second prize dumpling of the Stockton Clan. He waddles, rolls, and finally misses fielding the ball. The batsmen, with their bats in their teeth, travel at great speed and manage to reach their crease just before the wicket is broken. Shouts of delight, the Ba Ba's had won by one run. A very, very pleasant afternoon which had been enjoyed by all who played and watched.

The outstanding features of the match were the three catches made by C.S.M. Wattley, and particularly the one driven hard to fine leg by Major J. A. I. Watts, his own Company Commander. We must also record Sergeant Phillp's three wickets in four balls.

WILTSHIRE DUMPLINGS.

1ST INNINGS.

Sergeant Watt, c and b Watts	2
Signalman Hardwick, c Gordon, b Freeman	5
R.Q.M.S. Adcock, c Freeman, b Watts	0
Signalman Nixon, c Rafferty, b Woolrych	9
R.S.M. Herbert, c Rafferty, b Mundy	14
C.S.M. Wattley, c and b Mundy	0
C.Q.M.S. Eynott, lbw b Gordon	0
C.Q.M.S. Higham, b Wilson	0
Lance Corporal Herbert, st Phillp, b Staerck	2
Sergeant Stockton, c and b Wilson	4
C.S.M. Finney, b Wilson	0
Sergeant Stevens, not out	3
Extras	4
Total	43

2ND INNINGS.

Sergeant Phillp, b Gordon	33
C.Q.M.S. Eynott, b Wilson	2
R.S.M. Herbert, b Mundy	13
R.Q.M.S. Adcock, b Mundy	13
Sergeant Watt, b Barnes	32
Lance Corporal Herbert, c Watts, b Freeman	12
Signalman Nixon, c Mundy, b Watts	12
C.S.M. Wattley, b Watts	0
Sergeant Stockton, not out	1
Extras	12
Total	130

WILTSHIRE BARBARIANS.

1ST INNINGS.

Lieutenant Freeman, c Eynott, b Adcock	17
Sergeant Phillp, retired	52
Sergeant Staerck, c Eynott, b Nixon	6
Captain J. W. Gordon, c Wattley, b Adcock	5

Lieutenant Woolrych, c Wattley, b Adcock	6
Lieutenant Barnes, c Adcock, b Hardwick	7
Lance Sergeant Rafferty, lbw. b Lance Corporal Herbert	10
Captain J. G. F. Morton, c Nixon, b Hardwick	2
Lance Sergeant Mundy, c Stevens, b Lance Corporal Herbert	6
Major J. A. I. Watts, c Wattley, b Hardwick	5
Signalman Wilson, not out	0
Extras	6
Total	122

2ND INNINGS.

Captain J. W. Gordon, b Eynott	0
Lieutenant Freeman, run out	9
Lieutenant Barnes, not out	20
Lieutenant Woolrych, b Watt	11
Signalman Wilson, b Phillp	7
Lance Sergeant Stevens, b Phillp	0
Lance Sergeant Rafferty, b Phillp	0
Major J. A. I. Watts, not out	2
Extras	3
Total (for 6 wickets)	52

Southern Command Exercise, 9th to 12th August.—This Unit assisted one of their affiliated T.A. Units, namely the 48th (S.M.) Divisional Signals, to provide the 3rd Divisional Signals duties in this Exercise in the Yeovil Sherborne-Bruton Area.

Good comradeship and friendly liaison was established when both Units moved out independently to bivouacs on Monday, 8th August. The Exercise commenced at noon on 9th August, when Brigade Sections and Sub-Sections from " A " Section moved out to take up their respective positions. A Sergeants' Mess was opened in the field for the benefit of Divisional Headquarters Staff and Signal personnel.

Much was learnt by both Units, who were on most friendly terms throughout the Exercise, which terminated at Bruton at noon on 11th August. Units less " B " Section returned to camp and barracks about 6 p.m. on 11th August.

The Bone of Contention.—On Friday, 12th August, the wish of our forefathers was fulfilled once again when the Sergeants' Mess was " At Home " to members of the Sergeants' Mess of the 48th (S.M.) Divisional Signals in an Inter-Mess Games Tournament. The Cup for the winners comprised a Cans, oil, 1-quart inverted, the lid of which was a bung from an " XXXX " barrel, with a stud from a horse's headgear for a handle. The whole of this outfit was mounted on a base of boot polish tins suitably painted over with aluminium paint. The Corps Badge was fixed to the face of the Cup. Another trophy was the " Bone of Contention," which was a huge bone supplied by the cookhouse. It was suitably cleaned, varnished, and mounted on an oak base. The games arranged were billiards, whist, dominoes, cribbage, skittles, darts, poke dice, and shove ha'penny.

The Mess ran out easy winners by 30½ points to 20½ points. After the tournament, R.S.M. Bardoe, R.Q.M.S. Barlow, and their confreres, supplied the harmony. The trophies were then presented by Q.M.S. Portsmouth (R. Canadian Corps of Signals) known to all as " Pompy," who with a few well-chosen words amused and pleased the whole of the Company present.

R.S.M. Bardoe V. received the " Bone of Contention," on behalf of 48th Divisional Signals, and R.S.M. Herbert A. F. the Cup on behalf of the 3rd Divisional Signals.

A most enjoyable evening closed with " Auld Lang Syne."

Arrivals.—Q.M.S. Portsmouth, R. Canadian Corps of Signals, arrived on 27th July for a period of attachment. He has soon settled down and become one of us. We hope that his stay with us will be a pleasant one. We consider it quite in order to say that he is teaching us quite a lot.

ERGIE.

No. 4 Squadron, Mobile Divisional Signals.

Tilshead Camp, near Salisbury.

General.—We have been informed that it was time that this Unit figured in the WIRE again.

The Unit is enjoying itself under canvas in brilliant sunshine at Tilshead Camp, Wiltshire. We are deep in the throes of collective training. The majority have just returned from the August break, and are now on their way to take part in the Southern Command Signal Exercise.

Departures.—The undermentioned have left us for Government Training Centres: Signalmen Allen N., Price T., Lacey, Bracegirdle, Jones E., and Milner.

Congratulations.—To Major L. A. E. Tozer, C.Q.M.S. Kitchen and Corporal D. Smith on attaining their respective ranks.

Drafts.—Judging by the number of provisional warnings, we shall practically have a new Unit at the end of the forthcoming trooping season. So far the following have been warned: C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Gerrish A. (Gibraltar); Corporal Partridge L. and Signalman Ramm (Hong Kong); Lance Corporal Wathen (Tientsin); Signalmen Bates and Pierce (Malaya); Lance Corporal Marley E., Signalmen Beer, Falconer, Jackman, Drivers (I.C.) Williams D., and Stewart (Egypt); Corporals Berry and Wilson T., Lance Corporal Murray D., Signalmen Parkinson, Hookway, Button, Taylor K. (India).

Sport.—Owing to pressure of work, we have had very little time for any organised sport, but spare time is utilised in practising for the forthcoming winter season. Several budding footballers have been noted.

EL PEE.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Threecoy had a bumper average when the annual firing results were published. We are practically a Company of first-class shots. Well done, everybody!

We have started training again. So far we have had a Divisional Convoy Drive (Grand Tour of East Kent). It was gratis, and enjoyed by all concerned.

A modern Army barracks on a half-day can produce many weird noises, many of which are already familiar to our readers. We of Threecoy have a brand new one, and here is a brief description of it. Obtain a galvanised iron dust-bin, fill it with bricks, and then roll the bin down a steep hill. Superimpose on this 1,000 factory whistles at full blast. Take the silencers off a 1924 model " T " Ford. Rev. it as hard as you can, and finally add the blood curdling shriek of a " banshee." Combine all these and you have our " George-Heath Robinson Special." Nobody can rate its power, but what a row!

The new training uniform has made its first public appearance in the Company. It is on trial and certainly looks modern and efficient.

The King's Birthday Parade took place on the Unit Parade Ground. The Unit marched past like Guardsmen. We need not remind others that Threecoy showed every one how it should be done.

For the benefit of those Units abroad, Canterbury is not in the anti-cyclone area, which means that our quota of the wonderful English summer is rain, rain, and more rain. So stay abroad unless a groundsheet suits your particular type.

Arrivals and Departures.—We extend a hearty welcome to all arrivals, and good luck and *bon voyage* to those who have left us.

Our Star Reporter Says.—Little is known about Signalman Irwin's past life, but we do know that he was a film star prior to enlistment, and had a leading part in the " Birth of a Nation." He ran for the doctor!

Wanted.—An efficient silencer for a high-powered wireless set. Will buy outright or exchange for back numbers of the *Sporting Life* right back to 1910. Apply to " Olly," " K " Section.

Things We Want To Know.—Which Driver in the Company had so many candles on his birthday cake that it looked like a forest fire?

How many second trippers are there on the boat this year?

Which Signalman was found soulfully singing to an empty beer bottle, " Thanks for the Memory "?

If the Unit gardener knows Mr. Middleton ?

If the Unit runner wore a topee, would he look like a tortoise ?

Who is the great lover ?

What is really the composition of a rissole (accent on the " i ")?

The month's palm goes to the Signalman who went into the office to see his Sergeant Major in order to ask him what procedure was necessary to change his name.

" What is your full name now," asked the C.S.M.
" Charles Smells," replied the Signalman.
" I quite agree that any one with a name like that would like to change it," said the C.S.M. " And what would you like it to be now ? "
" John Smells," was the reply.

The Month's High Spot.—Scene : The Educational Hut. A long-suffering N.C.O. is trying to instil into the minds of a class of N.F.R.s the mysteries of maths.

N.C.O. : " Now Signalman Polebar, if you put your hand in one pocket of your slacks and pulled out half-a-crown, and put your hand in the other pocket and pulled out ninepence, what would you have ? "
Student : " Someone else's slacks on, Sergeant ! "

Sport.—The Unit still boasts an excellent cricket team, which is very surprising considering that the Unit is so small.

Tennis.—The new all ranks tennis court is now open, and Threecoy seem to be taking full advantage of it.

Swimming.—Swimming is still in full swing, but no Inter-Section competitions have yet been attempted, for who can trust the weather.

Agony.—Bisto. " So you can't take it ? Pancho."

Dicky the Dolt. " I will soon be in Gib. Mac."

Higham. " You are too late. E.J.C."

Weeping Willow. " So you finally came out of your shell. Roycon."

Tail End.—Threecoy says *au revoir* till next time, and " Roycon " says goodbye.

ROYCON.

" F " Section.

Le Cateau Barracks, Colchester.

12th August.

General.—Having completed one month of our stay in Colchester (which incidentally included eleven days' leave in August), we are now very busy preparing for our month at camp with the 27th Field Regiment R.A. at Wattisham in the wilds of Suffolk. We leave here on the 16th of this month complete with all baggage, so that on the termination of the last Exercise we can return direct to Canterbury.

The first month passed pleasantly enough, with plenty of Schemes with the 27th Field Regiment.

The month has been noted for the number of changes in Section personnel due to heavy calls for foreign service by Records. If called upon to supply any more, we shall finish up at camp with one operator sending a message from one set, and then driving up the road to receive it at the other end !

Amongst our numerous departures was Sergeant Barry T., our former Section Sergeant, who has proceeded to " A " Corps Signals, Aldershot, minus his " bus," which was affectionately called " The Knocker." We wish him the best of luck in his new Unit, and sincerely hope that he will not forget the map reference of the Salisbury Hotel, Colchester. To those other departures who have left the Section since our arrival here we also send our best wishes for the future.

FIGHTING " F."

" G " Section.

Three guesses as to our present location. As we thought, you are all wrong. We now take you over to Colchester, where each morning the happy smiling faces of " G " Signal Section can be seen as we go about our daily tasks.

Starting out from Canterbury nearly thirty strong, our gallant ranks have been reduced to eight by flood, fire, pestilence and famine. (Well, hardly these exactly, but you know what we mean.) Anyway, there are darned few of us left.

Most of us managed to tear ourselves away for a few days' leave at the beginning of August, and the overwhelming majority appear to have had a very good time.

The yokels and locals of the neighbourhood have got to know us fairly well, and we feel sure that many broken hearts will accompany us into our involuntary exile when we " go under canvas."

News.—This week's true story. Once upon a time, dear readers, there was a Sergeant who felt thirsty after the manner of his kind. As he was on convoy, and the day was hot, a halt for a drink of water (who said anything else ?) seemed indicated. Suddenly, a beautiful sign hove into view. That of the " Horse and Hounds."

" Halt ! " Never had any military voice commanded with such decision before, nor such an invasion of thirsty Sergeantry been known. Alas, much as it grieves our truthful scribe to write these words, the sign was false, or to say the least, somewhat misleading. It was that of a Riding School. No prizes are offered for the nearest correct guess of the Sergeant's unspoken comments.

WM. G. GRAY.

Northern Ireland District Signal Company, Belfast.

At the moment we are in the throes of collective training, and apart from the fact that everyone is very busy there is very little of general interest to record.

On 20th and 21st July, H.Q. Section proceeded to Ballykinler to fire their Annual Musketry Course, and considering that weapon training is not a matter of daily routine with us, the results were very gratifying. As our Ballykinler scribe remarks, " No bodies have yet been found," and we think that speaks for itself.

This month's congratulations are accorded to Lance Sergeants McLaren and Maguire on reaching the stage where the monthly kit inspection holds no further terrors for them. Make it a " double " Paddy, and then I'll collect my drink.

Mr. Records is having a jolly time with us this year. The latest to receive his " marching orders " is Lance Corporal Gray, who is Malaya bound. The inventory has been duly amended.

Things We Would Like To Know.—Does a " C " Mk.I really work without L.T. batteries ?

What is the price of food at Ballycastle ?

In Memoriam.—R.I.P. One teddy bear coat and hat, departed this life August, 1937. " The memory lingers on—Jock." Rawalpindi papers please copy.

BALLYKINLER DETACHMENT.

We are not going to take the Unit scribe's copy for these notes, but we were glad to see so many of the old faces on the occasion of the Annual Musketry Outing. So far no bodies have been found ; maybe we didn't look carefully enough.

With new brick buildings looming up all around the camp, it seemed fitting that the roads should be named. This has now been done, and such names as " Steelback Avenue " and Talavera Road " can be seen prominently displayed. New arrivals enquiring for the W/T. Station will, in future, be directed as follows, " Just go along Quebec Road, turn right down Maida Road, cross over Steelback Avenue, and you will find the Station round the corner."

Congratulations to Lance Sergeants Maguire and McLaren on their appointments, and to Signalman McCulloch on obtaining his 2nd Class Certificate of Education.

Moves.—Lance Corporal Reece from Belfast to Ballykinler to take over the reins from Lance Corporal Whitters, who has departed to try some more of the " Londonderry Air " which, it is said, killed " Danny Boy " !

In conclusion, good luck and *bon voyage* to those whc hav e left us for the Far East.

SAND ILLS.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

Arrivals and Departures.—Colonel G. L. G. Pollard, M.B.E., our Commandant, returned from two months' Blighty leave during July. Lieutenant-Colonel T. B. Gravely, O.B.E., and his wife left us for a spell in a cooler clime. We have lost one of our golfers in Lance Corporal White, who has been posted to Peshawar District Signals.

Brighter Aspects.—We are now racking our brains to find suitable names for the avenues of young trees planted round our parade ground. A few suggestions have been forthcoming, but we very much doubt if they will be approved for general use, and for the present are being kept " under our hats." One-way traffic signs have not yet been erected, although one or two bye-laws have already been enforced.

Golf.—The Sergeants' Mess Tournament is reported elsewhere. The golf course at present is apt to be waterlogged in places, and it is a case of " swimming round the course," especially after a downpour. Those who have been in India will know what things are like.

Notes on Kit for Jubbulpore.—When serving abroad, we invariably say, " Roll on the boat," and wish that we were back in good old Blighty. Since it is a case of having to do the tour, then why should not we have as good a time as possible, and make the best of what our Station offers ?

With this in mind, it is hoped that the following hints will prove helpful to those destined for Jubbulpore during the coming trooping season.

There are many things which one can buy and bring out which will represent a saving both in price and quality. It is realised that want of baggage-space will prevent the Signalman or Junior N.C.O. from bringing most of the items ; the Senior N.C.O. should have little difficulty in finding room for practically all of them.

CLOTHING.—Civilian clothes are allowed to be worn by all ranks—flannel trousers and sports jacket, pullover, black shoes, socks, ties, shirts, undervests and shorts. White flannel trousers are seldom used, and are hardly worth bringing out, though white socks should certainly be in the list. A felt or velour hat and a good raincoat are well worthy of inclusion.

Thick clothing is seldom needed, though the early mornings and evenings during December-February are rather chilly. For the Senior N.C.O.s who may be " Nautch Wallahs " or have masonic interests, a dress suit is worth bringing and, of course, a lounge suit is also more or less essential. Tnin silk or cotton suits are best purchased here.

SPORT.—One need never be idle for want of a game of some sort, as almost every interest is provided for. Both the Sergeants' Mess and the Junior N.C.O.s and men have good tennis courts. Rackets here vary in price and are reasonable, so please yourself on this point.

Football, hockey and rugby is played frequently and soccer boots should not be left benind by the enthusiast, who can be assured of his " fill " of games.

The Signal Training Centre (India) boasts an excellent golf course, and since all ranks pay a common flat rate subscription which covers all sports, everybody is eligible to play. Clubs are particularly dear here, and it would certainly be much cheaper to buy them at home. The occasional player can hire clubs for four annas per round, and as caddies are only paid two annas, it will be seen that this very interesting game is well within the reach of all.

SHOOTING.—In no other Station in India is the B.O.R. better able to enjoy the thrills and pleasures of both big and small game shooting. Although the rules have been somewhat tightened in recent years, there is still ample scope for abundant sport, and the biggest thrills of your life are to be had here if you are interested in this healthy out-door sport. Tiger, panther, black (C.P.) bear, deer, pig and crocodile, as well as wild duck and a few partridge and hare, are to be found in the neighbouring jungles.

Two blocks or sections of jungle, neither of which are too far from barracks, are reserved solely for the use of British other ranks. If you possess a gun or rifle, bring it out (after making certain of the necessary formalities). Otherwise, take your chance of getting one here.

FISHING.—This sport is quite good, so our angling expert assures me. Those who are keen should not forget to pack their 10-12 ft. Greenheart.

SWIMMING.—As will be apparent from our success in winning the Brigade Sports this year, there is scope for the swimmer. A costume can easily be tucked away in an odd corner of your kit-bag.

That just about concludes our list, but it may be useful to add that shorts and stockings will be found valuable for wear on the boat, and a place should be found for these in your sea kit-bag. Do not, however, bring more than is actually required for the journey.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

Golf.—The Mess Golf Handicap has been won this year by C.Q.M.S. Jackson, and some exciting and very often amusing golf has been seen. The latter was no doubt only to be expected, since many members who very sportingly entered, had not played before. All games were decided on match play, which the winner considers correct. Of course he does ; didn't he take 18 strokes to do the first hole, when playing the R.S.M. ?

Wright and Page probably played the best match of the competition, and although Page had an excellent advantage (30 strokes) and played a splendid game, he could not hold Wright, who, playing on top of his form and hitting the ball an amazing distance, eventually won at the 16th by 3 and 2.

R.S.M. Nash and C.Q.M.S. Jackson played under real Blighty championship conditions. From the 6th onwards, rain tippled down in pukka monsoon fashion. " Rules is rules," says St. Andrews, and so the game went on ! The R.S.M., unfortunately, had an off day, whereas Jackson's Jigger (his mainstay) did nothing wrong.

The final took place on Tuesday, 19th July, in fine weather, and the conditions were good.

Jackson startled the crowd with a 6 on the first hole against 8 by Wright. What disdain for the Committee, who gave him 2 strokes here ! The next round found him " scratching." After about a dozen attempts, he picked up and gave the hole to Wright.

From then onwards a ding-dong struggle ensued, with Wright playing much below form. By the 13th, Wright had managed to get 3 up, but he fell off again, and Jackson won the remainder to finish 2 up.

Army Signal School (India).

Poona, 30th July.

General.—We are sorry to be late with these notes. Unfortunately, a routine existence doesn't give one much scope for interesting notes, and the bits, which are gleaned, have to be saved very carefully until there are sufficient for one or two pages.

We have to correct a *faux pas* made in our last notes. It was stated that Major V. C. Holland had joined us from Peshawar District Signals, whereas he had arrived from Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop at Risalpur. Apologies to Peshdist for having placed him on your pay roll.

We have only the usual news to relate. Courses come and go with their failures, passes, D's, and specials. There are not many failures, a fact which speaks well for the methods of instruction

employed here. We did have one " Brainy Bertie " who couldn't for the life of him see how to divide half by two, and still get an answer, but by the end of the Course, and with the aid of a mallet, the instructors managed to convey the idea to him. Alas, it was too late to do him any good. Some of the students on the last Course could certainly talk; they must have been inoculated with a gramophone needle. Still, they managed to keep it up fairly well in their final tests.

The first Yearly Course is usually the one when the Poona druggists proceed to make small fortunes as the weather becomes a little too warm to be comfortable.

On a tour of inspection, one can usually see " Mr. Kruschen," " Yeast Vite," " Andrews," and " Okasa and Co.," parading on their little side shelves ready to go on a four anna bit, or be taken three times a day. Progress appears to be fairly satisfactory, for we never saw an A.I. really out of temper. Writing of inspections reminds us that Royal Signals personnel seem to be well to the fore in regard to the smartness and tidiness of their beds, cleanliness of equipment, etc., points which speaks well for both the personnel concerned and their Units.

Arrivals and Departures.—Since our last notes we have lost Corporals Pratt and Ransome, the former to the C.P. Police, and the latter to Kohat. In their places we have Lance Corporals Jones I. and Chapman H. from Rawalpindi. It is hoped that their stay will be a long and happy one.

We also have to record the arrival of a son to C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Gibbard C. on 14th June. He has been blessed with two good names—William George, and shouldn't get any black eyes with these.

Sergeants' Mess.—We haven't much of interest to record this time for things are very quiet. George has lost his job of catering for the needs of the present hungry generation. Owing to advancing years and a touch of debility he decided to hand his job over to a budding " Lyons." If it is true that fish makes brains, then Mr. Pitman will soon have to close down his academy.

The Poona Races are in progress at present. This event involves brain work of another kind—What's going to win, and how much shall be put on it? It's amazing what one can do with ten annas provided, of course, that the first two annas win something. By the end of the season the backers should be millionaires—in experience, if not in pocket.

The only things a racecourse ever gave the writer was mushrooms and a pain in the neck. To me the most enjoyable part of a race is listening to other people when they hold forth on what the jockey should have done, and so on.

Howlers.—Heard on a Scheme: " Now keep in your sections, and march in fours two miles on either side of the road."

Question: " What are the three terminals for on a D.Mk.III ? "

Answer: " Two for the current to go out, and one for it to come back."

Siemens missed a good man here.

FEATHERS.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

"A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Upper Topa.

6th August.

General.—Once more a successful Operator Signals Upgrading Course in Topa has terminated, and we are now richer by a number of BIIs and several BIIIs, to whom we tender our congratulations. There were only a very small number of failures, and to them we say, " Better luck next time."

Immediately after the conclusion of the Trade Board, the majority of the students were sent out to relieve personnel of Sections in Waziristan, thus providing them with ample opportunity of carrying on the good work of the Course in a practical way.

The Class I Course, of approximately six weeks duration, has now commenced, and many old members of the Unit have returned to us for this Course. The end of the Course will see a Khud season over for another year, and we shall return to Rawalpindi to enjoy (?) a nice cold winter.

When the change over between the two Courses was taking place, Topa had a more deserted appearance than ever, but as the Linemen's Course and Second Operators' Course has commenced, we are now almost full up again, and a bungalow which had not formerly been used this season has been opened to accommodate the new arrivals.

A party from " B " Corps Signals joined us last month in order to assist in the testing of the No. 3 Sets. We hope that they will have a very successful experience with these Sets, and that R9 signals will be forthcoming all the time.

Activities here during the month have been practically at a standstill owing to the inclement weather, a matter which is only to be expected at this time of the year, but things are improving now, and it is hoped to resume football, hockey, etc., very soon.

The only sport that would have been possible is water polo on the flooded tennis courts, but as there was nobody hardy enough to start a game, nothing has happened.

Our football team is now in training for the forthcoming Murree Tournament, and we are very optimistic of success this year.

Postings and Transfers.—Only two this month. Signalman Langley A. arrived from 1st Indian Divisional Signals, and Signalman Charlesworth H. was posted to the Signal Training Centre, Jubbulpore, for employment with Army Headquarters Wireless Section, Simla.

The Lighter Side.—Scene: The Orderly Room. Time: Just after midnight. The Duty Clerk is sleeping very peacefully when the silence of the night is shattered by the frantic ringing of the civil telephone. Thinking some very important message was coming, the D.C. leapt out of bed, grabbed a message pad and dashed to the phone, only to hear the following: " Is that Upper Topa ? Will you ask the Guard Commander to mark in Lance Corporal G——n and Signalman L——e, as it is far too wet for us to come back from Murree." (No prizes are offered for guessing their names.)

Orderly Officer at the Fire Piquet Parade: " The petrol dump is on fire."

Piquet Commander (very smartly): "All right; double away and form a chain with the water buckets."

Agony.—Nobby, Aldershot. " *Who* won a duck ? "

Stop Press.—Congratulations to C.S.M. Betts H. and Sergeant West C. on attaining their respective ranks.

PEDLAR.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

30th July.

General.—Once again the Unit has begun to find itself back in normal channels. At least, what is left of it, after the winding trail to Topa, second-half Courses, and the longer trail to the wild north-west for a holiday among the tribesmen had taken place.

Much excitement has prevailed since our last contribution, following the fireworks display at Bannu. We are told that everyone thought it was the 5th November. The monsoon has visited us since this date, however, and has cooled down both us and 'Pindi. The atmospheric change has been so great that Boards of Survey no longer worry us, and the chaps are fit enough to deal with lashkars in bundles of ten.

The most exciting topic of the moment seems to be the new mess-room, which has been conveniently placed in the centre of our once much-revered parade ground. The monsoons have tried to remove the adornment, but it has, like a warrior, remained firm.

It was a pleasure to read in our local Indian papers that the Corps display team were giving their show at the Aldershot Tattoo again this year. This display is always one of the high

lights of these events and does much to keep the name of the Signals in the public eye.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following who have joined us from the Stations stated : Lieutenant J. M. S. Tulloch, returned from U.K. leave ; W.O. Rhodes, I. A.E.C., who was closely associated with the Corps at Aldershot ; Corporal McGivern W., from the Army Signal School, Poona ; and Signalman Pearson from Waziristan.

Departures.—The undermentioned have left the Unit for the destinations indicated : To Waziristan : Sergeant Minchin C., Lance Sergeant O'Brien A. (our cricket hope), Corporal McGivern W. and Signalman Keating. To W/T Station, Poona : Signalmen Walker and Pearson.

Births.—We wish to congratulate Captain and Mrs. E. C. Thompson on the arrival of a daughter, Sally Ann Matheson, at London, on 14th February. Also Sergeant and Mrs. Standen R. on being presented with a daughter, Sheila May, at the B.M.H., Khanspur, on 9th July.

Re-engagements.—Corporal Young F. and Lance Corporal Sharp A. re-engaged to complete twelve years with the Colours.

Sergeants' Mess.—The great feature of the Mess these days is the constant changing of its personnel.

We have no items of barrack furniture of importance, and our members are not listed as per inventory. Of course, we have our celebrities, but even these take it into their heads to flit off to the hills occasionally. We hear that Richard was off his Connor ; he could prove it for he hadn't twisted for five long, weary days, and had only had a normal ration. Pat O'Brien, who has re-instated himself as a cricketer against the I.A.S.C. by a 20 not out in two overs, has also gone away to prove that he can hold them back elsewhere as well.

Gardening Notes.—A brief description of the gardens in general may be of interest to grass widows. Banana trees seem to be a peculiarity of the residents in No. 9 block. This is reflected in the area outside their quarters by the beautiful carpet designs in the grass and mutti.

It seems that the essentials of a beautiful garden are a wall to enclose it to ensure peace and tranquility ; running water (except on Thursdays) with chutes, cascades and falls to cool the burning heat of the sun and to delight the eye ; beautiful flowers and sweet perfumes (more banana trees and Sergeants' Mess drains) to charm the senses. If a wall is not available, remember the fence. The garden should be square, rectangular or any other shape ; it depends on the previous owner.

I wonder when narcissus bulbs are planted, and where one gets them ?

This week's transfers. Four rose bushes and ten roots of violets from the Company gardens to Quarters. Roses and violets should be removed during this month apparently, but why take all the Kharab ones. A good idea is to label them whilst they are in bloom in order to safeguard against mistakes occurring when they are removed by moonlight. Above all, remember that gardens should be profusely watered with a diluted disinfectant to prevent cholera.

Radio News.—A new station has been found, so it is related by wireless fiends of the Unit. Whether it broadcasts music, or lectures in Pushtu, we are unable to ascertain. Perhaps the " Foreman " can help us. We hear that he receives a lot of " fan mail " from these enthusiasts.

Sergeants' Mess Agony.—Which Mess member said that he only had a ginger beer the night before, and then declared that he had seen a rat trying his hat on the next morning ? You win, Freddie !

Is there any possibility of " Purr " ever getting caught ? We hear that Charlie was asked if he had been posted to the Unit, when he returned from another week-end.

Things We Would Like to Know.—Which Orderly N.C.O., in a hurry for Staff Parade, fell down the hole where the flagstaff used to be. You must get up " Earl-y " if you want to be on parade before they have finished tolling the ten ! On second thoughts, it is just as well that the flagstaff was not there, for mud will wash off, but flagstaffs are expensive items.

The Southend choir boy tried to give us a song just before reveille one dull morning. To the ears of the music lovers, the performance should have sounded like a selection from "A Monastery Garden," but, sad to relate, we all thought it was " Flappy " going great guns on his " cigar box-cum-cable-cum-Chinese home-made fiddle." Have you tried a musical saw, " Flappy " ? If so, you might saw off a few bars of a real tune for the aspiring choir boy.

Important Agony.—Scarboroughites look out ! Jock Thomson is coming home on the first boat. M.M. and P.P., please note. Never mind the town band, just concentrate on the " womp," as sea air makes one thirsty.

Wanted—Pen Pals.—Two lady killers are anxious for Pen Pals. They do not suffer from writer's cramp, and guarantee to answer all letters. So come on girls, do your stuff. Only blondes need send photographs. Address your missives to " Smudger " and " Flappy."

Heard on a Moonlight Night.—Which certain " young " N.C.O. practises his words of command for sword drill in his sleep ? He should consider himself very lucky that none of his listeners, who were kept awake, could find a sword at the time.

We Would Like to Know.—A recent No. 1 Company orderly, whilst on leave in Upper Topa, fell over the khud one night. Is it true that the " pani " in the hills has a " Murree and Bright " taste about it, Mac. ?

Sports Note.—The Unit hockey team are to be commended on their excellent performance in a recent match against the Punjab Police, which they won by 3 goals to 2. Excellent covering, resolute tackling and wholehearted team spirit was an outstanding feature of the team's display. The Police team have two members who have been All-India players, and the strength of their team may be gauged accordingly. The tackling by our members prevented them settling down to their normal game. Our goalkeeper, Signalman Dawson, made several very good saves, and the team as a whole excelled themselves. We only hope that the incentive of this win will encourage them to further displays of a similar nature.

BEE BEE.

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

8th August.

"And then, and then came Spring, and, rose in hand, my threadbare penitence apieces tore." Something must be lurking at the back of my mind since the other night to make me start off like that. We were all gathered—but, never mind, it's too long a story, and I make a point of confining my most interesting stories to lectures on " E. and M." The brilliant tales I can tell of those inseparables, " Inductance and Capacity " ; my audiences have been enthralled by my flashing wit, and have sat intoxicated and trance-like during those happy hours. Ah, me ! I know they'll never again appreciate my subtle jokes.

However, all that is over and done with for this year, and now let me offer the public some astounding, albeit grievous, news. These notes are the swan song, as it were, of the combination who have provided the Risalpur contribution for some time past. We can offer no compensation to the vast mass of the reading public who must have felt that we were such dear old gentlemen, and have looked forward so eagerly to the next issue of the WIRE, from which to garner the fruits of our pens (perhaps pencils and not so much of that !).

One must snap at opportunities, and as one of the leading " dailies " has asked us for a series of snappy and truthful stories on the soldier's life in India, we closed on the deal at the modest fee of £1,000 per story and a bonus for every scandal that will bring some unfortunate Lance Corporal crashing from his pedestal. We understand that " Nobby " has decided to retire, and so we know of one person whose tears will no longer rust the typewriter whilst trying to decipher our " copy."

The main point about Risalpur in July is that we are thankful July is no longer amongst us. It was a nasty month and activities were limited to the horizontal position, and even that wasn't very comfortable.

Still we saw life on two occasions when we turned out for a night march, and the second case when the Brigade turned out at short notice at the incomprehensibly early hour of 5 a.m. On

the night march (a Unit Scheme), we crossed some very difficult country beyond Rashkai Minor way, and finally landed up at our halting point at the time when we should have been back in lines.

After an excellent meal and a couple of bottles that were better still, it was decided to shake down behind the piquet line and await the dawn before making the return journey. We must have presented a sorry sight returning along the road (yes, I said road), covered with mud from the ditches, and not quite our immaculate selves. Too, too rapturously funny, my dear, to see someone making a fine attempt at the "splits" across a muddy ditch with a horse enjoying a beauty bath in the depths below. As usual, the humour of these situations is appreciated later on.

We knew nothing about the Brigade turn-out until ten o'clock the previous night, owing, I think, to the bath house wireless being out of order that day; and did we have to hustle? We made the grade with rather less than nothing to spare, and with rain to add to our discomforts. After inspection by the District Commander, just the other side of Rashkai, the weather clerk had the temerity to pour it over us again. We were heartily glad to get back and doff the dripping war-paint.

A slight deviation from the base line, but after that I fell to ruminating in my senile way as to what this mechanisation is like, although I'm the sort of chap who tries to mount on the off-side or puts the right foot in the stirrup unless tapped smartly on the shoulder. I cannot view without a pang the passing of the horse; perhaps it is because I still cherish the forlorn hope of one day being able to ride one of the brutes. Away with this sentimental drivel; they can mechanise the Camel Corps for all I care.

We are very glad indeed to report that our O.C., Captain Gambier, is now out of hospital, and congratulate him on his early return to health. We hope that he will be perfectly fit after his sick leave for the forthcoming training season.

The U(topians) returned to us and stables last week. It proved a Utopia for them, as complete success is reported on the BIII and BII Courses. Those of rustier vintage tread warily and assume an air of indifference when the "peizzo-electric" effect is being learnedly discussed. The official confirmation is not yet available, so we will mention the names of the lucky lads next time. A further batch of our enthusiasts sallied to the Hills, and—what? To make an attempt for their Class I rating. It is early to conjecture, but we hope they do their stuff by old Heaviside!

The N.C.O.s, under Mr. Yule, our second-in-command, are progressing battle by battle. Actually it is too easy, and I understand that the War Office is to dismiss several Brigadiers to make way for the talent that exists amongst us.

Sport has dropped off somewhat, although several friendly tennis tournaments against Squadron teams from the 13/18th Hussars have been played off. There were no decisive victories, but the games were very enjoyable.

In the hockey games against Squadron and Battery teams, the old '22s have held sway. Our victories over the Squadron teams are probably due to the exodus of their best players to the Hills. With our strategists and tactical wizards we should do great things in the future, always provided our L-of-C isn't threatened from the right flank, and our appreciation of thought is swift enough.

Several of the men with the "necessary" took advantage of July's fickleness and enjoyed a month's respite up in the Hills. We understand that some went hiking, others recuperated.

In closing these notes for the last time, we invite anyone with enthusiasm and the will to succeed to communicate, under an assumed name, with "Chiccablanca" at our palatial offices in the Sadar Bazaar, Risalpur, between the hours of 5 a.m. and 11 p.m., bringing sufficient references to enable us to make a getaway, and if you can manage a deposit of £100, don't be frightened of embarrassing us; we have no pride.

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Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Sergeants' Mess.

Departures.—On 7th July a large number of Mess members assembled at Peshawar Cantonment Station, together with the Adjutant (Lieutenant W. A. K. Stodart) and the Quartermaster (Lieutenant and Quartermaster C. H. Caulfield), and three of our Indian officers, to bid farewell to R.S.M. Bramley F. and Mrs. Bramley and their two daughters, who left for Bombay by the Frontier Mail *en route* for the U.K. on S.S. Rajputana.

Mr. and Mrs. Bramley have arrived in England, and all Mess members join in congratulating Mr. Bramley on being gazetted to a commission. We wish him good luck in the future.

Social.—With the hot weather season in full swing, Mess members have enjoyed one away match and one home match in games tournaments *versus* the India Army Corps of Clerks W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess. The games included billiards, snooker and darts, followed by a handicap 21-up at billiards. Although just losing the away match, we made up for it by winning the home match with a comfortable margin of over 100 points.

There is little opportunity at present for much social life as the families are still away at the Hill Stations (those mysterious places which appear to be almost geographically inaccessible but nevertheless exceedingly popular as holiday resorts even though it is Changla Gali, Barian, etc.). Several members had an excellent tour to Srinagar, Kashmir, in June, and returned looking robust in health *and* figure.

Tennis.—Despite the high temperatures in Peshawar during July and August, Mess members have been well represented in the Unit Tennis Tournament, the results of which will appear in due course.

Revolver Shooting.—We have also found further recreation in practising for the Strettell Revolver Cup Shoot and hope that three or four Mess members will eventually be selected for the Unit team.

Arrivals.—R.Q.M.S. Strange F. G. arrived from the U.K. on 20th June as relief for R.S.M. (now Lieutenant) F. Bramley. He appears to appreciate the pleasant surroundings of Khyber Barracks and the Cantonment. He started his first week in India with a trip to the Landi Kotal detachment on a day when the temperature reached 110, and apparently enjoyed the experience of seeing the Khyber Pass in the heat of the noonday sun. To him we extend a very hearty welcome, and trust that his stay with us will prove most enjoyable.

Indoor Games.—Some very enjoyable social evenings have been held in the Mess during the last six weeks in connection with the Unit Indoor Games Tournaments of billiards, snooker and darts, organised by Captain R. C. B. Stuart and Lance Sergeant Atkinson. The Mess has entertained and been entertained by members of the Corporals' Mess and the Men's Mess. The last round has still to be completed. The tournament will be followed by an Individual Championship.

Obituary.—It is with sincere regret that we have to report the death of Shirley, the younger daughter of Sergeant and Mrs. Finney, which took place on 24th April last. All ranks join in offering their condolences to the bereaved parents.

G.

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

"B" Corps Signals, Karachi.

'Struth; what a job it is trying to write these notes after an afternoon of shocks. We have just finished playing cricket in the Inter-Section Tournament—Headquarters versus "O" Section, with the former strong favourites and winners of the clock. Did we think it was "a piece of cake"? No matter where the ball was hit, these "O" Section fellows had a pair of safe hands and down the wickets tumbled. Only 33 runs wanted to win the match and eight wickets down for 27. What a relief to find our "Sam" with his back to the wall, together with young Symonds—match winners every time—and once again they succeeded. Well done, "O" Section! You fought against great odds. Now let's settle down to business.

The first Trade Test Board is over, with varied results, and the second one is in progress. It means plenty of hard work and study for we don't get something for nothing these days. We are awaiting the results to see what the harvest yields.

At last the boat list is out, and there is a feeling of anxiety amongst those due to go to Blighty as to who will be on the first boat. Don't worry, chaps, your friends will wait a few months for you after a weary wait of five years; think of the poor blighters who are just about to come out; what a laugh you've got over them. It will be a treat to get back amongst the green fields and snow, wind, rain and fog, and a good "blighty one" with a top on it.

For the information of new drafts due to join this Unit from Blighty during the coming trooper, it might be interesting to them to know that civilian clothes may be worn at this Station by soldiers who have three years' service. Any suiting of a light material is appropriate. Footballers would be well advised to bring boots with them.

I would like to inform the friends of Signalman MacDonald that he is now making steady progress towards recovery.

This will be my last effort as scribe for this Unit as I am due to move off into the "blue," and I hand over the reins to anyone who cares to have the job. It is an honorary position, and not much use to professional journalists.

CHARZI.

Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess.

July.

General.—Hello, "soaks"! (Sorry, I mean folks.) On consideration, the first wasn't so far out, because we had the Navy in at the beginning and again at the end of the month.

We welcome to the fold Lance Sergeant Nicholls G. R. from 2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta, on temporary attachment during Upgrading Courses, and hope that he finds the change to his liking. Lance Sergeant Myddleton has departed for attachment to "A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, or thereabouts, for a Course of Instruction on the No. 3 Set. Enjoy yourself, Jock!

The monsoons hit us during the beginning of July, but the sting was taken out of the punch elsewhere this year, as it was exceedingly mild and we have only had an occasional shower here and there.

The Mess garden proceeds apace, and the hedge near the road is now over three feet high. The lawns and flower beds are looking very fit, and with the addition of a fence the cows and donkeys are not able to do so much damage.

Mess activities during the month have not been so numerous, but those functions which took place were exceptionally good. During the first week a very successful "Tin and Bottle" was held for Mess members only, and some good tennis was enjoyed by all. We must add that the P.M.C. and entertainments committee did us very well, and it was surprising to note the number of beer bottles (or was it stout?) that was in evidence amongst the prizes. The first prize went to Sergeant Scratcher and Mrs. Frampton; and the second prize to Sergeant Smith and Mrs. Brice. After tennis we had a "Hop" in the Mess, which was also very successful.

The following week an ambitious "sporty" programme was arranged by the committee, to wit, a Mess cricket match against the Sergeants' Mess, Royal Scots Fusiliers, which ended in a win for us. After tea, while cricket was in progress, there was tennis for the others. A large party of the C.P.O.s and P.O.s' Mess of H.M.S. Deptford had joined us for the day. After tennis and cricket had finished, a bus-load of ladies from the Royal Scots arrived, and the evening was spent in a games tournament inside the Mess. The result of this tournament is still a mystery. There was also dancing outside for those of us who were unable to participate in the games. On the whole a very jolly crowd, and a very enjoyable evening.

A Mess snooker open tournament commenced during the middle of the month and has so far progressed to the second round. We are on the look-out for "dark horses"; we fancy the R.S.M. knows the right end of the cue. Look out for the results next month.

On the 28th, H.M.S. Shoreham put in at Karachi, and on the 29th a party of C.P.O.s and P.O.s came along to spend part of the evening in the Mess, afterwards attending the Unit All-Ranks Dance on the tennis courts.

Concerning dances, we are holding a big affair on 20th August as a farewell function to Headquarters, Western Command, who are leaving Karachi once again for Quetta. Invitations have been sent to everyone in Karachi, and judging by the present acceptances it should be a huge success.

In the Union Jack Club Team Tennis Tournament, our Unit "A" team look like winning easily. Up to now they have played three matches, winning all of them with great ease There are four Mess members in this team. On the other hand, our own Mess team, entered as Unit "C" team, did not fare so well, and were disposed of in the first game.

Tennis is still a favourite pastime of the Mess members and their wives, and the courts are always in use every day of the week. During next month, two tournaments are to be held for the ladies only. Firstly an "Open" Cup, and secondly a "Handicap" Cup. Both Cups are very handsome trophies and were provided by the Canteen Contractor, a fact which makes them more remarkable. Our P.M.C. "scrounged" them, but how he does it we shall never know.

Well, friends, that is all for this time. By the time this appears in print, "Ginger" Tant and "Tim" Healey will probably be back with us again. *Bon voyage* to them, and all the best to everyone.

CATERER.

No. 2 Company.

Individual Training.—Our second Course has just started, and those who attended the last Trade Board are anxiously watching Part II's. That extra sixpence a day is possibly the reason.

Notebooks (in all colours) are much in evidence, and many studious (?) looking members of the Unit can be seen at night, complete with wet towel and worried look, studying the latest in diagrams, etc.

This old howler still persists, even in this year of grace :

Instructor : " What would you do if when working a 120 Watt Set your A.T. 100 went ' dis ' ? "

Bright Young Signalman : " Use a hurricane lamp."

What price Ripley ?

Best Wishes.—To our O.C. Major J. E. F. Paton who proceeded on two months' well-earned leave in England. The Company wish you and Mrs. Paton a very good time, sir.

Unit Dances.—We now run the Unit Dances regularly every fortnight. We certainly look forward to these functions, and there is a very good attendance. They have decidedly come to stay.

Sport.—This branch of our activities is taking a firm hold of the Unit under the very capable supervision of our Sports Officer, Captain W. J. S. Gray.

Inter-Bungalow hockey and cricket matches are taking place almost every evening. Football is just starting on the new pitch. No. 6 Bungalow (U.H.Q.) were the champion cricket players ; those in the know say that the top of the football league will go to either No. 2 or No. 3 Bungalow (" O " or " M " Section) ; " M " Section say they have it already. Just like linemen !

Health and Strength.—Courses are being undertaken with great gusto by various members of the Company and very soon we hope to have some challengers to the " Mighty Sandow." What price those biceps, Willie ?

Agony.—(413) : " What about a line (144) ? "

(3127) : " Would like to hear from you (3126). E double U."

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

July.

And the green grass grew all round, all round,
And the green grass grew all round.

With the aid of system, syces and Sutton's seeds, our lines are improving daily. We are not to be classed as horticulturists, but our *daisy* cultivation is a masterpiece.

This month, events seem to centre round the Secunderabad Horse Show and cricket. By the former we mean the three days' Annual Horse Show, which is one of the biggest events in South India. By the latter we might mean the Test scores, very interesting in their way ; or we might refer to the 138-run victory which our local team scored in the quarter-finals of the Small Units League ; or again we might mean the all-out-for-21 defeat which it suffered in the semi-finals of the same League. What a victory ! We congratulate you. What a defeat ! We commiserate.

For the Horse Show, which was held conveniently near to Mercury Lines, the Troop enjoyed three days of " semi-holiday," and all ranks were free to visit the many interesting events. We entered tent-peggers, jumpers, pack-horses and a remount. Although we only managed to come near on one or two occasions, we did succeed in taking a First for the best remount (Depot issue) with Lance Naik Sardar Khan as the rider and also a Third for the Indian Ranks Troop Horse with Naik Mohd. Lall as the rider. The weather was ideal and we all enjoyed ourselves.

In the Signals' Tennis Tournament, which is in full swing (as far as weather will permit), the Unit's representatives have been slowly passed out. Someone put the " Hatt-on " Sergeant Wagg and Corporal Glover was thoroughly scrubbed by the schoolmistress !

The Unit moustache, concerning which we have previously written, is not alone. Another one, quite an achievement, too, has been sent to us from " E " Company, S.T.C. (I.). We have had to post them to different Sections lest their flowing tendrils should become entangled. We shall never be in want for material for bush jumps !

We tender our congratulations to Lance Sergeant Brennan, who left us as a Corporal to go on leave. Apparently he had got into a " mess " whilst he has been at home !

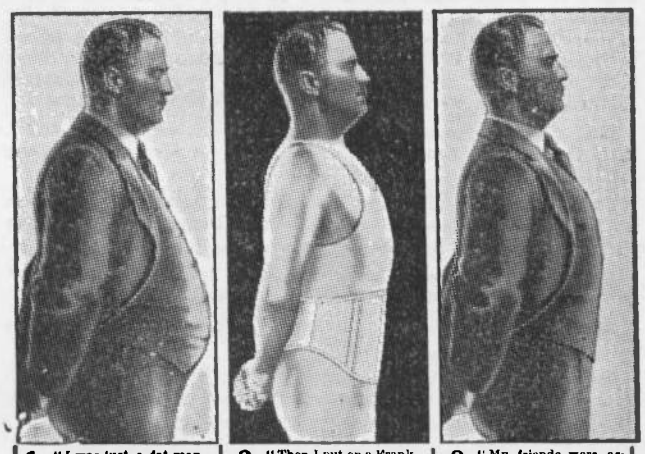
Hockey.—Our old friendly rivals are in the ascendant, and in our only match with them we lost. Well played the Div. !

v. 4th Indian Divisional Signals	Lost	1—3
v. I.O.R.s, 65th Field Battery, R.A.	Drawn	1—1
v. Indian Military Hospital	Won	4—1

From a 'Paunchy' man to a Fine Figure... IN 10 MINUTES ! Mr. G. Brooks writes:

"I REDUCED MY WAIST 8 INCHES"

ACTUAL REPRODUCTIONS SHOWING THE IMMEDIATE IMPROVEMENT IN APPEARANCE



1. "I was just a fat man with a protruding stomach, ill at ease and clumsy—no vitality to do anything."

2. "Then I put on a Frank Forman Belt . . . . a transformation took place—pounds seemed to have fallen away."

3. "My friends were astonished. I looked better—my clothes fitted me—and I felt twenty years younger."

I am so sure that the wonderful FRANK FORMAN Belt will Reduce your waist line at least 3 inches that I want you to

TEST IT FOR 10 DAYS AT MY EXPENSE !

Yes Sir, I, too, promised myself that I would exercise, but it was too much like work—and it's hard to diet when you like to eat. The Frank Forman Belt was just the answer—no diets, no drugs—I feel like a new man and I lost 8 inches of fat in less than 6 months.

IMPROVES YOUR APPEARANCE.

The Frank Forman Reducing Belt will make you many inches slimmer at once, and in 10 short days your waist line will actually be inches smaller—3 inches of fat gone—or it won't cost you a penny.

JUST SEND THIS COUPON

To FRANK FORMAN (WR/?).
64, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

Please send me full details of the Frank Forman Reducing Belt and your 10 days' FREE TRIAL offer.

NAME.....

ADDRESS .....

.....

(Use Coupon or send name and address on penny postcard.)

I GUARANTEE TO REDUCE YOUR WAIST 3 inches in 10 days OR IT WON'T COST YOU A PENNY !

It supports the sagging muscles of the abdomen and quickly gives a youthful, erect, athletic carriage. Do not be embarrassed any longer with that " corporation." Resolve to get rid of fat quickly, safely and without risk.

DON'T WAIT ! FAT IS DANGEROUS

You will be entirely unaware that it is working constantly while you walk, work or sit ; its massage-like action gently but persistently eliminating fat with every move you make. It is the logical way to reduce.

All types of Gentlemen's Corsets supplied. Your favourite model copied in our exclusive EX-CELL-AIR fabric.

IT'S MASSAGE THAT DOES IT !

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

"X" Troop, Cavalry Signals.

Attached 11th Hussars, P.A.O., Palestine.

General.—As our readers can see, we are back in our old haunts amongst the olives, etc., after a hectic week-end of packing up, and getting cars and sets from Ordnance, ready for work. There was also a Squadron of the 11th Hussars at Mersa Matruh when the news arrived, and they had to be brought back and refitted. But we did it, and here we are in Palestine.

After starting at the middle, we must go back to the beginning of the month and continue the serial from where it was left off in the last issue.

The L.A D., plus Sergeant Pearce, Lance Corporal Slaymaker and the writer, went to St. Catherine's Monastery in Sinai about the Whitsun period and had an enjoyable time, although climbing Mount Sinai was not so pleasant. However, Arrak helped us up, and even the " S/S " of the L.A.D. made it.

A little later, " B " Squadron, together with their operators, were away on a reconnaissance to Mersa Matruh, and, complete with a No. 9 Set, borrowed for the occasion, we had a nice time playing with the pretty knobs and dials. Then came the order to move, and away went "A" Squadron to Safad, " B " Squadron to Nablus, and " C " and R.H.Q. to Sarafand. We have been here three weeks, and, so far, it has been very quiet. None of the excitement of convoy patrols, etc., and no chicken runs.

No. 2 W/T Company invited us to a cricket match, when, with the help of the R.S.M. and Lance Corporal Nash of the 11th Hussars, P.A.O., we won comfortably.

On the following Saturday we were entertained to a Smoker by No. 2 W/T Company. One blissfully happy member of our party tried to walk through a door when he got back.

This is a general summary of the main items. We hope that our out-stations will contribute their own little bits and pieces.

Arrivals.—Congratulations to our O.C. on an increase of two little girls to his own establishment.

Corporal Lonton E. C. has arrived from the wilds of G.H.Q. Bear up, Edward, it is only for another four years.

GENIAL.

"A" Squadron Detachment, Safad.

History Repeats Itself.—Who will forget the 12th July, exactly two years ago, when we moved from our home at Helmieh to promote peace and quiet in Palestine. That is now history, and history repeats itself once more.

As happened before, we travelled most of the way by rail, this Squadron proceeding as far as Haifa, where we stayed the night as guests of the West Kents, an event that brought back many memories (mostly pleasant) to those of us who had the good fortune to be stationed at this place two years ago.

We left Haifa at about eleven o'clock the following day and arrived at our destination right on the frontier late in the afternoon without a single incident happening—not even a puncture.

Shades of Long Ago.—Of course we do other things besides maintaining communication to H.Q. Indeed, on two occasions, our Leyland (Squeak of L.A.D. fame) has been ordered out to tow in A.C.s that were in trouble.

As Usual.—There has been a certain amount of jealousy between drivers in the Squadron, because we non-combatants managed to draw first blood. Our bag was three donkeys, and we had only been here two days, but donkeys are known for their lack of intelligence, which probably accounts for about fifty of them trying to cross the road in front of a heavy lorry travelling down hill with " Snoz " at the helm.

The Dodgers.—Our No. 1 Set operators appear to be having a royal life, at least two of them are. The other two, who are detached, apparently see a bit of life occasionally.

We cannot get any more news about these folk, as their leading light has spent the best part of the day in erecting an open aerial, and hasn't finished yet.

Salaams.

D. C. M.

Delta Area A.A. Signal Section.

Sidi Bishr, Egypt.

4th August.

General.—We tender the usual apologies for the absence of notes from this Section for the past two months.

Twelve linemen left us in May for a three months' Up-grading Course with Egypt Signals. The end of this month should see their bright faces with us again, and, we hope, the much-looked-for " needful " in their pockets. We did hear that they knew something about " air line."

We have been carrying on as usual with rather a depleted Section, and are certainly looking forward to the fortnight's break at the end of the month. " Night Runs " every week do get monotonous. One N.C.O. declares that he could go round the " layout " with his eyes shut.

The " Belisha Boys " are finding it rather hot, but our South African says there's nothing in it. Never mind, fellows, the first summer is always the worst.

Captain Blunt, R.E., has very kindly helped us out during our O.C.'s absence on Blighty leave. We hope to welcome him back to the fold on the 16th.

During the month we were honoured with a visit by the Egypt Signals cricket team. They were rather in a hurry to leave, so could not see much of the camp. We think that what they did see scared them away. They did ask us how we managed to stick it, and quite a few of them were of the opinion that we were really tough.

We thought the Signals could take anything, but we rather doubt that now. Come, come, Egypt Signals ; what about those illustrations in the WIRE ? We are under the impression they were entitled " Roughing it in the Desert." Some of the members of this Section consider that they have eaten more sand than some people have seen. We feel quite bashful when the Sappers call us " Queenie Sigs." We have been promised feather beds for future visitors, so don't forget to come up and see us sometime.

Heard on Schemes.—

Sapper Officer : " Don't bother with two lines for this telephone, Sergeant."

Sapper Sergeant : " But it's necessary to have two, sir."

Sapper Officer : " No, it's not ; I'm only using speech one way." (Collapse of duty lineman.)

Finale.—Till next time, *sa'eedah* folk.

ACK ACKS.

Palestine Force Signals.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess, Jerusalem.

11th August.

Regardless of the terrorism which has intensified of late, we are glad to say that the Unit can still produce a clean bill of health. Two of our number have emerged with honours. They are Signalmen Graham G. H., and Dodman R. B. who are now the proud possessors of the Medal of the Military Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire for Valuable Services in the Field. Congratulations from the " upper deck," me lads.

We very much regret to report the untimely death of ex-Signalman Willis. It will be remembered by the " pioneers " of this Force that this unfortunate lad purchased his discharge

early in 1937 in order to join the Palestine Police Force. The home papers reported that the late B. C. Willis met his death at the hands of Arab brigands, who brutally ended his career whilst he was travelling in an Arab bus in the Nablus area. The sympathies of the entire Unit are extended to his relatives in their loss.

Pending the arrival in Palestine of the additional Brigade, the following Units of Egypt Signals have joined us: "X" Troop, "J" and "K" Sections. May this temporary stay be a pleasant one, and we hope to see them in the Mess; there is always one for the road.

Lance Sergeant Williams (R.A.S.C.) and family have been posted to Egypt Signals. We have one tiny arrival, "Baby" Buckley, a second daughter to Sergeant and Mrs. Buckley (R.E.).

With the raising of the curfew, up goes our social stock with a bang. Our second dance took place on the second Saturday in July, and was very popular judging by the numbers attending. The ladies were there in full force.

The prizes for the Novelty Dances were mostly won by our guests. Nevertheless, the Mess recorded a winner in Mrs. Vize (Statue Dance); the same lady also scored another hit in the Balloon Dance. This particular dance proved to be the main event of the evening. In the final stages two balloons in the possession of Mrs. Boggit (wife of S.Q.M.S. Boggit, R.A.P.C.) and Mrs. Vize, were still intact. How these balloons had escaped disaster is a mystery, but it involved the entire party in a low scrum and tackle to get them eventually. Lieutenant Maydon's dress spurs nearly accounted for one balloon. After "extra time," it was decided to call it a draw, and both ladies and their partners were the recipients of prizes.

Captain Vickers captured a bottle of whiskey in the "Grand Swindle," and Sergeant ("Smiler") Miles—always in the money—carried off the "big house" in the tombolos. Our thanks are once again due to the hard-working committee, who were very ably assisted by many willing helpers. Mrs. Boon, wife of our one and only "Frankie," very kindly presented the prizes.

A week later, a very successful whist drive was held. It is obvious that these shows will improve as they go along.

Our Commanding Officer—Major Steward, M.C., is spending a well-earned vacation in the U.K. with his family. Major Darling is undergoing medical treatment at Sarafand. Our best wishes are extended to both of them.

We welcome back to the fold our Adjutant, Captain Newell, who has recently returned from the U.K. Don't forget to pay us a call, sir; the Mess is looking forward to some more of your "stream-lined" parodies.

In a previous contribution we referred to space for a Mess photograph. Unfortunately, the gentleman with the "dicky bird" did us all wrong. Several members are now definite that the camera does lie at times, so we shall all "smile please" at a later date.

On Sunday, 14th August, the Mess, families, and numerous friends proceeded to Bayit Vegan (Jaffa) for a day by the sea. More about this in our next notes.

The writer, who is a family man, would be glad to hear from other married folk who have been warned for a tour in the Holy Land, and will only be too glad to supply any information concerning the "necessaries" for the country.

Corporal Weller has just left hospital after a lengthy period and is now convalescent.

Salaams and chin-wags from the ladies at Jerusalem to the ladies at Haifa. Shades of S.S. Modasa!

FOUR X TWO.

No. 3 Section, Sarafand

Discarding our usual modest attitude, we are rushing into print this month with the latest news from the Palestine (Southern Area) Front.

The fact that we now find time to write WIRE notes is not due to any cessation of work, but the fact that we now have overcome the many difficulties encountered when the trouble first began, and our organisation is now very efficient.

We have been extraordinarily lucky in having had no casualties from the brigand's bomb or the sniper's bullet. It has not been for the want of trying. Our only serious casualty was Signalman S. Worton. The dear Sammy, finding the war rather stale and tedious, tried to ram a large Arab lorry. The fact that Samuel was riding a motor-cycle apparently did not enter into his calculations. We offer our deepest sympathy to the pride of the Wortons, and wish him a speedy and complete recovery.

The hard-bitten warriors of the Hills occasionally obtain a short holiday from Saturday noon until 4 a.m. Monday. To see them board the Ration Convoy at that unearthly hour after their week-end is nearly enough to turn anyone pacifist.

We extend our sincere congratulations to No. 2324474, Signalman Dodman R. and No. 2325222 Signalman Graham G., on being awarded the Medal of the Order of the British Empire. This is undoubtedly a splendid performance. A few more and we shall be adding another chapter to the Corps history.

We also congratulate No. 2322063, Signalman Smith J. (the wizard of the petrol ledgers) on his first appointment.

There are many rumours concerning the future of this Section. The Medes say that we are all going to Nablus. Nablus consists of about two hundred alleged houses, four thousand brigands, and a bad smell. The Persians allege that we are going to a place called Nathanya, which consists of a cliff, five yards of sand, and a pleasant "view of the sea." The optimists maintain that we are remaining at Sarafand. Over this apparently unimportant matter to readers, brother is fighting brother, and family life has practically ceased to exist.

We shall endeavour to keep readers posted regarding our movements. We shall not, like the Lost Patrol, be eaten alive by Arabs—at least we hope not. So for the moment *Masalami* (Arabic—very difficult), which means something very jolly—precisely what we have unfortunately forgotten.

CHIB.

Tientsin Signal Section.

July.

General.—We apologize for the absence of our notes in last month's issue.

The annual summer camp opened last month at Chinwangtao. This is the first time that we have seen this delightful spot, and according to despatches received from the first party who were there for one month, it appears to be an ideal spot for Johnny Weismuller—and that's all. The second party, under Lance Corporal Verlander, has just departed.

We have had plenty of sickness in the Section recently. Lieutenant G. Thomson, our O.C., Lance Corporal Verlander and Signalman McDonald all had a spell in hospital, but we are pleased to say they are all hale and hearty now and enjoying a change of air at camp. Signalmen Boyd and Smith have recently been admitted, and we hope they, too, will also be out and about soon.

Visits.—During the last two months we have had periodical visits to the Mess from the personnel of H.M.S. Folkestone. As usual, they were entertained right royally, and gallons of alcohol and lime juice (eh, Spud?) were seen off.

Growth.—A craze started amongst the Section last month when a party of he-men banded together for the purpose of promoting the growth of fungus on the upper lip. Beer all round was the penalty for defaulting. All paid the penalty except one—a case of he who waxed last, etc., etc.

Sport.—The Section tennis team, after a very promising start, slipped up in three matches and allowed the R.A.M.C. to secure the Garrison Championship. However, we have high hopes of finishing second owing to a brilliant recovery towards the end of our fixtures.

The Staff and Departmentals cricket team are again having a fine season; so far all their games have been won with comparative ease. Four members of the Section are members of the team—anyhow, they do plenty of fielding.

Things We Want to Know.—Did Songbird really want chewing gum?

Who Fat Waller is?

Agony.—Greaves, Hong Kong. "What about it? Copo."

Dussvedanvah.

MATA HARI.

THE TERRITORIALS AND SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

The London Corps Signals, T.A. and Affiliated Supplementary Reserve Units.

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

12th August.

General.—Another Annual Training has come and gone since the appearance of our last notes. We have just returned from a very enjoyable and instructive fifteen days at Burley, near Ringwood, in the New Forest. Apart from a storm one night and another during an afternoon, we had glorious weather the whole time.

During the first week we had a very enjoyable all-ranks concert (all our own work), and also an afternoon devoted to sports, which were held in a pleasant little meadow on the fringe of Burley. On Wednesday evening, 3rd August, we erected our boxing ring and were entertained to some good boxing.

Major-General C. F. Liardet, C.B., D.S.O., T.D., commanding the London Division, inspected the Unit on Wednesday, 27th July. He afterwards presented the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to R.S.M. Evelyn, and the Territorial Efficiency Medal to Sergeant Hiles H. We congratulate both of them on receiving their respective " long distance " medals.

From Tuesday to Friday during the second week, we carried out a Corps Signals Exercise. The first day was not as successful as could be desired, but the experience gained on that day enabled us to minimise our faults throughout the remainder of the " war," and Friday found us almost perfect. Those who were in a position to judge declare that our performance was one on which we could congratulate ourselves.

We had an excellent attendance at camp this year; 98 per cent. of our strength were present. We suggest that this is something to crow about! We did not reach the 20 per cent. over establishment mark before Annual Training, but recruits are already coming along again, and we shall not be long in starting a waiting list.

Sergeants' Mess.—Owing to the rather long distance from London we did not have our usual Visitors' Day on the middle Sunday. We were very pleased to have two of our old comrades, ex-C.S.M. " Tom " Dormon and ex-Sergeant " Jerry " Hawkes, with us for a few days. We feel sure that they enjoyed being with us once more. It was quite like old times.

On the last Friday we held our customary Officers' Night, when we were pleased to entertain every officer of the Unit, together with Colonel G. D. Ozanne, M.C., Major H. A. Spencer, M.C., and Captain S. F. Pipe-Wolferstan of "A" Corps Signals. An excellent entertainment was provided by a concert party from Bournemouth.

End Piece.—The following howlers were culled from the answers to a procedure paper set at a recent Trade Board :

" IMIMIMIMIMI " : This imposes silence on all stations.

" $\overline{N}$ " : Comma when used with the Navy or R.A.F.

" $\overline{DU}$ " : Hyphen.

" $\overline{IMI}$ " : Time.

" K " : Wait.

" $\overline{UK}$ " : Block of Capitals.

"$\overline{AAA}$" : Means a coma in the Navy.

EFFEMMA.

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

We offer our congratulations to Major G. J. Morley Peel, M.B.E., T.D., upon whom was conferred the honour of the M.B.E. in the Birthday Honours List. Major Morley Peel has been associated with Anti-Aircraft Signals from their formation, and is very well known in anti-aircraft circles. He is in command of No. 1 Company. His Territorial activities include pre-war and war service, and he had flying experience in the Royal Flying Corps.

We welcome Mr. Simpson and Mr. Harnden, who have recently been commissioned to the Unit.

Important developments are expected as the result of annual training, and details of the camp should be available for publication next month.

A.A.

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals Cadet Company.

The recent inspection of the Cadet Company by Colonel P. R. Simner, C.B., D.S.O., D.L., County Commandant of Cadets for London, was a great event in the history of the Cadet Company. The Colonel, who was received with a good " Present," then walked down the ranks and chatted to some of the lads.

After this, the Cadet Company was " fallen-out," and demonstrated the efficiency of its technical training. The Inspecting Officer was much impressed with the high standard which had been reached. Cadet C.S.M. Pitz F. G., on whom the entire responsibility for this technical training devolves, must have felt very proud and pleased with the good performance of the Cadets.

Throughout the proceedings we were encouraged by the presence of Colonel G. C. Wickins, T.D., Officer Commanding our Parent Unit, T.A., whose support and deep interest are ever a source of inspiration to us all.

A.-A. SCOTTIE.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Our Unit scribe is now back at work again, and we propose to give our readers a short account of a very successful camp.

Once more we set out for Wales on Sunday, 5th June. Needless to say, we are all in a position to speak the best Welsh, and camp was held at Holyhead under the command of the Brigadier, 125th Brigade.

This was the first time that most of our equipment and stores went to camp by train, a procedure that entailed a good amount of hard work on the Saturday previous to camp, and also on the Sunday morning, but we eventually arrived safely at Holyhead.

When we arrived the weather was excellent, but on the Monday morning we thought that we were in the middle of the Channel, and for the next two days we had no idea whether the order would be " marching order " or " bathing costumes." There were numerous occasions when we thought that it would be necessary to tie down certain members of the Unit as the gale blowing at the time very nearly lifted several off their feet. Although very unpleasant, everybody kept cheerful, and the training programme was adhered to as closely as possible.

After the first few days the rain ceased, and the gale quietened. We then commenced to carry out some real hard work. New equipment and several new ideas in training helped to make this one of the most interesting camps that we have held for years.

In the first place, we were fortunate in having thirty-four " Beetles." Together with our normal transport of six-wheelers and wireless cars (which were new to us) they made the transport lines look something like an Army camp. We also had with us for the first time two mechanised cable-layers, and some No. 2 wireless sets.

This year we took with us our supply of gas masks. As they had only arrived two or three days before our departure, the masks had to be assembled in camp, and were issued within the first few days.

Mechanised Cable-layer.

Now for a few notes regarding our actual training programme. The first few days were devoted to the storing and checking of stores, and also Section training, which included a certain amount of gas drill.

On the Thursday of the first week, " J " Section had an Infantry Brigade Signal Exercise with the Battalion Signal Sections. This proved very successful, and a great deal of information was learnt by all. During the day the Section was visited by General Sir Henry C. Jackson, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., who visited all stations and tried out the communications. Colonel D. A. Brown, the C.S.O., also visited them. For the first time gas attacks were made on Battalion Headquarters ; the attacks were made very effective by the use of fireworks and lachrymatory gas.

Friday brought us to sports day. The weather was kind to us, and a very pleasant afternoon was had by all. The event which caused howls of laughter was " Tilting the Bucket." The Officers' Tug-of-War also caused much excitement. Among the officers' guests were Colonel Sir F. West (Hon. Colonel) and Sir Albert Smith (Deputy Mayor of Stretford).

On Sunday morning a Brigade Church Service was held and, although the rain kept off, it was very cold. After the service a short route march was carried out by several Units.

Monday of the second week brought us some real hard preparatory work for the Divisional Exercise. That evening the officers visited the Sergeants' Mess, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The Sergeants entertainment, as usual, included some good items, one of which was " In Town To-night." This item proved very amusing.

Thursday morning found us leaving the camp in the early hours to take up our positions for the initial stage of our battle which, as usual, consisted of " Westland " versus " Eastland." We made several moves, including one at midnight which proved a very interesting and exciting venture. Meanwhile the Directing Staff went round staging their gas attacks thus adding to the interest of the Exercise.

Mechanised Cable-layer.

The peace of the local inhabitants was certainly disturbed by the transport which crowded their roads.

We eventually returned to camp early on Friday morning. Everybody was tired, but all of us felt that we had worked hard and had thoroughly enjoyed it.

This brought us to the end of our camp, and we returned home on Sunday. If readers had seen us marching from Salford to our barracks (brown as berries), they would certainly have looked to see if there was a " T " on our shoulders.

In closing our account of camp, it would be appropriate to say that it was our C.O.'s (Lieutenant Colonel C. B. Delaney) first camp as Commanding Officer, and it is hoped that the Unit was a credit to him.

At the moment business is not brisk, but for all that something is always in progress, and a visitor will always find one part of the drill hall busy, even if it is only the old typewriter in the Orderly Room.

D.R.s.—Due to the kind permission of the C.O., we have now started a club for the D.R.s. A commencement was made on Sunday when we had a short reliability trial. As this was our

Company Commanders' Conference.

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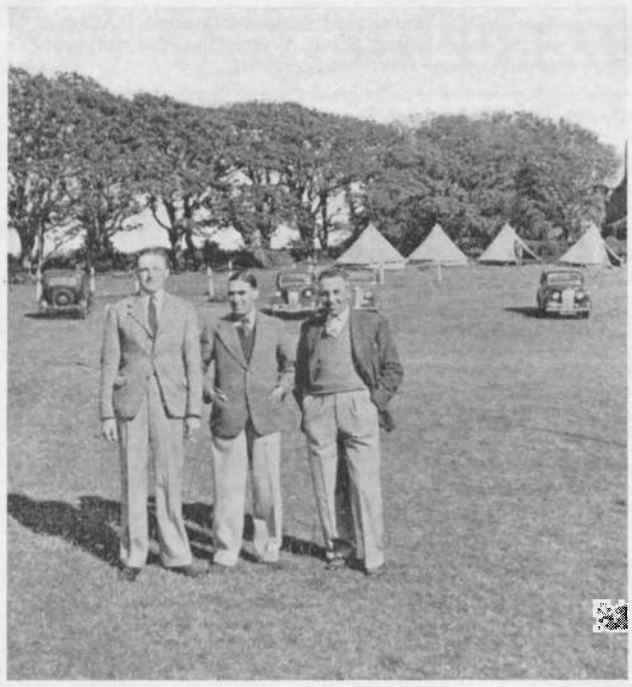


The C.O. (Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Delaney), Captain A. R. B. Dobson, and Captain T. A. H. Lea, M.M.

first attempt, no startling results were expected. Fifteen turned up for the trial, and we are convinced that eventually we shall have a good team.

Hello Birmingham, Liverpool, etc., we hope to have a match with you shortly.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—Yet another camp has come and gone. The few of us who paid the first visit to Littlemoor Camp, Weymouth, in 1926, have now three pleasant experiences to look back upon. We were favoured with reasonably good weather conditions, compared with those which prevailed in other parts of the country. Camp life moved very smoothly throughout, and there were no major incidents.

Training during the first week and the first two days of the second week took the form of Section and Company Exercises, which were directed by the three Company Commanders.

The Divisional Commander (Major-General B. B. Crozier, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.) set two Exercises, which took place on the second Wednesday and Friday. We were pleased to have his company during the first Exercise. Among the official visitors we welcomed Colonel the Lord Basing (our Honorary Colonel), General Sir George D. Jeffreys, K.C.B., K.C.V.O., C.M.G., A.D.C. (representing Hampshire T.A.A.), Major Trew (representing Devonshire T.A.A.), Colonel A. C. Sykes, D.S.O., O.B.E. (C.S.O., Southern Command) and Colonel M. E. Holdsworth (D.C.S.O., Southern Command).

The Commanding Officer, who carried out his usual mid-camp inspections of personnel, equipment and accommodation, noted a general improvement. The last Saturday was devoted in the morning to packing up, and in the afternoon to Unit sports. The absence of Mrs. Walsh from the sports was much regretted. Mrs. Reeks, wife of No. 3 Company Commander, kindly presented the prizes, and the Unit trophies were afterwards presented by the C.O.

A word of thanks is due to the A.T.C. for the way in which they kept their transport fit for the road at all times. Coupled with the excellent performance of the new apparatus in each Company, this added to the keen interest displayed by all ranks in their training.

The recruits shaped very well indeed, under the guidance of Captain E. R. Moore and two selected T.A. N.C.O. instructors. Their progress was so good during the earlier part of camp that most of them were employed to advantage on the two Divisional Exercises.

We must also record our gratitude to Major Plummer, Major Gray, Captain Pellew, and the N.C.O.s of 3rd Divisional Signals for the very valuable assistance they rendered.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

The Drill Hall, Devonport.

Annual camp is over. The sun-tanned Company that marched from Devonport (G.W.R.) Station on Sunday evening gave plenty of outward evidence of its benefit, not only in their healthy appearance, but also in that extra touch of smartness and confidence in their drill movements which a fortnight's soldiering has imparted.

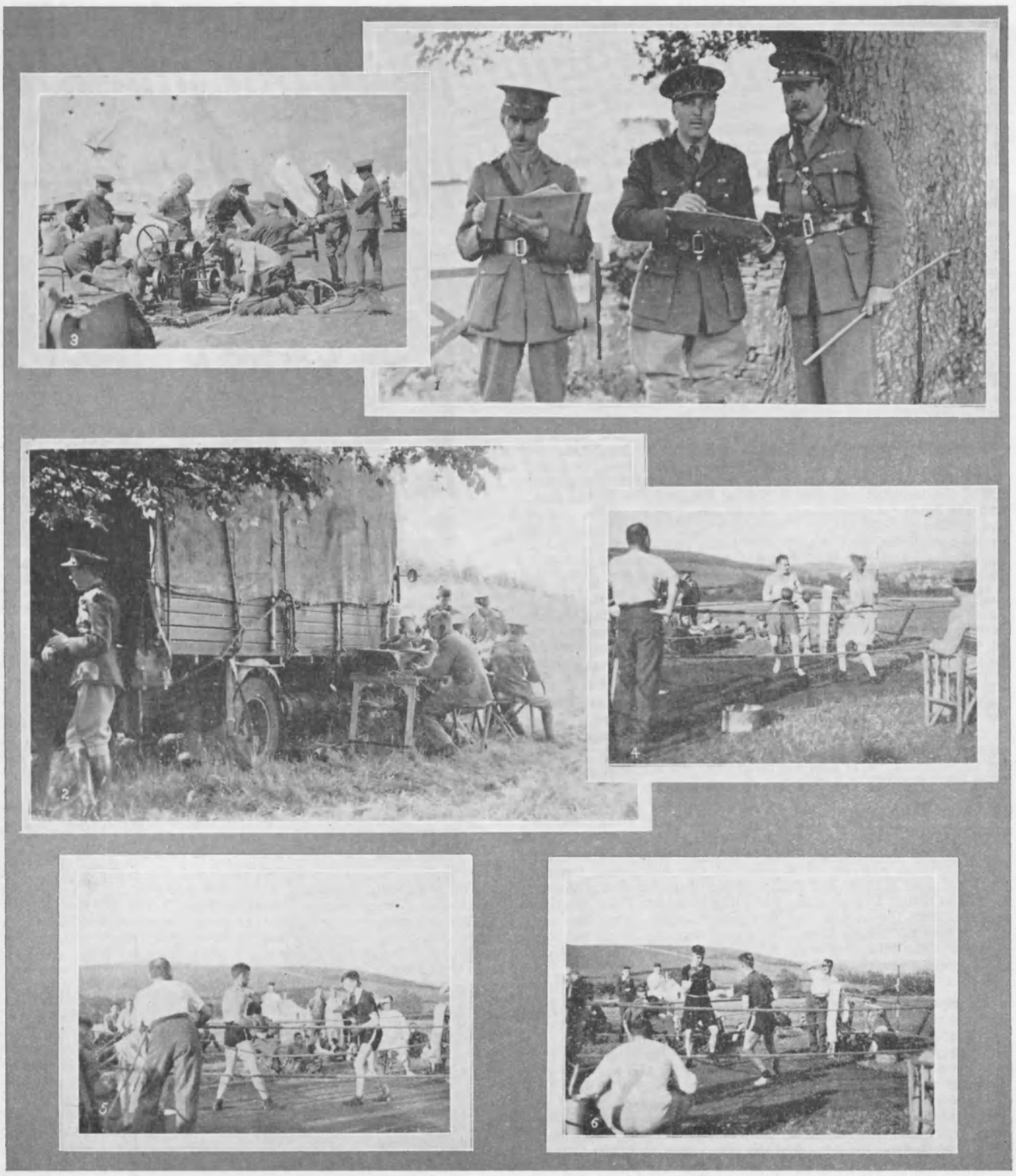
Littlemoor will be looked back upon by all ranks of the Company as a happy camp. Certainly, those who had to return at the end of the first week seemed reluctant enough to leave, and if the authorities at some future time decide on this same site, it will be a popular decision.

Good weather, a beautiful countryside, close proximity to the sea and a holiday town, all contributed to the fortnight's enjoyment. The sky-blue-topped side caps of the Signals have been a familiar sight in the streets of Weymouth during the past two weeks.

Training.—The Company took its full share in the Unit Exercises, which are reported elsewhere. There is no doubt of the benefit of the training. This year we have had the advantage of new equipment, both in the W/T and Cable Sections, a fact which has stimulated interest in the work. The new Sets in "A" Section have been a real blessing, and the Section seems to have acquired a controlling knowledge of them in a very short space of time. The Cable Section also has rapidly picked up the new technique of the mechanised cable-layers.

Sports.—This year we have won back the Boxing Cup. Every one of the entrants put up a splendid show in the ring. The Company owes a special debt of gratitude to the efforts of C.S.M. Scott, whose keenness and hard work during training has achieved such excellent results. The results of the weights in which the Company had entrants were as follows:

WELTER-WEIGHT.—First Round—Signalman Mitchell H. L. (No. 1 Company) beat Signalman Nosworthy R. F. (No. 3 Company); Signalman Little K. L. (No. 3 Company) beat Signalman Rickard A. F. (No. 1 Company). Second Round—Mitchell knocked out Little.



1. " General Littlemoor " and his Staff at Divisional Headquarters. *Left to right :* Major W. J. L. Cornelius (G.O.C.), Captain E. R. Moore (G.S.O.2) and Captain A. F. S. Fane (O.C., Signals).

2. Signal Office at Divisional Headquarters.

3. " B " Cable Section trying out the new " Toy."

4. INTER-COMPANY BOXING. Signalman Adamson, D. A. (on left) (No. 1 Company), Signalman Denford (No. 3 Company).

5. Signalman Ash, R. T. (No. 3 Company) (on left) v. Signalman Darch H. (No. 1 Company)

6. Signalman Nosworthy, R. F. (No. 3 Company) (on left) v. Signalman Mitchell H. L. (No. 1 Company)

FEATHER-WEIGHT.—Signalman Darch H. (No. 1 Company) beat Signalman Ash R. T. (No. 3 Company).

LIGHT-WEIGHT.—First Round—Signalman Adamson D. A. (No. 1 Company) beat Signalman Denford (No. 3 Company); Signalman Williams H. L. K. (No. 1 Company) beat Signalman Draper J. G. (No. 3 Company). Second Round—Adamson beat Williams.

Congratulations, too, to Signalman Petherick R. A. L. on gaining the Motor Transport Driving Cup for the Company,and also to Boy Harrington R. E. on being awarded the Colonel's whip as the smartest recruit.

Not Quite Applicable.—We can understand the Signalman who coined the term "Originator's Number," for he was evidently making a praiseworthy effort in shortening our language. We feel, however, that the average standard on the key amongst the commissioned ranks at present hardly justifies the term "Operators' Mess" being applied to their temporary abode in camp.

The line conveys many strange messages. Not since Biblical times can we easily recall hearing of the enemy "consecrating" at some point on the landscape. However, the enemy always does the unexpected nowadays.

ONECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

General.—We have not yet commenced our winter training and are at the moment engaged in girding up our loins for the fray, and are having a general sort out of who's who, and a change over in Section commands. Lieutenant Williams has at last been prised away from his beloved "B" Cable Section to become the new Messing Officer. It should not be such a wrench, as "B" and food are practically synonymous. His place in the Section is taken by 2nd Lieutenant Woods.

Captain List has left "M" in the capable hands of Lieutenant Angell, and is now i/c "K" Section. Lieutenant Brett is to be the Officers' Mess Secretary. Captain Hann leaves "A" Section for "Don," and 2nd Lieutenant Armstrong takes over "A"

Annual Training.—Contrary to custom, we had a fortnight of the most glorious weather, and situated as we were in ideal surroundings, could have no grouse at all as far as this aspect of an annual training is concerned. The lack of proper water supply for the advance party and for two days after the arrival of the main body was rather annoying. It was a pity that the showers were not completed until two hours before we left the camp. Considering all things, we were well-served and enjoyed our fifteen days immensely.

As at Shorncliffe, we deputised for 4th Divisional Signals on a Staff Exercise, and so spent most of our first week making preparations. We also ran a little battle of our own for practice. It was on rather a small scale, but quite as hectic. The rapidity and length of the moves kept us cursing—sorry—guessing, and on our toes the whole time. As actual training for the serious business of the following week, it was well conceived and of great value; our map reading abilities in particular were seriously tested.

We moved to the concentration area for the Eastern Command Exercise on Tuesday morning, 26th July, and commenced work immediately on arrival. From that moment until midday on Thursday we kept our noses hard to the grindstone. The exigencies of the battle deprived us of lines for the whole of the Exercise and so greatly increased the trials of W/T and the D.R.s, whose work was made even more difficult by heavy static interference in one case, and very difficult country in the case of the others. We were able, however, to keep on top of our job the whole time, and finished the Exercise with flying colours.

During the period we were visited by both the C.S.O. and the D.C.S.O.

Messing in the field was very much better than hitherto, chiefly due to the introduction of petrol cookers and insulated containers, which proved their value over and over again.

This year, much to the M.O.'s delight, we attained the dignity of a Unit hospital (with patients), an ambulance, and a water

cart. The latter, unfortunately, was of rather early vintage, and so became purely decorative, but next year—who knows—we may get one that works. A suggestion that we should adapt our present one to produce tea will not be considered.

For its Church Parade on 24th July, the Unit attended Divine Service at Saxmundham Church, a much appreciated variation from the usual Drumhead Service. A heart-thumping moment was caused when the Vicar announced as his text "What shall we have." Perfect discipline was maintained, and nobody "blobbed."

Departure.—We have to record with very real regret that we have at last lost our celebrated C.S.M. "Bob" Tanner, P.S.I., who is now *en route* for Mombasa for service with the King's African Rifles. His enthusiasm, his popularity, and his services to the Unit over the past five years will not easily be forgotten. The Sergeants' Mess held a farewell party on 25th July in his honour. The party was visited by the C.O. and all other officers. The gathering was treated to the unique spectacle of the "Burly Bob" playing extremely well on the violin. His versatility and ability deserves the opportunity given him, and we wish him every success.

Arrival.—We extend a hand of welcome to C.S.M. Knowles J. P.S.I., from 4th Divisional Signals.

Promotions and Appointments.—Sergeant Wheeler W. G. to be C.Q.M.S. No. 3 Company, 1st May; Lance Sergeant Graham A. J. to be Sergeant, 1st June; Corporals Langdon R., Saunders S. J., Ball A. E., Bird R. A., Merritt A. G., and Shepherd D. A. appointed Lance Sergeants (Paid), 1st June; Signalman Medland P. H. appointed Lance Corporal, 13th June; Signalmen Amos A. F. and Fotheringhame R. G. appointed U/Lance Corporal, 1st May; Signalmen Pratt R. T., Harmer A. T., and Forsyth R. L. appointed U/Lance Corporal, 1st June.

Musketry.—"B" Cables triumphant progress in competition with all other Sections has, at last, been brought to a halt by "L" Section. New Southgate have now in their third effort deprived Stamford Brook of the "Jug-Jug." The Unit teams have two more practices on the Open Range before competing for the Lord Lieutenant's and High Sheriff's Shields on 18th September.

Sport.—The Unit Sports held during annual training were again won by No. 2 Company who also won the Unit Boxing Tournament. (It must be the sea air.) The boxing at camp produced the usual crop of funny incidents that amateur boxing so often does, but it also produced some very good and clever fights, and the Cup won by No. 2 was well-deserved.

A cricket match, Officers v. O.R.s was played during training on a most interesting little country ground, generously loaned for the purpose. We find it sad to record that the officers were soundly beaten by some 60 runs. " L " Section carried away the W/T Trophy after a very closely fought finish with a team from " A " Section.

Despatch Riders.—The following five Despatch Riders of this Unit, under C.S.M. Tanner, rode to Glasgow and back on the Units service machines on 23/26th June: Lance Sergeant Thomas, Lance Corporal Moriarty, Signalmen Stacey, Pratt, and Woods. They visited *en route*, the Sherwood Foresters at Derby, the 369th (W.Y.) Field Battery, R.A., T.A., at Carlisle, and the 52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals, T.A., at Glasgow. They carried the following message to the Empire Exhibition. This message was delivered to the representative of the Managing Committee:

" The Commanding Officer, Officers, and Other Ranks of the 44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals, T.A., London, send by Despatch Rider to the Empire Exhibition in Glasgow, greetings and every good wish for success."

Our Unit representatives were then conducted round the Exhibition. The following message has since been received:

" President and the Council of Management of the Empire Exhibition express their deep thanks for the warm wishes conveyed to-day to them by the Despatch Riders of the 44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals, London."

A Lot of Things We Should Like to Know.—What did the Orderly Sergeant say when he went to lower the Corps flag and found that the flag was nailed to the mast as there were no halliards?

Are we to have " hipotternoose " permanently allotted to the advance party?

Does the order against dogs in camp also apply to sheep. If so, why did a senior member of the Unit keep one in his tent?

How many times must very large men be inoculated before it affects the consumption of " hooch." ?

What is the weight of the Lister charging engine, and is it really too heavy for a 15 cwt. van?

What wave-length did the " General " use on Church Parade?

The Photograph.—The photograph published with these notes depicts a feat at the Cross Keys Inn, Aldeburgh. A nominated finish with three darts impaled on each other. The offender was a rather small man, who originally hailed from Brighton. (No. 2 Company please note.)

Obituary.—We have learned with deep regret of the death of Lieutenant Colonel P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C., at Simla, on 7th May. In 1920 he was the first Adjutant of the Unit, and shared with ex-C.S.M. Jordan the distinction of being the first member when the Unit was formed.

JOSIE JUN.

No. 2 Company.

Drill Hall, Gloucester Road, Brighton, 1.

Annual Training.—On 17th July, No. 2 Company moved to Carlton Park, Saxmundham, Suffolk, for their annual training. The weather throughout the fortnight under canvas was exceptionally fine, except for one evening, when rain fell for a few hours only.

Camp started with the usual concert in the Men's Mess; a very successful affair, many officers joining in the fun.

During the first week, a two-day Scheme was held in order to practise for the Command Exercise.

At sports, No. 2 Company was decidedly in front of the others, and we are now the proud holders of the Sports Trophy until next camp. Praise is certainly due to all who helped us to win the Cup by taking part in the events.

Another success of ours was the winning of the Sergeants' Mess Trophy for Drill Squads. After narrowly losing the competition last year, we put up a very fine performance and won by a slight margin of points.

In the cricket match between the officers and men, the former were well and truly defeated. It has been suggested, however, that next year the men's team plays against all the officers who are available. Seriously, among many brilliant feats, the batting performances of Barr and the Adjutant—Captain Lewis—were outstanding.

On the Tuesday, a selected few left camp to take part in the Eastern Command Exercise. Although there were plenty of moves, the number of messages handed in at the Field Artillery Regiments Signal Offices were few. The cable detachments were disappointed at not having lines to put out, but the wireless detachments suffered in consequence. The Exercise was soon over, and they returned to camp.

Soon afterwards, the Boxing Tournament took place, and again No. 2 Company did well.

On Saturday morning, the main event to report was the C.O.'s parade and inspection, at which No. 2 Company were chosen as the smartest Company. After the C.O.'s usual speech, packing and checking of stores was the general routine, and, on Sunday morning, after striking the tents in our lines, we left Saxmundham *en route* for Brighton.

Truly a successful camp for No. 2 Company.

GEE BEER.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals, T.A. and Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Leeds.

General.—Annual training is over and we are now making plans for the future. Our first hurdle is the Annual Musketry Course, and the month of September will be devoted to this part of our training.

The Princess Royal inspecting the Guard on her arrival in Camp. *(By courtesy of The Leeds Mercury)*

An early morning run. *(By courtesy of The Leeds Mercury).*

(By courtesy of The Leeds Mercury).

Her Royal Highness talking to officers while inspecting the Camp's Wireless Telegraphy System.

Annual Training.—Annual Training was carried out this year at Halton Camp, Lancaster, and is the most memorable of all our camps. This was due to the visit of H.R.H. The Princess Royal.

The weather on the great day was excellent, and once again we upheld our reputation. All the officers and warrant officers of the Unit were presented to H.R.H. An interesting write-up of the day's events by the *Yorkshire Post* is published hereunder :

" The Princess Royal, as Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Corps of Signals, visited the 49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals (T.A.) from Leeds in camp here.

" Before lunch, Her Royal Highness walked three miles during an inspection of the camp. In the afternoon she spent nearly an hour watching wireless telegraphy operations.

" The Princess heard orders being delivered by wireless to twenty despatch riders a mile down the Halton Road. The riders were ordered to proceed to camp at once. Immediately there was the zoom of motor-cycle engines starting up and the riders drove at top speed up the lane and raced past the Princess.

" These despatch riders had formed an escort for the Royal car from Green Ayre station to where the Princess Royal had journeyed by train. The route from the station to Halton was lined with villagers and holiday-makers.

" A guard of honour awaited the Princess at the camp, where the Royal Salute was given. The Officer Commanding the Guard of Honour—a hundred strong—was Captain C. Bray with Lieutenant J. O. Crabtree and 2nd Lieutenant G. I. Bray. Brigadier R. H. Willan presented to the Princess : Colonel R. E. Barker, Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command ; and Colonel G. H. Walton, Deputy Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command. The Hon. Colonel of the Unit, Colonel W. Boyle, presented Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. Jackson and Captain C. C. Danby.

" With the Princess, as lady-in-waiting, was Miss Kenyon-Slaney.

" Before lunch, the Princess made a thorough tour of the camp. Every inspection had been timed ; everything had been rehearsed and the tour synchronised with schedule.

" The Princess—as a tribute to the Royal Corps of Signals—wore the regimental badge in the form of a brooch in the front of her hat. Her dress was of black and white printed crepe, over which she wore a black edge-to-edge coat.

" The store tents gained her first attention, and here she asked many questions. In the cookhouses with their appetising odour of roast beef, new potatoes, and braised celery, and where dishes of fruit and cream awaited consumption, the Princess discussed food with the chefs and cooks. Later she saw the mess tents with their lines of trestle tables and spotless table cloths. The Sergeants' Mess had a festive appearance with its display of bunting.

" The camp offered many points of interest, and the Princess Royal conversed with R.S.M. Pillinger, who retires from military service this year after 24 years of service.

" R.S.M. Pillinger served in France throughout the War with the Royal Engineers ; in 1919 he was in Russia ; in 1926, India ; and he joined the Signals Unit in 1932 as permanent staff instructor. The Princess asked him of his service, and in reply to one question he told her he would regret very much leaving the Army.

" The Princess left camp just before four. A huge crowd awaited her as she left, and many men from other camps in the vicinity lined the roads and joined in the cheers of the Signals.

" A unique feature of the camp is that five fathers have five sons in the Unit. They are : Sergeant Gartland J., with his son, Boy Gartland J. ; Corporal Sanderson R. H., with Signalman Sanderson C. ; Sergeant Ashurst R., with Signalman Ashurst R. ; Signalman Brook A., with Signalman Brook A. E. ; and Signalman Webster W., with Signalman Webster R. All are in camp together.

" The visit of the Princess did not interrupt normal work. The arrangements by Colonel W. Boyle, with Colonel W. F. Jackson assisting, were perfect in their military precision. The general smartness of the men, their healthy cheerfulness, and the efficiency of the camp gave the Princess much reason for congratulation.

" On the day of the Royal visit, every man was out of bed on the bugle call at 6.30. It was a glorious sunny morning, foretelling the heat of the afternoon, and before breakfast the men and boys had half-an-hour's ' modern ' physical training under the direction of Lieutenant R. E. Morgan, the newly-appointed Director of Physical Education at Leeds University."

R.S.M. Pillinger H. R.—We are very sorry indeed to have to say good-bye to R.S.M. Pillinger, who is leaving the Service. He has been with us since 1932, and during his tour of duty as P.S.I. has earned the respect and affection of all. All ranks of the 49th (W.R.) Divisional Signals wish the R.S.M., Mrs. Pillinger and Dennis the best of luck in the future.

M. S. R.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Last month's WIRE notes took us as far as our arrival at Aldershot. So much has happened during our two weeks' sojourn there that it is difficult to put the experiences down in any ordered form. Surely 1938 will be remembered as an outstanding year in the history of the Unit.

We have already recorded with pleasure the presentation of the Pipe Major's Banner by our Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, and following closely upon that happy event we have the unique experience of co-operating with our friends of the 1st Divisional Signals in the Corps Skeleton Exercise and the Staff College Exercise in the Aldershot Area.

For the first time in our experience we found ourselves in action as a Divisional Signals with full technical equipment and transport—even to the attached Field Ambulance and Ordnance Light Aid Detachments. By working with our opposite numbers in the Regular Forces we got an insight into the methods employed by those to whom Signals is an all-time job and, not least by any means, we found on every hand and amongst all ranks, a spirit of helpful friendliness which hard work and sleepless nights failed to damp.

We emerge from the experience of what were to us large-scale operations with a strong faith in the group system. Company Commanders may lose their identity as such, but they become intimately acquainted with the Divisional Signals as organised for war, while the Brigade Section Officers have ample scope for their initiative by being left to liaise freely with their Staffs.

Every encouragement was given to officers and N.C.O.s to keep in touch with the tactical situation and thoroughly to understand the Signal Plan. Indeed, when trying to worm out information, one always found unfailing courtesy from the Command Group or Staff, who were the first with news of the progress of Operations.

From the amount of paper issued one might well wonder why these are known as Skeleton Exercises. The skeleton of the Dinosaur is the only thing that comes to mind. No doubt it is appropriate enough when one remembers how we picked the bones of each new order, retaining the detail required for our own task without, we fondly hope, losing sight of the complete tactical picture.

Technical details are not wanted in the Corps Journal, and we only refer generally to all whose skill at their respective trades made the Exercise possible.

May we turn to something more prosaic ; a side which is somewhat akin to the accompanist to a good singer—he is never noticed until a bloomer is made. We consider the petrol cooker a highly technical instrument and certainly one which would have been of little use to us without the highly-skilled and hard-working attendants attached from 1st Divisional Signals. We might sing to the tune of " Casey Jones " :

Off we went like a circus troupe,
Command, Forward and Administrative Group ;
We took the road like a travelling show,
And Emblen with his cooker was always there on tow.

It must not be presumed that our absence from Standing Camp for the periods covering the two Exercises deprived us altogether of our brighter moments. The officers managed to fit in one Guest Night, on Monday, 11th July, at which the following guests were present : General Sir Walter M. St. G. Kirke, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. (Director-General, Territorial Army) ; Colonel C. W. Fladgate, C.S.O., Aldershot Command ; Lieutenant Colonel A. L. Harris, M.C., 1st Divisional Signals ; Major W. O. Bowen, O.B.E., 1st Divisional Signals ; Major L. D. Goddard, Assistant to C.S.O. ; Colonel F. H. N. Davidson, D.S.O., M.C., G.S.O.1 ; Brigadier G. G. Rawson, O.B.E., M.C., S.D.6 ; Colonel E. G. McHutchon, O.B.E., T.D., D.C.S.O., Scottish Command ; Brigadier G. H. E. Sim, D.S.O., M.C., A.Q.M.G., Territorial Army ; Colonel C. J. Wallace, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., A.A. and Q.M.G. ; Captain V. Blomfield, G.S.O.3 ; Lieutenant-Colonel P. C. Snatt ; Lieutenant-Colonel A. Collier, M.C. ; A. A. Marr, Esq. ; Fred May, Esq.

The surprise of the evening was the Subalterns' Song, published further on. A feature of special interest was the presence of Fred May with his pencil. We are much too good-looking to offer great scope to the caricaturist, but with an artist of such wide reputation we are assured of an interesting and amusing record of this most memorable year. (*The Sketch* of 10th August.)

For that evening the manager of the Y.M.C.A. arranged a concert which was greatly enjoyed. There is much to be said for living for the present hour as the thought that we were so soon to be in the thick of the Aldershot Command Exercise might have cast a depression over the evening.

On Friday, 15th July, the 1st Divisional Signals Concert Party, " The Morse Key Toes," under the direction of Sergeant Andrews, delighted a crowded audience in the Y.M.C.A. marquee. The party are to be congratulated on producing a talented programme of bright music and rollicking good humour.

Saturday, 16th July, was observed as a holiday, and some 270 members of the Unit enjoyed a bus trip to Portsmouth and Southsea for the day. By the courtesy of the Admiral Superintendent, H.M. Dockyard, we were permitted to view H.M.S. Victory, with its many interests, and H.M.S. Dunedin. Before setting out for the return journey, we took advantage of the facilities kindly granted by the Commodore, Royal Naval Barracks, for parking the buses and having tea in the N.A.A.F.I. Canteen. The count up on our return revealed the loss of two pipers, against which we brought away one sailor as hostage.

The last night in camp is often a difficult one, but was much more pleasant than in previous years, when it has been necessary to strike most of the canvas in the afternoon. A rear party prevented this inconvenience at Burley.

Those of us who remained in camp had a most enjoyable smoking concert, at which an amazing amount of talent was forthcoming. We do not enquire too deeply as to what was going on in Aldershot, but must say a word of appreciation to the A.P.M. and his " red caps " for their helpfulness and tact at all times.

The officers had no Mess, and after a pleasant call at Mons Barracks, proceeded to the Hog's Back Hotel for dinner, accompanied by Colonel A. L. Harris and Major W. O. Bowen.

"Nae man can tether time or tide." The hour approaches, "Tam maun ride." After a delightful finish at the Hippodrome (without which a visit to Aldershot is incomplete), the party dispersed.

Saturday, 23rd July, the day of our departure, was also crowded with interest. The Unit left Aldershot in buses for a pre-arranged tour of London. The first halt was at the Tower and for that, as well as the other interesting places in the itinerary, the reader is referred to the Guide Book to London, price 4d. at any bookstall.

Perhaps the most pleasant part of this outing was the privilege granted us of having our evening meal in the Coldstream Guards' dining hall at Wellington Barracks, before proceeding to King's Cross Station, where we entrained at 9.30 p.m. for home. We *did* enjoy ourselves.

It remains only for us to record with pleasure our appreciation of the presence in camp of Major-General V. M. Fortune on 22nd July; Colonel E. G. McHutchon from 9th to 23rd July; and Colonel C. Wheeler on 14th July. Also Majors W. L. Laurie and R. L. Houston, Royal Corps of Canadian Signals, Lieutenant Curtis, K.A.R., and many others, all of whom we hope to meet again before long.

GUEST NIGHT SURPRISE SONG BY THE SUBALTERNS.

(*Sung to the tune of "They're tough, mighty tough in the West."*)

Oh, they're tough, mighty tough in the Mess,
And the senior blokes must calmly acquiesce;
When they find their little failings
Made the subject of blackmailings
By the Subs. mighty tough in the Mess.

Oh, they're tough, mighty tough in the Mess,
And they shave with broken bottles, nothing less;
They drink molten glass and cinders
And their language breaks the windows,
'Cos they're tough, mighty tough in the Mess.

Oh, they're tough, mighty tough in the Mess,
And just what is done to Subs. they don't confess;
O.C., Majors, Doc. and Adjie,
You'll wish Albert's lion'd had ye,
When they're tough, mighty tough in the Mess.

Oh, they're tough, mighty tough in the Mess,
And what E.B. slides down mountains on you'll guess;
Till the little Swiss gazelle
Says, "Perhaps it's just as well
That they're tough, mighty tough in the Mess."

Oh, they're tough, mighty tough in the Mess;
They're inclined to skis and hunting more than chess;
When the C.O. leads the drag,
Why the beastie's in the bag,
'Cos they're tough, mighty tough in the Mess.

Oh, they're tough, mighty tough in the Mess,
Even Eddie drives his Morris to excess;
When he takes a Sunday ramble,
Little boys shout "Malcolm Campbell,"
Yes, he's tough, mighty tough in the Mess.

Oh, he's tough, mighty tough in the Mess.
And his handicap at Golf's not any less;
He sinks stymie after stymie,
Till his caddy shouts "Gawd blimey,"
Ain't he tough, mighty tough in the Mess.

Oh, they're tough, mighty tough in the Mess,
And the little Doc. prescribes with great success;
When you say you're feeling fine,
He barks, "Take a number nine,"
Oh, he's tough is our Doc. in the Mess.

BY APPOINTMENT TO H.M. KING GEORGE VI

Perfectly Correct

HIS ability to make riding breeches is generally said to be the final test of a tailor's skill. To Bernard Weatherill that is a pleasant thought indeed, for the Army has long considered him their accepted breeches maker. In the fit of the knee, the pouching of the leg and their snug support from the waist, the perfection of the cut reveals itself. Yet, in the matter of price, Bernard Weatherill tailoring is actually an economy!

Bernard Weatherill Ltd.

47 HIGH STREET, ALDERSHOT

ASCOT: Bridge House CAMBERLEY: 51 London Road
LONDON: 55 Conduit St., W.1 BIRMINGHAM: 11 Bennetts Hill

Oh, he's tough, mighty tough in the Mess,
And a gas mask is part of David's normal dress;
Up the Cairngorms where he flieth,
Thank goodness you're not Goliath,
'Cos he's tough, mighty tough in the Mess.

Oh, they're tough, mighty tough in the Mess,
And we're never what you'd call "Ramsbottomless";
For it's a pea-nut to a penny,
We'll get Albert's song from Lennie,
'Cos he's tough, mighty tough in the Mess.

Oh, he's tough, mighty tough in the Mess,
But his vocal efforts cannot but impress;
There's nothing really finer
Than a Major singing minor,
When they're tough, mighty tough in the Mess.

Oh, they're tough, mighty tough in the Mess,
And old Felix' Unit tests they seldom bless;
When questioned up in heaven,
He'll answer, "Vol. II, para. 7,"
'Cos he's tough, might tough in the Mess.

Oh, he's tough, mighty tough in the Mess,
And he needs dashed little mustard with his cress;
Though he knows you're talking tosh,
He'll say, "Priceless"—"Oh, Sha-Bosh,"
For he's tough, mighty tough in the Mess.

Oh, they're tough, mighty tough in the Mess,
Just consult the police columns in the press;
But their hearts you'll always tickle,
If you mention Colonel Nicol,
Though they're tough, mighty tough in the Mess.

Yes, they're tough, mighty tough in the Mess,
And the thought of them is enough to cause distress;
For these alcoholic hearties,
Just exist for sherry parties,
Which are tough, mighty tough on the Mess.

Advance Party.—Unlike previous years, when this duty was considered normal routine, the long journey from Scotland to Aldershot gave one too much time to think of what was in store for them. However, the time soon passed on the journey to London, where the parties from the three Companies (Aberdeen, Stirling and Kirkcaldy) met and enjoyed breakfast in the Union Jack Club.

On arrival at Aldershot, the command was "coats off," and this state of affairs lasted for four days as a considerable amount of technical stores from 1st Divisional Signals had to be drawn as well as camp stores, apart from the work of erecting the camp and unloading Unit stores.

Moisture was very abundant, a case of "in, out and through"; but our spirits were not damped, and great satisfaction was felt at having completed the erection of camp and all other work before the main body arrived.

It was hoped that after a quiet week-end everyone would have recovered from their strenuous tasks, but the O.C. Advance Party seemed to find it an effort to join in the chorus of "Oh, they're tough, mighty tough in the Mess." Perhaps he was thinking of the morning when he waded through the camp and found several tents and marquees down. It was then a case of "Oh, it's tough, mighty tough, and what a mess!"

We thank 1st Divisional Signals for their aid in regard to transport and other problems and hope that in the future (not next year) we shall have the pleasure of similar training. Perhaps it might help promotion, as Q.M.s have been known to resign for lesser reasons.

A certain Signalman still maintains that he was chasing a squirrel which had purloined his cap badge when he was seen careering through the woods very late on the last night of the rear party. What energy!

ADPA.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals and G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

21, Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Berwick Camp.—The T.A. Camp at Berwick has come and gone. It is many a year since we camped so near the Border—we are thinking of the old days at Stobs.

Berwick of 1938 was a great camp. The weather on the whole was good. Exercises and manœuvres were carried out on a scale never before attempted. With the modern equipment now available, many novel ideas were tried out. An old friend who visited the 52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals at Berwick says that he found his idea of signalling out of date.

It is no longer a matter of flag-wagging and morse-tapping. The Signals go to war in elaborately equipped lorries with the latest in telephony and radio transmission sets, mechanised line layers and despatch riders on motor-cycles.

Training is as strenuous now for Territorials as for Regulars.

We saw Berwick "invaded" by two (mythical) Divisions of the H.L.I. and Cameronians and remained quite undisturbed. The Divisions advanced rapidly west, were held up fifteen miles away by (imaginary) enemy fire from the hills behind Duns.

Signals then stepped in. The Divisions had to be linked to each other and to the General Commanding at Headquarters, a few miles back between Swinton and Paxton. In an hour or so—with a minimum of bad language—a network of telephone wires was woven, linking up every Battalion.

There were one or two minor hitches. A large sheep lorry failed to clear an overhead wire and cut it in two. A Brigade got "lost" through some faulty wiring, and "mag." trouble on one of the mechanised cable-layers brought a lot of abuse on the Cable Section.

Two successful sports meetings were held. The prizes were presented by Mrs. Victor Warren at the conclusion of the second meeting on 23rd July.

Captain W. Johnstone, S.R.—We heartily congratulate Captain Johnstone on his promotion to that rank. He has put in some fine work for the S.R. His job is an all-the-year-round one. The present efficient state of G.H.Q. Signals is very largely due to his energy and enthusiasm.

Houston Halts.—Berwick was C.Q.M.S. Houston A.'s last camp. Houston of the Argylls and India a decade ago. A farewell smoker was held at camp in Andy's honour. We will have more to say of our old friend when he hands in his kit.

The K.O.S.B.—We were indeed fortunate in having as neighbours at Berwick our friends of the Depot, K.O.S.B. Our comrades of this grand old Regiment could not do enough for the Territorials. All ranks of the Lowland Signals should be deeply grateful to the Borderers. The amenities of the barracks and Regimental Institutions were freely placed at our disposal. We had the run of Messes, recreation rooms and the playing fields. Our W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess was particularly fortunate. The R.S.M. and the Sergeants' Mess of the K.O.S.B. went out of their way to make our stay at Berwick a memorable and happy one.

Shawcross Speaks.—The announcer at the Empire sports at the Ibrox Stadium on 6th August was our T.A. Adjutant—Captain Shawcross. The Lowland Signals Wireless Sections were responsible for some excellent radio relay work at this big event, which was attended by sixty-five thousand people. Captain Shawcross' excellent broadcasting voice sounded well over the Ibrox amplification system, which is said to be one of the finest of its kind in the country.

Royal Signals Empire Exhibition Display.—The Services Pavilion at the Empire Exhibition during the last four months has been the scene of many remarkable displays by the Army and Royal Air Force. We feel safe in saying, however, that the Royal Signals show would be difficult to surpass.

The Signals exhibit has proved to be one of the best Service attractions so far. The Pavilion was allocated to the Corps for the first fortnight in August. Personnel and equipment were provided by Catterick and the G.H.Q. Signals, S.R., Glasgow.

The principal attraction of the show was its simplicity and directness of appeal. There was no mystery about wireless, morse or teleprinter. Visitors were made quite at home. They could operate, enquire, and question to their hearts' content. The various circuits were provided by a miniature permanent air-line route, which was supplied by the training branch, and constructed in their workshops by youths in training. Greetings and explanatory notes were sent to the public from the other end of the line by teleprinter.

An automatic exchange was also demonstrated, this being supplied by the School of Signals. It proved to be a great attraction. Captain J. B. Adams of the School designed the exchange, and C.Q.M.S. Lafford was responsible for the maintenance of the apparatus.

An automatic cinema showed the work and sport activities carried on in the Corps.

On 8th August, the Services Pavilion was honoured by a visit of H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester. A teleprinter 3a was installed which worked to the G.P.O. Pavilion, and a message addressed to H.R.H. from the Post Office to the Signals Pavilion, commented on the satisfactory co-operation of the two Services.

G.H.Q. Signals Pipe Band provided thrilling Scottish music during the run of the exhibit.

Entertainment was the high note of the display.

Major White explained, by means of an amplifier, how messages were transmitted. He also explained, in simple language, the entire layout. Tests were made which, of course, showed to the advantage of the teleprinter as an ordinary message could be forwarded in forty-five seconds by that instrument. During dull moments—if there were any—the gramo-amplifier played popular music.

The Wireless Section also merit a word of praise. Sets moved about the Exhibition grounds, and any member of the public could converse with the W/T operator at the other end.

It is only proper that we should mention one or two names in connection with this great show. Major White of Catterick was the showman *par excellence*. His expert knowledge enabled him to present the Corps and its multifarious activities to the general public in a manner never before attempted. His unfailing courtesy and personal charm added the finishing touch to a great piece of work.

Lieutenant-Colonel Cumming, G.H.Q. Signals, Glasgow, devoted much time and energy to the staging of the Corps show. To Captain W. Johnstone, also of G.H.Q. Signals, is due a special word. He had a big hand in the Glasgow S.R. arrangements. The work of F-of-S Lafford, of Catterick, calls for the highest praise. Sergeant Strain S. and Corporal Hall, G.H.Q. Signals, Glasgow, must not be forgotten. The Jardine Street exhibit was possible only because of their many days of unstinted labour. Lastly, but by no means least, we would express our gratitude to Colonel Peffers, the Officer-in-charge of the Services

Pavilion. It was largely due to his encouragement and consideration that the Signals Empire Show was such a marked success.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Cardiff.
15th August.

On Sunday morning, 31st July, the Unit, comprising 22 officers and 334 other ranks, entrained at Cardiff for Penally, Tenby, for annual training. On arrival at camp, which actually is the W.D. permanent weapon training camp of hutments, the men quickly settled down with a keen anticipation of a fortnight's interesting work and healthy outdoor exercise. This is not our first experience at this camp, for many happy times have been spent at this spot.

On Monday, 1st August (Bank Holiday), stores were drawn by the Sections as a prelude to serious training; the afternoon was devoted to a half-holiday.

The A.D.M.S., Colonel W. H. Kerr, T.D., M.D., Welsh Division, paid us a visit for his usual camp inspection.

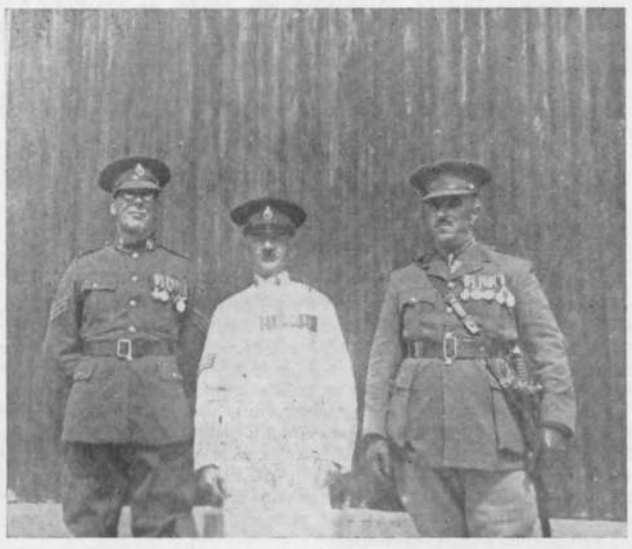
The big task of assembling and fitting gas respirators was carried out during the next day or two, officers and men finally testing them out in the Gas Chamber.

All Companies took part in a Technical Scheme on Wednesday, 3rd August. The general idea of the Scheme was the landing of the 53rd (Welsh) Division as a covering force for the main body that was ultimately to invade the country. Much useful work was accomplished, and considerable traffic passed through the various offices.

The officers at dinner that evening entertained the Mayor of Tenby, Mr. Arrol Davies; the Deputy-Mayor, Mr. A. Francis; and the Town Clerk, Mr. Meyrick Price. The Mayor, in welcoming the Unit, paid a glowing tribute to the smartness and splendid behaviour of the men when in Tenby.

On Wednesday afternoon and all day Thursday, a thunderstorm with torrential rain compelled the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel W. Glynne Trice, to abandon a Unit Scheme arranged for the Thursday. Needless to say, this was a disappointment to everyone.

The recruits were finally passed off by the Commanding Officer, who adjudged Boy Hiers R. L., No. 2 Company, as the "best all-round" recruit; Boy Parsons T. L., No. 2 Company, as the "best drilled" recruit; and Signalman Grant J., No. 1 Company, as the "best turned-out" recruit. C.S.M. Greenwood E. W., the P.S.I. of No. 2 Company, must naturally feel proud of the excellent display given by his charges. They were indeed a credit to their instructor.



Left to right : Sergeant Doyle A. E., Ex-Sergeant Llewellyn W., M.M., Major (Q.M.) W. S. Catleugh, T.D.

At the Commanding Officer's Parade on 5th August, the C.O., Lieutenant-Colonel W. Glynne Trice, presented medals to the following officer and men: Major (Q.M.) W. S. Catleugh (Territorial Decoration); Sergeant Doyle A. E., ex-Sergeant Llewellyn W., Lance Corporals Stevens A. R. G. and Gwilliam A. J., Signalman Murray E. (Efficiency Medal (T.)).

Major (Q.M.) W. S. Catleugh joined the 2nd Volunteer Battalion, Welsh Regiment, in 1905, at Cardiff, serving until the termination of the Volunteer Force in 1908. He joined the Welsh Division Telegraph Company on its formation in the same year as a Driver, and in 1914 was mobilised with the 53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals with the rank of Sergeant, afterwards being promoted to C.Q.M.S. He was commissioned in 1917 and posted to the 52nd Lowland Division. After demobilisation in 1919, he rejoined the 53rd Welsh Divisional Signals on assuming the appointment of Quartermaster in 1935.

Sergeant Doyle A. E. enlisted as a boy in the Regular Army, R.E., in 1905, passing to the S.R., R.A.F. Signal Squadron, on demobilisation, and was transferred to the T.A. in 1929.

Ex-Sergeant Llewellyn enlisted in 1906 in the Glamorgan Imperial Yeomanry, under Major Sir William Cope, Bart., serving continuously until "disembodied" in 1920. He rejoined the Glamorgan Yeomanry Battery, 83rd Brigade, R.F.A., for three years, and was then transferred to the 53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals in 1923, remaining with this Unit until 1937. Ex-Sergeant Llewellyn W. also holds the M.M.

Between them they claim an aggregate service of ninety-two years. These "young" soldiers have cause to be proud of such a splendid record. There is no truth in the story that ex-Sergeant Llewellyn presented himself at a Company Office for enlistment, and was almost sworn in as a recruit.

The Unit sports were held on Saturday, 6th August. The preliminary heats were run off in the morning, and the finals in the afternoon. The sports field presented a gay appearance.

Mr. P. Fletcher, Officer i/c Sports, had made admirable arrangements, handicapped as he was by a poor field. There

were, however, no casualties, except Captain J. Gardiner, Officer i/c Transport, who badly pulled a leg muscle in an attempt at a flying start in the Officers' Race. Here are the results :

100 YARDS.—1, Signalman Regan ; 2, Signalman Jeannette H. ; 3, Signalman Waldron B.

220 YARDS.—1, Corporal Dalziel E. ; 2, Signalman Benson ; 3, Signalman Dalziel D.

440 YARDS.—1, Signalman Jeannette H. ; 2, Signalman Nolan ; 3, Signalman Fowler T.

880 YARDS.—1, Signalman Roberts R. N. ; 2, Corporal Roche A. ; 3, Signalman McCarthy M.

CHARIOT RACE.—Signalman Taylor's team.

BAND RACE.—Signalman Edgington G.

THREE-LEGGED RACE.—Signalmen Grant and Elsworthy.

TUG-OF-WAR.—No. 2 Company.

INTER-RELAY.—No. 2 Company.

OFFICERS' RACE.—Lieutenant P. Fletcher.

We were glad to welcome the Mayor and Mayoress (Mr. and Mrs. Arrol Davies) of Tenby, our D.C.S.O., Colonel R. C. Seel, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., Mrs. R. C. Seel, and Lieutenant-Colonel J. T. Bennett, Bt., R.A.O.C., D.A.D.O.S., Welsh Division.

On Sunday, 7th August, the Unit marched into Tenby to attend Church Parade at St. Mary's Church. This was also attended by the Mayor, who took the salute at the march past on the return journey to the camp.

During the afternoon the wives and families of the members of the W.O.s', N.C.O.s', and Men's Messes arrived in camp from Cardiff, and spent a happy day here, finishing up with a concert in the N.A.A.F. Institute. They returned to Cardiff at 9 p.m.

A Traffic Scheme on Monday, and a Unit Scheme on Tuesday, based on the general idea of the G.O.C.'s Scheme to take place on the Wednesday, kept everyone up to concert pitch.

On Wednesday, 10th August, the G.O.C.'s Scheme commenced, continuing throughout the night until 8 a.m. on Thursday morning. Here again the tactical idea was that the 53rd (Welsh) Division should effect a landing at three points on the coast around Tenby for an attack on Wales, and advance north-west. The considerable ground taken had, ultimately, to be given up. The Unit provided communications for these Operations. Major-General G. Thorpe, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. (G.O.C., 53rd Division) visited the various Signal Offices and remained until the end of the Scheme. With him were Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. R. Templar (G.S.O.1) ; Major W. G. Mason (Headquarters Staff, 53rd Division) ; Lieutenant-Colonel D. A. Brown, M.C. (C.S.O., Western Command) ; and Colonel R. C. Seel, O.B.E., M.C., T.D. (D.C.S.O., Western Command).

Communications generally were very good and considerable traffic was dealt with by W/T, Line, Fullerphone, and D.R.s. The Exercise may well be regarded as successful. It was indeed gratifying to notice the keen rivalry between Sections in order to produce good results.

The Unit Competitions were held on Friday, 12th August. Here are the results : SECTION TROPHY : No. 212 Section ; SALMON TROPHY : "E" Section ; LLEWELLYN TROPHY : "A" Section.

Competition was very keen this year for the coveted "Jimmy" (Section Trophy), only a few points dividing the first and second Sections. Congratulations, No. 212 Section !

On Saturday, 13th August, Sections were fully employed in checking and loading stores in readiness for "marching-out" at 9.25 a.m. on Sunday morning.

Sunday morning, 14th August, saw the final clean up of the camp, followed by the presentation of the sports prizes, and then the "march-out," under Lieutenant-Colonel W. Glynne Trice, Commanding Officer, headed by the Unit Band.

Captain R. T. H. Gelston.—Thanks, Tom ! The health of the baby was well and truly drunk. The sight of twenty-six of us trying to draw our "pints" at the same time would have gladdened your heart. Wha-at !

THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

233rd and 234th F.A. Brigades Signal Sections.

Ashburnham Road, Bedford.

Bronzed and fit . . . Oh, sorry, that was the newspaper report. Still, we are bronzed, and we do feel fit. We have just returned from Brighton. Our camp will just have to be changed next year for they are beginning to know us in those parts. What is the map reference of High Hill ? We can all answer from memory. Tom Sayers spent his period at camp as a school master again. He seems to get fat on it ! However, he won't put on weight by eating rice when he gets to China.

We do like being in a "mechanised" war. Talk about a high speed Cook's tour ! Some of the older soldiers say we need another decoration as well as wings on our feet. Maybe they are right, but we can't help feeling that it would look funny, and distinctly unmilitary. Still, we do have to stop for the night sometimes, and we can be trusted to make ourselves comfortable. Signalman D—v———K (Poacher-Cook, Class I, Group "A") has something to say then. Did we notice strangers in the camp when the wind blew the smell of our stew in the direction of Rear H.Q. ?

As camouflage is the essence of modern methods of concealment, we all grew moustaches. Some of them were only nominal moustaches it is true, but we all tried. Complaints from wives should be forwarded in triplicate, and will be dealt with in strict rotation.

All tunics are to be returned to store after camp; rumour whispers that this is for widening purposes due to the quality of the food. And talking of food, what a dinner the N.C.O.s gave the Section Officers. Did they have the wrong number ? There are only two officers not twenty ! ! And we do like to see a lordly Sergeant with an admitted knowledge of wines and a close acquaintance with those of the better sort, ordering wine by the dozen bottles. It does lend an air. We wonder whether our songs caused some raised eyebrows in far distant Eastbourne. We all felt distinctly superior when the time came to adjourn to the Sergeants' Mess. Corporal Simpson (Snake Charmer Class II, Group "B") did some funny things with a saxophone that earned him the applause of the whole gathering.

What was there so funny about the trousers on the fifth man in the rear rank ? Everybody must admit that the authorities make allowance for possibilities, and he might have got as fat as that before the end of camp.

Does everyone now know the time to sing on the march, or did the Sergeant's little request go into one ear and out of the other ? Another thing we should like to know is the correct wording of reproof for a man who walks away in the middle of a visual message and returns twenty minutes later to send on his lamp WA . . . !

Here is another queer thing that we saw. A Section officer with a new idea for polishing leather, cleaning a Sergeant's chinstrap ; a Sergeant cleaning a Corporal's bandolier ; and a Corporal cleaning a Signalman's waist belt. We suppose it will have gone the full cycle when the batman cleans the officer's chinstrap. This is known as the "chain of command."

Why were so many cap badges missing on the final parade before leaving camp ? Were they left behind as souvenirs ?

Gas masks were worn regularly with the idea of getting us accustomed to them. Who forgot that he had one on and went off to see a girl in it ? Or was that a form of disguise ?

Anybody know anything about nurses ?

Step forward all those who want to come next year. All right, don't rush, wait for it ! Wait for it ! !

BEDFORDIAN.

The London Divisional Signals.

(City of London Signals.)

Signal House, 20, Atkins Road, Clapham Park, S.W.12.

Annual Training, 1938—24th July-7th August—Friston Camp.—This was one of the most successful Annual Trainings held by the Unit. The strength of the Unit in camp was such that for the first time for many years all Sections were enabled to train with sufficient effectiveness to make training realistic.

The presence in camp of twenty-five Cadets of the City of London Signals Cadet Company, and during the second week the addition of six cadets of the Haberdashers' Aske's School 1st Cadet Signal Company did much to solve the problem of the provision of terminals to represent Battalions and Batteries during training. As the official phraseology so aptly declares, 'The Unit was fully exercised."

The Artillery Brigade Signal Sections worked with their Brigades throughout the first week. On Friday and Saturday an Exercise, directed by the C.R.A., London Division, called

on the City of London Signals to represent two separate Divisional Signals; one was found by No. 1 Company acting as such, and the other No. 1 Company was provided from the personnel and stores of the Infantry Brigade Signal Sections.

Sports were held on the middle Saturday, but they were much curtailed owing to the disorganisation of equipment caused by the provision of this extemporised Signal Unit. The Cable Sections did not finish reeling up until very late, and so the Cable-Laying Competition had to be postponed.

Despite their night out, the D.R.s put on a first-class display at the end of the sports, and the following morning left for Derby where they gave a display on August Bank Holiday returning more dead than alive, but to schedule, on Tuesday in time for reveille. The long night ride from Derby with the Bank Holiday traffic to compete with had been a very severe strain. Suffice to say that all arrived as scheduled, after having given a very satisfactory performance.

On Sunday, the remainder of the Unit joined with Units at Seaford in a Drum-head Service.

During the second week, Unit Schemes were held on Monday, and a twenty-four hour Exercise took place on Wednesday and Thursday. These activities taxed the abilities of all those participating to the utmost.

The Divisional Commander, Major-General C. F. Liardet, C.B., D.S.O., T.D., inspected the Unit during the latter half of this Exercise on Thursday, and afterwards saw the men at dinner. He lunched with the officers later.

Infantry Brigade Signal Sections joined the 2nd London Infantry Brigade at Burley and the 3rd London Infantry Brigade at Lympne on Wednesday and Thursday, returning on Saturday, 6th August.

The only untoward occurrence was a storm of wind and rain on Wednesday 27th July, which nearly wrecked all the larger tents. Hard work by all concerned, however, saved all but the Orderly Room.

City of London Signals returned to its Headquarters by road on Sunday, 7th August, during one of the wettest days most of us can remember.

The presence in camp of Major J. J. Duvivier, who assumes the duties of Adjutant on 17th November, was much appreciated by all ranks.

No. 1 Company held their Annual Supper on Friday, the 5th, at the Drive Hotel, Eastbourne. The party was a great success, and much enjoyed by No. 1 Company and the guests.

A feature of the 1938 camp was the good work of the Band. Now a really going concern, Mr. Duys and his men were ever ready to assist all applicants. What with practice during working hours, playing twice during dinners outside the Mess Tent, once for the sergeants, and most evenings for the officers, the Band worked as hard or harder than any.

Two successful ceremonial parades were held for which the Unit was complimented on its smartness by the Commanding Officer.

C.O.L.S.

1st Cadet Signal Company (Haberdashers' School).

(Affiliated to City of London Signals.)

13th August.

Through the kindness of Colonel K. D. Murray, C.B., D.S.O., Commanding Cambridge University O.T.C., who allowed us the use of a site, the Unit had a very good summer camp at Cambridge from 26th July to 4th August. Below will be found an account of the camp written by Cadet Sergeant Manley, who acted as C.S.M., and Cadet Corporal Sedgwick.

A party from the Unit was also lucky enough to be invited by Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. C. Willway, Commanding London Divisional Signals, to attend for a week the latter's camp at Friston, and a brief note on their experiences there, from a record by Cadet Corporal Bayliss, is also appended.

Cambridge Camp, 1938.—Through the courtesy of the Cambridge University O.T.C., the School Signal Unit once again spent a profitable and enjoyable camp on the now familiar Rifle Range.

Training included Schemes for the Signal Sections, the drafting of a camp plan by the survey group, and such practice for the band as resulted in even better music than heralded our arrival in Cambridge. Early in the programme, gas training was undertaken, including passage through the gas chamber, and tear gas figured in an all-day Scheme.

During the middle of camp, the C.O. asked the N.C.O.s of the Unit out to tea, an invitation gladly accepted and much appreciated. A number of parents visited the camp on Bank Holiday Sunday, and when they had departed, preparations were made for a Night Scheme. Members of the Unit were soon enjoying themselves laying lines or acting as cyclist D.R.s, the latter having the rare pleasure of riding without lights on a public footpath after nightfall. This was the first scheme in our memory in which surveyors and bandsmen worked L/T circuits and manned cable detachments; some were being instructed in the use of "Tele. 100" and "110" at 1.30 a.m.

Experience at previous Signal Camps prompted the detailing of a man to shadow the C.O. when the latter was seen hovering suspiciously near a cable-route with a pair of pliers, but it was of no avail. The line went "dis" all right, but the shadower had failed to locate the spot, so linemen's procedure had to be put to the test after all.

Two days later a blazing hot sun greeted the commencement of an all-day Scheme. Certificate "A" candidates and the band combined to provide a skeleton Infantry formation on a defensive front, under the instruction of 2nd Lieutenant Bromwich of the C.U.O.T.C. Service conditions were provided by tear gas and smoke bombs (the latter caused the destruction of at least one man's rations), and the activities of local aircraft provided much work for air-sentries, and necessitated the camouflage of the "A" Sets.

The camp concluded with an enjoyable concert, after which the Commanding Officer awarded prizes to the best guard (under C/C.Q.M.S. Weinstock); to the best tent on kit inspection (the band tent under C/Corporal Innocenti), and to C/Signalman Pointing, who had the highest score in a Company Musketry Competition fired with .22 over 30 yards, the last phase of which involved snapshooting in gas masks.

Camp was struck early next morning, in accordance with a detailed scheme prepared by the Cadet/C.Q.M.S. Three P.S.I.s of the C.U.O.T.C. helped in a practical manner in the workmanlike striking and packing operations, and we must record our sincere gratitude for this, and for their ever-willing assistance throughout a very successful camp. To one of them, our good friend Sergeant F. Jennison (Royal Signals), we should also like to offer our congratulations on his promotion to the rank of C.Q.M.S. whilst we were in camp.

R. G. M.
R. H. S.

At Friston Camp.—On Sunday, 31st July, a party of six left the 1st Cadet Signal Company's Camp at Cambridge for a week's stay at the City of London Signals' training camp near Friston, Sussex.

A lorry took the party from Seaford station to the camp, where a good tea was waiting. At tea we were introduced to the members of the City of London Signals own Cadet Company, who kindly showed us round the camp. Two features made use of by all were the hot and cold showers.

In the daily routine, after working from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. (dinner time) those in camp were free to do what they pleased until 10 p.m. After tea each day, lorries left the camp with parties for Eastbourne, Seaford and Brighton, returning to camp at midnight. The fact that all camp calls were sounded by trumpet necessitated some little guess-work as to what each one indicated.

To turn to the technical side, we all had a chance to operate or at least inspect "A," No. 1, No. 2 and No. 9 Sets, all of which were mounted in lorries. Two of the new mechanised cable-layers, that can lay cable at 25 m.p.h., were to be seen in camp.

From 2 p.m. on Wednesday to 2 p.m. on Thursday, a twenty-four-hour Signal Scheme was staged. The writer was attached to an Infantry Brigade Headquarters as a wireless operator, the others furnishing terminals for the Artillery Section of the Scheme. When a five-mile line went "dis" at midnight, long-range visual communication was established back to Divisional Headquarters.

As a reward for hard work during this Scheme, the Cadets were given an extra hour in bed on Friday morning.

On 6th August we left the camp and returned to London after a very enjoyable and instructive week with the Territorials, who were most kind and helpful to us in every way.

A. J. B.

SPORTS NOTES

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Athletics.—The month of July saw the end of this Unit's athletic season.

Our relay team started the month well by winning the Mile Open Relay at the R.E. Sports Meeting. Four teams had entered, and we won with ease. We only regret that we had not entered a " B " team, which might well have secured second place.

The next event on the athletic calendar was the R.A.S.C. Mile Relay, which was open to all Units in the Southern Command and all R.A.S.C. Units in Great Britain. The Training Battalion, R.A.S.C., started as hot favourites. We were told that they had only just been beaten into second place in the Open Relay at the Aldershot Signals Sports.

As there were six teams in the final, it was decided to run the race in the following order : 880 yards, 440 yards, 220 yards, and 220 yards. From the very start, Lieutenant Gordan, R.A.S.C., went into the lead, gaining at one time an advantage of over fifty yards, but Corporal Hastings, running a very clever race, sprinted in the last 220 yards, and passed Lieutenant Gordan, handing over a clear lead of 40 yards. The remainder of the team (Lieutenant B. H. P. Barnes, Lance Corporals Whayman and Barrett) had no difficulty in holding this advantage, and we won by about 60 yards.

This was the relay team's last race, but it was left to Lance Corporal Barrett to bring the athletic season to a really successful close. Representing the Army in the Inter-Services Athletic Meeting at Uxbridge, he ran a brilliant 100 yards to gain second place, being beaten only by L.A.C. Giles, R.A.F., in 9.9 seconds.

Northern Ireland District Signal Company, Belfast.

On 19th July we visited the East Lancashire Regiment at Holywood. Readers will remember that they accounted for us in the semi-final of the District Challenge Cup, but on this occasion we " trimmed " them up very handsomely. After obtaining 121 runs for the loss of 8 wickets, we declared, and then dismissed the opposition for 88 runs. What might have been ? East Lancashire Regiment, 88 runs ; Northern Ireland District Signal Company, 121 for 8 declared.

A week later, at Cliftonville, against the Welch Regiment, we were not so fortunate, and although 117 runs were compiled, this total was not sufficient, as the Welch scored 119 for the loss of 9 wickets. The Welch Regiment, 119 runs for 9 declared ; Northern Ireland District Signal Company, 117 runs.

With a depleted team, we confronted the Co-Operative C.C. at Cliftonville on 10th August. Scoring was low. The Co-Operative scored 74 runs, and we fared even worse, putting together a meagre 63, and so the Co-Operative avenged themselves for their previous whipping at our hands. Co-Operative C.C., 74 runs ; Northern Ireland District Signal Company, 63 runs.

With the departure of the first draft for overseas, we have lost one Unit sportsman in the person of Lance Corporal Blount, who has represented the Company at soccer and cricket. We wish him luck, and hope that through the medium of the WIRE we shall read of his prowess further afield.

Tennis.—The last week of July saw the opening of the District Tennis Tournament. Unfortunately, inclement weather was responsible for a postponement of several events, but in those that have been decided Signals are still featuring prominently. When the tournament has been concluded, we hope to record the names of our successful competitors.

Signal Training Centre (India), Jubbulpore.

Water Polo.—The water polo team had a very successful run in the Brigade Competition. It was undefeated. Playing four matches in all, two against the Gunners and two against the Leicestershire Regiment, they have a goal average of 39 goals for and 4 against. Honours are due to our tame walrus (Corporal Thom), who, with the assistance of his whiskers, was able on most occasions to keep his feet on the deck. The games were all good, clean, sporting events, and were thoroughly enjoyed by the spectators.

The top scorers were Signalman Knight (17) and Lance Corporal Davies B., Busty of Glamorgan fame (14). The remaining eight were split up among the remaining members of the team.

Rugby.—The rugby team has just completed the first three matches of the season, losing two and winning one.

v. " H.Q." Wing, Leicestershire Regiment	..	Lost	0—3
v. " B " Company, Leicestershire Regiment	..	Won	12—3
v. 3rd Field Battery, R.A.	.. .. ..	Lost	0—3

We seem to need more practice and more weight.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Little of importance has happened. We have had the Inter-Section sports, athletics and swimming, but so far our athletes have not had the opportunity of showing the rest of the garrison how to go round the track. In the Garrison Swimming Sports, the Cup was won by this Unit with a comfortable margin of 63 points (84 to 21), and mention must be made of the splendid individual performance of Signalman Richards, and the diving of Lance Corporal Crockett, who gained maximum points in the High Diving Competition. The final placings are shown below. In the Water Polo Tournament, our "A" team won every match and were awarded the Cup.

ONE LENGTH, FREE STYLE.—1, Signalman Richards (35½ secs.) ; 3, Lance Corporal Stevenson.

THROWING THE WATER POLO BALL.—2, Signalman Richards.

ONE LENGTH, BACK STROKE.—1, Signalman Richards (46 1/5 secs.) ; 3, Signalman Parker ; 4, Lieutenant Williams.

PLUNGING.—6, C.Q.M.S. Archer.

ONE LENGTH, BREAST STROKE.—1, Lieutenant Stevenson (48 2/5 secs.) ; 5, Signalman Wilson.

INTER-COMPANY RELAY RACE.—1, 2nd Indian Divisional Signals. (Team : Signalmen Richards, Wilson and Fry and Lance Corporal Stevenson.)

SPRING BOARD DIVING.—1, Lance Corporal Crockett ; 2, Lance Corporal Stevenson ; 3, C.Q.M.S. Archer ; 6, Lieutenant Williams.

HIGH DIVING.—1, Lance Corporal Crockett ; 5, Lieutenant Williams and Signalman Collins.

OFFICERS' RACE.—2, Lieutenant Johnson.

PLATE DIVING.—2, Corporal Allen.

FOUR LENGTHS, FREE STYLE.—1, Signalman Richards (3 mins. 40 secs.) ; 2, Signalman Parker ; 4, Lieutenant Johnson.

The B.O.R.s' Tennis Club have played several matches with a certain amount of success. The Unit tournaments are still in progress, and results will be ready for publication in the next issue.

A recent innovation is a week-end camp, which has been arranged at Kahan Tangi, some forty miles from here. A large number have taken advantage of the facilities, and some pleasant times have been spent there.

In the recent Football Tournament, we were unfortunate in losing in the final to the " Sandemanians," after a very keen game. Better luck next time.

RONKAY.

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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Editorial Notes.

Felicitations.—We tender our congratulations to the undermentioned on having been honoured and decorated as shown, for valuable and distinguished services rendered during the Operations in Waziristan, North-West Frontier Province :

TO BE COMMANDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE, MILITARY DIVISION (C.B.E.) :
Colonel L. G. Phillips, M.C.

THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER (D.S.O.) :
Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. H. Vulliamy.

TO BE MEMBER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE, MILITARY DIVISION (M.B.E.) :
Lieutenant N. M. Hay.

THE MILITARY MEDAL (M.M.) :
No. 2323881 Signalman G. Downing.

MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES :
Colonel L. G. Phillips, M.C., Chief Signal Officer, "Waziforce."

Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. H. Vulliamy, "E" Corps Signals.

No. 1850370 Sergeant Conway C., "B" Corps Signals.

No. 2320537 Corporal Robson F. C., Peshawar District Signals.

No. 775088 Lance Corporal Leach W., 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

No. 4684 Havildar Ishar Dass, 1st Indian Divisional Signals.

No. 3158 Havildar Akbar Ali, "A" Corps Signals.

An extract from the *Civil and Military Gazette* of India, dated 23rd August, 1938, reads as follows :

"MILITARY MEDAL.—On 16th July, 1938, Signalman "Downing was operating a pack wireless set that had been "placed under the command of the advanced guard of the "Razmak Brigade. The enemy had laid a number of land "mines in the Duga Khulla and the pack wireless mule "exploded one of them and was killed, Signalman Downing "suffering multiple wounds. Although in considerable "pain, he refused to have his wounds dressed until he had "completed the despatch of a message to which he was, "at that time, attending ; an act of fortitude and devotion "to duty worthy of the highest praise."

Emigration to the Dominions—The Fairbridge Farm School.—The Fairbridge Farm School is a Society which exists for the purpose of promoting the settlement, within the Oversea Dominions, of children of both sexes, born in the United Kingdom, especially such as have suffered by reason of the Great War through the loss of one or both parents, and to establish farm schools in the Oversea Dominions in which such children shall be maintained and educated until they are fitted to earn their own livelihood.

For the information of serving and "ex-Service" Warrant Officers, N.C.O.s and men of Royal Signals, it is hereby notified that the Central Committee of Signals Association, who have a small fund at their disposal for this purpose, are interesting themselves in the movement and invite applications from parents or guardians who wish to consider the practicability of nominating a child to the School in question as a potential trainee, for subsequent settlement in the Dominions.

All children should be between the ages of 6 and 12 years of age on the date of nomination.

Further information will be supplied on application to The General Secretary, Signals Association, 95, Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

The Signals Experimental Establishment, Woolwich.—The Signals Experimental Establishment will be "At Home" to all Regular officers of the Corps (including those on leave from abroad) on Friday, 25th November, 1938.

Officers will be able to see all experimental apparatus that has been out on trials during the year, and also any other equipment in the process of being designed. Officers should arrive not later than 11 a.m. The nearest station is *Woolwich Arsenal*. A convenient train from London leaves Charing Cross at 10.28 a.m., arriving at Woolwich Arsenal at 10.54 a.m., and, if required, transport will be sent to meet this train. Return trains to London run at very frequent intervals throughout the day.

Those wishing to see all the demonstrations and apparatus should be prepared to spend the day at the S.E.E. up to 4 p.m., when tea will be served. Luncheon can be obtained locally at 2s. per head.

Any officers desirous of attending should notify the Superintendent, Signals Experimental Establishment, Woolwich Common, S.E.18, at least four days beforehand, either by letter or by telephone (Woolwich 0890), stating whether they are coming by train and whether they require luncheon. Mufti should be worn.

Attendance is voluntary, so no travelling expenses can be claimed.

No direct personal invitations will be issued, and it is hoped that all Regular officers will take this as a personal invitation.

A.R.P. Organiser.—Readers will be interested to learn that Mr. W. A. Dodds, formerly Sergeant, 5th Divisional Signals, has been appointed A.R.P. Organiser to the County Borough of Grimsby and District. There were a large number of applicants for the post.

On leaving the Service in January, 1937, Mr. Dodds was employed by the Scarborough Corporation. His anti-gas knowledge and organising ability was soon recognised, and he was asked to co-operate with the local Town Council in producing an effective scheme against air attack. He organised the Passive Air Defence Scheme in all its departments, and, with the assistance of four voluntary instructors, trained over 700 persons of the Borough in A.R.P. services.

We take off our hats to this former member of the Corps, and wish him luck in his new venture.

Passage to India.—The sister of a Royal Signals officer, having had experience with children of all ages, is desirous of proceeding to India under private arrangements, and offers her services as Nurse-Companion in exchange for passage. Is willing to pay for her messing and all rail fares. Correspondence to Miss "X," c/o The Editor, THE WIRE, 95, Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

Passage to India.—Sergeant's wife, Royal Signals, urgently requiring early passage to India, offers her services to an officer's family in return for passage. Is willing to pay part expenses. Correspondence to Mrs. "A," c/o The Editor, THE WIRE, 95, Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

LEEDS BRANCH.

The Leeds and District Branch of Signals Association is progressing very favourably. There are now eighty-seven fully paid up members and it is anticipated that a good number of them will be present at the Old Comrades' Reunion gathering which assembles at Signal Training Centre, Catterick, on Saturday and Sunday, 1st and 2nd October.

The Branch is fortunate in having at the helm Captain J. G. Parry, who is always ready to further the interests of the Corps Association in every possible way.

EMPLOYMENTS.

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

1	Ex-Signalman, Preston	P.O. Engineering Dept.
2	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	P.O. Engineering Dept.
3	Ex-N.C.O., Sheffield	P.O. Engineering Dept.
4	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Motor Driver
5	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Steel Worker
6	Ex-Signalman, Wolverhampton	Fitter
7	Ex-N.C.O., Wolverhampton	Aircraft Worker
8	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer
9	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
10	Ex-Signalman, Coventry	Electrician
11	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Telephonist
12	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
13	Ex-N.C.O., London	Postman
14	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
15	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
16	Ex-N.C.O., London	Postman
17	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
18	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
19	Ex-N.C.O., London	Postman
20	Ex-Signalman, London	Night Porter
21	Ex-Signalman, London	Wireman
22	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
23	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
24	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
25	Ex-Signalman, London	Painter
26	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Telephonist
27	Ex-N.C.O., Devonport	Checker
28	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
29	Ex-Signalman, Croydon	Carpenter
*30	Ex-N.C.O., Salisbury	Switchboard Operator
*31	Ex-N.C.O., Salisbury	Clerk
32	Ex-N.C.O., London	Wireless Operator
33	Ex-N.C.O., London	Wireless Operator

* Salisbury and District Branch.

GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following:

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:

3rd Indian Divisional Signals.

Captain J. H. A. Hallett, M.M. (R.A.R.O.).

Officers' Mess, S.T.C., Catterick.

APPEALS dealt with:

1	Ex-Signalman, Rotherham	Grant	£3	0	0
2	Ex-Signalman, Doncaster	Grant	£1	5	0
3	Ex-N.C.O., Surrey	Loan	£6	0	0
4	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Loan	£10	0	0
5	Ex-N.C.O., Salisbury	Grant	£7	7	6
6	Ex-Signalman, London	Grant	£3	0	0
7	Widow of Ex-N.C.O., London	Grant	£1	12	6
8	Ex-Signalman, London	Grant	£1	0	0
9	Ex-Signalman, London	Grant	£2	0	0
10	Ex-Signalman, Essex	Grant	£2	0	0
11	Ex-Signalman, Lancaster	Grant	£5	0	0
12	Ex-Driver, Salisbury	Loan	£3	0	0
13	Ex-Signalman, Essex	Grant	£1	0	0
14	Ex-N.C.O., Aldershot	Grant	£1	0	0
15	Signalman, Birmingham	Loan	£4	0	0

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

Correspondence.

The Constable Tower, H.M. Tower of London.
22nd September.

The Editor of The Wire.

Dear Sir,—I have just returned from a very pleasant holiday in Gibraltar.

My son, Corporal H. J. Sumner, is Superintendent of the Section's Signal Office, and I had the pleasure of being conducted round the whole system of operating, etc.

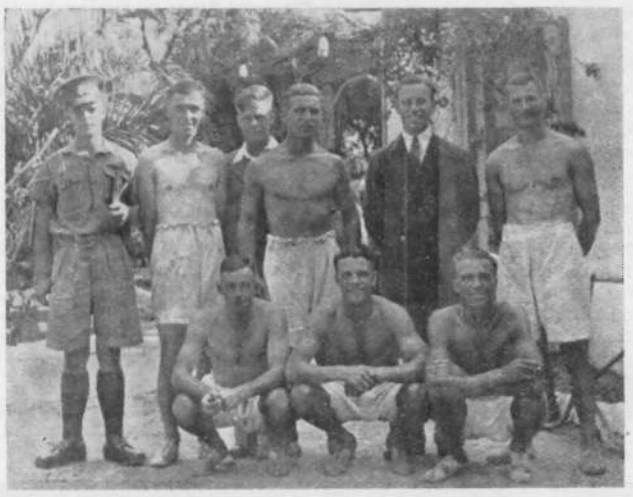
I was greatly impressed by everything I saw, and particularly the Section's state of efficiency under the command of Major R. J. N. Solly, and the guidance of Foreman-of-Signals Diamond and Sergeant Bowler. Mixing freely with the Section, I gained the impression that they were just one happy family.

It was my privilege to accompany the Section's rowing crew on a practice run, and afterwards had the privilege of seeing them beat the R.A.S.C. (old rivals) in the semi-final, and later the R.A.M.C. in the final.

As an ex-Sergeant-Major Instructor of the Army Signal School, and one who assisted in the training of many senior Corps officers, I can assure you I felt just as proud of their success as any member of the Section.

The enclosed snapshots are at your disposal.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) H. H. Sumner,
Yeoman Warder.



Winners of the Small Units Trophy.
Royal Signals (Gibraltar Signal Section).

His Excellency The Governor Presenting Small Units Trophy

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

The figures in the last column indicate the pages in the "Corps Promotion Roster" (published in April, 1938) 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.]

Promoted Warrant Officer, Class I (R.S.M.)

2306530	R.Q.M.S. Strange F.	29/7/38	5
2311590	R.Q.M.S. Donaghy M.	17/8/38	7

Foreman of Signals Roster.

Promoted Warrant Officer, Class I, and Appointed Sergeant-Major (Foreman-of-Signals).

2316480	Q.M.S. Flynn G.	13/8/38	10

Appointed Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant.

1853012	C.S.M. Hobby W.	29/6/38	7

Promoted Warrant Officer, Class II (C.S.M.).

2306534	C.Q.M.S. Betts, H.	20/6/38	18
2309683	C.Q.M.S. Webster H.	21/6/38	18

Promoted Company Quartermaster-Sergeant.

2308517	Sergeant Pronger W.	20/6/38	21
2314213	Sergeant Jennison F.	21/6/38	21

Promoted Sergeant.

6451125	L/Sergeant West C.	29/6/38	38

Appointed Lance Sergeant.

2316863	Corporal Powell F.	9/3/38	47
2310614	Corporal Adams W.	7/6/38	43
2316479	Corporal Brennan W.	20/6/38	47
2317576	Corporal Williamson T.	21/6/38	47
2316977	Corporal Hall C.	21/6/38	47
1026075	Corporal Fensome H.	29/6/38	47

Promoted Corporal.

2321665	L/Corporal Shaw T.	20/6/38	67
2322145	L/Corporal Dowding L.	21/6/38	69
2321900	L/Corporal Gant S.	29/6/38	69
2028904	L/Corporal Vassila E.	29/6/38	69

Appointed Lance Corporal.

6607720	Signalman Davison E.	23/1/38
2321568	Signalman Ferridge A.	25/1/38
4857373	Signalman Thorpe H.	25/1/38
2321767	Signalman Cleveley N.	27/1/38
2321302	Signalman Hurst G.	28/1/38
2322261	Signalman Kelly H.	28/1/38
2320535	Signalman Pask C.	28/1/38
2323594	Signalman Holdsworth T.	28/1/38
2321887	Signalman Constantine P.	28/1/38
2323142	Signalman MacPherson C.	28/1/38
2323480	Signalman Taylor E.	28/1/38
2321240	Signalman McCartney J.	28/1/38
788187	Signalman Sadler W.	28/1/38
2322479	Signalman Mozley L.	28/1/38
2320140	Signalman Martin S.	28/1/38
2321871	Signalman Crosley E.	30/1/38

Discharges.

2306410	R.S.M. Freemantle J.	16/8/38	3
*1850362	C.S.M. Lewis H.	5/8/38	84
1850302	C.S.M. Pearson C.	15/8/38	7
2311583	Sergeant Lowrie J.	5/8/38	21
*1413241	Sergeant Sneddon J.	15/8/38	93
1850386	Sergeant Hoyland H.	19/8/38	21
2318044	Corporal Revill T.	7/8/38	49
2315728	Corporal Jury G.	9/8/38	57
2560884	Corporal White M.	31/8/38	57

Transfers to Army Reserve.

2318400	Corporal Sims E.	5/9/38	68
2320736	Corporal Tuft C.	7/8/38	56
2320630	L/Corporal Shannon G.	20/7/38	68
2320723	L/Corporal Rigby F.	27/7/38	75
2320757	L/Corporal Boot A.	6/8/38	79
2319452	L/Corporal Watson G.	1/8/38	71
2320671	L/Corporal Greaves G.	20/8/38	74

* Special Roster.

Nos. 31 and 32 Wireless Sections (S.R.) Coventry.

Drill Hall, Quinton Road, Coventry.

Births.—Although we have left this announcement rather late in the year, it may be of interest to record the creation and formation of Nos. 31 and 32 Wireless Sections.

The movement was first started as early as May, 1936, by Lieutenant J. E. Rodgers, who, after months of ceaseless and untiring work in keeping touch with the various authorities, and overcoming numerous difficulties (one has only to look through the files of correspondence to realise the enormous amount of work involved in forming a new Unit), obtained consent to form a Unit of the Supplementary Reserve on 4th May, 1937.

As the potential recruits for this Section were mostly operators, and instrument and wireless mechanics, it was decided that the Unit should be a Royal Signals Unit, and form the Wireless Section of G.H.Q. Signals.

Recruiting for this Section continued with marked success, and by 21st June, 1937, the Section was up to its establishment of thirty-three. Subsequently, the Section was officially designated No. 31 Wireless Section.

As various enquiries were still being received from people interested in the scheme, it was thought that a second Section could easily be raised. This suggestion was forwarded through the usual channels, and sanction was received for the formation of another Section, eventually designated No. 32 Wireless Section.

No. 32 Section is almost up to establishment, and training is progressing favourably. With the acquisition of two No. 3 Sets, it is hoped that both Sections will be fully trained by next annual training.

The successful raising of these two Sections is due to the co-operation of the Directors of The General Electric Co., Ltd., and the assistance of many senior officers of the Corps freely given to Lieutenant J. E. Rodgers in his untiring efforts.

Both Nos. 31 and 32 Sections form the Wireless Sections of No. 3 Company, G.H.Q. Signals, Supplementary Reserve, Glasgow.

Arrivals.—Sergeant Longhurst E. J. has arrived to take over the duties of P.S.I. We wish him luck, and hope, when he gets time to think it over, that he will like it.

Camp.—On 31st July, the Sections went forth to grapple with Army life in the raw.

At the unearthly hour of 6 a.m., the P.S.I. wended his painful way to the Drill Hall to prepare himself (and others) for the parade at 7.30 a.m.

After sliding through the aftermath of the night before, and steadying the building now and again, the stores were loaded, the two No. 3 Sets paraded, and the Sections formed up.

It was very gratifying to the P.S.I. to be able to report "All present, sir." After the inspection, the Sections embussed, and the journey to Windmill Hill commenced.

A midway halt was called at the Lamb Inn, Filkins, where a very acceptable meal of bread, cheese, onions and a nice pint of milk was served. We were on our way in half-an-hour, and, after an uneventful journey, we arrived at Windmill Hill Camp at 2.30 p.m.

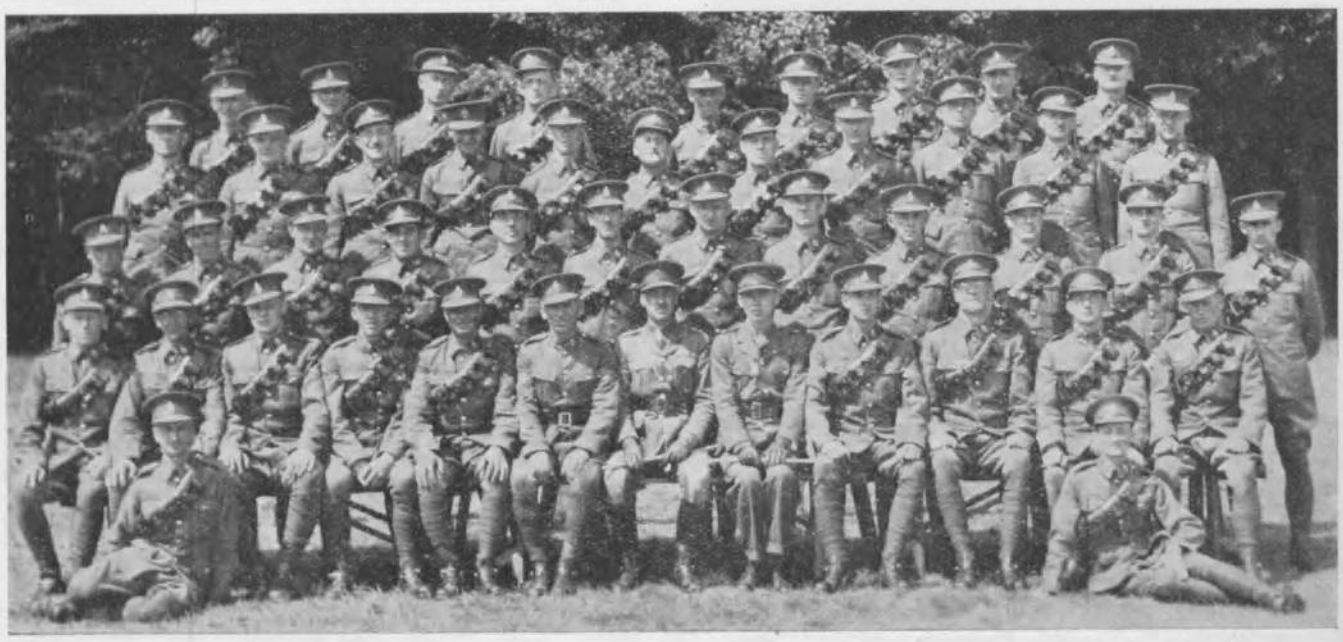
As the two No. 3 Sets only arrived two days before leaving for camp, our greatest concern was to get them in working order. Corporal Murphy and Lance Corporal Stafford, two of our wireless experts, who were duly warned, made an extremely successful job of it.

With the sets in working order, we could now make arrangements for the training of the two Sections in handling them. This was put in hand without delay. Although at first sight these Sets look complicated and have a frightening effect on the uninitiated, the operators, under the watchful eyes of " Spud " and " Staff," soon made themselves conversant with the tuning and general working of the Sets, whilst the electrician fitters acquainted themselves with the Guy and Dorman engines.

We were making great strides, when it was decreed by the powers-that-be that sixteen of our best operators were to be attached to the 48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals in order to assist them in the War Office Exercise. These men put up a very creditable performance considering that it was their first experience in co-operating with Regular troops.

With the conclusion of the War Office Exercise, our camp period of fifteen days was nearly over, and preparations began for our return to Coventry. A hurried impromptu meeting was held, and it was decided to stage a farewell " Smoker " on the last night in camp. Arrangements were made with the landlord of the local inn, who very kindly put the Club meeting room at our disposal. A great help in obtaining the necessary degree of thirst was obtained by lifting and carrying the piano upstairs. After this major operation, everybody was set for a very pleasant evening.

Lieutenant J. E. Rodgers very generously started the ball rolling by buying several gallons of the necessary refreshment.



Half-an-hour's community singing was indulged in by everybody (including the public bar), after which "Spud" kindly obliged with his deep manly voice, so much admired by the weaker sex, and envied by so many of the stronger. Other splendid efforts were saxophone solos by R.Q.M.S. Bob Barlow, songs by Signalmen Fowkes and Harvey, and a musical interpretation by Signalmen Bowyer and Farrell. Several yarns were related, and a great contest waged between Lance Corporal Johnson and Signalman Siviter. We do not say who won.

We should like to take this opportunity of thanking R.Q.M.S. Barlow, not only for his assistance with the saxophone, but for the many services rendered before, during, and after camp. Thank you, Bob.

Inspections.—During camp, the Sections were inspected at work by Colonel A. C. Sykes, D.S.O., O.B.E., C.S.O., Southern Command. Unfortunately, sixteen operators were away, but we understand the impression conveyed was favourable at least, we hope so.

Marriages.—Signalman G. P. F. Farrell to Miss Agnes Gledhill, at Coventry, on 16th July. Our heartiest congratulations and best wishes are extended to the happy couple.

GECO.

The Motor Show.

The Motor Show will be held this year at Earls Court, and will be open daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., commencing Thursday, 13th October, and ending Saturday, 22nd October.

The charges for admission will be 2s. 6d. at all times, except before 5 p.m. on Thursdays and Tuesdays, when it will be 5s. There will be some interesting new models on view, as well as improvements on existing types.

For the first time, wireless is being shown as an additional fitting, and there will be a variety of sets to choose from amongst the many accessories on view in the gallery, which is always an attraction to visitors.

MESSRS. ALLERY AND BERNARD, LTD., THE "ROYAL SIGNALS CAR MART," will be represented each day by Mr. H. J. F. White, who will be pleased to conduct anyone round the exhibits.

As it may be difficult to find Mr. White at Earls Court itself, will intending Royal Signals visitors write to him beforehand, at 344, King's Road, Chelsea, S.W.3, or telephone to Flaxman 4633 on the actual day.

— R.SIGNALS CAR MART —

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(H. J. F. WHITE, LIEUT. R.SIGNALS R.A.R.O.)

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SOME SPECIMEN BARGAINS:—

1938 Hillman Minx Saloon de Luxe, one owner, 9,000 miles, as new	£142
1937 Standard Flying Nine Saloon, one owner, 10,000 miles	£103
1937 Wolsley 12/48 Saloon de Luxe, one owner, as new	£155
1936 Riley 1½ litre Falcon Saloon Preselectagear	£132
1937 Hillman Minx Saloon de Luxe, one owner	£100

AND MANY OTHERS

Herne Bay, Kent.
1.9.1938.

My dear White,

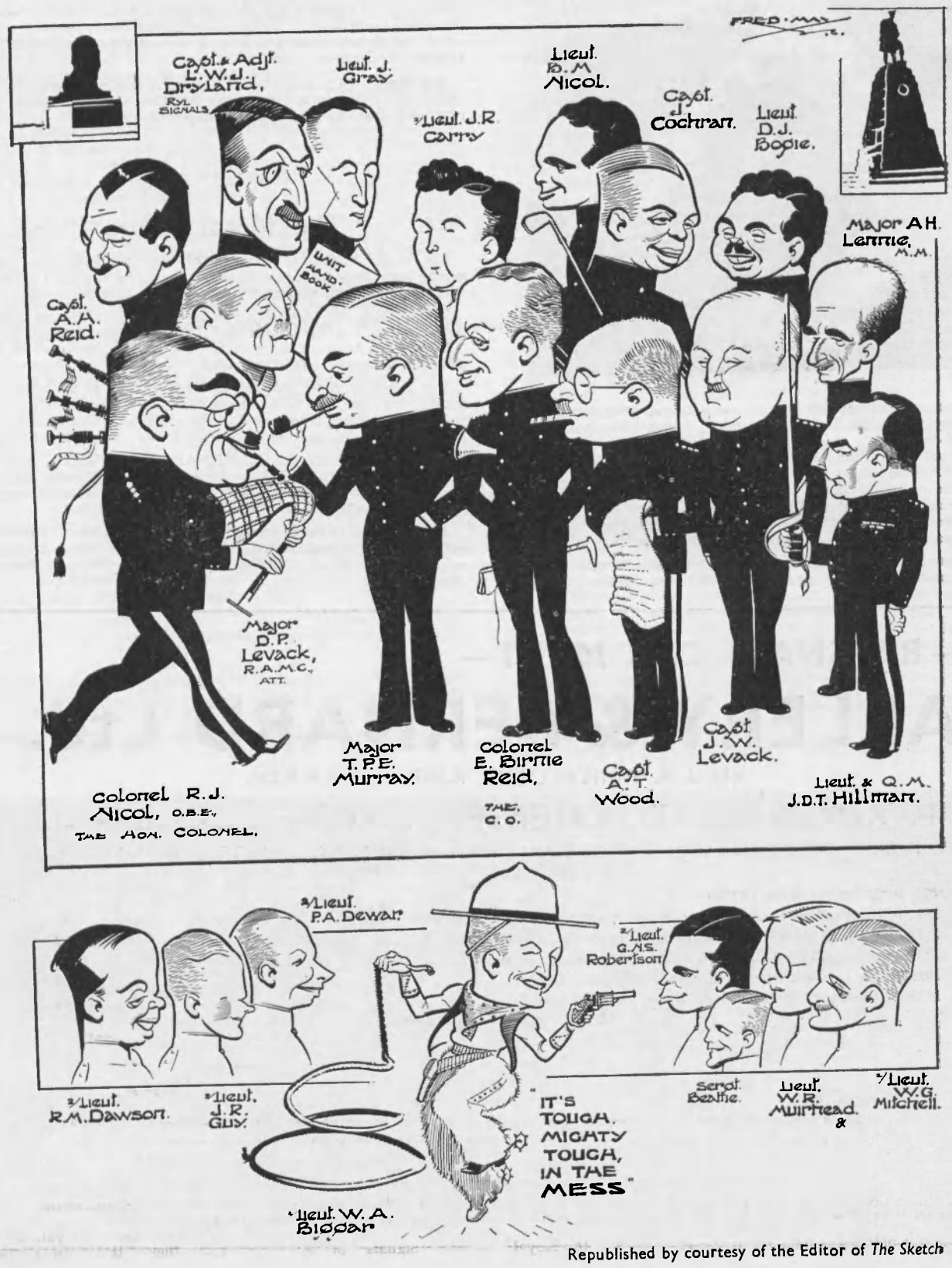
I received your letter dated 29th August and regret that in the rush of arriving I omitted to sign the letter to the Insurance Company.

I am very pleased with the car and thank you very much for the excellent arrangements you had made for me on arrival from India.

Signed.....Major, R.Signals.

Mr. White is an ex-Officer of the Corps, well known to many who served 1914-1918. He offers special terms to all R.Signals customers, first-class service, and guarantees every car sold. Full list of cars and prices supplied by return of post on application to the firm direct or the Editor, "The Wire."

THE 51st (HIGHLAND) DIVISIONAL SIGNALS by FRED MAY



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British Regiments.

Royal Corps of Signals.

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To many of those who inhabited trenches in Flanders and other places where fighting men congregated "Signals" was always something of a mystery. We knew what linemen were, had met them at any time of day or night going about their business, which seemed to expose them to more than average risks. We knew that when no answer came to your inquiring as to the next issue of rum it need not be that you were forgotten, but that it was another case for the lineman. Nevertheless, a broken line did at times come as relief either to cut short the fulminations of some distant Olympian, or to check the outpouring of silly questions from those who considered themselves to be conducting your particular battle.

TELEGRAPH HILLS.

Signalling was carried on by semaphore, a method designed in 1767, and brought to greater perfection in France some fifteen years later. In 1816 messages were conveyed from London to Portsmouth and other ports by a system of shutters placed in towers on hills; the number of "Telegraph Hills" scattered over the South of England derive their name from this ingenious method. It certainly functioned well and it was a source of gratification to hear that the daily time signal was sent to Portsmouth from London and acknowledged in three-quarters of a minute. Our climate, however, checked any too great reliance on the semaphore, as it was ever liable to interruption by fog. It was of little use to the Army, as it could not be improvised, and, as our military history shows, the Army as step-child among the Services had to live largely by improvisation

Our Engineers were severely handicapped on many occasions by ill-judged economies as well as by the ineptitude of non-soldiers who were charged with maintaining the efficiency of the Army. Nevertheless, the Corps of Royal Engineers rightly claim to have initiated, nurtured, and finally launched several young branches of the Service, among these the Royal Corps of Signals. Another is the Royal Air Force, which began life as the Balloon Section, R.E. The paternal—or is it maternal?—interest of the R.E. in "Signals" could not start until the use of electricity began to relieve horse and man from the exacting duties of conveying orders and information. Wellington gained great advantage from his well-mounted orderly officers, whose experience in the hunting field made them very quick across country.

The telegraph, however, did not become really practical until 1835, and its first use in war was in 1856, when twenty miles of it were laid in the course of the Crimean campaign. The success was only partial, as field mice took a liking to the thin coating of gutta-percha that covered the wire. Undaunted, the R.E., 60 of them under a subaltern, laid out Lord Napier's communications in Abyssinia and fully maintained them throughout the campaign. On this occasion the famous Morse code was first used on active service in the British Army.

The Franco-German War of 1870-71 led to a further expansion of "Signals" when the first field telegraph unit was formed. This was the direct ancestor of the Royal Corps of Signals. Among the officers posted to this troop was a Lieutenant Kitchener, R.E., the great soldier who afterwards became Earl Kitchener of Khartoum. Another well-known Sapper who served with this "C" Troop was General Sir Bindon Blood, V.C. From this time onward progress was steady, if a bit slow at times. At any rate, the signallers themselves proved their worth many times over and numbers of them rose to high and well-merited distinction. Of these, Lieutenant-General Sir A. G. Hunter-Weston and Colonel E. V. Turner are possibly the best known in the Service.

IN ASHANTI WAR OF 1895.

Another curious distinction came to "Signals" as a result of the second Ashanti War of 1895, in which a Section under Captain Curtis, now Major-General Sir R. S. Curtis, performed the unprecedented feat of getting the cable into a captured capital before the advance guard. In recognition of this act, King Prempeh's brass-studded chair was given to Captain Curtis, and it now holds its state at the H.Q. mess of the Royal Corps of Signals. A somewhat similar event attended the entry into Bloemfontein on 13th March, 1900. While the O.C. and Staff were awaiting the formal surrender they saw from a hill outside the town how a cable cart was gaily trekking into the town ahead of the troops.

The advance on Pretoria offered a good example of the strategical use of "Signals," as the five columns converging on the objective were entirely dependent on them for co-ordination. The Natal army, under Sir Redvers Buller, was advancing along the railway from Natal. General Ian Hamilton's column had started from Thabanchu. Lord Robert's central forces, with Cavalry Division and 7th and 11th Divisions, started from Bloemfontein; Lord Methuen's force was coming up from Kimberley, and General Hunter's from Vryburg, relieving Mafeking on the way. As the Boers offered little resistance, Johannesburg and Pretoria were occupied without difficulty.

It was holding the lines of communication that taxed the ingenuity and tenacity of "Signals" until the war dragged on to its end in 1902. That war marked a revolution in the history of communications; telegraphs had become indispensable for tactical purposes to a modern army. This and other lessons led to a complete reorganisation of the Signal Service.

DURING GREAT WAR.

In 1911 a Director of Army Signals had been appointed, and under him units were finally given the shape in which they appeared in the early stages of the Great War. The Signal Service that set out for France in August, 1914, consisted of 75 officers and 2,346 men. By the 22nd of the fateful month the British Expeditionary Force was deployed around Mons.

It is easily imagined what difficulties had to be overcome, yet during the retreat "Signals" met every situation with magnificent resource, and laying cables at a canter at the end of a long march is no play for any but the bold. A word must be said for a body of men whose whole-hearted devotion to duty and cheerful courage is far above all praise—the Despatch Riders on their motor cycles. Lord French brought the services of these splendid men to notice in his despatch of 20th November, 1914: "No amount of difficulty or danger has ever checked the energy or ardour which has distinguished their Corps throughout the operations."

ACTS OF HEROISM.

Signals is obviously a craft that requires initiative of high order and encourages individuality. Therefore it is small wonder that the record of those occupied in this pursuit is crowded with acts of heroism. Sergeant Rouse A. C., during the worst of Ypres, 1914, seemed to bear a charmed life as he went out again and again to repair the lines. When the cable gave out he used German wire, and at critical moments volunteered to act as runner. He earned the D.C.M. and a commission, but was killed in 1915. Captain Marney worked his telephone in the front trench till the Germans actually got into it; then he headed the party which drove them out again.

Corporal Walker G. A., R.E., on Cape Hellas, with his dug-out office entirely demolished, the officer on duty and 12 other ranks killed or wounded, although much shaken, repaired the damage, and within 39 minutes re-opened communications, apologised for the incident and said that he required no assistance. General Lord Allenby spoke highly of the Signal Service that "has maintained uninterrupted communication with units of the Army as far east as Amman and as far north as Aleppo"—an area of land 600 miles long by 75 miles broad!

On 28th June, 1920, the King gave his consent to the creation of the Corps of Signals as a separate body, and on 5th August the distinction "Royal" was conferred upon it. Thus arose a self-contained, distinctive Corps, child of the R.E., with all those accessories which make for the proper "family" feeling—an Old Comrades and a Benevolent Branch, and a lively publication that lives up to its name THE WIRE, a monthly production which works in harmoniously with the *Royal Signals Quarterly Journal*.

The uniform of this Corps is scarlet, with black facings; its badge appropriately shows Mercury tripping across the globe and pointing out the way.

The Colonel-in-Chief is H.R.H. the Princess Royal, and all the "Signals" of the Dominion are allies of this Royal Corps.

HOME STATIONS

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

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

School of Signals.

14th September.

September has arrived; the months seem to fly. It seems only the other day that we first decided to remove the cobwebs from our tennis racquets.

The decorators have now nearly finished their colour washing of walls—and the floors! When they go, life won't be the same again. They have become an institution with us; just like pay parade and the canteen.

Several Schoolites have left us during the past few weeks; we wish them the very best of luck.

To all the new arrivals we extend a welcoming hand, and hope that their stay here will be enjoyable.

Congratulations to Corporals Marsh and Tucker on attaining another step on the ladder of fame, and to Lance Corporals Boughton and Hudson of the Foreman's Course on removing the "dodgers."

S. O. S.

Sergeants' Mess.

The personnel of the School continues to change, and we have to welcome the following to Catterick, feeling sure that they will enjoy their stay with us. Sergeant Tobin H., of the East Surrey Regiment, was the first arrival. Drawing a suit of drill for use in Shanghai, he found it to be too cool, and later exchanged it for an extra pair of socks. Leaving Colchester with a sad heart, he returned to continue the good work of "bag flashing"; sorry, "flag bashing." Needless to say we were all very pleased to see him with us again.

Sergeant Stockton F. arrived from Bulford to fill the vacancy once well-filled by Hayhoe P. Sergeant Clark W. H. came along to occupy the chair from which C.Q.M.S. Farmer has issued the shekels and totted up the stoppages. A hearty welcome to all; may they learn all about "Frost Precautions" in due course.

We have lost C.Q.M.S. Atkinson F., who has left us for Blackdown. It is rumoured that he has taken his bicycle lamp with him.

New names have appeared on the duty rosters with the appointments of Lance Sergeants Marsh R. and Tucker C. Congratulations to both of them. Rumour whispers that the cookhouse staff in particular heartily congratulated Lance Sergeant Marsh on his appointment. (Our loss, etc.)

The first Northern Command Motor Cycle Trial took place in the Swaledale district during July, and the following is an extract taken from *Motor Cycling* dated 27th July:

"Teams were entered by every Unit in the Division, and a total of 52 riders started from Reeth on an arduous 52-mile course. The best performance was put up by the 5th Divisional Signals.

"First of the observed sections was Summer Lodge, which resulted in many failures and some footing.

"The best team at this point was the School of Signals; Lieutenant P. Knight, Driver Baker and Signalman Craig making clean climbs, whilst Sergeant Noddings came through with footing."

We should like to congratulate 5th Divisional Signals on their success, and Lieutenant Knight on obtaining third individual place with a loss of only eleven points. Also to Driver Baker in making a tie for fourth place.

Sergeant Parkinson R. has left us in rather a hurry for an overseas job with the Iraq Levies. Our best wishes go with him, and we feel sure that he will make a success of it, even though he has been parted from his "music stand." All the very best, Parky; if the mosquitoes bite, bite them back.

SCHOOLSIGS.

Headquarters, Training Battalion.

13th September.

On 1st September, the M.T. Training Section, comprising Captain W. D. Horniman, Royal Signals, fifty-four cadre personnel and twenty-six recruits, was posted to the Depot Battalion. The Depot Battalion is now responsible for the training of all Despatch Riders and Drivers (I.C.); "D" Company have, as a result, lost a third of their strength.

Our congratulations are extended to Lance Corporal Martin V. of "F" Company, who was admitted to the R.M.C., Sandhurst, during August, and also to Signalman Kendrick of "D" Company on his good performance in the Surrey Walking Club's London to Brighton Road Race; he was third in the Inter-Services section.

Lieutenant (T.M.O.) F. Bramley, Royal Signals, who was promoted to that rank on 29th July, has joined the Unit for duty. We tender our congratulations to him, too.

No. 38 "Q" Course assembled on 25th August, and the following officers have joined the Battalion: 2nd Lieutenants E. W. Lewis, Royal Signals; F. A. Felton, Royal Signals; J. Shaw, Royal Signals; R. H. J. Rowntree, Royal Signals; and A. M. R. Mallock, Royal Signals. We hope they will enjoy their stay at Catterick.

Winter sport in the Battalion is about to start in earnest, and representatives of the different sports are hard at work arranging fixtures and training their teams. Sports notes of Battalion games will be seen in print again next month.

L. B.

"D" Company, Training Battalion.

Major C. E. Sketch, Royal Signals, has taken over command of the Company from Captain C. F. Newsom, Royal Signals. We hope that his stay with us will be a long and happy one.

As announced in our previous notes, Corporal Matthews J. B. intended to join the happy band on the Married Establishment. He was married to Nancy Doris Ashton on 28th August at St. Mark's Parish Church, Regent's Park, London. We hope

that his married life will be full of happiness and good luck. He could always tell a good yarn, and we often believed him!

The strength of our Company has been reduced, owing to the posting of the M.T. Section to " C " Company, Depot Battalion. We wish them the best of luck in their new surroundings. A word to the Depot Clerks—we know a deal about the preparation of accident reports, and will be glad to help at any time.

Lance Corporals Blount, Melly and Signalman Watson A. of Northern Ireland District Signal Company left us for service in China on 1st September. Signalmen Miller S. K. and Scullion P. proceeded to Ypres Lines to join 5th Divisional Signals. Signalman MacIvor K. has been posted to 2nd Divisional Signals; Signalman Watson R. to 4th Divisional Signals, and Signalman Powell M. E. to No. 4 Squadron, Mobile Divisional Signals, Perham Down. C.Q.M.S. Ratcliffe R. has left us for " Civvy Street "; our good wishes go with him.

When Len Hutton made his record innings in the final Test Match, Captain C. F. Newsom was inspecting some kits. (By the way, we have Captain Newsom's kind permission to publish this little interlude.) When leaving barrack-room S.15, the N.C.O. i/c of that room decided to give the O.C. the latest cricket news.

Corporal " C.": " Hutton is out, sir."

Captain " N.": " That is all right, I will see his kit when he comes in."

Captain " N." (after a moment's thought): " Oh, I see what you mean. He beat Kingsford-Smith's records, didn't he? "

Several recruits have joined us from "A" Company, Depot Battalion, and we trust that their stay with us will be a pleasant one.

Station " Doncoy " on the *Radio Catterique* wavelength is now closing down, and your Uncle Arnold says, *au revoir*.

ARNOLD P.

"E" Company, Training Battalion.

10th September

General.—Major A. J. Harris, O.B.E., has returned from his well-earned holiday. We hope that he enjoyed it.

The Corporals' Mess Outing to Whitby and Scarborough on 3rd September was a huge success.

The employment of a civilian butcher, bath-house attendant and mess-room orderlies is regarded as a blessing in disguise. As they are all old campaigners, we expect there will be a " gripping " competition, and that some " tall " ones will be flying around. We should like to know whether they propose to come to work in new Ford 8s.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Lance Sergeant Burrell H. and U/Lance Corporal Dyball W. on their appointments.

Re-engagements.—Corporals Dicks R. and Shepherd (Barrell) N. have signed on the dotted line for their " pontoon," and Lance Corporal Hurst E. E. A. (Band) has decided to complete twelve years. There must be something in it after all.

Marriages.—At Manchester, on 30th July, Signalman Lawton R. to Miss Annie May Hughes. Congratulations and all the happiness they wish themselves.

Discharges.—Signalman Nachary has purchased his discharge. There are strong rumours of others following in his footsteps.

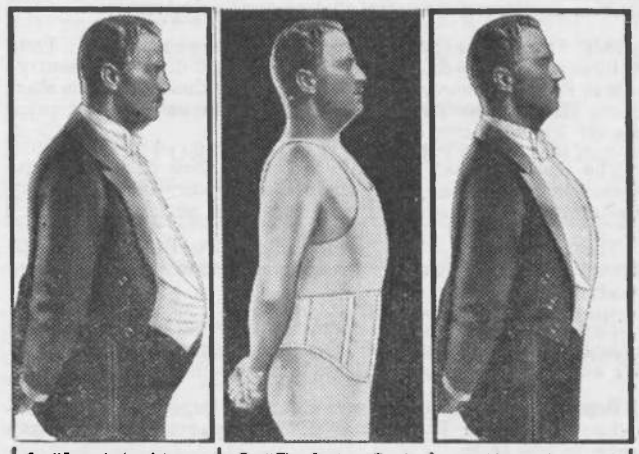
Football.—The season has started, and according to the talent spotter's report, " E " Company will be heard of in the very near future. The " Cadre " Pool Swindle is growing from strength to strength. We have hopes of emulating the feat of one N.C.O., who got a third and a fifth dividend on " Littlewoods."

Cricket.—The last match of the season was played on 8th September, when we entertained Bedale C.C. The match ended in a draw. The Company team won the Inter-Company Cricket League with " possible " points. An excellent performance, considering the number of " Bradmans " and " Huttons " in the other Company teams.

Agony Column.—To Neville and " Towse," somewhere in India. " I am here again; what about a line or two? Joe."

J.N.

From a 'Paunchy' man to a Fine Figure...
IN 10 MINUTES!
Mr. G. Brooks writes:
"I REDUCED MY WAIST 8 INCHES"
ACTUAL REPRODUCTIONS SHOWING THE IMMEDIATE IMPROVEMENT IN APPEARANCE



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I am so sure that the wonderful FRANK FORMAN Belt will Reduce your waist-line at least 3 inches that I want you to
TEST IT FOR 10 DAYS AT MY EXPENSE!

Yes Sir, I, too, promised myself that I would exercise, but it was too much like work—and it's hard to diet when you like to eat. The Frank Forman Belt was just the answer—no diets, no drugs—I feel like a new man and I lost 8 inches of fat in less than 6 months.

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The Frank Forman Reducing Belt will make you many inches slimmer at once, and in 10 short days your waist line will actually be inches smaller—3 inches of fat gone—or it won't cost you a penny.

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64, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.
Please send me full details of the Frank Forman Reducing Belt and your 10 days' FREE TRIAL offer.
NAME.....
ADDRESS .....
(Use Coupon or send name and address on penny postcard.)

I GUARANTEE TO REDUCE YOUR WAIST 3 inches in 10 days
OR IT WON'T COST YOU A PENNY!

It supports the sagging muscles of the abdomen and quickly gives a youthful, erect, athletic carriage. Do not be embarrassed any longer with that "corporation." Resolve to get rid of fat quickly, safely and without risk.

DON'T WAIT! FAT IS DANGEROUS
You will be entirely unaware that it is working constantly while you walk, work or sit; its massage-like action gently but persistently eliminating fat with every move you make. It is the logical way to reduce.

RUPTURED?
Write for details of my new invention that gives glorious, comforting and healing effect.

"F" Company, Training Battalion.

12th September.

General.—The Company has now settled down again to normal routine, and we are at full strength, except for the Boys who took part in the Charing Cross and Glasgow Exhibitions. Those lucky ones are still finding the summer somewhere in England. We have had our day of summer.

Training for the winter season is now in full swing and several training runs have been held in order to loosen up our muscles. It is not like the ordinary cross-country run, as we can walk when so inclined. Some people often wonder if there is any running done at all.

Drill parades are comparatively easy nowadays, owing to the fact that this form of training is carried out in slacks. The senior Boys, who now drill as a separate party, are also given instruction in drilling the Squad. This is quite enjoyed by many of them.

The ex-Boys, and those due to join the ranks very shortly, are now doing their musketry and advanced drill; they are making great progress under their respective instructors.

M.T. Training has now commenced for the senior Boys. Four of them are doing well, and can be seen up and down the countryside in light and heavy cars. We hope that this will be the start of an M.T. Course for all Boys in the Company. What price the old Riding Course ?

The Recruit Squad created a record by their pass off on the square in ten weeks. They maintained a very high standard, and are to be congratulated on a very good performance.

The " whip " and " belt " were presented to Boy Yallop, with Boys Woolger and Knight as runners-up. Both these boys also received a whip.

Two late arrivals to the Recruit Squad, who were not mentioned in our last WIRE notes were Boys Fothergill and Warwick. We extend the usual good wishes and welcome them.

Departures.—Sergeant Turner E. to the Depot Battalion, and U/Lance Corporal Dyball to " E " Company. We are very sorry to lose them.

Appointments.—Corporal Goat appointed Lance Sergeant on 29th June; Corporal Mattock appointed Lance Sergeant on 15th July; Lance Corporal Boy Thompson appointed Corporal Boy on 23rd August; Boy Murray A. and Boy Carr K. G. appointed Lance Corporal Boy on 10th September.

Congratulations.—Here is a real piece of news. Lance Corporal Martin V. H. has passed his examination, and has been accepted as a Cadet at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. Our very best wishes go with him, and we hope that he will have a good time there. A great deal of his success has been due to his hard concentration at work prior to the examination. He fully deserves his success.

His success has given us a real incentive to try again, and pass more Boys in the same way. It is hoped to send up at least one, if not more, for the examination next June.

More News.—Our latest interest is the rapid growth of the new block; it has actually got to the stage of the door frames on the ground floor. The block is being built between the School of Signals N.A.A.F.I. and S.T.C. Headquarters. The plans exceed our wildest expectations, and we shall have more information on the subject for ex-Boys later.

Tattoo Relics.—One collar stud, price 19s.; one pair braces, 25s.; old boots, per doz., 2s. 6d.; and some letters with the Leeds postmark.

Prospective AIII.—Extract from a Workshop Boy's notes: "A.C. current will not flow through a choke coil owing to its high impudence."

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Captain T. W. Boileau, Royal Signals, O.C. "F" Company.

Ignorance of Modern Youth.—The individual who looked down the barrel of his rifle and declared it was dirty until it was discovered that the bolt had not been removed.

Things We Want to Know.—Which Boy got a magpie and four flags out of five rounds ?

When the first coal issue will be made. We understand that the perfect gentleman is throwing his " canvas-civvies " away.

SPEEDY.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess Training Battalion.

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome is extended to Lance Sergeants Burrell, Mattock and Taylor. May their stay be a very happy one and congratulations on their appointment.

Departures.—C.Q.M.S. Ratcliffe has left us for " Civvy Street." May he find the outside world very congenial.

The following have also left us on the transfer of the M.T. Section to " C " Company, Depot Battalion. It is pleasant to know that we shall still be able to see a lot of them : Sergeant Brewer, Lance Sergeants Alexander, Field, Wood and Swann.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to Sergeant Fletcher, Lance Sergeants Burrell, Mattock and Taylor.

Socials.—On 5th September we entertained the officers of Headquarters, S.T.C. and Training Battalion to a Games Tournament. Amongst those present were : Brigadier R. Chenevix Trench, O.B.E., M.C. (Commandant), Lieutenant-Colonel R. T. O. Cary, M.B.E. (Commanding Officer), Majors R. C. Woodbridge (Brigade Major) and A. J. Harries, and Captain P. R. Hyde (Adjutant).

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After a very exciting and enjoyable evening, we ran out winners by 12 points to 9. " Phat " and skittles were the only full points that the Mess dropped. It was said that we never anticipated winning a " cissy " game like skittles.

During the evening, " Wimpy " made a welcome appearance with his hot " Hamburgers."

We were also able to resume our acquaintanceship with Mr. F. Bramley, who has arrived on commission as Lieutenant (T.M.O.). Congratulations, sir !

The members of the R.A.S.C. Mess entertained us to a return fixture at cricket and a social evening the other Sunday. Both events were much enjoyed. The cricket resulted in a win for the Mess.

ASH.

MESS PERSONALITIES.

Lance Sergeant Barlow R., " F " Company.

Corporals' Mess Training Battalion.

13th September.

The Corporals of the Training Battalion, including their wives, children plus attache cases, left Catterick at 10 a.m. on Saturday, 3rd September, on what seemed to be a fruitless quest in search of sunshine.

The day was not auspicious, but the single members had left the stripped equipment and barrack-room inspection to their senior soldiers, and, consequently, the holiday spirit prevailed, despite the grey skies.

Scarborough was our destination, with a halt at Whitby for lunch. Two comfortable buses were provided; the last passenger, "Trader Horn," clambered aboard after his wife at Catterick Bridge.

After leaving Guisborough, soon hidden by mist and rain, some members became rather anxious, and so a halt was called at the "Jolly Sailor," an ancient, isolated inn on the bleak Whitby moors. Geordie Pickett murmured it was about time, too, and hurried inside. Apparently the stout lady of the house blocked his passage on the threshold of what she described as the dairy. Geordie apologised, remarking that he was only looking for an empty milk bowl! Foxy Rose said he could picture Nelson flinging a nifty dart beneath that old timbered roof. The thought tickled him immensely. He pictured Nelson shouting "Un 'ook," while the dim light flickered in the old oil lamp.

We arrived at Whitby in good time for an excellent lunch at Simpsons (no connection with the little cafe in the Strand). Everything went with a swing, despite the fact that the waitress had neglected to bring Ted Strutt his portion of "duff."

When our bus eventually drew up by the pier at Scarborough, Foxy and Wimpy Gee awoke, blinking in the brilliant sunshine. No doubt they imagined it was Bombay Harbour!

Before setting out in search of "beauty spots," many members remembered poor "Mutt" Matthews on his honeymoon. He will realise how we missed him if he troubles to read the correspondence side of the two or three dozen comic postcards we sent him.

Two members with troopship experience took some of the less fortunate members on a sea trip on S.S. Coronia. Imagine Digger Hubbard explaining where the two thousand hammocks would be slung, and Benny listening, wide-eyed, open-mouthed and awestruck. Digger and Wimpy were otherwise engaged!

Time passed all too quickly, and at 9 p.m. the married folk were wringing out their swim-suits. At 9.30 p.m. the first bus moved off.

Abount 11.45 p.m., the single members began to assemble, and by midnight all bodies were safely stowed, interior lights switched off, and the starting signal given. Two-and-a-half hours' dash through the night, and then to bed.

More outings like this one are definitely indicated, and we take this opportunity of thanking the committee for their excellent arrangements.

OBSERVER.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

2nd Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters.

General.—There is little work for our Unit scribe this month, as Headquarters have been engaged mainly in routine work and the very important business of re-stocking the "tea swindle" in readiness for the War Office Exercise.

The Unit moves to Newport Pagnall on the 15th for this Exercise. Some of the old hands appear to know this spot. Are their stories really true?

Arrivals.—Another Clerk, Signalman MacIvor by name, has already settled down to work with "Q." May he long be in our midst.

Departures.—We shall be losing Signalman Bennett this month, when he departs to ride his cycle in China. Good luck!

Promotions.—Congratulations to Lance Sergeant Gillings on his promotion to that rank, and also to Lance Corporal Andrews, who is no longer one of the great unpaid.

Marriages.—Lance Corporal Andrews has, at last, taken the plunge. He was married to Miss Millicent Mosdell at the Parish Church, South Farnborough. May we congratulate him, and wish them both the best of luck.

No. 2 Company.

All ranks are happy to learn that our Company Commander, Major Odell, has been discharged from hospital. We all wish him a happy convalescence and a speedy return to perfect health.

Drafts.—We still continue to make our small contributions towards international security. This month saw two of our members depart for Palestine, and, by the end of September, five more will have left us for the Far East.

General.—With the return of "E" and "F" Sections, both of whom are due to return to the fold about the middle of the month, the Company will once again be together, though only for a short time before the War Office Exercise claims them.

This year the Exercise will, no doubt, take some of the older members back into districts made familiar to them during their association with R.E. Signals. Much water has flowed under the bridge at Bedford since those days.

But to many in Bedford, the blue and white arm bands will cause the years to roll back, and their memories will, no doubt find it difficult to reconcile the mechanised cable-layer with the old cable-wagon, and the "Gin Palace" with the old P.B.A. Set.

F.

No. 3 Company.

General.—No. 3 Company is now beginning to assemble again after their dispersal as Brigade Sections during the summer training period. "J" Sections provided the 4th Guards Brigade with their communications, and for one of the Schemes their strength was made up to War Establishment.

"K" Section have maintained the 5th Infantry Brigade communications. In this connection the recruit D.R.s have been gaining valuable experience by carrying out Despatch Riders duties whenever a shortage has arisen.

We are now preparing for the annual G.O.C.'s inspection, and at the same time contemplating a spot of annual furlough.

Many more changes have taken place since our last notes; the Company is gradually being depleted by Mr. Records. We have had to say *bon voyage* to Sergeant Wiggins, who is now in Palestine, together with Sergeants Dunn and Stevens of Bulford, and a complete Infantry Brigade Signal Section made up from different Units. Lieutenant Hamersley was hurriedly warned for Palestine. We wish them all the best of luck.

Other Departures.—Farewells have been said to Lance Corporal Featonby, who is now with 5th Divisional Signals, Catterick; Corporal Funnell and Signalmen Platt and Webb who have left for Malaya; and Signalman Edwards for Sarafand.

Arrivals.—The Company had been strengthened by the arrival of C.Q.M.S. Tolley, Sergeant Cooley T. and Signalmen Hewitt, Bush and Donaldson. We wish them all a pleasant stay.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to Lieutenant Travers on his promotion, also to Lance Sergeants Evans and Burke, and to U/Lance Corporal Cann.

In Lighter Vein.—How many miles did the D.R. go on a dark night to look for an oil leak; and did he find it? Did he also obtain his fish and chips?

The following message was passed to Divisional Headquarters

by a certain S.B.O. : " We are definitely not moving, but will let you know when we do."

We wonder what the recipient of this message thought and said.

S. E. W.

R/T Section, D. & M. Wing, A.F.V. School, Bovington Camp.

15th September.

General.—The absence of notes from this Section last month is regretted. WIRE notes were far from our minds as we gambolled with the pretty girls at various seaside resorts. We are now back at the grindstone and humming the tune of " Thanks for the Memory."

At present, the majority of the Staff are attending a Course of Driving and Maintenance at the School. The fact that self-changing gears (and, in one case, self-steering cars !) are not yet in general use is causing a little trouble. It is anticipated that the road accidents for the month of September will be a record.

With reference to the recent Motor Cycle Trials. Our I.M. certainly deserves to be in the team for his motor cycle has been a trial to him ever since he has had it.

Promotions.—Congratulations to our O.C., Captain R. N. Seddon, on his promotion to that rank.

Departures.—C.Q.M.S. Griffiths and family to 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford. Owing to leave, only one of the Section was able to attend the farewell smoker given in the Mess. We tender our best wishes to them, and hope that they will find the new Station to their liking.

Our I.M., Lance Corporal Lightbody, has left us for a short Course with the Standard Telephone Company. Minus spanners, adjustable, 6in. Sorry this point keeps on cropping up, but it seems to be a sore point with one or two people.

Arrivals.—Sergeant Gratwicke from 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford. We offer him a hearty welcome, and hope that his stay with us will be a long and pleasant one.

Agony.—Roycon, Canterbury. " Yeah, we heard. Give it to the Bearded. W."
Ross, Sudan. " Come clean, pal. W."

Signature Tunes, No. 2.—Lance Corporal Lightbody : " I want some money."

Conclusion.—We publish the order which emanated from the acting C.S.M.'s Office. It will give readers a " Ruff " idea of what does happen : " The Orderly Sergeant will report to the senior member in the Mess at 10.55 p.m., enter the time at which the Mess is actually closed on the pro-forma provided, and hand it to the R.S.M. the *previous* morning."

We wish all the lucky ones, who are leaving for warmer climes in the near future, a pleasant tour.

WEEPIN' WILLO.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

General.—The effects of another change in the style of writing must have one or two effects on some readers and both, if not more on all. That appears a trifle mixed, after the style of G. K. Chesterton, but who cares, so long as we open our notes with some form of prologue.

We are constantly inviting the assistance of new scribes, and it is only with such interesting pastimes as this that we are able to hope to get anything into the Corps publication at all. Our recent pen-pusher relinquished the mighty pen and dropped his sword for a preliminary round of that uncertain fight for existence in civilian life. Those who knew him in the flesh hope that he will win.

Those of the Unit who matter have gone to the " cooler " climes of Suffolk to join their various Brigades for collective training. I could say " foreign climes," because no railway owns a station nearer than five miles from the estate wherein the Brigades are quartered. Although the writer has not yet been to the " war " area, he can fully appreciate the difficulties of discovering "A mademoiselle from Stowatt Sax."

With regard to the home front at Canterbury. A vast hush has fallen over barrack block " A." If it were not for the " Ovaltineys " grass would appear on the barrack square. Due to their gyrations, we shall be spared the thoughts and labours of weeding when the tired warriors return to their nests.

Our activities during this collective training period have been very arduous, more so owing to our depleted numbers. We are managing to carry on, and at the time of writing, there is still a large slice of carrying-on to do. We shall leave it at that.

Arrivals and Departures.—We have lost more personnel than we have gained during last month. The hand of farewell has been given to Signalman Jenner, who has left the Service in order to earn his living. Corporal Lundie R. was posted to the Depot Battalion, where there should be plenty of scope for an N.C.O. of his service among the fledglings. Good listening, Corporal Sahib.

Driver (I.C.) Bradley, P., Signalmen Grant C. and Williams E. A. have proceeded to Aldershot—we presume for Palestine. The last named has just returned to this Unit again, and to him we say good-bye, how-do.

Corporal White and Signalman Middleton have left us for the Vocational Training Centre. Sergeant Knowles J., is posted to 44th Divisional Signals, T.A., as from 5th August. Do your stuff with the " Rookies," Jack, and remember the old motto, " Enduis Travay Bootleveris," only half-sole.

Now to welcome our new arrivals, Sergeant Wheeler J. and Corporal Wilson. Both of these N.C.O.s have found their way to " G " Branch, the former in supreme command of the tribe of pen wielders.

We have a few more to come when they are released from that mytical status known as " Held on Command. We wish them a pleasant stay in this land of pubs and mutton. Those concerned are Sergeant Harrison, and Signalmen Walker, Mitchell, Smith and Peacock.

Heard in the Barrack Room.—" D'ye know, Chippy, I think old Jonah's jewing up to get spliced."

" Is he ? Why, what makes yer fink that ? Well, we all know he's on two bob a week, and can't buy no extra grub, so he stays in the dining 'all until everyone's gorn, and when the Mess Orderlies appear there ain't nuffin left for them to do."

" Greedy pig, ain't 'e ? What's 'e gonna do now the dining 'all's locked up after meals ? "

" That's just it ; the Sergeant-Major found a 'ole in the floor beside 'is bed, and 'is mates told the Sergeant-Major that old Chippy is tunnelling 'is way to the cook-house."

In the midst of this heat-wave, the experts in culinary arts find things rather difficult. After slaving all the morning, endeavouring to make a jelly set, matters are not made easier when one recalcitrant recruit asked the cook if he should bring his mug with him at dinner-time for his jelly.

Northern Ireland District Signal Company, Belfast.

14th September.

General.—Having been away from Belfast for some time on duty, we have not been able to obtain much news of general interest to readers.

Command Exercises have been the main occupation throughout last month. Two W/T stations were opened, one at Straid Camp and one at Ballywillwill Camp. Both of them have dealt with a considerable amount of traffic without trouble.

Three cars with No. 1 Sets accompanied the Units taking part in the Exercises, and the D.R.s found themselves with little spare time. Everyone is glad that the Exercises are over, and full marks have been given to all who took part.

As usual, during the camps, the weather left nothing to be desired—except warmth and sunshine and less rain. In fact, Straid gave old man " Pluvius " best and returned to Belfast a week earlier than was intended. Being on firmer ground, Ballywillwill stuck it out to the bitter end, and only closed a day earlier

than the schedule because they had finished all their wars ahead of time.

Command Training.—Corporal Grey and Signalman Humphreys left Belfast on the 7th for Straid Camp. Signalman Morrice joined them there the same day, dropping in on his way from Magilligan, which closed that day. Lance Corporal Reece and Signalman Cassidy, also ex-Magilligan, carried straight on, and arrived safely at Belfast the same night.

On the 8th, Lance Sergeant McLaren, Signalmen Costello and Cartlidge went to Ballywillwill Camp, arriving safely after what appeared to be a tour round County Down.

Both stations worked uneventfully, although Wellington boots and rain-coats were *de rigeur* almost all the time.

The three W/T cars, driven by Lance Sergeant Brown, Lance Sergeant Barron and Lance Corporal Rogers, paid frequent visits to Ballywillwill as the Exercises started and finished. They evolved a new form of greeting—" Got any tea ? "

The C.O., Major E. MacD. Burns, was also a frequent visitor. As an umpire, he had to wear a plain white arm-band in place of our usual blue and white one.

As residents at Ballywillwill, we are glad to say that all our visitors were very welcome ; they kept us in touch with civilisation during our exile.

Arrivals.—The camp parties returned to Belfast, finding only one brand new arrival—Signalman Fern. He hails from Bulford in the wilds of Salisbury Plain, and should appreciate our fair city. Prior to his arrival, we only had one Driver (I.C.) ; so he is therefore doubly welcome to the Unit.

Departures.—All old Niscovites will be sorry to hear that we have lost a good all-rounder in Signalman Hunt E. A. (Lofty to you), who regrets having to go as much as we do. He left the Unit on 7th September for Handsworth on a Vocational Training Course. The Unit wishes him the best of luck in his new activities, and desires to remind him that a good man on the sets and sports field is always sure of a welcome if he decides to return.

Furlough has started. Signalmen Wild and Cartlidge have proceeded to the Forts, and Signalman Morrice has departed for Derry as leave reliefs. Signalman Humphreys left for Kilroot to take over Hunt's job. As these moves are only temporary, we need only say *au revoir*.

Extensions.—Lance Sergeant Maguire of Derry signed on the dotted line for the last time on 19th September, and is now a fully-fledged " pontoon-wallah." Stick it, Mickey !

Overheard.—At camp. " How do you keep the dots and dashes from getting mixed up in the air ? I can understand it on a buzzer ; they just follow each other along the wire."
Tut ! tut !

SPUD-CAN.

Cricket.—On 23rd August we entertained the G.P.O. Engineers at Cliftonville. Both teams were below strength, and an interesting game ensued. The Engineers, who batted first, compiled the small total of 59 runs. Signals replied by scoring 68. The closing overs of the day provided some excitement, since at one stage it looked as though we wouldn't quite make the grade. G.P.O. Engineers, 59 runs ; N.I.D.S.C., 68 runs.

At Comber, on 31st August, we met the North Down C.C. On this occasion the Comber side included four internationals, all selected to represent Ireland v. the Australians at Belfast on 15th September. They proved much too strong for us. Indeed, James MacDonald contributed 77 runs, more than our entire total. Still, it was an enjoyable game, and perhaps the pupil learned something from the master. North Down C.C., 147 runs for 5 declared ; N.I.D.S.C., 61 runs.

Tennis.—The Northern Ireland District Tennis Championships were continued at Belfast on 3rd September. Results speak for themselves and I think we have every reason to feel proud of ourselves.

OTHER RANKS DOUBLES (FINAL).—Winners : C.S.M. Bishop and Lance Sergeant Barron.

JUNIOR RANKS HANDICAP SINGLES.—Runner-up : Signalman Scoffin.

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OTHER RANKS MIXED DOUBLES (FINAL).—Winners : Mrs. Last (Welch) and Lance Sergeant Barron.

Our representative in the final of the Other Ranks Singles is Lance Sergeant Barron. This match will be played off on 16th September, and in our next contribution to these notes we hope to record yet another win. Well done !

Soccer and Hockey.—At a recent sports meeting, officials were elected to control the destinies of the Unit at soccer and hockey during the coming season. Once again we have entered for the District Soccer Challenge Cup and the Belfast Garrison League. No games have been played so far, but we are quickly putting our house in order, and hope to report progress in the near future.

C. O. B.

ARMAGH DETACHMENT.

Gratis.—We have an overdose of Donegal sunshine, and will willingly present large portions of it to any applicants who wish to apply.

Visit.—We were very pleased to see Signalman Paddy Ruddock (Aldershot, late Meerut), when he visited Armagh on Black Saturday.

Sport.—Our Nobby surprised both himself and the neighbours by taking nine wickets for eighteen runs on the local " Oval." He is now considering offers from a certain Lancashire League Club.

Baldy managed to knock up 150 in half-an-hour in the N.A.A.F.I. A recruit, who noticed this, asked him if he had ever met Lindrum.

Oggie held his end up by sweeping the board in the Armagh Swimming Club's Gala. He won four events, and was second in a fifth. Cups and other awards are on show at the station.

Readers will acknowledge that we are all doing our bit to keep the Corps to the front.

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

September.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we record the death of No. 2321319 Corporal Poole D., who passed away, from tuberculosis, after two months in the B.M.H., Jubbulpore, on 13th August.

Throughout his illness, "Paddy" was cheerful, and his pluck was admired by all who visited him.

"Paddy" Poole will be remembered throughout the Corps, not only for his musketry instruction to the recruits at the Depot, but also for his musical abilities. These were outstanding and wherever "Paddy" went his artistry on the piano was highly appreciated.

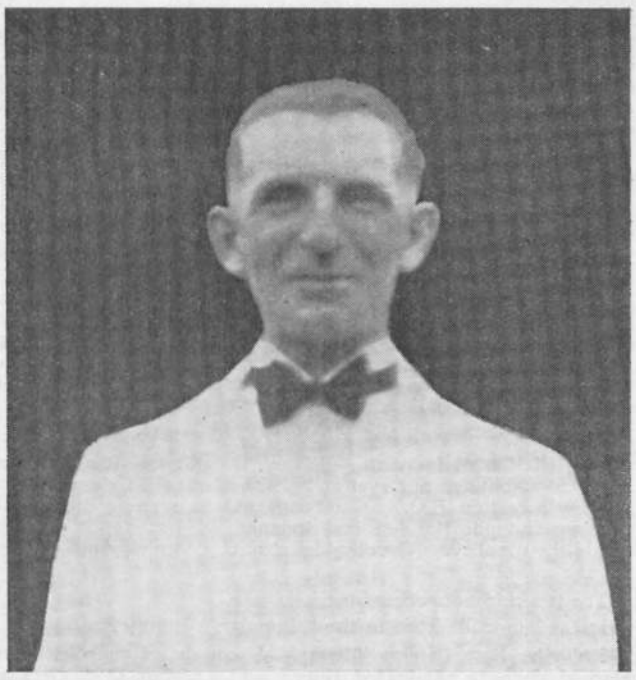
Recently, he had taken up the piano accordion, and soon proved to be no mean performer. During the time he was with us he was pianist in the S.T.C. Dance Band, taking over the leadership when Lance Sergeant Collett went on leave. He managed, with a great deal of very hard work, to maintain the Band's excellent reputation throughout the Station.

After demobilisation, at the end of the Great War, he re-enlisted in the Corps in February, 1931, after some years as an instructor at the Depot, where his competition shooting will be remembered. He came out to 4th Indian Divisional Signals in March, 1936, and joined the S.T.C. (India), Jubbulpore, in April, 1937.

All ranks of the S.T.C. (India) wish to express their deepest sympathy to his family on their sad bereavement.

Corporal Poole was laid to rest in the British Military Cemetery, Jubbulpore, with full military honours; "A" Company and the attached Section of the S.T.C. (India) escorted him. The British and Indian officers of S.T.C. (India) were among the mourners.

Buglers from the Leicestershire Regiment sounded the "Reveille" and the "Last Post," and the gun carriage was drawn by horses of the 28th Field Regiment, R.A.



The Late Corporal D. Poole.

Arrivals and Departures.—Lieutenant-Colonel W. M. Miller, M.C., Royal Signals, returned from leave in England on 16th August.

We also welcome to the Unit several N.C.O.s and men who have arrived here for Upgrading Courses, and hope that their stay will be a pleasant one.

Entertainment.—The Unit Dance was attended by a great number. It is generally thought that if rain had not intervened, another hall would have been necessary. Congratulations are extended to those who put in so much work, and who were responsible for making it a success. Appreciation is also expressed by all those who attended.

The Ladies' Club held their usual fortnightly Whist Drive, which was also a great success. A cake was raffled in aid of prizes for the Arts and Crafts Exhibition next February. Several lady winners in turn, perhaps reluctantly, refused the prize, which eventually went to a member of the Men's Mess.

Births.—Congratulations to Corporal and Mrs. Clayton on the birth of a son, at the Families Hospital, Jubbulpore, on 31st July; and to Corporal and Mrs. Wilson on the birth of a son on 30th August.

[The original photograph of the late Corporal Poole was unsuitable for reproduction in these notes owing to insufficiency of detail. As the deceased was so well known to many of our readers, we have asked the printers to do the best they can in the circumstances, and to publish the photograph.—ED.]

NORTHERN COMMAND*.....*INDIAN ARMY

"A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Upper Topa,

6th September.

Congratulations.—The list of honours and awards in connection with the Waziristan Operations of last year were recently published, and all ranks of this Unit wish to congratulate the following officers and men on their awards: Colonel L. G. Phillips, M.C., Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command, India, on being awarded the C.B.E.; Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. H. Vulliamy, our Commanding Officer, on his award of the D.S.O. and *Mention in Dispatches*; Captain N. M. Hay on the award of the M.B.E., and also on his promotion; Sergeant (now C.Q.M.S.) Conway, of "B" Corps Signals, who was attached to us at Bannu, on being *Mentioned in Dispatches* and to Tommy Walker and "Ginger" Byrne, on receiving the Force Commander's Certificate.

In his reply to a cablegram congratulating him on his award, Lieutenant-Colonel Vulliamy said: "Inform all ranks that, in my opinion, the award of a D.S.O. to a Commanding Officer is a reflection of the good service rendered by his Unit. Such an award would not have been made had not all ranks given their loyal support in the form of hard and efficient work in trying circumstances."

Captain Hay, who was commanding No. 1 Company during the Operations, had a very arduous task, as the lines were cut by the tribesmen almost every night during the Operations, and in many cases, poles were uprooted and completely removed. The task of maintaining communication was a very difficult one, but Captain Hay and his Company were always out as early as possible the following morning to repair the damage.

We also wish to congratulate Captain R. M. Adams on his recent promotion; Lieutenant G. H. K. Hewlett on passing the Higher Standard Urdu Examination, and Lieutenant G. A. Dutton, who passed the Lower Standard Examination; also Corporal Dillon L. O. and Signalman Kelly B. (formerly of Cherat) who passed Part I of the Lower Standard Urdu Examination.

Congratulations to Corporal E. J. Clayton, formerly with this Unit, on the birth of a son and heir at Jubbulpore. Also to Corporal Parsons K., who married Miss Barbara Florence Whyand at Ipswich, whilst he was on furlough in the United Kingdom this summer.

Signalman Touzel, who was placed on the "S.I." list in Razmak Hospital, during August, has now been taken off this list. We offer him our hearty congratulations, and best wishes for a speedy and complete recovery from his illness.

Extension of Service.—Congratulations to Corporal Brown J. and Signalman Robinson G., who have extended their service to twelve years with the Colours. Also to Corporal Jackson A., who, with only twenty-eight days to go before the boat sailed, decided to extend.

Medals.—Sergeant Andrews E. and Farrier Corporal Sharvell J., having gone the distance without detection, were awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. We offer them both our good wishes on their awards.

The Murree Brewery Football Tournament.—In the first round of this contest, held at Murree, we were drawn against "F" (Sphinx) Battery, Royal Horse Artillery, from Risalpur. A steady downpour an hour before the kick-off made the ground very sticky, but the Gunners made the best of the difficult conditions, and ran out winners by 6—0. This team proved able to play well on any type of ground, because, a few days later, on a dry pitch, they beat 1st Divisional Signals, 1—0, and then went on to reach the final, which is yet to be decided.

Entertainments.—Another Fair was held at the beginning of this month, but we were most unfortunate this time, for after a few days of very nice weather, an unusually heavy rainstorm occurred shortly after the Fair commenced. Elaborate arrangements had been made to ensure that the Fair would be a success, and we sympathise with the organisers on being "washed out."

Murree Signal Office Detachment.

24th August.

General.—Salutations to all and sundry from the more fortunate of us who are employed in this charming Station.

Departures.—We regret to announce the departure of Signalman Whitehead.

Lance Corporal Styrin G. and Signalman Foster R. are due home on the first boat next month. Signalman Foster is now famous for the following couplet:

"You have heard of the Faquir of Ipi and all his henchmen, too;
Now meet Bob Foster, with twenty-eight days to do."

Both of them have only done a mere week-end in India. Cheaper beer in Blighty, Bob!

Reunions.—We have met quite a few old faces here. Several come along to enjoy a well-deserved leave. Notable amongst these was one from Bannu Signal Section—"Ginger of Dead Marine fame," and who recognised him?

PIP.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Valete.—Our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. C. Penney, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., Royal Signals, has been selected to attend the Course at the Imperial Defence College, commencing in January. Our heartiest congratulations go to him on this distinction. It is, however, a great blow to us, as he will not be returning here from his home leave. All ranks will never forget the great interest and the meticulous care for them which characterised his work. The families, both British and Indian, will sadly miss Mrs. Penney's help and unfailing interest in their welfare. We wish them both God-speed, and hope one day to have the honour of serving under Colonel Penney again.

General.—The outstanding event of the month has been the return of "L" Section, under the command of Lieutenant D. E. Harrison, Royal Signals, from Waziristan. Many of the B.O.R.s of this Section have been on the Frontier for the past two years, and we can well imagine their pleasure at returning to civilisation again. We hope that their stay in the Unit will be a long and happy one; they fully deserve it.

"J" Section, under command of Lieutenant H. C. Daniel, Royal Signals, left for Waziristan in relief of "L" Section on 12th August. We are sure that Sergeant Bevis and his merry men will carry on the good work of their predecessors; we shall certainly expect them to return with scalps.

Complimentary.—The following B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s have been complimented for devotion to duty of a very high order whilst on Active Service: No. 3597216 Signalman Latham J., No. 2325179 Signalman Powell G.; No. 872 Signalman Ghulam Mohd.

The Officer Commanding, 1st/17th Dogra Regiment, has reported that these men, who formed the crew of a No. 1 Set attached to his Regiment, on the night of 27th-28th July, performed an almost impossible feat. Communication was maintained throughout a most strenuous night march over difficult country, the men having, on occasions, to climb hills on hands and knees. The mule was the only one with the Battalion and caused no delay to the Column.

To these congratulations we would also add the names of Lance Corporal Carn E. A. and Havildar Ishar Dass, and Signalman Bahadur Khan of this Unit, who have also been commended for services rendered and devotion to duty in the field during the Waziristan Operations.

Local Stampede.—The annual stampede for staff jobs has commenced with the start of "Pokey Drill" for the casuals, and those who did not undergo training on the last occasion. The casuals also include those who tore the red flag to ribbons, kicked up the dust on the Range and hit everything except the targets. No names, no "Inkies."

Sergeants' Mess.—The Hill Station is drawing to its close and in consequence the majority of the grass widowers have forsaken the charm of skittles, bridge and telling us how and when they joined up. In lieu of these pastimes they have taken up vocations such as house decorators, amateur carpenters and extremely amateur gardeners. To the latter, instructions have been circulated to the effect that all seeds must be planted with the black spot uppermost. We therefore hope to rear a few plants for the dogs and white ants to play amongst.

We offer a hearty welcome to Sergeant Wood E. from Topa and Sergeant Jock Middleton from Karachi. Both of these N.C.O.s have been with us on temporary wireless experimental duties. We hope that they have as much success with their No. 3 Set experiments as they have had with the Mess table tennis outfit. We have watched them grow from mere novices to real ping-pong stars.

Our esteemed "Topper" can now warble his opera and classics in the best "Burgu." (We think that this has been caused by his relief at hearing that Bastin is no longer batting.) Are these morning gingers responsible, Topper? Watch out, or Carl Rosa will sign you up.

Agony from Other Sources.—Congratulations to "Don Cossack" on attaining that notorious rank.

We hear that a certain N.C.O. is revising the drill book. His latest "Shoulder Arms" is shortly to be followed by "Guns on Shoulders Put" and "Carry Staves." Is this how you did it on the wild North-west Frontier?

The latest craze in the Unit is bird-taming. Several have captured these savage creatures and now strut about in Sinbad the Sailor fashion with specimens on their shoulders. Even when these savage creatures no longer accompany their masters, traces of their ferocity can sometimes be seen on their owners—can't they, "Undar Bonce"?

Fairy Story.—We all had a holiday, and wore white shirts.

The Ritz Comes to Town.—Blimey, it can't be—it ain't true. Many of us blinked our eyes and polished our field glasses when we saw a certain B.O.R. sauntering out in evening dress. At first we thought the sun had touched us, but no, it was an established reality. (Evening dress suits, complete with soldier for the use of.)

The ten-chip note accent is on its way.

Is the lemonade good in the "Popular," Jimmy?

Hail the New Coming Champ.—A couple of months have elapsed since we nominated Jimmy and a certain Q.M. clerk as "gripping" champions, but the "Bosun" beats them all with his "grip" about "On the bridge through the hole in the wall."

Ex-sailors, please note. Enquiries should be addressed to " Stormy " Gale, who has been an interested listener throughout.

Jews' Mail.—To O.K. George from the " Babe," Q.T.C. " I.M.I. if still at A.Z.M., and give the lads my salaams. ' Hookey' Walker sends his, too."

To Henry Pike of Catterick fame. " I always knew you could take it. Am saving you a corner bed, complete with the three rules of aiming. Bill."

To Ratty Godwin and Hoppy, somewhere in China. " What price the Saints and Leeds for Wembley this season. Charles Gurdan is keeping up the old Bulford tradition, and I see Jack Hastings will shortly be joining our happy band in ' Ponkey.' Salaams, I'll be seeing you. Inky."

BEE-BEE.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

The omission of WIRE notes from this Unit for the month of August is regretted.

General.—At the moment we are busy with the " Chitral Relief Column." Many former members of the Unit will probably remember Chitral Relief Columns of previous years.

The individual training season is practically over, and everybody is getting ready for the winter training. The second Up-Grading Course come down from Landikotal about 24th September. At the moment they are busy " cramming " for the Trade Board.

Leave.—The leave season is almost over, and those who have been on leave, especially the Kashmir parties, are looking very fit and well. Many of them have a sun tan that some people in England would spend pounds to acquire.

Trooping.—Now that the trooping season is upon us again, calendars are conspicuous over the beds of the individuals who are due for home. We cannot understand why they are always talking about " Blighty " and their war cry, " Roll on that boat." We wonder whether they dislike the country ? Anyway, the lucky ones who are due to embark as their reliefs will be made very welcome.

Promotions.—We have quite a number of promotions this month ; things must be looking up. Lieutenant E. P. Blake, R.Signals, to be Captain ; Lieutenant W. A. K. Stodart, R.Signals, to be Captain ; Lieutenant E. K. Steward, R.Signals, to be Captain ; R.Q.M.S. Strange F., to be R.S.M. ; Corporal Johnson J., to be Lance Sergeant ; Lance Corporal Lockey B., to be Corporal ; U/Lance Corporal Buirski E., to be Lance Corporal on the Corps Roster. Hearty congratulations to all of them.

Leave Details from U.K.—We shall soon be hearing all about " Blighty " when our leave details arrive from the United Kingdom at the end of this month. We expect that " Our Ben " will be giving us the " Griffin " on the Test matches. Shades of the clutching hand !

Conclusion.—On behalf of the Unit, may we congratulate R.S.M. Bramley F. on his promotion to commissioned rank.

SILO.

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

"B" Corps Signals, Karachi.

Headquarters.

6th September.

After years of " under cover " work, a new reporter has taken over the reins in connection with the publication of the " griffin " from Unit Headquarters.

Charzi, the old star reporter and noted tipster, has proceeded to Loralai, that land of milk and honey, or should it be jam and cheese. We wish him happy hunting, and bags of " Macs."

There are no arrivals to report, except the clock which passed into our hands after several epic battles on the cricket field. Several complaints have been received from light sleepers,

who maintain that the Westminster chimes are detrimental to nocturnal comfort. One old lag states that when striking the midnight hour our trophy developed a severe attack of hiccups. We are expecting a midnight vigil soon by our amateur watchmaker, who has been trying to get his hands on it in order to allay this fault.

Some berths are expected for H.Q. on the first boat on 4th October. " Chicken-Pie " gets first claim, of course, going down after eighteen years of orgies, etc. With his sotto voce he should make a reliable whispering baritone or a vendor of picture postcards.

Karachi has been getting its real share of rain this season, and the gardens have benefited immensely. The piece of lawn opposite that hive of industry, the Orderly Room, usually jealously guarded by our mali, has indeed become a verdant pasture. Even the groundsman at Lords would be envious of our little patch.

The daily deluge of yore has since passed over, and our family gardeners can be seen each evening scanning the sky with the hopeful expression of the old prophet Elisha, trusting that just a little more will come to prevent them carrying the proverbial can.

Great changes are taking place in Karachi. Headquarters, Western Command, is moving back to Quetta, now that the results of the earthquake have disappeared, and we hear that Quetta, with its new up-to-date buildings, has quite a suburban outlook.

We have said farewell to our G.O.C., and the Brigade Commander ; the former proceeds on leave to New Zealand before retirement.

Captain C. C. Worrall, our Adjutant, has just departed by air on two months' leave in the Old Country. We wish him good flying weather and a happy holiday.

Nuts and Bolts.—Whose young lady won the ' Snow-white " Competition in the Belgian Congo ?

Heard in School.—The Himalayas are the range of mountains that can be seen from the fort at Manora.

Who said that Nobby of Pearson's Weekly was instrumental in getting the billiard table repaired in the canteen ?

G. O. O.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Except for the I.T. Courses and classes for the First Class Certificate, there has been very little other activity within the Unit.

The trooping season is drawing near, and many anxious faces can be seen scanning Unit Part I Orders daily, in the hope of finding their names in the first boat list. Discussions regarding the prices and merits of suit cases, and the number of days to go seem to be the chief topic of conversation amongst those who have nearly completed their tour.

The Unit still continues to hold fortnightly dances, which appear to be amongst the most popular of those held in Karachi.

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Arrivals and Departures.—Corporals Lynam and Stokoe proceeded to Jubbulpore as instructor and candidate respectively on a Fitter Signals Course. Signalmen Penn and Burman have departed to Loralai for work with Zhob Signal Section. The following have arrived: Signalman Hubbard from Waziristan, Signalman Johnson from Kohat, and Signalmen Menhenick, Massey and Donohoe from Zhob Signal Section.

Sports.—Since our last notes, the Bungalow Hockey and Cricket Leagues have been concluded, and an Inter-Bungalow Football Tournament has been organised. Up to date some very interesting matches have been witnessed, and we are looking forward to many large transfer fees being offered for our hidden talent which has come to light.

The Unit entered three teams in the British Union Jack Tennis Tournament, and we must congratulate the Unit "A" team on putting up such an excellent performance by winning the tournament. The team consisted of C.S.M. Laing and Sergeant Grose; Warrant Officer Collins of the A.E.C. and Sergeant Smith; Corporal Jarvis and Signalman Rosbotham.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to Captains Worrall, Beeton and Clarke on attaining that rank.

There are no " Blue Book " promotions to report, and one or two glum faces can be spotted, the owners probably wondering what they have done to offend Mr. Records.

Seen and Heard.—A candidate, who was being tested on an exchange, was told to interrupt a multiple call in order to put through a priority call to a subscriber engaged on the multiple call. He thereupon pulled out all the plugs, and put all the switches that were in use at the time back to normal.

Another candidate was seen to connect up two accumulators on the " C " Set by placing two of the leads in the vent holes.

Instructor: " What type of current flows through Primary No. 1 of the D.III ? "

Candidate: " Low frequency alternating D.C., Corporal."

The " Barometer " has given way to the " Barretter "; at least that is what one student was heard to tell an instructor.

Things We Want to Know.—What are the latest N.R. numbers?

Since when has hypnotism been part of the adjustments to the fullerphone ?

E DOUBLE U.

[An excellent cartoon from this Unit has been held over till a later issue.—ED.]

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

General.—Gentlemen of the " Brewery " and men of other outfits, we're here once again, by the grace of blue devils and jelly fish, but what to write about, nobody knows.

Our all absorbing interest of the month was our Farewell Dance to the Headquarters of Western Command, prior to their return to Quetta. We all kept our horns in just before the big day, and probably had to afterwards.

However, the Mess improves daily, and with the return of our settees and easy chairs from the furniture wallah, and other small additions, the inside looks more like a " 'ome from 'ome," and the garden, upon which Sergeant " Tich " Cosens spends so much time, is really a credit to him. The hedge now looks like a hedge, the lawns are lawns, and a plentiful display of many-coloured flowers pleases the eye. (That last bit looks too practical, doesn't it ?)

Sergeant " Tennis Champ." Smith C. A. is still struggling with the difficult problem of laying out a miniature golf course. Those of us who are going home this year anticipate seeing the beginning of it when we come out next time.

In last month's notes we mentioned the Union Jack Tennis Challenge Cup, in which our Unit "A" team was doing so well. There were four Mess members in this team, and they won the Cup after a very fine performance. Hearty congratulations to them, and may you win many more.

Entertainments.—On 20th August, after much gazing at the sky for signs of rain, the " Crazy Gang " took off their shirts and, to the accompaniment of much cursing, the big work began. We had the loan of the Unit Tennis Courts, and at the end of the day the transformation was marvellous. Invitations had been sent to everyone in Karachi, and, judging by the many acceptances, a large gathering was expected, and we got it. But we run before we walk !

The electricians of the Unit were called in to assist with the lighting arrangements, and we should like to take this opportunity of placing on record our appreciation of their work, and the wonderful results. They spent two very full days on the task, and, finally, the courts were like a " Fairy Palace." Lights of all shapes and sizes were everywhere, and a special feature was the " Trafalgar Square Bar " sign above the Bar. It was one of those things that start off with the letter " B " in one colour, "A" in another and " R " in another, then off, and then all on together—and the same over again indefinitely, well, until about 4 a.m.

Seating accommodation was arranged for six hundred, and even the R.I. Navy helped us out by kindly loaning three sacks full of flags. We sincerely hope we didn't link them together in any peculiar message formation; so far there have been no complaints.

The dance commenced at 9.30 p.m., and by 10.30 p.m. all seating was taken up, with standing room only in the Bar; our readers can probably guess what a crowd we had. A very pleasant evening in every way with a final finish given to the show by a speech, at the microphone, by the Brigadier, who not only praised the dance, but spoke very highly of the connection between the Unit and Command Headquarters. Our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel A. W. Roberts, replied.

A word in passing about refreshments. Great praise indeed is due to Sergeant " Buck " Taylor for his splendid work at the Running Buffet. Why it is called a Running Buffet we don't know, because nobody thought of running once they got there; they just stood, and stood, and stood—and then there was none. You know the kind of thing ! The large range and variety of " eats " was exceedingly good, and after everyone had staggered back to the dance floor, there were ices, and, later still, soup.

Finally, many thanks to our P.M.C., C.Q.M.S. " Bert " Snow, for his organisation and work throughout this wonderful show,

and to the committee and helpers, who made the whole thing possible. Well done!

Sport.—Very little this month. We played the Corporals' Mess at cricket on the 31st. Although the game was well fought out, the Corporals managed to win by about twenty runs.

The lines on the tennis court have just been repainted in preparation for the forthcoming Ladies' Singles Tournament, which begins next week. Next month we hope to let you know how matters have fared.

Before these notes appear in print, we shall have lost Sergeant Steele, who is for the Home Establishment. Happy days, "Pip," and the best of luck and another "Staff" job in your new Unit.

CATERER.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

August.

Having wearied of this happy clime, "K" Section has departed for the wide, open spaces, to wit—Maku Kach. As "K" Section are particularly good at marching, they proceeded, of course, by lorry. Our strength has been further depleted by the departure of "J" Section to join "K" at Khanozai for Schemes.

As these notes are being very laboriously written, the furlough details are returning with happy shining faces (we hope) to help us out with duties and Schemes. Five of them are returning on the same boat, and we trust that they are not too discouraged by the thought of the horrible weather, etc., in Blighty.

Our tennis tournaments came to a close on 11th August, when the finals were played. The last final was a very keenly-contested game, between Sergeant Barber and Lance Sergeant Penny, and Lance Corporal Crockett and Signalman Macfarlane, resulting in a win for the latter pair by 7—5, 6—8, 9—7.

At the conclusion of the games, Mrs. Tayleur very kindly presented the prizes to the following: OPEN DOUBLES—Lance Corporal Crockett and Signalman Macfarlane; runner-up, Sergeant Barber and Lance Sergeant Penny. OPEN SINGLES—Signalman Macfarlane; runner-up, Corporal Bray. HANDICAP DOUBLES—Lance Corporal Crockett and Signalman Macfarlane; runners-up, Lance Corporal Stevenson and Signalman Fry. HANDICAP SINGLES—Signalman Macfarlane; runner-up, Sergeant Barber.

Following a defeat by the Ordnance Club, by 100—78, the B.O.R.s' Club challenged the officers and sergeants to a match. After some very keen games, the B.O.R.s won by 65—35. At the conclusion of the match, the sergeants and B.O.R.s who participated were entertained by the officers at the Officers' Mess.

On 31st August, an open-air dance was held on the B.O.R.s' tennis courts. The dance was fairly well attended, and, according to the guests, was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Many wishes were expressed for further dances, and we hope to have them far more frequently.

In the Garrison athletics, the Unit athletic team, led by Lieutenant Williams, were again successful in bringing home the honours. Mention must be made of the hurdles team, who hopelessly outclassed the other teams. The teams were as follows:

100 YARDS RELAY.—Lieutenant Williams, Lance Corporal Last, Corporal Shirley, Signalman Gentleman.
220 YARDS RELAY.—Lieutenant Williams, Lance Corporal Last, Corporal Shirley, Signalman Gentleman.
440 YARDS RELAY.—Signalmen Gentleman, Pluquet, Wardley, Lance Corporal Last.
880 YARDS RELAY.—Signalmen Feegan, Wardley, Pluquet, MacKenzie.
ONE MILE RELAY.—Signalmen Shillaker, Pluquet, Cook, MacKenzie.
THREE MILES RELAY.—Signalmen Cook, Wileman, Parker, Lance Corporal Lloyd.
HIGH JUMP.—Signalman Wardley, Lance Corporal Crockett.
LONG JUMP.—Lieutenant Williams, Lance Corporal Last.
JAVELIN.—Lieutenant Williams, Signalman Jones J. D.
WEIGHT.—Lieutenant Williams, Lance Corporal Gartery.
DISCUS.—Lieutenant Williams, Signalman Jones J. D.
HAMMER.—Sergeant Smith, Lance Corporal Gartery.
HURDLES.—Lieutenant Williams, Signalman Wardley, Lance Corporal Harris, Lance Corporal Crockett.

Congratulations are extended to Corporals Carruthers, Bray and August, who have joined the Sergeants' Mess. Also to Lance Corporal Pearse W., who has dropped the "L" from his signature.

RONKAY.

Zhob Signal Section.

Loralai.

September.

General.—Hello! Hello! Zhobsigs calling from the hills of Baluchistan. Yes, we are still here awaiting the gentle breeze of autumn to cool our sun-baked evenings. All of us are well and happy.

Several of the Section went to our Hill Camp at Chotair, where some have tried to emulate the heroes of Nanga Parbat and Everest, whilst others merely retire to a six weeks' sleep amongst the pines. All the wanderers are now back again, tanned like all handsome men.

Dame Rumour whispers that there are wedding bells in the offing. Good luck to those concerned, but we hope they will remember the old song, "I wish I was single again."

We shall soon become part and parcel of Western District Signals, and so, with the march of time, Zhob Signal Section will become a thing of the past to take a new lease of life as Zhob Infantry Brigade Signal Section. We await the decisions of the powers-that-be as to our future.

Sport.—We are doing well, thanks to the keenness of our Officer Commanding. We have annexed the much-coveted Baird football trophy, which for fifteen years was in the possession of various Gurkha Battalions. Here are the results:
Semi-final: Zhob Signal Section, 3; 1/10th Gurkhas, 1.
Final: Zhob Signal Section, 2; 1/2nd Gurkhas, 1.

It was a gala day for Signals, who kept up a constant barricade on the Gurkhas' goal. Opening play favoured the 1/2nd, who scored first, but Signals soon settled down and gradually outpaced the hillmen from Nepal. The Cup was presented by Mrs. Ross, the wife of our Area Commander.

We are still improving at hockey, and have managed to beat the Gurkhas, Hodson's Horse, and the Loralai Remnants. In this sphere we are still young, but *experientia docet*.

Congratulations.—To the tennis fiends of "B" Corps Signals we tender our heartiest congratulations on their splendid effort in winning the Inter-Unit Cup at Karachi. Well done, Jock! The old ones are still to the front.

Football team, Zhob Signal Section. Winners of the Baird Cup at Loralai, June, 1938.

Departures.—We tender our best wishes to Corporal Stares, our Orderly Room Corporal, who is leaving us after a two-years' sojourn at Zhob. We wish him luck on his posting to " B " Corps Signals, whose gain is our loss.

To Signalmen Donohoe, Menhennick, Fulcher and Massy we bid adieu, and thank them very much for their services on the football field, and wish them the best at their new Stations.

Agony.—We are looking forward to the arrival of Corporal Spong and Signalman Hall from Blighty leave, in order to ascertain if the beer is cheaper or better before we sign off. Of course, the poor old benedict will now have to cut his cloth by the measure. Is that right, Tich ?

Arrivals.—We welcome Lance Corporal Fouracre and Signalmen Penn, Burman and Wee McGregor (sorry, it is Macpherson from the Clyde) and hope that their stay will be a happy one.

Dancing.—On Saturday, 3rd September, we held our first Dance of the season, and, like all our functions, it went with the proverbial swing. It was held on the lawn of the B.O.R.s' Institute, and all participating appeared to enjoy what was a very pleasant evening. We wish to thank all those who helped to make the function a success, especially Mr. Mullaly, of 1/10th Gurkhas, who so kindly lent his radiogram and records at short notice when our apparatus suffered from a technical hitch. B.B.C., please note.

PALEY KHAN.

EASTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

27th August.

Passing the Quill.—Owing to the fact that our previous correspondent has been almost worked to a skeleton, it has fallen to my lot to fill this column of the Corps magazine. I fear I shall need to tread warily, for the path of a news-hound is beset with many pitfalls. If it isn't, it should be.

Inspections.—On Friday, 19th August, the D.A.D.O.S. carried out his annual inspection. Apparently everything was as it should be, because the report was very good. Congratulations to all concerned. Now we can rest on our laurels for another year.

Hatches.—Our hearty congratulations are extended to Lance Sergeant and Mrs. Hibbet on the birth of their son Michael Gordon on the last day of July, and to Corporal and Mrs. Marsh on the birth of a son Anthony James on 27th June.

Courses.—Corporal Godley, Signalmen Gillard and Goodall have returned to the fold after spending three months at Chakrata on an Upgrading Course. The results are not yet known.

Corporal Douglas-Beveridge, U/Lance Corporal Rainbird, Signalmen Bass, Moysey and Beeley are now at Chakrata devouring whole chunks of Volume V in the hope of obtaining higher ratings.

Signalman Davison has departed for Jubbulpore in pursuit of a Fitter (Signals) rating, and Lance Corporal Sneddon is at Karachi endeavouring to reach the peak of perfection as a lineman. Our best wishes for their success are with them all.

Courses (Again).—Owing to one of the troop hounds developing rabies, ten local heroes had to undergo a course of anti-rabic needles. As none of them have started to bark yet we are hopefully presuming that the treatment was successful.

Still More Courses.—There appears to be a number of our stalwarts suffering from " night starvation." In an effort to combat this deadly evil several of them have purchased large supplies of a well-known patent food, not forgetting the patent mixer. Results have been rather staggering. Instead of waking up tired, they just don't wake up at all.

Field-Marshal's Baton.—Congratulations to U/Lance Corporal Rainbird K. and U/Lance Corporal Fish, our maitre d'hotel, on their recent appointments. We expect you to do great things with our six annas now, Jim !

Training.—Already there are vague rumours as to the duration of camp. It may interest ex-troopites to learn that the manœuvre area this year is Gurgaon. Shades of 1936 ! No doubt Bhundsi Gap will again be the centre of great activity.

Cruises.—Not unnaturally there is enormous human appeal under this heading. One imagines glorious moonlit nights on the Mediterranean, tropical palms waving in the distance, dusky damsels scantily clad, and long hours of basking leisurely in a deck chair. Reality shocks us. Night-time is a mad scramble for hammocks ; palms we only feel when someone in a hurry politely hands us off while heading for the canteen ; damsels we just don't see, and as for basking—well, those who care to bask on a troop-deck are welcome to it.

If there is a point in all this, it is that three of our number, having spent five long, weary years as guests of the Indian Government, are heading home on 16th October. They are Signalmen Marson, Dexter and Warren. We know how they must be feeling and shall not make it any harder for them by harping on the subject. Our very best wishes for your success as big-money men will accompany you.

Captures.—When Signalman Forrest G. decided to sign on to complete twelve years with the Colours, several others who had decided to throw in their lot with those undergoing the " Means Test " were assailed by doubt. Such remarks as " You won't get a job in ' Civvy Street ' that will allow you as much spare time as you have now " were often heard. We have it on good authority that further signatures on the dotted line are imminent.

Sport.—A detailed account of our activities will be found in the sports notes. The winning of the Station Hot Weather Tournament for the second time in three years is, in our humble opinion, a remarkable achievement, considering the size of the Unit, and the hockey team are to be commended on their splendid performance. Incidentally, an unofficial record was created by their completion of the competition without losing a game.

The Brigade Commander, who very kindly presented the Cup and Medals, congratulated the team on their success.

TIM.

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SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

4th Indian Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry.

23rd August.

Introduction.—After a lapse of three years, I again resume the duties of scribe.

Congratulations.—To all the officers of the Corps who have been promoted as a result of Mr. Hore-Belisha's recent manifesto.

To Colonel L. G. Phillips, Royal Signals, upon his award of the C.B.E. (Military Division) for services rendered in Waziristan during the recent Operations. To Signalman Downing G. upon his award of the Military Medal for gallantry during the Operations.

To Farrier Corporal Archer (" Rags ") upon obtaining first place for the best turned out children's pony in the recent Horse Show.

To the Unit cricket team for reaching the semi-final of the Small Units' Cricket Tournament.

Weddings.—On 9th July, Miss E. Edwards (formerly Q.A.I.M.N.S.) became Mrs. Burgess-Winn. The ceremony was performed at St. John's Church, Secunderabad, by Rev. W. G. Hayward. The bride, who was dressed in a white wedding dress, with coatee to match, was given away by Professor W. Beeching. Captain Hoblyn, Royal Signals, performed the duties of best man. The bridal couple left the church under an archway of swords made by officers of the Corps and friends; then under an archway of flags made by British and Indian other ranks.

Social.—Functions during the last two months have been numerous. To describe each one would tax our memory far too much. They were held in the Sergeants' Mess on Saturday evenings, and all B.O.R.s of the Unit were invited. The attendance was very good, a fact which must have proved most gratifying to the Entertainments Committee. It can safely be said that the functions are extremely popular, and that we shall soon have to enlarge our premises. There will be one more social event which will follow the final of the Open Tennis Tournament.

Open Tennis Tournament.—This event commenced early in July, and the finals were played off on Saturday, 20th August, between Corporal Kerr (—30/40) and Sub-Conductor G. Biggins, I.A.C.C. (—30/40).

The Tournament was organised by a committee consisting of Sergeants Swatton, Field and Page, and Corporals Archer, Hatton and Kerr.

There has been some excellent tennis, two outstanding games being those between Major Hill, R.A.M.C., and Rev. Garforth, and Sub-Conductor Biggins and Sergeant Perry, I.A.C.C.

Corporal Kerr beat his opponent by 6—3, 6—2. The winner, who played a very steady game, placing his shots with precision, is to be heartily congratulated by the Unit, and those friends of ours who helped to make the Tournament such a success.

The final was followed by a tennis "At Home," tea and dance in the Sergeants' Mess. Amongst those present were Major Bushby, Captain (Quartermaster) and Mrs. Anderson, Captain Hoblyn, Lieutenant Iyappa, Lieutenant Holmes (Chief Clerk, Deccan District) and all our honorary Mess members. The prizes were kindly presented by Mrs. Anderson, after the C.O. had addressed a few words to those present. He said that, on behalf of us all, he must heartily congratulate the organisers on producing such an excellent tournament—there were fifty-six entries. He was very pleased to see so many guests from other arms of the Service, and made a special reference to those from District Headquarters. He pointed out that Signals and Headquarters have quite a lot to do with each other in the field, and social functions such as these provide the means whereby they can get to understand one another much better. He then called upon Mrs. Anderson to present the prizes.

Still More Social.—On Friday, 19th August, the Hindus of the Unit celebrated the anniversary of the birthday of the Lord Krishna. Coincident with this was the opening of the new I.O.R.'s institute. Subedar-Major R. Panchanadan, I.S.C., and the I.O.R.s of the Unit, invited the members of the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes, together with their families, to a variety entertainment and tea party. In his opening speech, Subedar-Major R. Panchanadan said: " I beg to offer my thanks to every one of you on behalf of the Indian Ranks of the 4th Indian Divisional Signals for having kindly accepted our invitation to-day, the birthday of Lord Krishna, and the opening ceremony of the I.O.R.'s new institute.

" The birthday celebration of Lord Krishna, the God Incarnate of the Hindus, is not only celebrated in this Unit every year, but throughout India with much pomp and pleasure. Wherever Hindus reside—even in western countries, and especially in England, where Hindus have their specially-built temples—prayers, worship and offerings will be made to the memory of Lord Krishna.

" I am very glad to say that this year in particular we have not only the birthday to observe, but it coincides with the opening of the new institute, and every one of us is pleased with the facilities and comforts that will be derived from the use of this institute.

" The Indian ranks of the Unit are greatly indebted to the Government of India for granting us this new building, which I can safely say is the first I.O.R.s institute to be completed in the Indian Army, and we are really fortunate to obtain this privilege.

" Our thanks are also due to the Commanding Officer Sahib and other officers of the Unit for their efforts and kind co-operation in bringing this institute to completion, together with the equipment on modern lines. All I.O.R.s of this Unit are proud of this building, and it is hoped that they will do their utmost to make the best use of it, not only from the individual point of view, but in the interest of the Unit and the Corps at large.

" Sir—Major A. B. Bushby Sahib, Commanding 4th Indian Divisional Signals—I request that you will kindly perform the ceremony of opening the Institute."

In his reply, the Commanding Officer expressed his pleasure in being able to perform the opening ceremony of the new institute. He explained that the institute marked the completion of a scheme drawn up by Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Pocock, R.E. (I.A.), for the betterment of the welfare and entertainment of the I.O.R.s of the Unit. He stressed the fact that Colonel Pocock always had the interests of the I.O.R.s in his mind, and felt sure that he would be pleased to know that the opening ceremony should fall on a day that meant so much to the Hindu I.O.R.s of the Unit. Lastly, he thanked the contractor, G. M. Feroze, for the services he had rendered in the furnishing of the institute

The following programme was then presented :

STICK DANCE (KOLLATAM).—Performed by a selected group of I.O.R.s. The style of the dance was somewhat similar to the old English stick dance.

POISON OF THE CUP.—Performed by Lance Naik Abdul Rashid and party. Although the speech was entirely in Urdu, the acting was so expressive that the theme could be grasped by all.

P.T. TABLEAU.—Naik Constantine and party, in a very confined space, gave an excellent exhibition.

Signalman Peter G. (I.O.R.) recited King Henry V's speech before Harfleur, commencing " Once more unto the breach, dear friends, once more." This was exceptionally well done and much applauded.

TEA INTERVAL.

BIRD SELLER AND HIS WIFE.—Signalmen Somasandaram and Narisusai amused us with an act in Tamil, which concluded by the Subedar-Major buying a parrot. Has he still got it ?

BANIA ACT.—Imagination for this act was unnecessary. Lance Naik Abdul Rashid and Lance Naik Mahmud Khan were *pakka* banias. In checking over their accounts they announced that " Major Bushbeee Saheeeb," Captain (Lamba wallah) " Hobling " Saheeeb, and Captain Burgess-Wynn sahib, owed sums varying from 3,000 to 1,000 rupees. We then heard that Sergeant Fields Saheeb (*Ji han! Mota mota wallah*), "*Ek sau rupaia, sharab kiwaste.*" (Collapse of Fanny.) A poor Signalman then asked him for a loan of five rupees without security. Nothing doing !

ENGLISH SONG.—This was ably rendered by Lance Naik Solomon.

FEMALE DANCE.—The females in this dance were Signalman Syed Amir and party.

MORNING SICK REPORT.—Clever is the only word applicable. We are still chuckling. C. H. M. Joseph and party produced a skit on the procedure followed for the I.O.R.s' morning sick parade.

CLIMBING GREASY POLE.—A feat of endurance and perseverance. A purse at the top of a well-greased pole, thirty feet high, was removed after a long struggle.

BREAKING OF BUTTER AND CURD POTS (URI).—This was performed by disciples of Lord Krishna.

A vote of thanks, given by the Subedar-Major, was followed by " God Save the King."

It may be of interest to readers to know something about the Lord Krishna referred to in these notes. The modern Hindu religion is a development of Brahmanism. There is one impersonal and spiritual Being, one God, called Brahma. His three personal manifestations are as Brahma the Creator, Vishnu the Preserver, and Shiva the Destroyer and Re-producer. Vishnu is said to have come to earth nine times and is expected a tenth time. These nine incarnations took the form of a fish, a boar, a man lion, a dwarf, Parasu Rama, Rama, *Krishna*, and Buddha.

Krishna, although a powerful chief, was brought up amongst peasants, and is, peculiarly, the God of the lower classes. As a boy he killed the serpent Kali by trampling upon his head. He lifted the mountain ridge of Govardhan on his finger to shield the herdsmen's wives from the wrath of Indra, the Vedic Rain-God. The festival held on 19th August is known as " Janam Ashtami."

Kiswaste.—Who and why was the Captain of the Corporals' darts team dropped ?

Is indoor cricket practice an effective means to high scores ?

LLOYDS BANK

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This Branch of Lloyds Bank, in which is incorporated the business of Messrs. COX & CO., Army and Royal Air Force Agents, is specially adapted to meet the banking requirements of Officers and Cadets.

PAY AND ALLOWANCES

Pay is issued to Officers and may be Credited to accounts opened at this Branch. Arrangements can be made for the encashment of cheques at any of the Bank's Offices, which exceed 1,900 in England and Wales, or by its Agents abroad. The Indian and Burma Branches are also in a position to receive Pay and Allowances as they fall due.

HEAD OFFICE: LONDON, E.C.3

When will the cricket bats (recently purchased) be auctioned?

Why has the B.O.R.s' Messing Fund balance suddenly shown a credit ? Mos(e)t gratifying.

TERMITE.

4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

10th September.

We offer our hearty congratulations to Captain J. H. L. Crichton on his promotion to that rank.

Some of us were invited to the 7th Light Cavalry "At Home," and we desire to thank them for a most enjoyable and unusual afternoon's entertainment. One of our ex-Olympia stars paid them a high compliment by saying that their trick ride was more clever than Olympia's best. The " Round Stable " conference with its seven sage steeds sitting listening to the requests of various bowing petitioners was unique. An excellent tea completed what proved to be a most satisfying show.

We crave for mechanisation. This appears to be borne out, because one of our number creaks with " screwmatics," another has carbuncles where he oughtn't, and the theme song of a thkrd is " KiP. Saddles."

Two more were seen, stealthily creeping into the lines staggering beneath the weight of a " trunk." There must be a boat in sight !

We are still busy with Individual training, building hockey grounds, mounting remounts, waiting for No. 1 Sets (still " Page " one), and weeding.

We had the misfortune to meet H.Q., 5/2nd Punjab Regiment, one of the strongest teams in the Station, in the Small Units Hockey Tournament. We were knocked out by 3 goals to nil.

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Egypt Signals.

No. 1 Company.

8th September.

Apologies.—We apologise for our non-appearance in these notes, and hope that it will not happen again.

General.—Congratulations to Major J. E. S. Walford, M.B.E., and Captain N. de la P. Tate on attaining their respective ranks.

To Corporals Williams and Frarey on taking that extra step towards the illusive Field-Marshal's baton. They are now Lance Sergeants, and mine is a pint.

We congratulate Signalman Otto on recovering from his illness.

Training.—Nearly all the Company is engaged in studying for their higher trade rating in order to swell the Savings Bank. We wish them all the best.

Musketry.—The casuals have fired their Annual Musketry Course and maintained the average of No. 1 Company. We tender our thanks to the Instructors.

Hope Springs Eternal.—Or would it sound better as " Roll on the boat that takes me home." So far, there have been no repatriations, but you never know. More about this disturbing subject next month.

To 5th Div-ites.—We are very pleased to announce the fact that our friend Hatcher has acquired a set of " Cheek-swellers " to assist him to get a firmer grip.

Things We Want to Know.—Who remarked on Anti-Gas Training : " I know you may be a little deaf through having your eves covered " ? Mum's the word, but we have a very good idea.

Which is " Telfer's Eleven," and what is their object in life ? We know they wear football jerseys, and that their motto is " Brains beat Brawn."

DARKIE.

"F" Troop, No. 2 Company.

Abbassia, Cairo.
August.

Beginning.—The general scheme of things remains unchanged ; the Courses drag on to their inevitable end, and the temperature is still on the ascent, making Egypt even more pleasant. We shall soon be starting Line Leave.

Middle.—The new No. 2 Company rather shook the critics during the Swimming Gala held on Wednesday, 27th July. We won the Company Relay, and " F " and Company Headquarters were beaten only by a split second in the Section Relay. Congratulations to all concerned. Congratulations also to Signalmen Huntley, Mark and Clarke for bringing home some more room decorations.

This musketry business is still causing much concern to many who thought that they had missed it ; they can be seen on the square any morning nowadays.

End.—That's all for this month.

CLARICKO.

8th September.

Beginning.—Gone are the days of bowed heads and shoulders, and many eyes have lost their glazed appearance, for, with many sighs of relief, I.T. and musketry finished almost simultaneously. Rumour whispers that we still have our " bat-eyes " and we cannot dispute the fact that several received a greeting of happy (?) flag-waving from the butts—almost like a Visual Scheme.

For many the worst is not over yet, as the Trade Board is being held next week. We hope to congratulate quite a few next month.

Middle.—No. 1 Company are to be heartily congratulated. After many hard battles on the cricket field and in the canteen they have brought home the Small Units' Cup.

We have to play two more matches, and then the cricket season will be over. Due to the misfortune that has attended all our matches played to date, we still have to experience the thrill of winning, but we still hope.

Some of us watched the first Unit trial football match. Most of the players are in Palestine, but those left with us have lots of good football in them, and seem to be saving it for more auspicious occasions.

End.—Will Sergeant Skitt please communicate with Signalman Hicks for photographs ?

Late News.—We beg most humbly to tender our congratulations to Lance Corporal Vassila on acquiring his second bit of tape.

CLARICKO.

"W" Troop, No. 2 Company.

Abbassia, Cairo.
August.

Introduction.—Our usual scribe having departed East of Suez, the writer, with the able assistance of " Mac," has stepped into the breach to ensure a regular supply of notes.

General.—During the month, excitement reached fever pitch, but we have now returned to our normal tranquility. One morning on Check Parade, there were cries of " Who wants a B.I. anyway " as kit was flying, and records were being broken for lorry loading. " X " Troop were off to Palestine. Our " muscle " merchant, " Stumpi," has also left us to hold them back. Various members of " W " Troop received provisional warnings, but we are still here.

M.T.—At the end of last month, Ordnance issued us with four new three-ton Guy lorries, complete with No. 3 Sets. The M.T. Square was a hive of activity whilst the experts (?) expressed their opinions. The vehicles were taken out on a road and desert trial and put up a creditable performance. Several slight faults were quickly rectified.

Arrivals and Departures.—Sergeant Hart, after a very short stay with us, has gone to " Z " Troop. The Troop leader left on 5th July for three months' well-earned rest in the U.K. Corporal Gant, Lance Corporal Byron and Signalmen Dixon and Brown N. J. have proceeded to the U.K. on leave.

Painters and Decorators (?).—At last we have had the bungalows brightened up by the application of liberal quantities of distemper. When the decorators had finished we were not sure whether to scrub the ceiling or the floor. (There was as much on the floor as on the ceiling.) The Troop Stores also got a share of it. No. 1 Company are experiencing the identical trials and tribulations now. It may be noted with regret by some former members of the Unit that the "Active Service " studies on the mess-room walls have disappeared under a coating of cream distemper. Will Sam Ryder please note that the D.R. at " Suicide " Corner has moved at last.

Births.—To Trixie (Plum's dog) on 27th July, four daughters and two sons. All doing well.

Courses.—Signalmen Burgon, Watt, MacGiveron and Jew were initiated into the mysteries of R/T work on a No. 2 Set by Lance Corporal King. We hope they now know the difference between crooning the latest dance hit and getting a message through. We should mention that they are D.R.s.

Congratulations.—To Lance Corporals Gant and Vassila on their promotion to Corporal.

Sport.—We are doing quite well at cricket, in spite of the fact that we have lost one of our star players, and Frankie and Mac run a poultry farm. We also collected quite an array of silver in the Corps Swimming Gala. Sergeant Dunn, Signalmen MacGiveron and Devine won nine trophies between them.

Things We Want to Know.—Who said " *Maleesh*, I'll get an 'Active Service ' log-book from the Unit Office " ?

Things to Come.—More notes we hope.

EIFLA.

8th September.

Introduction.—The main topics of conversation at present are leave and Trade Boards. Every week a few lucky members of the Troop lie in bed until breakfast time ; they are the local leave men.

The Trade Boards commence on 5th September, and in a couple of weeks we shall know who are getting extra pay.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Corporal Gant on his second tape. (Mine's a pint, Garg.)

Arrivals and Departures.—On 20th August, Lance Corporal Sutcliffe (" F " Troop), whom we have sheltered under our wing since his arrival in the country, packed his kit and silently stole away. We were sorry to see him go. He has only gone to No. 1 Company Lines, and we still get fleeting glimpses of his smiling face. (We miss your battle-cry, " Bourier.")

Jews' Mail.—To Charlie (Blackdown) from Charlie. " Congratulations. Will cost you a night out on your return."

EIFLA.

"Z" Troop, No. 2 Company.

Abbassia, Cairo.

August.

General.—The usual lack of interesting summer notes makes it impossible to report more than routine matters. Lieutenant G. M. de M. Blum, our Troop Leader, is at present on leave in U.K. We hope that he will return very fit, and in time for Schemes.

Sergeant Hart, from Aldershot, has now taken over as N.C.O. i/c Troop, and we wish him a very pleasant sojourn in that capacity.

The U.K. is already calling for Sergeant Skitt, who, unfortunately, is leaving for home on a date unknown, after only a short tour in Egypt.

Palestine has claimed the following (they proceeded in two details) : Lance Corporal Sayer, Signalmen Spreadbury and Blenkinsop with a No. 9 Set and a "bug"; Signalmen Crerar and Cross with the second No. 9 Set in a " bug " driven by Crerar.

I.T. still absorbs our interest, except for an occasional break of Line Leave.

Congratulations to Signalman Kendall on his accomplishments, including the award of the Victor Ludorum once again.

AUSSIE.

8th September.

General.—This month will see the end of Individual Training much to the satisfaction of us all ; the Trade Board will be at work between 5th and 12th September.

The tension that has been accumulated during the weary three months now finds its outlet as prospective " Up-graders " do their utmost to remember things they have forgotten. Operators argue about " R9s," and workshop personnel about the " machine finished " tools they claim to have produced. Apart from all this, we are just one happy family.

Arrivals.—Four-legged animal, answers to the name of " Pater." It certainly has an iron constitution, for after being discovered chewing razor blades and sandals with obvious delight, a pair of boots (plus studs) was found to be missing. The owner already casts suspicious glances at our canine friend.

Facetious.—While on the subject of boots, it is the opinion of one or two that the next trip into the " Blue " will be a route march. The reason—boot inspections, and no dodging ?

Football.—Makes us think of promotion to the First Division ; so far only one game has been played, in order to select a Company team. Much loving care is devoted to boots, and shellac does make them look like new.

Jews' Mail.—386 " Sweeney." " Line, Carp ? 501."
Driver (I.C.) Adams, " H " Troop. " Line ? Tomo."

AUSSIE.

No. 3 Company.

Abbassia, Cairo.

1st August.

Apology.—We are afraid that notes this month will be much shorter than usual, owing to the temporary absence of the (er) regular scribe. If you are tempted to throw any fruit, kindly remove the tin.

General.—Individual Training is in full swing once again, and there is much frowning and knitting of brows. (By the way, how does one knit brows ?) It is unfortunate that again several will be disappointed, owing to the emergency. Still, *nil desperandum*, "soapo carbolicum," etc. !

The " casuals " are at it again. Those of us who have done our little bit eye them with amusement. No doubt Freud could supply a logical explanation, but we understand that he is a very busy man, and so we shall not trouble him for a psycho-analysis of the local brand of humour.

Why waste money on the expensive pleasures provided by the Opera House ? We can provide a free show locally between the hours of 5.45 and 6.30 a.m. four days a week, giving our collective services to a misunderstanding public, or such members of the public as are abroad at that unearthly hour. Take your choice ; there is Weapon Training, Anti-Gas Training, Anti-Tank Rifle instruction, and P.T.

Valour.—During the month, parties have been stealing away at dead of night, and our numbers are now very much depleted. Whither they are bound we know not, or rather, we are not supposed to divulge. But we do envy them, especially those of us who are chained to a particularly unromantic desk for five soul-destroying years. We wish them all the fun of the fair. Rumour whispers that the Company will be marched to the M.I. room to have their ears syringed, in order to listen to the exploits of our departed friends when they return.

Cricket.—The Company have enjoyed several exciting fixtures since the season started ; the results will be found in the sports notes.

Corps Swimming Gala.—There was a small but enthusiastic gathering for this annual event, which took place this year on 27th July. It was a very good show, and we congratulate all those who co-operated in making the event such a success.

Jews' Mail.—Fellow-scribe Lance Corporal F. Z. Smith, of this Company, ex-Aldershot 1934, wishes to get in touch with S. B. Coyne, late Aldershot, and believed to be at Paulu Brani or maybe " Punky." If you read this, Pat, drop us a line, old scout. All the best.

Footnote.—Dr. Scholl's corn-pads are obtainable at all the leading chemists and village post-offices.

EFF ZED ESS.

8th September.

General.—Well, there is very little to report this month. My diary says " nil return," and even sucking the pencil and tapping the table proves a barren source of inspiration

The long summer is drawing to a close, and the trooping season will have started by the time that these notes appear in print. It has not been as hot a summer as compared with previous years, but we have had several hot spells, each lasting about a week. It would be grand to have a good old Blighty downpour, and we hope that it won't be long now.

Coming across flocks of pastoral animals whilst on occasional trips into the blue, we have always wondered how these sheep

and goats could possibly manage to exist, even thrive, on a diet of sand and shale.

On a recent picnic at the Pyramids, when admiring the sunset, we were amazed to see the desert transformed into a sea of green. Not deep in colour, but growing deeper towards the horizon. I attracted my companion's attention, eager for confirmation of my vision—I admit to a momentary mistrust of my thermos!

His reply was calm, and we were a little disappointed to be informed, quite casually, that grass does grow in the desert, but is only visible to human eyes when the sun reaches a certain position when rising and setting. At first we thought the reply to be a "leg-pull," but it did provide a logical explanation as to how these animals do live in the desert. Mother Nature is certainly provident.

It does one good to stop awhile and think of these small but potent evidences of simple, divine provision.

Air Mail.—To-day is the first of September, and we have just received a letter from England, which was posted on 29th August. It is thrilling to realise that news can reach us so quickly when, a few months ago, a letter was no less than ten days in transit. In these days one is too apt, we think, to pay marked attention to the destructive powers of the aeroplane. Let us not forget the many invaluable services for which the plane is indirectly responsible.

Delivery of mail by air is but one blessing to its credit, but a long list could be made of many others. To name but a few. The north of Scotland is served by an air ambulance, speedily conveying to hospital sick people living far from civilisation and who would most certainly perish without skilled aid. Canada is policed, protected and fed during winter's icy grip by the aeroplane.

But it is in the field of exploration that it earns highest honours. Daily, new provinces are being discovered and our knowledge widened. The plane removes the barriers of time and distance, and the exile is made to feel less of an outcast when news of loved ones at home can reach him with speed.

So let us salute these brave pilots when we read of their latest achievements in air travel, and think of them not as speed-cranks out for fame and personal gain alone, but as ambassadors of peace and goodwill.

Weapon Training.—"Grouse shooting" is over for another year—or, rather, for six months.

Duty.—Our chaps are still in Palestine, and those of us left behind send our cordial greetings to one and all.

Command.—Major H. J. Wiseman, our respected O.C., returned from leave during the month looking quite brown. We sincerely hope, sir, that you and your family spent an interesting and happy holiday.

Sport.—As reported last month, we have enjoyed an exciting season of cricket, and take this opportunity of thanking, not only our own team, but our opponents also, for their game spirit. Results for the season are included in the sports notes.

Conclusion.—We are sorry for the lack of real news, but honestly, there is nothing to report, apart from the progress of Lance Corporal Baldock's pups, and the repainting of our M.T. with a new shade of sand-colour.

EffZedEss.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

1st August.

Bouquets.—The P.M.C. and his committee are to be congratulated on their efforts to produce something different from the ordinary run of entertainment. "Limehouse Blues" fully satisfied this need, and excelled anything yet produced. The company responded enthusiastically to the committee's efforts, generating that East End atmosphere, and acting their selected character as easy as if they were born to it. Mrs. Lynch, in particular, excelled in her role of a charlady, complete with a spot of gin, and thoroughly deserved the prize for the best character of the evening, while Sergeant "Puncher" Fee, as the proprietor of the coffee stall, certainly brought us as near to home as we shall ever get before the boat arrives.

Further comment would be superfluous, as every picture tells a story. Take a close look at these snaps, and you—who cannot participate—can at least see the effect of real enjoyment.

Periodicals.—The fortnightly functions recently introduced have proved a great success, and we hope these will be continued indefinitely.

Shooting.—Under the able leadership of C.Q.M.S. Richardson, the Mess Rifle Club is certainly flourishing, and shows how great a social asset even shooting can be—widening our sphere of friendship and giving us hours of good entertainment.

Friendly Shoots.—Versus the R.N.F.s, we lost by 13 points; against the R.A.S.C., we won by 157 points; and in the match with the R.E.s, we lost by 1 point.

Monthly Spoon Shoot (Open Competition).—1, C.Q.M.S. Richardson, 350 points; 2, Lance Sergeant Hall, 341 points 3, Sergeant Fee and Lance Sergeant Wright, 330 points each.

Tennis.—We have played several friendly matches, the results of which are published further on, complete with the Senior Ranks League Table.

The Mess standard is undoubtedly improving by leaps and bounds, and our League team is to be congratulated on their present form, having advanced from the bottom place in 1936 to midway in 1937, and now second. Such consistent improvement can only result in one thing, and that is League champions in . . . Dare we hope? Keep it going, lads, and by the time that these notes are in print we hope to possess a few Unit champions, but of that more anon.

FRIENDLY GAMES.

	Played.	Won.	Lost.
Mixed	6	1	5
Men's Doubles	7	4	3

SENIOR RANKS LEAGUE.
(Compiled to 30th July.)

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Points.
Royal Engineers	9	9	—	9
Egypt Signals	8	6	2	6
R.A.O.C.	6	5	1	5
R.A.P.C.	5	4	1	4
R.A.S.C.	6	4	2	4
R.A.F. (Heliopolis)	7	4	3	4
3rd Regiment, R.H.A...	10	4	6	4
11th Hussars, P.A.O.	6	3	3	3
7th Hussars	7	2	5	2
1st Battalion, Royal Tank Corps ..	8	2	6	2
1st Battalion, Essex Regiment ..	6	1	5	1
1st Battalion, Irish Guards	7	1	6	1
1st Battalion, Royal Northumberland Fusiliers	5	0	5	0

8th September.

Again we have to take the " Blue Book " from the top shelf, remove the dust from its pages, and turn the leaves very carefully until we find page —. Ah, here we are ! C.S.M. Hobby to R.Q.M.S. ; C.Q.M.S. Bremner to C.S.M. ; and Corporals Frarey, Singleton, Wagner, Williams and Wood to Lance Sergeant. Congratulations, everybody ! Promotion beer is cheap this week.

Holidays with Pay.—Will any Mess member at home, who is due to join us this trooper, and requires information regarding this Station, please write to Sergeant Stone, who will be pleased to help in any capacity.

Sport.—TENNIS.—May we respectfully refer our readers to the tailpiece of last month's notes. " By the time these notes are in print we hope to possess a few Unit champions." This should be amended to read : " We possess all the Unit champions." C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Homan and Lance Sergeant Hall come in for special congratulations having won between them the Handicap and Open Singles, and the Handicap and Open Doubles. Sergeant Stone, our third representative, contested the final of the Handicap Singles with Captain Sanders, the final of the Open Doubles with Mrs. Fee, the final of the Open Mixed, and winners of the Handicap Mixed. (For detailed results, see Unit Notes.)

Well done, everybody, but there is still the Senior Ranks League Championship to be won.

SENIOR RANKS LEAGUE.—Since our last notes we have played three more matches in this League, losing 4—5 to the Royal Engineers, and beating the R.A.S.C. (home and away) 7—2 and 6—3. By losing to the R.E.s we have practically forfeited our chance of becoming League champions this year, though we can still finish runners-up. So eyes down, boys. ENOS.

This is the racquet that caused the damage.

These are the players who wielded it.

Malta Signal Section.

Command Signal Office, Sda Torre, Valletta.

8th September.

General.—This is Malta calling! Our scribe left hurriedly for the Yorkshire cricket fields and thence to London, in order to assist in the selection of the team for Yorkshire *versus* the Australians in the final Test Match. You may have thought that things would automatically close down. But, lo and behold, here we are again! Who ever heard of that "Fella" Hutton? Apparently all true Yorkshiremen throughout the world know other Yorkshiremen. We must say that your cricketers are simply wonderful.

Major F. H. Bury is on a visit to Yugo-Slavia for a couple of months. We hope that he will have an enjoyable time.

As was mentioned in our August notes, we have been going to camp in twos and threes for a spot of leave by the sea. Most of us spent a very enjoyable and idle week on the beach, and returned rather regretfully. We must thank the R.E.s for a very pleasant camp. It certainly is much different from last year, when we were attached to a Battalion, and had to do Schemes.

Happy Returns.—Lieutenant T. de B. Miller and (F-of-S) Q.M.S. Goodridge are back in harness again after having been in hospital for a spell.

(F-of-S) C.Q.M.S. Holt is also back with us after a brief stay in hospital.

Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.—After eight months of waiting, a Fortress Order appeared, stating that His Excellency the Governor, General Sir Charles Bonham-Carter, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., would present the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to Sergeant Williams and Sergeant Cutler, after the church parade at Tigne, on Sunday, 21st August.

There were forty-eight of these medals presented on this parade. Is this a record?

Matches.—Signalman Burton O. was married to Miss Dorothy Elizabeth Brown at St. Barbara Church, Valletta, on 1st August. After the reception, the Section attended in order to wish them both the best of luck.

Hatches.—To Signalman and Mrs. Taylor, a son, Robin, at the Military Families Hospital, Imtarfa, on 26th July.

Despatches.—Signalman Watson A. leaves us on 18th September for Blighty, a Vocational Course and then "Civvy Street." Lucky blighter. What are you going to do then, Soapy?

Tennis.—Sergeant Purcell was the winner and Lance Corporal Beard the runner-up in the H.R.V. Williams Challenge Cup Competition.

CUT.

Malaya Signal Company.

Alexandra.

August.

General.—Once again we must apologise for the absence of notes last month, and excuse ourselves on the grounds of that "tid'apa" feeling, that one finds in all people who have been in this Colony for a long time.

Nothing of note has taken place since our last appearance in these columns. One minor Scheme was held, but had to be cancelled rather early in the proceedings—the enemy would not play ball, or something.

On Thursday, 25th August, the whole of the Company assembled at Alexandra for a Unit photograph. We hope to send one for publication next month. The proofs are to hand and everyone looks nice and happy.

The Bus Company now has competition to face in the shape of a new bus belonging to the R.A.O.C. We have not heard yet whether they propose to engage in mortal combat and run "buckshee" trips to town until one or the other withdraws—the place isn't big enough for both of them.

Old timers may be interested to note that we had the pleasure of seeing Bill Cotton in action against us last week, when he brought a team from the Naval Base to "Duff" the Signals up. He does not seem to have lost any of his old "dash." The result of the game was a draw.

We are all looking forward to the arrival of the new draft, which is expected on or about 14th October. Lots of us are interested in them because we see a happy release from this land of milk and honey (tinned milk and honey dished out by mosquitoes). Being of an optimistic nature, we anticipate being away soon after the reliefs arrive, but that remains to be seen.

The Unit has just completed a three weeks' Gas Course, under the able instruction of Lance Sergeant Walker.

Congratulations.—To Lance Corporal Willie Maddison on dispensing with the "U" and finding room for his name in the "Blue Book." Also to Lance Corporals Whitelaw E., Strong C., Smyth R. H., O'Callaghan J., Carter W., Peck F., Salisbury R. H. and Smith J. on their appointments.

Arrivals.—Corporal Sharpe J., Signalmen Ball J., Harris W. and McLennan S. J. from the U.K. We extend the usual greetings to all of them and hope they will like the Station. Jack has certainly taken well to "tops."

Moves.—There have been several amongst the linemen and a general reshuffle has resulted. Signalman Harris W. has proceeded to that island of bliss—Pulau Brani—to relieve the long-established "Ducky," who had become more or less an R.E. fixture over in that part of the world.

Lance Corporal Keeling and Signalman Ball have proceeded to Blakang Mati in order to relieve Lance Corporal Spriggs and Signalman Dickson, another two old stagers in island work. We hope the "work" done by "Alex" line section doesn't overwhelm you fellows out yonder. We recommend a strengthening piece in your shorts, because sitting down does wear them out.

Bits and Pieces.—Rhodsho, Kohat. "What about it, son; do you want a new nib? Mac."

Trev. and Bill, Karachi. "How about a line? Still same address. Bob."

Jock Campbell, Hong Kong. "The above goes for you, too. Slim."

Dixie, "A" Corps. "Due home 3rd December. Better get some straw to put in a sack as I'm coming to stay with you. P.D.I."

Dixie (Lagi). "Sama Sama, but tid'apa the straw; have my own barn fixed up. Slim."

H. Tyler, "E" Company. "Hold it, and will do the deed together Christmas Eve. 1674."

Copsey, Tientsin. "Has any more Trixie affairs developed up that way? You bad lad. Freddie, Singapore."

By the time these notes appear in the WIRE, our Joskin Chief will have finished his "Perfect Lover's Course" (with Guitar) under the able tutorship of "Robo."

During the next few days we shall see our gallant linemen wending their weary way over the jungle trails on bicycles in search of the ever-elusive faults. It is anticipated in certain circles that Uncle John and "Sailor" will be issued with tricycles.

Things We Want to Know.—Why does the Sultan of Faber remove his gas mask now and again? Why doesn't the Sultan of Faber give us a smile? S. A. B.

Somebody Stole My Girl.—That was bad enough, Fred, but when you had to pay 58 cents for a piece of wedding cake, it put the tin hat on it. When is the remainder of the cake coming ? Joskin II.

Why does Frankie wish to remain in Singapore another year ?

Late News.—Jordy, Bulford. " Good show, Jordy ! Reckon I know, too. Be pleased to see you again. L. L."

SLIM (R.H.S. II).

Hong Kong Signal Company.

Whitfield Barracks, Kowloon.

6th September.

General.—After a long break of over eighteen months we again appear in print, refusing to be outdone by our old friends at Tientsin. We hope in the future to publish items of interest concerning the work of the Unit, humorous tit-bits heard in various Sections, sport in the Company, and so on.

Since our last appearance in these columns, many changes have taken place. Lieutenant-Colonel E. P. C. Collin arrived from India in May to take over the duties of C.S.O. from Major J. C. McDonald. Our O.C. Company, Major E. Levett, has been with the Unit since last January. We hope that their stay in this Command will be a happy one. Captain K. E. Holmes, Officer i/c Line Section, will be leaving us shortly. We sincerely hope you have had an interesting stay, sir. Our best wishes go with you.

Lieutenant R. E. Crawford, who has been with the Unit for some time now, is an old hand who knows the ropes. He commands the Mobile Section. Lieutenant F. P. Rickard, Officer i/c Operating and D.R. Section, arrived at the commencement of the 1937-38 trooping season. We are proud to state that he has made many welcome changes in the organisation and administration of the Section.

The Company boasts of two Warrant Officers : C.S.M. Leath, who is due home this season, and Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Thorpe, who arrived on S.S. Rawalpindi in April, 1937. C.Q.M.S. Knox is our worthy " Quarter-bloke," and C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Bucke arrived on the Rawalpindi in June, 1938.

Departures.—Watch this heading from November to April.

Congratulations.—To Lance Sergeant Swift, late of Sarafand, and Corporal Lancaster of " Punki " fame, on the award of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. Also to Signalman Griffiths, who put up such a good fight for his First Class Certificate of Education. He obtained a " D " in all subjects.

Courses.—The first of the three B.II Courses for operators has finished, and the second is progressing favourably. We tender our congratulations to all those who passed the trade tests, and also to the linemen who passed their C.II rating.

Hong Kong Whispers.—Which dark-skinned D.R. propped up his bike when he arrived at a dangerous corner and junction of roads, and then walked forward to ascertain whether the road was clear ?

What is (1) Huckleberry, (2) Goon, (3) Whimp ?

Which N.C.O. was discovered trying to throw electrons through a solenoid ?

Which operator, working on the Aldershot group, professed ignorance of the signal $\overline{N}$?

Hong Kong.—To quote the Yanks, " Hong Kong is the hub of the Orient," but do not let them mislead you. From a soldier's point of view, Hong Kong has much to offer in the way of sports, dancing, etc., but first something about Hong Kong itself.

The City of Victoria, which is, incidentally, the capital of the Colony, is situated on the island, and the town of Kowloon is situated on the mainland—or Kowloon Peninsula as it is generally known. There is the well-known Chinese district, which, by the way, was reclaimed from the sea, and is called Wan Chai. Here we find the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home and the China Fleet Club, both situated on the outskirts, and only a stone's throw from the harbour.

Scattered around the Island are numerous small, but picturesque villages, some smelly, others not so bad. On the mainland, where we are stationed, there is plenty of scope for travelling, and there are many interesting sights to be seen. For special mention is the old Kowloon City, with its age-old battlements, crumbling walls and ancient guns. A visit to the Chinese graves is worth while.

So much for this brief description of the Colony. Now for sports and other types of amusements. The Unit maintains a team, sometimes two, for cricket, football, hockey, swimming and tennis, not forgetting snooker and billiards. Baseball, in relation to the other Unit sports, is still a puppy, but we hope in the near future to arouse the enthusiasm and interest of the whole Company.

Besides Unit sports, it is possible to branch out independently if so desired. Anglers will find plenty of scope and many sympathisers amongst the Unit. Needless to state, keen photographers come into their own when they reach Hong Kong. One look at the sheer splendour of the rugged mountains, and their fingers itch for the feel of a good camera.

There is plenty of dancing to be had for the restless. Men due for Hong Kong will find the hotels and clubs good and suited to their pockets. There are eight dance halls with taxi dancers, a racket imported from America.

For the motion picture fans, the Colony has seven cinemas, easily accessible from barracks. On the whole, a jolly good time can be had in Hong Kong.

The Colony, and also the Unit, has its advantages and disadvantages, but men coming here next trooper need not feel discouraged for the Station is definitely better than the burning plains of " Punki."

Work of the Unit.—Fortification work, which has been speeded up in the past, has provided much work for the construction party. This, in turn, keeps the maintenance party busy. The island and mainland are covered with a vast network of military communications, mainly telephones. Linemen will find plenty of interesting work to do.

As regards the Operating Section, live traffic is handled daily. The Command Signal Office is open continuously.

These notes should convey to readers that higher ratings can be obtained, provided the individual is efficient at his particular trade. Regular shifts are in force throughout the Unit in all trades.

It is possible that operators do become downhearted after a tedious four hours on the Set when Aldershot is $\overline{N}$. Linemen have been known to tear their hair out in handfulls and scream oaths at the Chinese coolies, and maybe the Mobile Section does arrive at its destination in the blue only to find that they forgot to bring the Stewart-Turner, but it's all in the day's work. Perhaps it is the sun ?

We must not forget H.Q. Section, who are responsible for keeping the offices in trim, and whose duties keep them tapping away all day on their typewriters. There is a very efficient staff in the Workshops. Yes, we have some dashing D.R.s, too. Picture them during the rush hours, twisting and turning through roads packed with thousands of Chinese, in blazing sunlight, monotonous tropical rain, or a thick blanket of snow. We hope our descriptive efforts are correct.

One Last Grip.—Exchange and Mart. Pen pals wanted. Exchange good " grips " on Sino-Japanese War with decent " grips " on the international situation.

B. V. P.

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 426.

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, Westminster, S.W.1.

16th September.

Annual Training, 1938.—Our annual training is now a thing of the past, but the memories of good companionship and a job of work well done still linger with us. From the most important angle, that of training, it was an undoubted success, and the fact that the two Companies were divided during most of the period added problems and difficulties which tested, very thoroughly, the resourcefulness and ingenuity of all ranks.

The main Scheme took place during the two days "Air War," as the popular press so graphically described it; the remainder of the time was spent in laying and recovering the necessary air-line, and training the operative personnel. For this purpose, the two Companies separated, No. 1 going to Fort Tilbury, and No. 2 to Fort Luton, Chatham.

Everyone settled down quickly, and although many of the men were attending their first camp, they soon became used to the routine, and after a few days of glorious sunshine, had the complexions and appetites of seasoned campaigners. Valuable work by the advance parties at both camps contributed to this very good commencement.

The country over which our lines were laid and operated was entirely new, but, in spite of this fact, every man in the Construction Sections worked well, often in very trying circumstances. Just imagine laying air-line across the Rochester Way on a Bank Holiday! This was successfully accomplished by one party, and the efforts of the others were equally as praiseworthy.

Enthusiasm will overcome most difficulties, and, as we had our full share of them, the result was that everything was ready and tested out well before the start of the Operations on Friday, 5th August. The operating personnel then came into action and worked right through in four and eight hour watches. We were pleased to welcome our friend, Dr. M. Hart, who, in his inimitable style, gave advice and issued orders.

The result of the intensive training, which had been going on during the earlier part of the week whilst the air-line parties were out, was excellent. Each man tackled his job with a will, and, after a few hitches, inevitable in an experiment of this nature, adjusted himself to his individual task and has, we hope, enabled another link to be forged in the chain of this country's defences.

On the Saturday evening, whilst the Operations were in progress, No. 2 Company were honoured by a visit from the War Minister, the Right Hon. Leslie Hore-Belisha, accompanied by Major-General L. R. Hill, O.B.E., who inspected the Operations Room camp and equipment. The Operations Rooms were inspected during the Air Exercises by our Divisional General, Major-General Sir Frederick A. Pile, Bart., C.B., M.C., and staff; Lieutenant-General A. F. Brooke, C.B., D.S.O., Corps Commander, Anti-Aircraft and staff; Brigadier K. M. Loch, M.C., War Office, and many other staff officers and Group Commanders also inspected the work, and our Commanding Officer spent a most energetic time travelling between Chatham and Tilbury.

At the termination of the Exercise, twenty-four hours' leave was granted to all ranks, and most of us spent this in making up arrears of sleep. Normal training now proceeded, and also the recovery of lines and stores.

The Inter-Company cricket match was played, resulting in a most convincing win for No. 2 Company. A route march for the recruits at Chatham was carried out without mishap, and preparations were completed for the transfer of the two Companies to the combined camp at Shoeburyness. Although this took place in the worst conditions imaginable, and a complete downpour of rain which lasted throughout the day damped our ardours a little, the operation was completed without a hitch, and everyone looked forward to the remaining items on the programme—the Tabloid Sports for Inter-Section honours, and the Unit Sports, all of which took place on the Garrison Cricket Ground, with the kind permission of the Commandant, Colonel A. D. Curtis, R.A.

"A" Section won the Tabloid Sports Cup without the loss of a mark, which was, undoubtedly, a grand performance, but they did not achieve this without some keen competition.

Sports Day was a very successful and happy affair. Every event was keenly contested, and some of the results were very close. The presence of many friends and families gave the show an air of gaiety and cheerfulness, which must have had some effect on the weather, as we completely escaped a very severe storm which broke over Southend and the surrounding country.

No. 2 Company won the Inter-Company Sports Cup with 23 points to the 11 gained by No. 1 Company, and, judging from results, it was certainly their day out, but No. 1, who have some useful material to work on, will have their revenge some day.

The prizes were presented by Mrs. M. Wickins, wife of the Commanding Officer. Mrs. Wickins was presented with a bouquet by Miss Margaret Holt. Major G. J. Morley Peel, M.B.E., T.D., proposed a vote of thanks to her, and Colonel G. C. Wickins, T.D., thanked the organisers.

The officials were—Referee, Lieutenant-Colonel (Brevet Colonel) G. C. Wickins, T.D.; Starter, Major G. J. Morley Peel, M.B.E., T.D.; Chief Clerk of the Course, Major A. Hemsley, T.D.; Track Judges, Captain (Brevet Major) A. H. Croucher and 2nd Lieutenant A. C. Pitcairn; Field Event Judges, 2nd Lieutenants J. L. Simpson and E. F. F. White, C.S.M.s Whittingham L. A. and Creighton F. O.; Marksmen, Sergeant Ward T. J. and Corporal Lee G. H.; Competitors' Steward, Lieutenant A. P. Jack; Prize Steward, Sergeant Madeley H.; Organisers, Lieutenants G. H. T. Shrimpton and D. C. Blair.

100 YARDS.—1, Lieutenant Blair; 2, Signalman Hinde J.; 3, Signalman Abbott.

THREE-LEGGED RACE.—1, Corporal Fitzgerald and Signalman Lansdell; 2, Signalmen Story and Kellard; 3, Corporal Stanley and Signalman J. Poole.

HIGH JUMP.—1, Signalman Wallace; 2, Signalman Perry. (Height, 4ft. 8in.)

440 YARDS OPEN.—1, Gunner Genner (3rd Medium Brigade); 2, Lieutenant Blair; 3, Signalman Deadman.

PUTTING THE SHOT.—1, Signalman Perry; 2, Corporal Fitzgerald; 3, Lieutenant Blair.

BLINDFOLD WRESTLING.—Signalmen Lansdell and Coan.

DRESS RACE.—1, Signalman Lansdell; 2, Sergeant Dawney, R.A.

OFFICERS' RACE.—1, Lieutenant Blair; 2, Lieutenant Gibbs; 3, Major Hemsley.

ONE MILE.—1, Signalman Phillips; 2, Signalman Syer; 3, Signalman Kellard.

INTER-COMPANY 100 YARDS.—1, Lieutenant Blair (No. 2 Company); 2, Lance Corporal Hinde (No. 1 Company); 3, Corporal Fitzgerald (No. 1 Company).

VETERANS' RACE.—1, Signalman Shipton; 2, Sergeant Price H. E. J.; 3, Sergeant Forster.

INTER-COMPANY 220 YARDS.—1, Lieutenant Blair (No. 2 Compant); 2, Signalman Deadman (No. 1 Company); 3, Signalman Wallace (No. 1 Company).

220 YARDS.—1, Signalman Morgan; 2, Signalman Hinde J.; 3, Signalman Abbott.

OBSTACLE RACE.—1, Signalman Lansdell; 2, Signalman Rosseau; 3, Signalman Beale.

INTER-COMPANY TUG-OF-WAR.—No. 2 Company.

INTER-SECTION RELAY.—1, "E" Section; 2, "A" Section, 3, "G" Section.

The concluding event, namely the Ceremonial Parade and C.O.'s Inspection, took place on the Garrison Parade Ground on the Saturday morning. It was with a tinge of sadness that we remembered it would be the last time that our Commanding Officer, Colonel G. C. Wickins, would carry out this duty. He leaves us at the end of the year on completion of his Service,

and we shall miss him greatly. The Drill Competition followed immediately afterwards and was won in good style by " G " Section.

This account would not be complete without reference to our Adjutant and the Permanent Staff. Their guidance and forethought helped us in no small measure, and was greatly appreciated. This is a fitting opportunity to congratulate one of them, Sergeant Garner, who was married recently. We wish the newly-weds long life and happiness.

A. A.

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals Cadet Company.

This year the Cadet Company went into camp at Swanley, near Eastchurch, Isle of Sheppey, Kent, where everyone had an enjoyable time. Visits were paid to a Searchlight Battery of the Regular Army, to Eastchurch Aerodrome, and to a number of other interesting places.

The Cadet Company made history, inasmuch as it seems to have been the first time that the Scottish uniform has been seen in these parts.

The Cadets were keen to go on Guard, and this enthusiasm meant hard work. Their efforts as sentries were exceptionally good, and merited praise.

Opportunities were found for sightseeing, and to visit places of interest in the neighbourhood, notably Sheerness, Minster and Sittingbourne.

Two of our Cadets have joined the Royal Air Force, and we wish them all the best in their new careers.

Our record for patriotic service, despite the fact that we have only been going eight months, is quite good : one to the Regular Army, one to the Supplementary Reserve, five to the Territorial Army, and two to the R.A.F. In addition, two have joined O.T.C. Contingents at their Secondary schools. The Company Commander wishes it to be known that he has no intention of sending boys to Shanghai or Tientsin, but only to give the Cadets a thorough training such as will fit them to be good citizens.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT SCOTTIE.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

The Priory, Exeter.
14th September.

Editorial.—The past month has been chiefly devoted to leave, checking of stores after camp, and the preliminary steps in connection with the programme for the forthcoming individual training season.

Results should be good at the trade tests next year, having regard to the large number of recruits enlisted during the past year and the keenness which was so apparent at camp.

Congratulations.—We offer our heartiest greetings to Major A. F. S. Fane, on obtaining his majority.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

York Street Drill Hall, Devonport.
12th September.

This month has been a quiet one ; it usually is after camp. Stores have been handed in, and plans are being drawn up for the beginning of individual training in October.

"A" Section, claiming need for greater space for their new boxes of tricks, have demanded a larger room in which to play. " D " Section, filled with a praiseworthy concessionary attitude, have ceded to them half their " suite " in exchange for a very undersized room. The P.S.I., we understand, now holds undisputed sway in the armoury, a peaceful settlement of this disputed territory having been arrived at.

The month has been noticeable for recruiting activity, and we are glad to have enlisted two more brothers of members of the Company, which shows that some men, at any rate, have carried back good reports of camp to their homes. Meanwhile, two men have left us for the Regular services : Signalman Collins W. R. for the Royal Navy and Signalman Brookshaw J. C. for the Devonshire Regiment. Good luck to them.

Birth.—The Company congratulates C.S.M. and Mrs. Scott on being presented with a daughter on 5th September. This brings the P.S.I.'s family up to a total of three—two boys and a girl.

ONECOY.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham, 28.

When Major James publishes his second volume of the history of the Unit, " Windmill Hill Camp, 1938," it will surely form a chapter in itself as being the first occasion on which this Unit has functioned as a complete Divisional Signals Unit, for a Skeleton Exercise, and that with very marked success. Here is, briefly, the story of the occasion.

During the latter stages, training in barracks had become somewhat disorganised by last minute changes in establishments, which necessitated hurried alterations in the personnel of Sections, and it was virtually not until the Sections found themselves in camp that they were able to allot their men to their respective duties in reliefs. However, everyone rose to the importance of the occasion, and after the first few days it was possible to face the prospects with some confidence. This confidence was soon justified in a preliminary try-out Exercise, set as a dress rehearsal by the G.O.C., 3rd Division, in which most of the Staff also participated. This took place on the Friday in the Salisbury Plain Area. The Exercise revealed, as it was intended to do, some of the weaker points in the working, both on the Staff and Communication sides, but, on the whole, it worked very successfully.

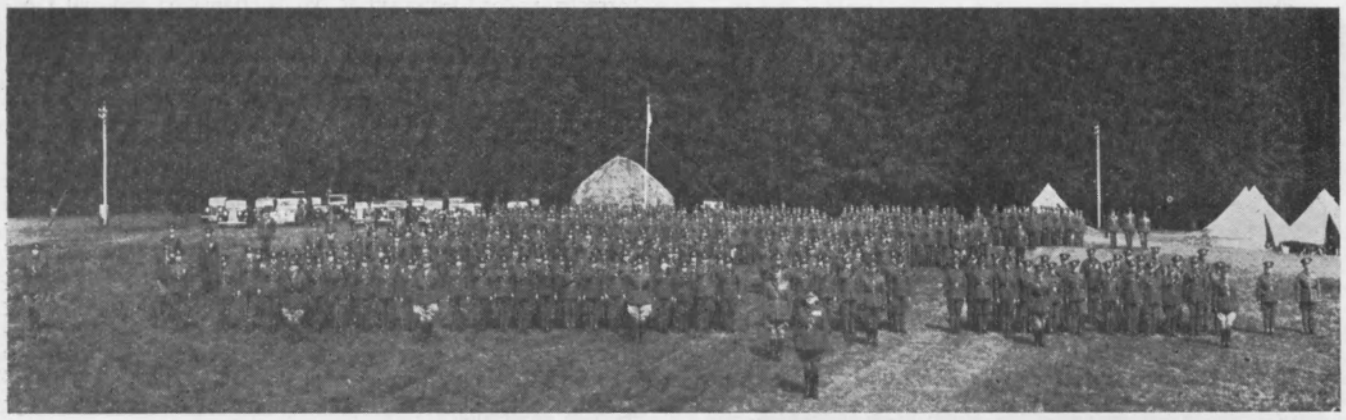
Having passed our " L " Test, the short remaining period was occupied in final preparation. In the meantime, " B " Cable Section, with a stiffening supplied by the 3rd Division, repaired to the Exercise Area to lay the main arteries of their sixty miles of line.

On the Saturday, the camp was visited by the Hon. Colonel, Brigadier-General R. McCalmont, C.V.O., D.S.O., and the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, the latter completing his tour of all the Birmingham Territorial Units at their various camps. After the parade and inspection, our visitors had the opportunity of witnessing the finals of the McCalmont Cup Competition for Inter-Section Drill and Turn-out. The Cup was won by " K " Section, and was presented to the Officer i/c Section, Lieutenant P. W. Malins, by the donor. This was followed by a fifteen-minutes' display by the D.R. team, which greatly impressed both the Lord Mayor and the Hon. Colonel, the latter taking the salute in the final ride past. After this there was an exhibition by " B " Cable Section of cable-laying by means of their new mechanised layers. A boxing contest was held on the Friday and also witnessed by the Lord Mayor.

On Sunday, divine service was held, again attended by the Hon. Colonel, Brigadier-General R. McCalmont, the Lord Mayor, and also Colonel J. W. Danielsen, D.S.O., T.D., and a number of other visiting officers. The service, which was conducted by Rev. D. Barton, was the first occasion for many years that we have been privileged to have an Army Chaplain with us throughout camp. We hope that he liked his stay amongst us, as much as we enjoyed his company, and that we shall have the pleasure of welcoming him again in future years.

During the week there were several " Sing Song " concerts held in the evenings in the Canteen, under the direction of R.Q.M.S. Barlow.

Monday morning saw the final preparations for the move into "Active Service." The first convoys moved off before 11 o'clock, followed at intervals by the remaining Sections. From now on we became, for the purposes of the Scheme, the 3rd (Government) Divisional Signals, at war with Insurgent Forces. The preliminary destination was a field in the Yeovil Area. The Scheme proper, not being due to commence until midday on Tuesday, the troops received some respite, and were allowed out of camp for a short while in the evening. After a good



The Unit on Parade headed by the Honorary Colonel. Windmill Hill Camp, 1938.

night's rest, the Sections, with exception of the Divisional H.Q., moved into their positions in the forward area, which lay along a line Honiton to Taunton, and the " war " (forty-eight hours duration) commenced. For the first twelve hours, the communications depended entirely upon wireless and D.R. Towards nightfall, Operation Orders were out, and moves among the forward Brigades became frequent and their location became more difficult to establish. The Scheme represented a withdrawal, and it was not until the night of Wednesday that Divisional H.Q. and Staff moved, retiring about twelve miles to a farmstead near Bruton. The move, made under cover of darkness, provided the indomitable Lieutenant Cartland, the Camp Commandant, with many problems with which he dealt in his energetic manner, which permitted of no argument whatever.

At about 11 o'clock on Thursday, the last Operation Orders came out, and the " G. Beer " was sent. The tension relaxed, and the Exercise was over. The experiment proved a hard test for everyone concerned, as well as a rather tough time, but everyone emerged happy in the knowledge of a job well done, and the prospects of a speedy return to the more comfortable amenities of Windmill Hill Camp. All Sections, with the exception of " B " Cable, returned the same afternoon. Cable, as is their wont, still had the " washing up " to do, viz., to reel in their many miles of line, a task which they accomplished in record time, and were able to report back to Camp with the job done on Saturday morning. For the remaining two days, there was little that could be done except the inevitable packing up and checking of stores. On the last C.O.'s Parade in camp, the Commanding Officer was able to tell the Unit that the Exercise had been a complete success, and to read a letter from the G.O.C. expressing his satisfaction and thanks for the work done by the Unit.

The return to Birmingham of the main body took place by train on Saturday night, arriving in barracks in time for breakfast. Then the final C.O.'s Parade, at which the T.A. Efficiency Medal was presented to Signalman Meredith, D.C.M., followed by " Fall out the Officers," and " Dismiss."

Inter Alia.—We would like to take this opportunity of congratulating our Commanding Officer upon being awarded the Territorial Efficiency Decoration

We were pleased to meet our old friend F. C. Terry, who was, some years ago, a Sergeant in our Unit. He is now a Wireless Operator in the R.A.F., and is stationed at Old Sarum. He was out on the Exercise with his R.T. tender in connection with the Army Co-operation Planes.

The Annual Concert and Prize-giving will be held on 8th October.

Start of Despatch Riders on return journey from Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds, 17th July.

The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel P. H. Jones, M.C., T.D., with the Lord Mayor of Birmingham. Windmill Hill Camp, 1938.

Sergeants' Mess Notes.—Owing to the short period spent actually in camp, it was impossible to organise any social functions, and even the traditional " Officers' Night " had to be cancelled. On the last Friday, a large party from the Mess visited the 3rd Divisional Signals Mess at Bulford Camp, where, by all accounts, they were entertained in the usual hearty manner. The " bone of contention," contrary to tradition (or was it a mistake), has unaccountably found its way back to us for another year's tour.

The members of the Mess would like to record their appreciation of the work performed in their interests during the Exercise by R.S.M. Herbert and R.Q.M.S. Adcock, in running the Mess at Division H.Q. The really admirable Mess and the excellent catering arrangements they produced greatly added to our comfort and enjoyment.

On the occasion of the Lord Mayor's visit, he found time to visit the Sergeants' Mess, where he was made very welcome, and later we had the privilege of drinking his health at his expense. The Lord Mayor, Councillor Canning, has done a great deal to further the interests of the Territorial Army, and has freely used his influence in enlisting the co-operation of employers in securing leave for camp. He was very shocked to find that even so, about forty members of the Unit were due to return to Birmingham after the first week, and promised to do all he could to investigate the cases in question.

The social season in barracks opens with a dance on 17th September, followed by the Members' Dinner on 22nd October, and social functions in every month until April, 1939.

Despatch Riders' Notes.—The Despatch Riders were faced with a heavy responsibility during the Skeleton Exercise, but full advantage had been taken during the short training in barracks, under Lieutenant R. W. N. Danielsen and 2nd Lieutenant J. F. Timings, to impress them with the importance of their duties, and they were thus fully prepared to tackle the job. After the departure of the leave men, only twenty D.R.s remained, and for the Scheme these were reinforced by ten D.R.s from the 3rd Division, under Corporal Pullen and Lance Corporal Waite. The work of the D.R.s during the Exercise earned them well-merited praise from the Commanding Officer.

The call to produce a short display for the Lord Mayor's visit took the team rather by surprise, as no equipment had been brought to camp, but after a hurried rehearsal, during which the Pyramid, for no apparent reason, went on a private tour of the camps, the only flat piece of ground in the camp was discovered, and the Display team had the honour for the first time of performing before an audience which included the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, the Hon. Colonel, D.C.S.O., Colonel M. E. Holdsworth, T.D., the Commanding Officer and the entire Unit. The display included a figure ride and some trick riding, and, judging from the applause and comments heard afterwards, it retained its high reputation.

An item of pre-camp activity which is worthy of mention was the visit of the Display team to witness the Northern Command Tattoo, when about sixteen members journeyed to Leeds on 16th July. Unfortunately, the weather was abominable, for it rained during the whole journey and throughout the Tattoo. Much to our disappointment, the Royal Signals Display had to be abandoned. Nevertheless, we had the consolation of being most agreeably entertained to tea at Gibraltar Barracks by the D.R.s of the 49th Divisional Signals, who also organised the transport and accompanied us to the Tattoo. We greatly welcomed this opportunity of visiting the members of a sister Unit, and were pleased to learn that they have an active D.R. Club and propose starting a display team. The return to Birmingham on Sunday was made in much more pleasant circumstances, and we were conducted for part of the way by members of the Leeds D.R.s.

At the time of writing there are still two more displays in the offing. The first at Tamworth Carnival, on 3rd September, the second at Perry Barr Stadium. The Display Dinner is scheduled for 15th October, when we hope to welcome our many friends of rival teams. With the display season over, the time of trials (and tribulations) will be at hand, but of this more anon.

Congratulations to Lance Corporal Smith upon his appointment and upon winning the Smallwood Cup for the best D.R., and to Lance Sergeant Pullen, of 3rd Divisional Signals, on his appointment.

Congratulations to Signalman Cotton W. upon his marriage on 10th September. We wish him and Mrs. Cotton the best of luck, and married bliss.

A BALLAD WITHOUT BAFFLES.

(By an Unknown Poet)

When I'm a Don R. I will travel flat out—
Let the R.S.M. rave and the Adjutant shout,
For the noise that I make is much louder no doubt ;
I will give them the works when I'm a Don R.

When I ride at Displays I will stand on my head,
And make all the girls dream about me, in bed ;
When tired of this I will paint the town red ;
You have to be tough to be a Don R.

When I'm a Don R. I will never agree
That my engine will motor as far on grade three,
Just in case they might give me a gallon buckshee ;
I'll play the old soldier when I'm a Don R.

When I'm a Don R. I will never break down,
Not even if my mount's only worth half-a-crown
(Except, p,raps, at the opening time in the town) ;
I'll always be truthful when I'm a Don R.

When I'm a Don R. I will always get there,
For at reading a map there is none can compare,
But in any case signposts are found everywhere ;
So I'll never get lost when I'm a Don R.

When I'm a Don R. just watch my turn out,
All spots on my breeches I'll quickly rub out
(Its easy with so much free petrol about) ;
I'll never look scruffy as other blokes are.

If I'm lost in a fog or get stuck in the mire ;
I'm late for reveille, and the fat's in the fire ;
I'll just send dear Sergeant-Major a wire,
"Please save me a dinner, yours truly, Don R."

If you doubt what I say, or think it's all cant,
Just ask " Hooky " Walker or C.S.M. Sant ;
And if they won't tell you, then the Camp Commandant ;
And when you recover, I'll be found in the bar.

A Thing We'd Like to Know.—If the officer's nightshirt arrived safely in response to a fifty-word S.O.S. telegram ; and what happened to the soda syphon ?

GETCHER

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals, T.A. and Air Formation Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds.

13th September.

General.—Having given us time to get a fresh grip on our civilian jobs after annual training, the powers-that-be have organised a series of classes which are guaranteed to keep most of the Unit busy until the end of the year.

An Officers' Promotion Course is now in progress, and, commencing in October, there will be a Course for operators, and also a Driving Course for driver operators, which will last until December.

An interesting event, promoted by this Unit, takes place on Sunday, 2nd October ; it is a Despatch Riders' Trial, and Lieutenant M. E. Dixon is responsible for the arrangements. The country chosen is the North Derbyshire Area, the start and finish being at Blue Stoops Inn, Walton, Chesterfield. Thirteen Units have been invited to take part, amongst them being seven Divisional Signal Units and the A.A.R.E. Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. Jackson, M.C., T.D., hopes that this event will help to create interest, and, if a success, the idea will be extended. We are all in favour, for we all know how useful D.R.s can be.

Social.—Early in September, "A" Section were invited to supper, given by Lieutenant J. O. Crabtree at the Guildford Hotel, Leeds. Captain C. Bray and Lieutenant M. R. Bigland were present and the Section had an opportunity of wishing T/C.S.M. Brewster, P.S.I., the best of luck when he leaves the " 49th " in November for India. Captain Bray, in his speech, thanked C.S.M. Brewster for his splendid work with No. 1 Company, and on behalf of "A" Section, presented him with a suitably engraved cigarette case.

"A" Section had a pleasant surprise for Lieutenant Crabtree, when C.S.M. Brewster presented him with a cigarette box engraved in honour of his forthcoming marriage. The marriage between Lieutenant J. O. Crabtree and Miss N. Robins takes place in Harrogate on 17th September. All officers of the Unit are invited. The other ranks wish the happy pair the best of health and luck. "A" Section whispers quietly, " Soldier on."

We are glad to learn that ex-R.S.M. Pillinger has settled down in civilian life. His address is No. 2, Barnby Avenue, Fulford, York, and we hope that he will not forget the address of this Unit.

The Air Formation Signals are now at Ampthill for their annual training ; next month, no doubt, they will be able to give us more details.

A. Q. U. A.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

Training.—Annual camp is already relegated to the past. Successful from a business point of view without a doubt, but—Shilbottle Camp was such a long way from Shilbottle, and Shilbottle was such a long, long way from anywhere. Then we had rain in plenty, and a gentle summer zephyr, which, incidentally, provided something new in excuses for one individual in the Unit. When asked to account for the absence of letters, he replied to the effect that the gale had blown his tent away into the North Sea, six miles away, and that he had been out for two days trying to get it back. Not bad !

Trophies.—No. 3 Company was, naturally, elated to be able to relieve Nos. 1 and 2 Companies of their silver. A good show, but, not being " pot hunters," we say, " Come back next year, and take them from us." The motto is : " The Unit and three first-class Companies."

And there was a popular win in the Sergeants' Mess. The winner of that trophy worked by day and also by night.

Recruits.—A special word of praise is due to this year's recruits. They stuck it manfully, both at work and play. To many it was their first taste of camp life, and they showed of what good material they were made, in such adverse circumstances. Good work, boys ! You will, we feel sure, endorse a word of thanks on your behalf to C.S.M.s Woodcock, Widgery and Reat ; also to Sergeants Cummings and Ridley of 5th Divisional Signals.

Personnel.—Our heartiest congratulations are extended to Captain B. Minor on his attainment of that rank.

To Sergeant Goodman on his runaway victory in the " Stringer Competition." Er—" runaway " is the right word, isn't it, Widge ? Got many drills in for next year's effort, Les ?

To Corporals Bradford, Hughes, Lance Corporals Waugh and Lightbody on their respective climbs towards Field-Marshal's status.

To Sergeant " Jimmy " Reid for saving with one hand the Q.M. Stores in the great gale. Is he another " Pop Eye " ?

There were other heroes in that gale. For instance, it became necessary to save the beer from disaster. The beer was good. The heroes were many !

Last, but not least, to R.S.M. Norcross, M.B.E. Your first year with us, both on and off duty, will always be a happy memory. Will you please note, sir, that many encores to " Two little fingers " will be looked for from you !

Ex-Sergeant Clark T.—It is with regret that we hear of your illness, Nobby. May you soon be restored to good health, and join us in all our social events. A welcome will always await you.

Conclusion.—May the scribe be forgiven, but there is something in the new Drill Hall yarn after all. Well, look at that board in the field for yourselves.

THREECOY.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Fonthill Barracks, Aberdeen.

General.—With annual training only a pleasant memory and the " mopping process " almost completed, we have been able to give some attention to winter sports and recreations, concerning which more appears under their appropriate headings.

On looking back, we find that no mention was made of an extremely successful Despatch Riders' concentration which was held during the week-end, Saturday and Sunday, 25th and 26th June. Nos. 2 and 3 Companies co-operated by sending their D.R.s, and a very enjoyable time was spent by all in the Fettercairn district.

Although the district chosen included a very tricky run over the Cairn o' Mount (which had to be negotiated in the dark), all despatches were delivered to their respective addresses well within the time limit. The Scheme ended at 1.30 a.m. and was followed by a hearty supper, and then bed.

Sunday was devoted to motor cycle maintenance, and a gymkhana, where prizes were presented for skill in riding. The standard set was very good, and all prizes were keenly contested. Prize winners were as follows : BENDING RACE : 1, Lieutenant W. A. Biggar ; 2, Signalman Caddies. POTATO RACE : 1, Signalman McLennan ; 2, Sergeant Beattie.

A "D" Section office relief of 51st (Highland) Divisional Signals opening an office for H.Q., 1st Division, during the Aldershot Command Signal Exercise.

Winter Recreations.—A well-attended sports meeting was held in Fonthill Barracks on Tuesday, 30th August, when committees were elected for the following sports and recreations: football, badminton, miniature rifle, boxing and P.T., winter dances.

The football team have already played their first league match, which resulted in a win by 5—4, against Alco Thistle.

Meetings are being held almost nightly by the different committees in connection with their particular department, and we are expecting several Cups, etc., to result from the winter activities.

Training.—Winter classes for operator signals and linemen are due to commence in Aberdeen on 4th October, and, judging by the numerous applications already received from enthusiastic recruits and trained men, a record attendance is expected.

The accompanying photographs were taken during the Unit's annual training at Bourley Camp, Aldershot, 1938.

ONECOY.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

12th September.

Annual Training.—Another camp is a thing of the past, and to judge by the general remarks of the Company, everyone is glad to be back in Bonnie Scotland. Our activities at Aldershot were fully reported in last month's WIRE, but there are one or two small points further to report.

We should like to congratulate the following on being presented with their Territorial Efficiency Medals by Colonel C. W. Fladgate, C.S.O., Aldershot Command, after the church parade on Sunday, 17th July: Sergeants Ging J., Lyon J., Lance Sergeant Malley W., Lance Corporal Coyne T. and Signalman McLachlan J. Colonel Fladgate, before presenting the medals, addresses the Unit concerning our activities in the Aldershot Command Skeleton Exercise.

The few Englishmen in the Unit would like to offer their thanks to the clerk of the weather for turning on such a grand "Scotch mist" on Friday the 15th, which enabled the remainder of the Unit to feel quite at home, and made the work more agreeable to them.

OFFICERS AND THEIR GUESTS LISTENING TO THE PIPE BAND

Left to right: Lieutenant J. Gray, Colonel E. Birnie Reid, General Sir Walter M. St. G. Kirke, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Captain A. T. Wood, Lieutenant-Colonel A. L. Collier M.C.

Winter Training.—Preparations are in hand for Winter Courses, and it is hoped that seekers of knowledge will attend in large numbers, as they did last year. More of this anon.

Inspections.—On Thursday, 8th September, we had our Annual Administrative Inspection.

Congratulations.—We offer our heartiest congratulations to 2nd Lieutenant John McLaren on obtaining a satisfactory report from Catterick after attending the Young Officers' Course.

We offer our congratulations to C.S.M. Todd on making such an excellent recovery from his serious illness. It is grand to see him about the hall again.

TWUCO.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

13th September.

General.—We apologise for the absence of notes for the past three months. We excuse ourselves on the ground of pressure of work prior to proceeding on annual camp training.

Our adventures at Aldershot have already been covered by notes from the Unit in the last issue of the WIRE, and there is little we can add except to say that it was a most instructive period for the Infantry Brigade Sections of this Company. We certainly learned what is really expected of these Sections in the field, although the Cable Detachments must not get the impression that their task would be quite so easy.

It should be remembered that the Exercises were supposed to be " Skeleton " (?) ones, a fact which indicates that lines between Brigade Headquarters and Divisional Headquarters were dispensed with more than they normally would have been, and, as a result, these Detachments found time hanging rather heavily on their hands.

The Wireless Detachments, Despatch Riders, Counter Clerks and Superintendents, however, found their duties a full-time job, realising that it is experience which counts. They will, doubtless, take every opportunity to attend all the Company Signal Traffic Schemes in the future ; we hope so, at any rate.

The Company emerged from its tests with great credit, setting a standard that future members of the Company will have to work hard to emulate ; it will mean regular attendance and assiduous study on the part of the present members to maintain that standard.

Social.—We are looking forward hopefully to the coming season, and trust that it will prove better than previous ones. Soon the Badminton and Rifle Clubs will be in full swing, and the dance committee at work making out their programme for the winter. Remember, chaps ; these are your functions, and it is entirely up to you to make them the success they ought to be.

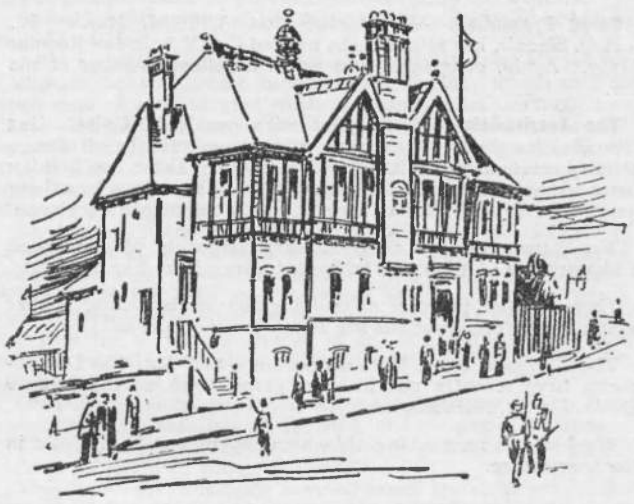
Recruiting.—Recruiting at present is rather quiet, but as our principal methods of advertisement are the functions already mentioned, it is hoped that we shall soon have newcomers coming along. Present members of the Company should bring along their friends to attend the social activities of the Company, and see what can be got out of being a member of a T.A. Signal Unit. Potential recruits are welcomed and will be given all particulars. We have been given permission to recruit twenty per cent. over peace Establishment, so there are plenty of vacancies for the right type.

Training.—Winter (Paid) Courses will be starting soon, and excellent opportunities will be provided for learners this season. Present members will get an opportunity (never before provided) of learning to drive a car or ride a motor cycle. This depends, of course, upon whether we get that elusive 30-cwt. lorry and 8-cwt. wireless truck.

Congratulations.—Congratulations to Lieutenants D. L. Campbell and W. G. Mitchell, Sergeants Mitchell J. and Brewster D. on their recent promotion to those ranks, and to all the other N.C.O.s who went up one, prior to proceeding to camp. There are more promotions in the offing, the powers-that-be have again altered our Establishment, so get down to it, you Juniors. Congratulations to Lieutenant A. Fraser on his complete recovery from an operation for appendicitis. Sorry you missed the camp, sir ; we missed you, too.

Obituary.—We deeply regret to announce the death of Signalman James Wallace at Cambridge Hospital, Aldershot, from septicæmia. He was a promising lad—a recruit of four months' service. He was buried at Kirkcaldy. A bearer party was provided by the Company, which turned out sixty strong to attend the funeral on the Sunday that we returned from camp. Pipe Major Brand led the cortege playing his pipes. At the end of the funeral service he played the lament. We extend our deepest sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Wallace and family in their bereavement.

THREECOY.



52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals and G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

21, Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

McQuarrie Moves.—Sergeant John McQuarrie has been promoted to Company Sergeant-Major of No. 1 G.H.Q. Signal Company. We are pleased to note the advancement of this worthy N.C.O. John McQuarrie might well be described as the complete lineman. His work as a Construction Section Sergeant has often been the subject of favourable comment from his superiors. It would be difficult to equal Mac's prowess as an air-line route builder, for he has had a long and varied experience of this type of work under all sorts of conditions.

He has helped to build and repair air-line routes and lay cables in France during the Great War. Officers of high rank have praised John's work on manœuvres on Salisbury Plain. Consult McQuarrie ! This was the slogan when a most elusive fault had to be cleared, or when an acute constructional problem had to be solved.

Possessed of a quiet, pawky sense of humour, the new C.S.M. is deservedly popular with his comrades. His long record of straight dealing, and his invaluable asset of allowing the other fellow to get on with his job are factors which would point to John McQuarrie's sure success as C.S.M. We feel certain that this promotion will prove to be a very sound investment for No. 1 G.H.Q. Signal Company, S.R.

Hall's Hall-mark.—Archie Hall, that is, Corporal Hall A. T., G.H.Q. Signals, S.R., has been awarded the Militia Medal. A very happy man is Archie. He has eagerly looked forward for quite a time to this award, and is very proud of his medal ; he has every reason to be. This decoration is highly prized in the Glasgow S.R. Archie's medal has been well won.

He signed on at Jardine Street in 1925. Corporal Hall is a first-rate signaller, and there isn't much in the signalling business which he does not know. Flag wagging, lamps, morse and teleprinter are all within his ken. Right well has our friend served the Corps, having worked quietly and well for over twelve years now.

Corporal Hall was very young when he served in France with the Royal Scots in 1915. All honour to him. It is something to proudly boast about—to have served with this famous regiment from 1915 to 1919. Archie has certainly seen service. He has been a good soldier and a grand signaller, and here is luck to him and our congratulations on being invested with the medal which might well be regarded as the hall-mark of his signal worth.

Captain Mitchell.—We congratulate Captain A. S. M. Mitchell, S.R., on his promotion to that rank. A popular officer, Captain Mitchell has long since proved his worth. His many friends will be pleased to hear of this advancement.

Corps Promotion.—We observe that A/R.S.M. Murray R., G.H.Q. Signals, has attained the rank of C.Q.M.S. in the Regular Army. Again, congratulations to an excellent member of the P.S.

The Territorials.—All is quiet with our T.A. Units. Our comrades are deservedly resting after many months of intense activity, culminating with Berwick Camp. These are holiday times for our Territorial Permanent Staff. There is a breathing space prior to the Winter Courses, which commence very soon.

The camp meeting of the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess revealed a happy state of affairs. The bank balance is on the right side.

There is some prospect of reviving the football club. Other winter sports organisations are ready for the take-off.

The T.A. pipe band, Wireless Sections, and Anti-Gas Detachments have recently put in some grand work at the Empire Exhibition at Bellahouston.

We hope to have many things to say of our T.A. Units in the near future.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Cardiff.

15th September.

Following the return of the Unit from annual training, there is very little activity to report. Sections are returning stores, much to the delight of the Quartermaster. Indeed, it is one of the bright spots at this period to stand by and listen to his homely wit as the deficiencies are checked off, and witness the handing-in of what remains of the stores—if any.

" B " Cable Section, commanded by Mr. J. Senior, allows no grass to grow under its cable. With two new mechanised cable-layers, they have been out training on several week-ends, and the results to date are good.

Winter Training Courses commence in November. With an eye on the Section Trophy for next year, there will be no lack of enthusiasts.

The social side of the Unit is developing. The usual dances and games tournaments are being looked forward to by all ranks.

We are glad to see ex-R.S.M. Pease from time to time. He is home on leave from Brazil, and returns at the beginning of October.

Captain R. H. Copeland, the Adjutant, returned on Monday, 12th September, after a short leave spent in Hungary.

Congratulations to Captain (now Major) W. R. Hawkins on his promotion to field rank. (Backs to the wall, boys !)

We are glad to report that C.Q.M.S. Woodyatt J., who entered Llandough Hospital a few weeks ago for a serious operation, is now out and about again, looking the picture of health.

No. 2 Company will lose one of its stalwarts when Lance Sergeant Dowers F. C., M.M., finishes on attaining the age limit. He has served the Unit well, and is a fine example to those who are striving for promotion. It is hoped that he will not lose touch with his many friends in the Unit.

THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

Stratford.

We have to commence with a note of apology for the absence of our notes in the last issue of this journal. Unfortunately, the opportunities of writing them were few and far between during annual training, and the additional attractions of Brighton in no way helped.

The Unit returned on 14th August, after what many of our old hands described as the best camp for many a long day. Many thanks are due to the clerk of the weather for his kind co-operation.

Once more we renewed acquaintanceship with our half-brothers from Bedford, Ipswich and Southend.

We tender our congratulations to No. 3 Company on winning the Sports Shield and Wireless Trophy; the latter has been long regarded as our own property, and we shall make great efforts to restore it to its customary position. Congratulations, too, to No. 4 Company on winning the Inter-communication Trophy.

We were very pleased to gaze on the hirsute complexion of our old friend Sergeant Charlie Gale, who has once again joined us from No. 3 Company in the capacity of O.C., " B " Section.

We were fortunate to make the acquaintance of Sergeant Eason, 4th Divisional Signals, who, we understand, is due for a spell with us shortly. We hope to please him and trust that Sergeant Eason is looking forward to his stay with us.

The first week at Camp was devoted to Section training. "A" Section exploited the Nos. 1 and 2, and also their old stand-by, the " C " Set. " B " Section proudly displayed their new additions, the mechanical cable-layers, better known as the " spewers." " D " Section turned out three Sub-Sections, as well as a smartly turned-out D.R. Sub-Section that carried out a lot of training under the supervision of " Chippy."

The first week came to a close with the Annual N.C.O.s' Dinner, which was held at the Seven Stars Hotel. The concert, which was held afterwards, revealed much undiscovered talent; unfortunately, the list of artistes are too numerous to mention individually. We are able to state definitely that the dark man lurking outside was not Mr. Carroll Levis.

The only sad note came from our C.S.M., when he mentioned that this was the last social appearance of our P.S.I., C.S.M. Worth F. We shall miss those hard luck stories about the "Argyle," Fred.

The second week was devoted to Unit Schemes, which terminated in an Approach March from Brighton to Uckfield. An " accident on duty " robbed us of the services of our C.Q.M.S. on the Scheme, but " B " Section came to the rescue, and we were able to satisfy many enquiries regarding a green " bug " with the remark " That's our ' Q.' " Nice work, Aubrey and Julius. We returned to Stratford with many memories, many

regrets, and many sun-tanned faces. (Recruiting advertisement. Civilians, please note.)

We are now bedding down for the winter with a Paid Course which, we hope, will result in many successful candidates at the Trade Board that will terminate the Course.

Things We Want to Know.—Did the " B " Section lineman, who was detailed to peel onions in the cookhouse, find a Manual in which it was laid down that a respirator should be used for the purpose ? The accompanying photograph will, no doubt, reveal his identity.

Why Sergeant Eason kept out of sight until we were on parade on the day of his departure ? We thought he was looking forward to our farewell.

Why Corporal Buckley, alias Atkins, suddenly developed a sweet tooth—or is it so sudden ?

In view of the number of drivers who were enlisted recently, will a suspension of the Green Line Services take place when we go to camp next time ?

233rd and 234th F.A. Brigades Signal Sections.

Ashburnham Road, Bedford.

15th September.

The two Sections in Bedford are now in the throes of a " Paid Class," which will finish on 19th October with a trade test. The attendance is very good, and we feel sure that many will be better off in regard to pay for their training next year.

Everyone has settled down once again after their strenuous time at the annual camp, Brighton. We are now looking for the Cups which " Stratford " will be presenting us sometime in November. We are arranging for a full lorry when we visit them this year, so look out, Stratford.

Owing to the absence of the scribe on holiday at Bournemouth during the past two weeks, notes will have to be short this time ; there has been very little time left to obtain the necessary information.

Lance-Snake Nospmis, our celebrated snake charmer, is now the proud possessor of a tin whistle. This brings his number of saxophones up to three.

They've been and gone and done it,
Those blokes down Chatham way ;
Tom Sayers is booked for China,
All right, lads ; on your way !

Corporal Giddings, our expert lineman, has been very subdued since his return from annual camp. It is rumoured that his mile of buried cable at Barton Air Port (see July notes) has been torn up by the authorities there as they suspected the presence of a family of moles.

Sergeant Bright (233rd Section Sergeant) and his family are still in the Unit. We now have Bright A., Bright D. and Bright E. It only requires a " B " and a " C " for a nap !

BEDFORDIA.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

17th September.

The pre-camp training period this year was devoted to bringing the Unit to a pitch of efficiency that would enable it adequately to perform its duties when taking the field with the Regulars during the Aldershot Command and Staff College Exercises.

" B " Section did not have as much opportunity for preparation as the other Sections, as their new mechanised cable-layers did not arrive until a short time before camp. However, in the brief period at their disposal, they mastered the technique of the machines, and a short-lived horror of the layers quickly changed into affection. Affection, I think, ripened into something deeper, for at camp the cable personnel clung to their charges with fatherly loyalty ; indeed, they could hardly be induced to leave them even at meal times.

During the months preceding camp we had visits from Colone Neale, Commanding 2nd Divisional Signals, and his Adjutant, Major Knowles. They imparted all the information available regarding the manœuvres to take place during the camp period.

This was to be our first experience of working with Regular Army Staffs, and we were all on our toes to enhance the reputation of the Unit.

We did not proceed to camp at field strength, as one Artillery Brigade Section accompanied their Gunner Brigade to camp. This Section, under Captain Chilton, earned high praise from the Gunners for their work, and the hope was expressed that future opportunities would be provided for repeating the venture.

One officer accompanied the 165th Infantry Brigade to camp in the Isle of Man.

After arrival at camp, we had the Monday to prepare for the Command Scheme, which began on the Tuesday afternoon. A great deal of concentrated work was carried out on those two days. Before the Exercise started, a joint conference was held by 2nd Divisional Signals and 55th Divisional Signals officers and N.C.O.s. The respective Unit and Section Commanders were undecided, and an opportunity was afforded for the two Units to get together.

The various Staffs taking part in the Exercise were, of course, strangers to us, but, after a short period, we became mutually acquainted and, thereafter, matters progressed satisfactorily. All ranks of the Unit were delighted at the manner in which their efforts were received by the Regulars, and we can honestly say that the confidence created in us, as a result of the trust reposed in the Unit, helped us very much when we commenced the Staff College Exercise.

On both Schemes, situations arose that had not before been encountered by the Unit in the field, and we gained invaluable experience, which will be of the greatest assistance to us in the conduct of our own future Schemes.

The Staff College Scheme covered much the same ground as the other, but the students took over the Staff Duties, and, what was more important from our point of view, 55th Divisional Signals took over all Signals duties within the Division, having their Regular counterparts to advise them where necessary. This was an excellent opportunity, which was not neglected, as it enabled all ranks, especially the officers, to gain first-hand experience and knowledge of what is required of Signals.

The C.O. received a letter from Brigadier H. C. Ponsonby, 6th Infantry Brigade Commander, expressing his appreciation of the efforts of the T.A. Section which had looked after his Brigade Signals during the Command Exercise.

After the Staff College Exercise, the Commandant of that seat of learning also expressed his appreciation of our work, and was kind enough to express the hope that we should at some other time again provide Signals during an Exercise in which the College was engaged.

It was made abundantly clear to those of us who are not already aware of the fact, that the attitude of the Regular Army is very different from that of former days. On every hand at camp we had evidence of the desire of all ranks of our parent Unit, 2nd Divisional Signals, to help and encourage us.

We have read with great interest the notes in last month's WIRE concerning 51st (Highland) Divisional Signals, who were also taking part in the Exercises, assisting 1st Divisional Signals. We shall look forward to meeting that Unit again.

FIVE-FIVE.

Advertisements!

THOSE FIRMS WHO ADVERTISE IN THESE PAGES SUPPORT OUR MAGAZINE.
WILL OUR READERS PLEASE SUPPORT THEM IN RETURN ?

★

SPORTS NOTES

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

Golf.—There have been no competitions played this month as the weather is too bad.

Football.—Our football team has been very much disorganised owing to so much rugby being played, but we have been able to put up a team to win three matches out of four against the Indian Companies in the Company League, and also to win against the 3rd Battery, R.A., by 5—4 and 5—2.

Cricket.—We do not get much cricket, but interest in the Test Match scores seems to have revealed a few enthusiasts. How about it, organisers, when the weather brightens up? Some cricket would be welcome, and we never know but there may be some " Huttons " amongst us. What about a trial?

Rugby.—As was forecasted last month, the rugby team has, with two exceptions, had a very successful season; the two exceptions were, unfortunately, the only competitions in which they played.

In the first, the " Harwood Little " Inter-Company Trophy, they were beaten by an eleven try, which was scored by Lieutenant Cary, of the Leicesters, and converted. Lieutenant Cary made a solo run of some sixty or seventy yards down the field. Result: "A" Company, S.T.C. (India), 0; "A" Company, Leicestershire Regiment, 5.

In the second, the " Eduljee " Inter-Unit Trophy, the S.T.C. (India) fielded the same team as for the Company Cup, with two changes—Corporal Smith and Lance Corporal Dunlop having to stand down owing to injuries. This game was one of the most interesting games seen in Jubbulpore during this tournament for some years.

The S.T.C. (India) kept up the fight right to the end against 1st Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment, who had just returned, undefeated, from Bombay. Result: S.T.C. (India), 0; 1st Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment, 11. The 1st Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment, were the eventual winners of the trophy.

The players on both sides are to be congratulated on their fine team spirit, and also on having played such entertaining rugby, a fact which has resulted in many congratulatory remarks from the other Units at the Station.

In addition to these two results, the following should give some idea of the success of the team:

" B " Company, Leicestershire Regiment	Won	14—0
3rd Field Battery, R.A.	Won	6—0
1st Field Battery, R.A.	Won	8—0
57th Field Battery, R.A.	Won	11—3
28th Field Regiment, R.A.	Drawn	3—3
" D " Company, Leicestershire Regiment	Drawn	3—3

Sergeants' Mess.

Golf.—Our last notes gave the result of the Singles and mention was made of the Foursomes. This has now been completed and resulted in a win for Sergeants Nicholson and Connolly, who beat R.S.M. Nash and Sergeant Adams in the final by 6 and 5.

Many interesting games were played, and, as happens in fishing, a number of controversies have cropped up. In the first round, the match between C.Q.M.S. Jackson and Sergeant Woolhouse, and Sergeants Ivey and Drudge, went to 38 holes, and took about seven hours before a decision was reached. (Shades of champions!)

The interest and keenness in golf is evinced, not only by the competitions so far mentioned, but by the fact that a further competition attracted no less than twenty-two entries. This competition was a Match Play Singles, open to senior W.O.s and N.C.O.s of other Units, who are members of the S.T.C. (India) Club. An entrance fee of Rs. 1/- was split up to provide prizes to the value of Rs. 8/- for the winner, Rs. 4/- runner-up, and two Rs. 5/- sweepstakes, one on the winner and the other on the player returning the lowest score over the first nine holes.

Again, many excellent games were played and congratulations must go to Lance Sergeant Wright, who, with a handicap of 14 and consistent play, eventually ran out the winner, beating C.Q.M.S. Jackson by 3 and 2 in the final. C.Q.M.S. Jackson has done exceptionally well and deserves praise for his untiring efforts. The sweeps were won by Sergeant Wright and Lance Sergeant Gray, R.I.A.S.C. Sergeant Wright returned the lowest score (51), which is considered quite good during the present monsoon period.

A match with the Officers, arranged for Thursday, 25th August, had, unfortunately, to be called off owing to the heavy rain. It is hoped to hold this fixture shortly, when a full description and scores will be given.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Hockey.—Sport in the Unit during August and September has been mainly confined to hockey. The Unit entered a mixed team in the Hot Weather Knock-out Hockey Tournament, and they put up a very good performance. The results of matches are as follows:

1st Round: Bye.

2nd Round: Versus 14th Mountain Battery, R.A., whom we beat by 2—1. Goals were scored by Naik Basant Singh.

3rd Round: Versus the Union Club, a civilian team who possess some very good individual players. After a very well-fought match we won by 3—1. Goals were scored by Lance Corporal Moseley (1), and Naik Basant Singh (2).

4th Round (Semi-Final): Versus the Frontier Club. This was a very exciting game, both teams trying very hard to score, but when the final whistle was blown, there was no score, and it was decided to play ten minutes each way extra time. After about six minutes play in the first half of the extra time, the Frontier Club scored. The Club supporters were wild with delight; things did not look so good for Signals. The first half of extra time finished with no further goals being scored by either side.

After the bully off in the second half, Signals made a determined attack on the " Frontier " goal, and, after a wild scramble in the goalmouth, a short corner was awarded to Signals. Everybody was tense with excitement, as Signals have a reputation of scoring off short corners. The ball bounced off the goalkeeper's pads and went back into play; then Signalman Seager got the ball and flicked it into the net. And so the match ended with a score of one goal apiece for Signals and the Frontier Club.

SEMI-FINAL (REPLAY).

Directly after the bully off, Signals took the play into the Frontier Club's goalmouth. The ball was passed across the circle and Lance Corporal Moseley netted it very neatly. The Signals supporters were wildly enthusiastic at this early goal.

After the bully off, the play was again forced into the Frontier goal, and Lance Corporal Moseley again netted the ball. This seemed too good to be true as the Frontier Club team are considered to be the best in the district.

The Frontier Club team then settled down, and some brilliant hockey was witnessed. At half-time, the score still stood at 2—0 in favour of Signals.

On resumption of play, the Frontier team made repeated attacks on our goal, but Signals defence, playing faultless hockey, stopped them from netting the ball. About ten minutes from the final whistle, the Frontier team broke away, and, after a scrimmage in our goalmouth, were awarded a short corner from which they scored, and so the game ended: Signals 2 goals; Frontier Club, 1 goal.

The final was played against the 2/19th Hyderabad Regiment in front of a large crowd. The match started with both teams trying hard to get the ball into the net, and the play went from one end of the ground to the other in rapid fashion.

About six minutes before half-time, the Hyderabads made a determined attack on our goal, and put one into the net. The score at half-time was still 1—0 in favour of Hyderabads.

On resumption of play, both teams went at it hammer and tongs, but neither made any impression on the goals until Naik Basant Singh broke away and scored for Signals.

Amid great cheers from Signals supporters, the bully off was taken. The ball was passed through into the Hyderabads half

and Naik Basant Singh again got the ball and scored. About a minute later the final whistle blew, and the result was a win for Signals by 2 goals to 1.

The winning team were presented with a Shield as a team prize, and individuals were each presented with a replica of the Shield. The team comprised the following :

Signalman Rogers.
Corporal Evans. Lance Naik Lall Singh.
Lance Naik Bakhtawar Singh. Captain W. A. K. Stodart.
Signalman Seager.
Lance Naik Pritam Singh. Naik Basant Singh. Naik Sumehr Singh
Lance Corporal Moseley. Signalman Kelly.

Here is an analysis of Tournaments played by this Unit in 1938, and results gained :

WINNERS.

Cold Weather Hockey Tournament (British).
British Hot Weather Hockey Tournament.
Indian Hot Weather Hockey Tournament.
District Hot Weather Cricket Tournament.
Hot Weather Knock-out Hockey Tournament.
District Rugby Tournament.

RUNNERS-UP.

" Francis Memorial " Hockey Tournament.
" Faqir Chand " Hockey Tournament.

SILO.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Hockey.—As stated elsewhere in this issue, the hockey team put up a very fine performance in winning the Station Hot Weather Tournament for the second time in three years. Prior to 1936 the Cup had not been in the hands of the then 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop since 1919.

Success was due to excellent team work, coupled with enthusiastic support, and all concerned are congratulated on helping to put the Troop in the enviable position it now holds in regard to Station hockey. The League table at the end of the competition is well worth publishing.

		P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals. F.	A.	Pts.
1.	3rd Cavalry Bde. Signal Troop	14	12	2	0	34	8	25
2.	78th Field Battery, R.A. ..	12	7	3	2	30	11	17
3.	" G " Battery, R.H.A. ..	13	8	1	4	30	15	17

There were fifteen teams in the competition.

Handy Hunter.—For this competition, which was organised by the Commanding Officer, Captain W. M. Ponsonby, twelve of the handiest horses in the troop were chosen. Everyone had an equal chance of winning, as the names of the competitors and horses were both drawn from a hat.

The competitors were divided into pools, and the best individuals, who formed the final pool, competed over a more difficult course. There were some very surprising results in the qualifying rounds, but in the final a triple bar proved the undoing of many. The first three, who gave an excellent performance, were : (1) Lance Corporal Sneddon on " Toby " ; (2) Signalman Warren on " Queenie," who is still going strong ; (3) Signalman Forrest on " 'Enry."

TIM.

4th Indian Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry.

Cricket has been the order of the month. Several hockey friendlies have been played, but there has been very little football. The weather at the moment seems just right for rugby, but there hasn't been any yet.

SMALL UNITS CRICKET TOURNAMENT.
1st Round.—v. " M " Support Company, West Yorks (Away).

WINNERS OF THE STATION HOT WEATHER HOCKEY TOURNAMENT, 1938.

Back Row (left to Right) : Lance Sergeant Steele H., U/Lance Corporal Fish J., Signalmen Bass J., Dodd R., Tuck P., Glew S. and Warren L.

Seated : Signalman Forrest G., U/Lance Corporal Rainbird K. (capt.), Capt. W. M. Ponsonby, Lance Corporal Turner M., Signalman Pittman W.

On Ground : Corporal Grafton J., Signalman Rainford R.

Won by 25 runs. Highest score : Corporal Kerr, 24. Bowling : Pte. Baker A., 5 for 14 ; Signalman Rea, 4 for 17.

2nd Round.—v. "A" Squadron, 16/5th Lancers (Away). Won by 9 wickets. Highest score : Corporal Kerr, 18 not out. Bowling : Private Baker A., 6 for 6 ; Signalman Rea, 4 for 18.

3rd Round.—v. 65th Field Battery, R.A. (Away). Won by 137 runs. Highest scores : Corporal Kerr, 86 ; Corporal Hatton, 61 ; Private Baker A., 49 ; Lieutenant Iyappa, 45. Bowling : Signalman Rea, 5 for 53 ; Signalman Baker A., 4 for 38 ; Corporal Abrahams, 1 for 18.

Semi-final.—v. " C " Battery, R.H.A.—EXIT !

TERMITE.

Egypt Signals.

No. 3 Company.

Cricket Results.—

9th May.—" D," R.A.S.C. Lost, 46 to 127.

20th May.—Versus 30th Company, R.A.S.C. Lost, 99 (Corporal Newman 33, Corporal Wood 22 not out) to 135.

22nd May.—Versus " C " Squadron, 8th Hussars, in the Small Units Competition. Won, 353 (Lieutenant Sanders 14, Corporal Newman 41, Corporal Wood 163, Lance Corporal Nurse 26, Signalman McGowan 47) to 56 (Corporal Newman 5 for 18, Lance Corporal Nurse 5 for 29).

2nd June.—Versus Ordnance Civilians. Lost, 190 (Lance Corporal McGinn 47, Signalman Bland 27, Signalman McLaughlin 24, Signalman O'Marah 20) to 222.

15th June.—Versus 3rd Cavalry Field Ambulance, R.A.M.C. Won, 145 (Signalman Crossman 39) to 142.

19th June.—Versus " D " Battery, R.H.A., in the Small Units Competition. Won. First innings : 113 (Lance Corporal Nurse 41) to 100 (Corporal Newman 2 for 16, Lance Corporal Nurse 2 for 28, Signalman Drury 4 for 44). Second innings : 152 (Signalman Crossman 42, Signalman Drury 36, Signalman Millington 27, Lance Corporal Nurse 25) to 128 (Corporal Newman 2 for 42, Lance Corporal Nurse 1 for 18, Signalman Bland 4 for 30, Signalman Drury 1 for 19, Signalman O'Mara 2 for 13).

20th June.—Versus R.E. Services. Lost, 132 (Signalman McGowan 25, Corporal Wood 25, Signalman Bland 26) to 145.

5th July.—Versus 66th Company, R.A.S.C. Won, 184 (Lieutenant Sanders 30, Corporal Wood 30, Signalman Crossman 31, Signalman McGowan 23, Signalman Millington 21) to 60.

8th July.—Versus No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals, in the Small Units Competition. Lost, 202 (Lieutenant Sanders 54, Lance Corporal Nurse 36, Signalman Millington 27) to 369.

11th July.—Versus Ordnance Civilians. Won, 120 (Lance Corporal Nurse 38) to 105.

12th July.—Versus " J " Battery, R.H.A. Won, 124 (Lance Corporal Nurse 80) to 79.

28th July.—Versus No. 67 Company, R.A.S.C. Won, 78 to 52 (Corporal Newman 4 for 49, Lance Corporal Nurse 6 for 40).

5th August.—Versus " D " Battery, R.H.A. Won, 125 (Signalman Thrumble 35 not out) to 104 (Corporal Newman 4 for 25, Corporal Wood 3 for 18).

6th August.—Versus No. 66 Company, R.A.S.C. Won, 216 (Corporal Newman 55 not out, Signalman Crossman 49) to 58 (Corporal Newman 6 for 18, Lance Corporal Nurse 3 for 36).

Cricket Results, Season 1938.—Played 18, won 14, lost 4.

BATTING AVERAGES.

	Total.	Ings.	Times Not Out.	Most in Innings.	Avge.
Captain J. E. S. Sanders	101	4	1	54	33.66
Corporal Wood	368	14	1	163	28.3
Farrier Corporal Newman	273	14	3	55	24.81
Signalman Crossman ..	331	16	2	49	23.64
Lance Corporal Nurse ..	398	18	1	80	23.41
Signalman Millington ..	181	10	1	27	22.63
Signalman Thrumble ..	89	9	3	35	17.16
Signalman Drury ..	170	12	1	48	15.45
Signalman McLaughlin ..	49	4	—	24	12.25
Signalman McGowan ..	142	13	1	47	11.83
Signalman O'Marah ..	63	9	3	20	10.5

BOWLING AVERAGES.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Avge.
Farrier Corporal Newman	103	18	337	38	8.86
Signalman Bland ..	38	2	160	15	10.66
Corporal Wood	58	11	226	21	10.76
Signalman O'Marah ..	32	1	142	13	10.92
Lance Corporal Nurse ..	128	20	601	46	13.03
Signalman McGowan ..	30	3	134	10	13.4
Signalman Crossman ..	61	9	269	13	20.67
Signalman Drury ..	47	3	274	13	21.09

Malaya Signal Company.

Alexandra.

There is nothing out of the ordinary to report this month. Cricket and football are still in full swing, but all matches played are friendlies. A Depot team has been formed and entered in the " Warren Shield " Competition and up to the present three trial matches have been played against the following teams with the results shown : Pulau Brani, win for us, 5—3 ; Loyals' Battalion team—draw, 1—1 ; Malays, win for us, 2—1.

The team comprises : Corporal Jackman (R.A.O.C.) ; Lance Corporal Smyth (Royal Signals), Corporal McAuliffe (Royal Signals) ; Lance Corporal McDonald (Royal Signals), Corporal Halstead (R.A.O.C.), Fusilier McLaughlin (R.I. Fusiliers) ; Private Collins (R.A.O.C.), Corporal Goose (R.A.O.C.), Lance Corporal Ritchie (R.A.O.C.), Signalman Harris W. (Royal Signals), Lance Corporal Page (R.A.O.C.).

In the first round, we have been drawn with the R.A., Changi, playing at home on Monday, 5th September. The team is feeling very confident of the result. " Skipper " Halstead is certainly doing his best, and has them out on most nights.

The cricket team is still on its winning way, but, unfortunately, details are not to hand. We can definitely state, however, that they are progressing very well and are upholding the name of the Corps in local circles.

Lance Corporal McDonald and Signalman Smart represented the Corps in the Depot team in the semi-final of the Command Cricket League, in which the Depot team beat Fort Canning by eight wickets.

Hockey is in the air, and sticks are being hauled out once again. Signals are entering a team in the League.

The Malaya Signal Company will be losing some of its best sportsmen during the forthcoming " Trooper," but Mr. Records will probably note the fact and send us some good ones in their places.

A football match was played against Changi Signals on Thursday, 25th August. The result was, as usual, a win for Alexandra, 4 goals to 2. It is now an established fact, which has been proved by a long series of matches in all sports and weathers, that Alexandra (formerly Pulau Brani) are top dogs of this Company. Never mind, Changi, you may be able to fix "Alex " up better when the new draft arrive. You may have the luck of the draw and get all the talent. We must also add that Changi has never been kept down for long—they always come back for more. Well played !

Hong Kong Signal Company.

Tennis.—Our present team comprises Major J. C. McDonald, Captain K. E. Holmes, Lance Corporal Stanford (capt.), Lance Corporal Austen (Secretary), Signalmen Dixon and Pitcher. We are proud to state that this is the third year that we have emerged victorious from the Kowloon Division of the Area Tennis League. For the last three years we have not lost a match. This year's results are :

Played.	Won.	Lost.	For	Against.
6	6	0	45 (sets)	9 (sets)

The play-off will probably be held in September for the winners and runners-up for the Area Shield.

The Wireless Section claimed the Inter-Section Cup in grand style.

Swimming.—Our Annual Gala was held on Wednesday, 24th August, at the Y.M.C.A. Lieutenant-Colonel Collin and Major Levett presided as Chief Judge and Assistant Chief Judge, respectively. The Wireless Section won the Aggregate Cup with 69 points. " Mobile " were second and " Line " third. " Mobile " beat " Wireless " at water-polo by 3—1.

To quote Major Levett in his speech towards the end of the Gala, " They put up a wonderful show." Mrs. Collin very kindly presented the prizes to the fortunate ones.

Hockey.—Lance Corporal Austen has been selected for the Army XI, and will leave shortly for Singapore with the team.

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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Editorial Notes.

The Corps Band.—The Corps Band, a photograph of which appears in this issue of THE WIRE, completed its summer tour on 17th September. In addition to the annual visit to the Field Units at Aldershot, Bulford and Canterbury, the Band fulfilled a number of engagements in various parts of the country.

The tour was inaugurated by a visit to the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich. This was the Band's first association with "The Shop," and the brief week-end stay enabled them to function in the Chapel, and take part in a short ceremonial parade, followed by a programme of music to the Cadets.

For outdoor performances a military band must necessarily depend upon congenial weather conditions, but the 1938 season was not too kind in this respect. Nevertheless, it may be stated that generally speaking audiences were large and appreciative. The tour concluded with a four weeks' engagement at Torquay.

It may be of interest to note that during the past number of years the Band has performed in the following places: Glasgow, Edinburgh, Paisley, Dunfermline, Belfast, Bath, Tunbridge Wells, Harrogate, Leicester, Redcar, Darlington, Middlesbrough, Scarborough, Bridlington, Southend, Ramsgate, Margate, Felixstowe, Bradford, Derby, Dewsbury, Hereford, Clacton, Hastings, Ryde, Eastbourne, Worthing, Littlehampton, Torquay, Paignton, Morecambe, Doncaster, Southsea. Many of these places have been visited four, five and six times.

Retirement.—With the retirement of Brigadier R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C., and Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., the Corps loses two of its most distinguished and popular officers.

Those of our readers who were privileged to serve under them will wish to associate themselves with us in an expression of appreciation and gratitude for their unfailing help and guidance on all occasions, and we take this opportunity to convey our best wishes for their future.

We need scarcely remind our readers that Brigadier Willan was appointed Colonel Commandant of Royal Signals in November, 1934, and as such he will still continue to be actively associated with the Corps.

With their very kind permission we publish full records of service on page 469 of this issue.

The Signals Experimental Establishment, Woolwich.—The Signals Experimental Establishment will be "At Home" to all Regular officers of the Corps (including those on leave from abroad) on Friday, 25th November, 1938.

Officers will be able to see all experimental apparatus that has been out on trials during the year, and also any other equipment in the process of being designed. Officers should arrive not later than 11 a.m. The nearest station is **Woolwich Arsenal.** A convenient train from London leaves Charing Cross at 10.28 a.m., arriving at Woolwich Arsenal at 10.54 a.m., and, if required, transport will be sent to meet this train. Return trains to London run at very frequent intervals throughout the day.

Those wishing to see all the demonstrations and apparatus should be prepared to spend the day at the S.E.E. up to 4 p.m., when tea will be served. Luncheon can be obtained locally at 2s. per head.

Any officers desirous of attending should notify the Superintendent, Signals Experimental Establishment, Woolwich Common, London, S.E.18, at least four days beforehand, either by letter or by telephone (Woolwich 0890), stating whether they are coming by train and whether they require luncheon. Mufti should be worn.

Attendance is voluntary, so no travelling expenses can be claimed. No direct personal invitations will be issued and it is hoped that all Regular officers will take this as a personal invitation.

A

Salisbury and District Branch Dinner.—The Committee of the Salisbury and District Branch of Signals Association have made arrangements for their Eighth Annual Branch Dinner to take place at the Cadena Cafe, Salisbury, on Friday, 11th November, at 7.30 p.m. for 7.45 p.m. prompt, and invite as many Royal Signals Old Comrades as possible to be present on that occasion.

The price of tickets is 3s. per head, and intending visitors are asked to notify the Honorary Secretary, Salisbury and District Branch, Signals Association, 10 Charnwood Road, Salisbury, at the earliest possible moment, and not later than 4th November, to facilitate the necessary catering arrangements.

All applications for tickets should be accompanied by the necessary remittance.

Dress : Lounge suits.

Clothing and Other Articles in Corps Colours.—In response to numerous enquiries, we publish hereunder a list of the various articles held in stock at this office, any of which can be supplied by return of post to those requiring them :

BLAZERS : Barathea—in Corps colours	from 47/6
SWEATERS : white woollen with Corps colours neck and cuff	from 12/6
JUMPERS : white woollen with Corps colours at neck (sleeveless)	each 12/6
SCARVES : woollen, Corps colours	each 7/6
SILK SQUARES : Corps colours	each 10/6
TIES : Silk, double-ended, Corps colours	each 2/6 and 3/9
CORPS RIBBON : ½ inch, for Christmas card and decoration purposes	per yard 6d.
CAR BADGES : in chromium plate with Corps colours, in enamel	each 15/6

Postage extra. Cash with order. See illustration on page 470.

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, West Riding, Yorks.	Postman
2	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Hall Porter
3	Ex-Signalman, Essex	Labourer
4	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Labourer
5	Ex-Signalman, Croydon	Postman
6	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
7	Ex-N.C.O., Chatham	Clerk
8	Ex-N.C.O., Croydon	Clerk
9	Ex-Signalman, Essex	Instrument Repairer
10	Ex-N.C.O., Essex	Clerk
11	Ex-Signalman, Newcastle-on-Tyne	Postman
12	Ex-Signalman, London	Cleaner
13	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
14	Ex-Signalman, Reading	Motor Van Driver
15	Ex-Signalman, Bury St. Edmunds	Attendant
16	Ex-Signalman, Croydon	Fitter
17	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
18	Ex-N.C.O., Woolwich	Clerk
19	Ex-Signalman, Woolwich	Instrument Repairer

GENERAL SECRETARY AND EDITOR.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following :

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from :

3rd Indian Divisional Signals.

Officers' Mess, S.T.C., Catterick.

GIFT OF CLOTHING from :

Colonel A. H. French, D.S.O.

APPEALS dealt with :

1	Ex-Signalman, Darlington	Grant	£2	0	0
2	Ex-Signalman, Darlington	Grant	£3	0	0
3	Ex-Signalman, London	Loan	£2	0	0
4	Ex-Signalman, London	Loan	£2	0	0
5	Ex-Signalman, Sussex	Grant	£2	12	6
6	Widow of N.C.O., Hants	Grant	£5	0	0
7	Ex-N.C.O., Newcastle	Grant	£1	10	0
8	N.C.O., Malta	Loan	£3	0	0
9	Signalman, Aldershot	Loan	£3	0	0

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

Corps News—Officers

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

[War Office, 1/7/38]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

The undermentioned promotions are made, 1/7/38 :

To be Brevet Lieutenant-Colonels :

Major R. F. H. Nalder, Major L. C. Bell, M.C.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

52nd (L.) Divisional Signals. H. G. Gollan to be 2nd Lieutenant, 2/7/38.

[War Office, 5/7/38]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Lieutenant J. L. Redding, late T.A. Res. of Officers, R.A., to be Lieutenant, 4/6/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

48th (S.M.) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant P. M. Bowen to be Captain, 5/6/38.

50th (N.) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant B. Minor to be Captain, 22/3/38.

[War Office, 8/7/38]

RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Captain D. H. S. Sanderson, from S.R., to be Captain, 9/7/38, retaining present seniority.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Captain R. S. Smith, M.C., D.C.M., from Regular Army Reserve of Officers, to be Captain, 9/7/38.

2nd Lieutenant J. B. Pearson resigns his commission, 9/7/38.

R. L. Shearer to be 2nd Lieutenant, 9/7/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

54th (E.A.) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant (Q.M.) C. J. Sharp, M.M., having attained the age limit, relinquishes his commission, 8/7/38.

[War Office, 12/7/38]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.

T. G. Stephenson to be 2nd Lieutenant, 13/7/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

N. Midland Corps Signals. Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel G. J. Underwood to be Hon. Colonel, 11/7/38.

2nd Cavalry Divisional Signals. N. E. Pease to be 2nd Lieutenant, 13/7/38.

44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals. R. E. Armstrong to be 2nd Lieutenant, 13/7/38, with seniority 13/10/37.

[War Office, 15/7/38]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Lieutenant E. C. Nicholls is seconded for service with R.A.O.C., 15/5/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

48th (S.M.) Divisional Signals. D. S. Allen to be 2nd Lieutenant, 16/7/38.

55th (W.L.) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant J. E. Clare, from Territorial Army Reserve of Officers, to be Lieutenant, 10/7/38, with seniority as in the Territorial Army.

[War Office, 19/7/38]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

N. Midland Corps Signals. Hon. Colonel G. M. Jackson, T.D., vacates the appointment of Hon. Colonel, 11/7/38.

44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals. H. R. Jordan to be 2nd Lieutenant, 17/6/38.

55th (E.A.) Divisional Signals. G. E. Stone to be Lieutenant (Quartermaster), 9/7/38.

[War Office, 22/7/38]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.

A. C. Alexandre to be 2nd Lieutenant, 25/7/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.
N. Midland Corps Signals. G. V. Hayles to be 2nd Lieutenant, 13/7/38.
London Divisional Signals. J. H. Campion to be 2nd Lieutenant, 23/7/38, with seniority 23/1/37. A. H. Tomlinson to be 2nd Lieutenant, 23/7/38.

[War Office, 26/7/38]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.
The promotion of Captain R. G. Muir is antedated to 22/12/37 under the provision of Art. 118 Pay Warrant.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS.
Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel M. F. Allan, from Supplementary Reserve, to be Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel, 22/7/38, retaining his present seniority.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.
Major F. H. Dallison, M.C., to be Lieutenant-Colonel, 22/7/38.
Captain W. E. Chinn to be Major, 22/7/38.
Lieutenant H. Metcalf to be Captain, 22/7/38.
J. A. Lawrence to be 2nd Lieutenant, 27/7/38.

[War Office, 29/7/38]

REGULAR ARMY—COMMANDS AND STAFF.
Colonel R. F. B. Naylor, D.S.O., M.C., from G.S.O.1, Scottish Command, to be Brigadier i/c Administration, Western Command, and granted the rank of Brigadier, 25/7/38.

ROYAL SIGNALS.
Captain E. D. Good to be Adjutant, 5/7/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.
44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals. G. Byrom to be 2nd Lieutenant 15/7/38.
50th (N.) Divisional Signals. 2nd Lieutenant R. H. Birtles resigns his commission, 30/6/38.
53rd (W.) Divisional Signals. 2nd Lieutenant C. S. Morgan resigns his commission, 6/7/38.

[War Office, 2/8/38]

REGULAR ARMY—COMMANDS AND STAFF.
Colonel (temp. Brigadier) R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., relinquishes the appointment of Commander, 10th Infantry Brigade, and the temporary rank of Brigadier, 1/8/38.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.
Lieutenant W. Johnston to be Captain, 11/5/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.
52nd (L.) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant K. A. Macay to be Captain, 1/7/38.

[War Office, 5/8/38]

REGULAR ARMY.
The undermentioned Colonels from h.p. list are restored to full pay, 1/8/38 :
C. J. S. Le Cornu, O.B.E., M.C., W. T. Howe, O.B.E.
Colonel R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., Colonel-Commandant, Royal Signals, retires on retired pay, 1/8/38, and is granted the hon. rank of Brigadier.
Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., h.p., retires on retired pay, 1/8/38.

ROYAL SIGNALS.
The undermentioned Captains to be Majors, 1/8/38 :
M. C. Bennett, C. D. Clapp, W. D. McGregor, O.B.E., H. J. Wiseman, F. P. L. Gray, C. W. Knight, J. Gardner, C. H. I. Akehurst, B. S. Watkins, J. E. S. Walford, M.B.E., H. R. Firth, M. S. Wheatley, R. J. N. Solly, L. R. C. Watson, C. Childs, J. J. Duvivier, F. K. Morton, H. H. Anthony, W. A. Peachell, L. A. E. Tozer, C. D. Hinds, W. D. J. Harries, C. A. H. Chadwick.
The undermentioned Lieutenants to be Captains, 1/8/38 :
W. R. Smijth-Windham, H. L. Lewis, J. S. Wise, G. F. Houghton, C. C. Worrall, G. I. Burgess Winn, P. B. G. Gambier, R. M. Adams, F. W. P. Bradford, H. N. Crawford, I. F. Meiklejohn, H. L. B. Kealy, E. R. N.-W. Nanney-Wynn, J. D. Haigh, P. J. Palmer, C. D. Gardiner, N. E. I. Pocock, R. G. Yolland, J. E. S. Sanders, N. J. H. Minshall, R. Webb, G. S. Knox, G. H. S. Balmain, N. de-la-P. Tate, A. B. De Lisle, N. I. Bower, A. T. Sladen, J. H. L. Crichton, J. D. L. Morris, E. P. Blake, W. G. Daubeny, J. R. G. Walker, P. G. Goodeve-Docker, J. R. Beeton, P. R. Wainman, A. B. McVittie, W. A. Purser, H. Worrall, R. N. Seddon, R. B. Gray, S. G. Humphrys, W. A. K. Stodart, F. S. Whiteway-Wilkinson, T. A. K. Howe, J. H. E. Panton, R. B. Ridley Martin, G. U. Finney, W. B. Rowett, A. B. Whatman, T. E. Dobson, T. H. Winterborn, R. B. S. Eraut, C. H. Barker, N. M. Hay, C. L. Ommanney, A. M. W. Whistler, M. J. Conway, E. H. Clarke, R. J. Perry, R. C. Yule, F. H. Pelew, H. Winterbotham, A. Hill, D. White, R. A. Conner, D. E. Harrison, P. M. P. Hobson, H. E. F. Middleton, E. Y. Nepean, G. Mellor, G. E. Aldridge, E. J. C. Harrison, P. H. Smitherman.
The undermentioned Captains (Quartermasters) to be Majors (Quartermasters), 1/8/38 :
A. E. Winton, D.C.M., J. Finmore, C. H. Manton, M.B.E.
Lieutenant (I.P.C.) H. S. Shave to be Captain (I.P.C.), 5/8/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.
42nd (E.L.) Divisional Signals. Captain K. F. Woodham to be Major, 5/7/38.
48th (S.M.) Divisional Signals. Captain and Brevet-Major F. E. B. Jones to be Major, 5/7/38. B. P. Forrester to be 2nd Lieutenant, 6/8/38.
London Divisional Signals. Captain and Brevet-Major F. White to be Major, 5/7/38.
1st A.A. Divisional Signals. A. B. Harnden to be 2nd Lieutenant, 24/7/38.

[War Office, 9/8/38]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.
Lieutenant A. S. W. Mitchell to be Captain, 11/5/38.
R. W. Poulton to be 2nd Lieutenant, 10/8/38.
K. J. Aspinall to be 2nd Lieutenant, 10/8/38.

[War Office, 12/8/38]

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS.
The undermentioned, having attained the age limit, cease to belong to the Reserve of Officers :
Major J. R. Pinsent, D.S.O., 12/8/38 ; Lieutenant I. L. Collier, 11/8/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.
54th (E.A.) Divisional Signals. Major-General R. M. Luckock, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., to be Hon. Colonel, 13/8/38.
51st (H.) Divisional Signals. 2nd Lieutenant W. G. Mitchell to be Lieutenant, 3/7/38.

[St. James's Palace, 16/8/38]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.
Awards in recognition of valuable services rendered in connection with operations in Waziristan from 16th September to 15th December, 1937 :
C.B.E. : Colonel L. G. Phillips, M.C., late Royal Signals.
M.B.E. : Lieutenant (now Captain) N. M. Hay, Royal Signals.

[War Office, 16/8/38]

Rewards for distinguished services in the field in connection with operations in Waziristan from 16th September to 15th December, 1937 :
D.S.O. : Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. H. Vulliamy, D.S.O., Royal Signals.
Mentioned in Despatches :
Colonel L. G. Phillips, C.B.E., M.C.
Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. H. Vulliamy, D.S.O.
Lance Corporal W. Leach.
Corporal F. C. Robson.
Sergeant C. Conway.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.
53rd (W.) Divisional Signals. Captain W. R. Hawkins to be Major, 11/7/38.

[War Office, 19/8/38]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.
Major W. H. N. Dent, M.B.E., is placed on h.p. list on account of ill-health, 20/8/38.
Lieutenant M. G. Ridley-Martin resigns his commission, 20/8/38.

[War Office, 23/8/38]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.
The undermentioned to be 2nd Lieutenants, 24/8/38 :
L. J. Peerless, H. J. Hale, W. Davies.

[War Office, 26/8/38]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.
R.S.M. Frederick Bramley to be Lieutenant (T.M.O.), 29/7/38.
2nd Lieutenant T. R. Warburg from General List, T.A., to be 2nd Lieutenant, 27/8/38, with seniority 28/1/37 next below 2nd Lieutenant A. J. Deane-Drummond.
The undermentioned Gentlemen Cadets, from the R.M.A., to be 2nd Lieutenants, 25/8/38 :

E. W. Lewis, F. K. Austin, F. A. Felton, J. Shaw, R. H. J. Rowntree, J. D. T. Brett, J. E. V. Rice, R. R. Morrison, A. M. R. Mallock.

[War Office, 30/8/38]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

The undermentioned Lieutenants to be Captains:

A. R. Reeder, 1/8/38; R. Pearce, 1/8/38; L. Whitbread, 1/8/38; L. S. Stirling-Wilkinson, 28/8/38; H. V. Hayfield, 28/8/38; E. K. Steward, 28/8/38.

The undermentioned 2nd Lieutenants to be Lieutenants, 29/8/38:

H. K. Milward, J. F. MacSwiney, M. H. N. Travers, A. J. M. Atthill, A. G. Paris, B. A. H. Bogle.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

43rd (W.) Divisional Signals. Captain A. F. S. Fane to be Major, 15/8/38.

48th (S.M.) Divisional Signals. The date of appointment of 2nd Lieutenant B. P. Forrester is 31/7/38 and not as stated in the "Gazette" of 5/8/38.

49th (W.R.) Divisional Signals. 2nd Lieutenant H. D. Brown to be Lieutenant, 17/7/38.

[War Office, 2/9/38]

REGULAR ARMY.

Colonel (temp. Brigadier) G. G. Rawson, O.B.E., M.C., is appointed A.D.C. to the King, 1/8/38, vice Colonel (Hon. Brigadier) R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Captain J. J. Craig resigns his commission, 3/9/38.

[War Office, 6/9/38]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Lieutenant G. H. T. Shrimpton to be Captain, 30/6/38.

[War Office, 9/9/38]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.

The undermentioned 2nd Lieutenants to be Lieutenants:

F. C. Norton, 10/7/38; A. D. Grant, 7/8/38; H. A. Metcalf, 21/8/38; L. Hurley, 21/8/38.

F. A. Hough, late 2nd Lieutenant, Royal Signals, T.A., to be 2nd Lieutenant, 10/9/38.

E. B. Horton to be 2nd Lieutenant, 10/9/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals. Captain L. H. Harris to be Major, 1/8/38.

52nd (L.) Divisional Signals. 2nd Lieutenant P. H. Simon resigns his commission, 1/8/38.

2nd Lieutenant F. A. Hough resigns his commission on appointment to the Supplementary Reserve, 10/9/38.

[War Office, 13/9/38]

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel R. Tandy, from Supplementary Reserve, to be Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, 12/9/38, retaining his present seniority.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

52nd (L.) Divisional Signals. Captain J. C. Anderson to be Major, 14/9/38.

[War Office, 16/9/38]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant S. I. Brett to be Captain, 1/8/38.

[War Office, 23/9/38]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.

J. P. Watt to be 2nd Lieutenant, 24/9/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

1st A.A. Divisional Signals. R. K. Anson to be 2nd Lieutenant, 24/9/38.

[War Office, 27/9/38]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Lieutenant (Quartermaster) M. Hepburn to be Captain (Quartermaster), 28/9/38.

OFFICERS

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REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Captain E. T. Goddard, M.C., having attained the age limit of liability to recall, ceases to belong to the Reserve of Officers, 27/9/38.

Lieutenant T. V. Barber, from S.R., to be Lieutenant, 25/9/38, retaining his present seniority.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.

A. Scarborough to be 2nd Lieutenant, 28/9/38.

[War Office, 30/9/38]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Major G. R. Halliday is seconded for service on the Staff in India, 1/10/38.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Lieutenant A. C. Layzell, from S.R., to be Lieutenant, 1/10/38, retaining his present seniority.

[War Office, 4/10/38]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

N. Midland Corps Signals. 2nd Lieutenant J. R. S. G. Taylor, from General List, T.A., to be 2nd Lieutenant, 1/10/38.

[War Office, 7/10/38]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Lieutenant J. E. Rodgers to be Captain, 31/8/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

The London Corps Signals. 2nd Lieutenant J. W. G. Cocke to be Lieutenant, 4/5/38.

52nd (L.) Divisional Signals. 2nd Lieutenant B. L. Carlaw to be Lieutenant, 7/8/38.

[War Office, 11/10/38]

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Lieutenant A. J. Child resigns his commission, 12/10/38.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

The London Corps Signals. D. C. Sebag-Montefiore to be 2nd Lieutenant, 12/10/38. A. F. Bownall to be 2nd Lieutenant, 12/10/38.

BRIGADIER R. H. WILLAN, D.S.O., M.C.
(Retired 1st August, 1938.)

Brigadier R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C.

Joined 4th Oxfordshire Light Infantry (Mil.) in September, 1899. Was commissioned to the King's Royal Rifles on 7.5.1902, seconded to the Signal Service Royal Engineers in 1912, and transferred to Royal Signals with the rank of Major on 24.11.1920. Promoted Lieutenant-Colonel (Brevet), 1.1.1919 (Substantive) 22.1.1925; Colonel, 1.1.1923 (22.1.1929).

During his twenty-six years of service with R.E. Signals and Royal Signals, Brigadier Willan held the following commands and appointments:

A.D. of Signals (Acting Lieutenant-Colonel), from 20.11.1916 to 22.1.1919.
G.S.O.1, War Office (Temporary Lieutenant-Colonel), from 3.7.1920 to 21.1.1921.
G.S.O.2, War Office, from 1.6.1922 to 30.9.1923.
Chief Signal Officer (Class X), Southern Command, Salisbury, from 22.1.1929 to 29.6.1931.
G.S.O.1, War Office, from 30.6.1931 to 29.6.1933.
Appointed A.D.C. to H.M. The King, 11.2.1934, vide *London Gazette*, 20.2.1934.
Commander, 10th Infantry Brigade, 1.8.1934 to 31.7.1938. (Appointed Temporary Brigadier, 1.8.1934.)
Appointed Colonel Commandant, Royal Signals, 30.11.1934.
Retired with honorary rank of Brigadier on 1.8.1938.

Brigadier Willan saw Active Service in France and Belgium from 5.8.1914 to 2.10.1914; 26.11.1914 to 11.12.1914; and from 14.9.1915 to 22.1.1918.

He was wounded in action at Chemin des Dames in 1914, was awarded the Military Cross in January, 1915, and was *Mentioned in Despatches* on three occasions, vide *London Gazettes* dated 19.10.1914, 15.6.1916 and 11.12.1917. Brevet of Lieutenant-Colonel, 1918. (Belgian War Cross; 1914 Star and Clasp; British War Medal; Victory Medal; Distinguished Service Order, and Military Cross.)

Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C.

Was commissioned to the Yorkshire Light Infantry on 6.2.1909. Seconded to Signal Service, Royal Engineers, in December, 1914, and transferred to Royal Signals with the rank of Captain on 25.11.1920. Promoted Major (Brevet), 3.6.1919 (Substantive) 13.1.1923; Lieutenant-Colonel, 14.8.1929; Colonel, 14.8.1933.

During his twenty-four years of service with R.E. Signals and Royal Signals, Colonel Bradley held the following commands:

O.C., 1st Divisional Signals, 26.9.1922.
O.C., 4th Divisional Signals, 12.10.1923.
O.C., Signal Training Centre (India), Jubbulpore, 1.4.1926.
O.C., "A" Corps Signals, Karachi, India, 4.5.1927.
C.S.O., Northern Command, York, 14.8.1929.
O.C., Rhine Army Signals, 6.1.1920. (Redesignated 5th Divisional Signals and returned to Scarborough, 1.4.1930.)
C.S.O., Southern Command, Salisbury, 11.2.1934. From whence he retired with the honorary rank of Colonel on 1.8.1938.

Colonel Bradley saw Active Service in France and Belgium from March to September, 1915, and again from January, 1916, to November, 1918.

He was wounded in action at Loos, and was *Mentioned in Despatches* on three occasions, vide *London Gazettes* dated 21.12.1917, 28.12.1919, and 19.1.1920. Brevet of Major, 1918.

(French War Cross; 1914/15 Star; British War Medal; Victory Medal; Distinguished Service Order, and Military Cross.)

COLONEL E. DE W. H. BRADLEY, D.S.O., M.C.
(Retired 1st August, 1938.)

ROYAL SIGNALS CAR BADGE

The above illustration describes a new Car Badge, which has been designed to meet the requirements of all Royal Signals car owners.

It is a highly finished production of excellent workmanship—Chromium plated with a central background of Royal Signals Corps colours in enamel—and can be obtained on application to The Secretary, Signals Association; price 15/6 each.

Signal Unit, Glasgow University O.T.C.

Headquarters, University Avenue, Glasgow.
14th October.

The new session has started, and most of the lectures are at present directed towards the needs of candidates for the Certificate Examinations.

We have, however, a number of recruits, who, we hope, will be augmented from day to day, at least until the Unit has reached full strength.

Since this is the beginning of session, we have not a great deal to report, but we are looking forward to a prosperous year.

We are already making plans to make this year more successful than previous ones, and we hope we shall have the opportunity of carrying them out.

STONE AGE.

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

[The figures in the last column indicate the pages in the "Corps Promotion Roster" (published in April, 1938), 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 Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant.

2308114	W.O. II (C.S.M.) Dowie F. J.	29/7/38	7
2308849	W.O. II (C.S.M.) Wattley H. V.	30/7/38	7

Promoted Warrant Officer, Class II (C.S.M.).

4027251	C.Q.M.S. Wheeler C. W.	11/7/38	18
2310574	C.Q.M.S. Bremner R.	29/7/38	18
2306529	C.Q.M.S. Woodcock N. J.	30/7/38	18
2202150	C.Q.M.S. Barnham H. C. G.	30/7/38	18

Promoted Company Quartermaster-Sergeant.

1850468	Sergeant Dodman C. R.	11/7/38	21
2308475	Sergeant Solly W. J.	16/7/38	21
1857249	Sergeant Maynard A. R. G.	29/7/38	21
2311595	Sergeant Farr F. R. E.	30/7/38	21

Promoted Sergeant.

2315389	L/Sergeant Fletcher E. S.	4/7/38	39
3850642	L/Sergeant Welsby B.	6/7/38	39
2310961	L/Sergeant Smith G. F. V.	16/7/38	39
2308476	L/Sergeant Rowe C. E.	29/7/38	39
723439	L/Sergeant Wright H. H.	30/7/38	39
2313552	L/Sergeant Collins E. R.	30/7/38	39

Appointed Lance Sergeant.

2309297	Corporal Rankin H. F.	2/7/38	47
2317570	Corporal Kent W. F.	4/7/38	47
2318967	Corporal Deegan, M.	6/7/38	47
2317215	Corporal Taylor P. W.	7/7/38	47
2316139	Corporal Johnson J. H.	15/7/38	46
2316168	Corporal Connaghton J.	15/7/38	47
2309267	Corporal Small A. A.	15/7/38	48
2312788	Corporal Peters A. E.	15/7/38	48
2317800	Corporal Williams C. E.	15/7/38	48
2317320	Corporal Burke W. C.	15/7/38	48
5098850	Corporal Pullen H.	15/7/38	48
2312496	Corporal Rhodes B.	15/7/38	48
2310447	Corporal Goldberg I.	15/7/38	48
5492742	Corporal Macey R. W.	15/7/38	48
2315305	Corporal Carruthers F. J.	15/7/38	48
2308421	Corporal Bray I.	15/7/38	48
2310667	Corporal Marsh R. J.	15/7/38	48
2317005	Corporal Ross R. J.	15/7/38	48
2318108	Corporal Taylor E. S.	15/7/38	48
4337900	Corporal Mattock H. C.	15/7/38	48
2317772	Corporal Cox G. W. H.	15/7/38	48
2319978	Corporal Wagner F. L.	15/7/38	48
2318589	Corporal Evans W. J.	15/7/38	48
2315488	Corporal Parsons R. E.	15/7/38	48
2317592	Corporal Holsey J.	15/7/38	48
2317281	Corporal Gillings G. J.	15/7/38	48
2317021	Corporal Foster H.	15/7/38	48
2317935	Corporal Macdonald P. C.	15/7/38	48
2318087	Corporal Bunce C. F.	15/7/38	48
2316472	Corporal White E. J.	15/7/38	48
2317081	Corporal Whitwell R. H.	15/7/38	48
2318208	Corporal Frarey E. R.	15/7/38	48
5880397	Corporal Tucker C. C.	15/7/38	48
5044219	Corporal Swan A. H. J.	15/7/38	48
2976352	Corporal Collington R. M.	15/7/38	48
2319032	Corporal Burrell H. H.	15/7/38	49
2316772	Corporal Wright F. C. G.	15/7/38	49
2319746	Corporal Singleton C.	15/7/38	49
2315532	Corporal Vize H.	15/7/38	49
2317013	Corporal Wood H. J.	16/7/38	49
2317886	Corporal Watson C.	19/7/38	49
2315378	Corporal Stonehouse R. S.	29/7/38	49
2309470	Corporal Chrystie G. C.	30/7/38	49
2308512	Corporal August R. G.	30/7/38	49

Promoted Corporal.

2320860	L/Corporal Brooks H. N.	29/6/38	69
2322106	L/Corporal Spriggs L. A.	1/7/38	67

2322333	L/Corporal Macnair A.	2/7/38 .. 69
2321385	L/Corporal Hobbs F. M.	4/7/38 .. 69
2316831	L/Corporal Hales W. W.	6/7/38 .. 69
4444953	L/Corporal Lockey B.	7/7/38 .. 69
2322153	L/Corporal Mudie W.	19/7/38 .. 69
2321902	L/Corporal Moore W. C.	20/7/38 .. 69
2318749	L/Corporal Macken M. W.	24/7/38 .. 69
2321012	L/Corporal Weech C. W.	29/7/38 .. 69
2321966	L/Corporal Moran L. P.	30/7/38 .. 69
832501	L/Corporal Pearse W. R.	30/7/38 .. 69

Appointed Lance Corporal.

2322486	Signalman Lawson W. F.	1/2/38
6912645	Signalman Leverstone-Allen R. A.	2/2/38
2321147	Signalman Hurley W.	3/2/38
2321723	Signalman Heward W. L.	3/2/38
2317662	Signalman Whitehead A.	5/2/38
817177	Signalman Tracey A. H.	6/2/38
2321105	Signalman Styrin G. E.	8/2/38
2561841	Signalman Wood G. E.	10/2/38
6342348	Signalman Field W. C.	12/2/38
6137681	Signalman Simpson J. W.	12/2/38
2320460	Signalman Waterston J.	14/2/38
2322313	Signalman Swetnam S.	14/2/38
2318225	Signalman Billingsley G.	18/2/38
2323254	Signalman Tough R. C.	23/2/38
2977342	Signalman Morrison J. Mc.	23/2/38
775088	Signalman Leach W.	24/2/38
2323163	Signalman Barnett A. L.	25/2/38
801604	Signalman Lyons H. W.	26/2/38
2323384	Signalman Horton M. F.	28/2/38
2323661	Signalman Evans G.	28/2/38
2321162	Signalman Cox F. W.	28/2/38
2322419	Signalman Balls W. C.	28/2/38
4855644	Signalman Birtles W. G.	28/2/38
2318816	Signalman Griffiths R. H. G.	1/3/38
2323724	Signalman Hardy R.	2/3/38
2322056	Signalman Nixon H. S.	2/3/38
2321596	Signalman Merriman J.	3/3/38
2565293	Signalman Cotterill B. G.	3/3/38
2321517	Signalman Buxton J. F.	3/3/38
2322428	Signalman Newton A.	3/3/38
2321622	Signalman Cave J. H.	3/3/38
2319146	Signalman Roberts T.	3/3/38
2321352	Signalman Hade W.	4/3/38
2323701	Signalman Fouracre M.	6/3/38
2323302	Signalman Jones I. M. A.	6/3/38
2323271	Signalman Penman A. T.	6/3/38
2321705	Signalman Bromley W. J.	7/3/38
2320997	Signalman Lloyd J.	8/3/38
2323608	Signalman Kilburn S. A.	9/3/38
2320525	Signalman Redmond T. V. J.	9/3/38
2323041	Signalman Beatt D.	14/3/38
2321828	Signalman Mitchell S. A.	14/3/38
2319133	Signalman Johnson H. J.	18/3/38
2321976	Signalman Carey H. J.	28/3/38
2321940	Signalman Gully J.	30/3/38

Discharged.

*2309066	C.Q.M.S. Handby J.	12/8/38 .. 90
2310307	C.Q.M.S. Ratcliffe R.	9/9/38 .. 19
2311588	Sergeant Chandler A.	5/9/38 .. 23
2313756	Sergeant Chalmers R.	5/9/38 .. 26
1855513	Sergeant Pillinger H.	7/9/38 .. 21
2313855	Sergeant Tant H.	9/9/38 .. 32
6837724	Sergeant Lee A.	24/9/38 .. 25
2312479	Sergeant Blower J.	27/9/38 .. 25
1858688	Sergeant Brewer A.	27/9/38 .. 23
2308942	L/Sergeant Shaddick A.	29/9/38 .. 40
5003872	L/Corporal Adams A.	27/9/38 .. 73

Transferred to Army Reserve.

4534132	Corporal Booth A.	5/9/38 .. 56
2320885	Corporal Angus D.	11/9/38 .. 68
2320714	Corporal Schofield H.	16/9/38 .. 60
2320628	L/Corporal Walker T.	24/8/38 .. 73
2320740	L/Corporal Frake E.	2/10/38 .. 72

Deceased.

2314301	Sergeant Stanley R.	18/9/38 .. 31
2310956	L/Sergeant Coaten H.	19/9/38 .. 38

* Special Roster.

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1934 Morris Ten Saloon de Luxe in very nice condition	£55

AND MANY OTHERS

Herne Bay, Kent.
1.9.1938.

My dear White,

I received your letter dated 29th August and regret that in the rush of arriving I omitted to sign the letter to the Insurance Company.

I am very pleased with the car and thank you very much for the excellent arrangements you had made for me on arrival from India.

Signed.....Major, R.Signals.

Mr. White is an ex-Officer of the Corps, well known to many who served 1914-1918. He offers special terms to all R.Signals customers, first-class service, and guarantees every car sold. Full list of cars and prices supplied by return of post on application to the firm direct or the Editor, "The Wire."

Plain Tales.

Boris, the Blow Fly.—Grand new feature. The remarkable story of a much misunderstood insect told with extraordinary delicacy of expression. Harold Garbage, in the Daily Shreik, "We have nothing like this in Fleet Street." The Plate-layers Gazette says, "The usual type of nut and bolt cannot possibly be expected to stand up to ——." Well, never mind that one. New readers start here.

Well do I remember that brilliant spring morning when, exactly five minutes old, I crept out from the broken wall-paper beind the kitchen cupboard and took my first wondering flight round the electric light bulb. As the day wore on, evening approached, and with the arrival of night, darkness fell in an untidy heap all over the house.

Another startling instalment next beet collecting Tuesday.

A Loose End.—I was reading a detective story but with a great gusty sigh I flung it into the corner behind the wireless set, where it may lie with unused football coupons, receipts, futile demands for rates and dead marigolds. The story, if we can call it that, concerns a detective who sets out to unravel the mystery of a six-year-old murder, but up to page 150 the poor mutt hasn't discovered a darn thing. My roving eye caught the radio again and, thinking that a little soft music would provide a pleasant background for the click of knitting needles, I twiddled the knob. I was sorry almost at once. The poor devil who was putting over his first broadcast as a crooner is quite definitely out of work by now.

So you see, blokes, I must write to you instead. I have been absent again from these pages, not that I expected you to notice it, but I have a perfectly good excuse which I propose to keep to myself. Remind me to apologise one of these days.

The Past Goes By.—Such a lot has happened since I was last with you. We have been on the very edge of something or other, and only our etc., etc., has saved us from the greatest etc., etc. See small bills and Sunday papers. We were ready for anything up our way. I know one officer who provided himself with a considerable quantity of heavy underwear in readiness for a severe winter in Czecho-Slovakia. "I never wear this beastly stuff normally," he said, "so what the heck!"

I see a very fine ARP dugout almost completed at one Territorial Headquarters. There is some discussion as to whether it should be completed or filled in. My advice is, leave it over Christmas and it will fill itself in. Few uncared for trenches and things will survive the steady rain of the last few days. Anyway, after Christmas we shall know what the remainder of 1938 has given us. It is so much easier to look back and discuss the past than to guess about the future. Only the other evening we were able to do a spot of looking back, for Freddy Limb breezed into the 48th Divisional Signals Drill Hall and did dreadful things to our bottled food. Freddy was in the notorious "E" Company at Maresfield where men were tough and knitted wire netting with crowbars in their spare time.

He brought greetings from a host of old Signals now working in Woolwich Arsenal. They should get together down there and build a pub to be called the Chequers. We put Fred on a bus and bought him a ticket. "I'll bet you don't remember Tommy Dish-Dik-Tommy Dixon," he yelled as the conductor pushed him into his seat.

A Fresh Case? — Ukann Larfe stood with one foot on the rail and gazed across the vast expanse of heaving waters.

An enigmatic smile spread over his intellectual features. He removed it with an impatient sweep of his hand. Events had marched swiftly since he and Inspector Faceache had rescued The Countess Fibre from the fort. They had travelled completely round the world and now, curiously enough, were approaching their starting point.

"Whatcha thinking about, Uky?" said Hermione, creeping up behind him in her rubber-soled deck shoes (Starks and Dentures, 3s. 11d.). "Who wants to know?" snapped her husband, flicking her idly across the face with a piece of tarred rope. "And don't you call me Uky," he added.

Mademoiselle Colette and Inspector Faceache joined the happy couple just as the powerful Hermione was swinging Ukann Larfe over the side of the ship. She dropped the gasping detective on the deck and wiped her hands on Colette's frock.

Ukann lit a cigarette with shaking hands, "Thanks, Facev," he said. "She's dreadful now she can't find any turf."

"Listen, everybody," said the Inspector. "I've just had a box of red-hot clues and a couple of footprints sent me." Colette gave a little squeak and stood close to Ukann Larfe, who unthinkingly put his arm round her. Then she gave a hollow groan as Hermione punched her on the jaw. The beautiful but rather dumb international spy rolled into the scuppers. Ukann Larfe gazed at her with unseeing eyes. "What is it this time, Facey?" he asked.

"The Countess Fibre and Major Sogge-Sappe have vanished and Colonel Harvey Q. Adenoid has been found robbed and battered in the cellar of Stench Castle."

"So what?" rasped Hermione.

"Well, we've got to find out, of course," replied the patient Inspector.

"Yes. Of course," said Ukann, grasping the situation in a flash. "Naturally we've got to find out. Come on. Let's go."

Just then the ship struck a rock and sank like anything.

Gifts of old boots and cable drums should be sent to the Secretary, Smethwick and District Ticket Hole Manufacturers Sinking Fund and backed each way.

Petit Review.—I thought the October WIRE was particularly interesting, perhaps because I found more time to go through it. I am aware that many people just glance through their own Unit notes and leave it at that. This is a relic of the days when correspondents were a trifle vague in their references to people and things. Too many nicknames, known only to a small circle, were used, and the interest was lost to the majority. Writers are now wise to the fact that universal interest is the goal. Read your WIRE carefully and you'll see what I mean, or not, as the case may be. I spent a lot of time over the photographs. Captain Boileau looks happy. He must have a good Company. Lance Sergeant Barlow, who is no relation to Ukann Larfe, seems to have become a little thicker amidships, if I may say so. All to the good in a rugger scrum, no doubt. The Lance Corporal Crockett mentioned as a tennis finalist in the 2nd Indian Divisional Signals notes wouldn't be the celebrated drummer of Tom Sayers' band, would he?

Which reminds me that I saw something about Tom Sayers being wafted to China. Can this be true? I wish the photograph of the Secunderabad wedding could have been a wee bit larger. I would like to judge whether the last six years have dealt kindly with Mr. (I hope Captain) Burgess-Winn. My private congratulations and good wishes to him and to Mrs. Burgess-Winn. Remember me?

The pictures from the Sergeants' Mess at Abbassia show a happy crowd, but I think Mrs. Lynch should start an immediate action for something or other. Read that account again. The lady probably never was a charlady. Puncher Fee would, of course, make an excellent coffee stall keeper.

Now I have passed the notes from the Near East and still I am wondering what happened to C.Q.M.S. "Notchy" Knight, once of Bulford. Has the East swallowed him up?

The 48th Divisional Signals on page 455 look just what they are. Smart and right up to scratch. The man in the last row but one, fourth from the left, owes me a petrol tin. Can that be a real moustache in the possession of Lance Sergeant Harry Steele on page 463?

Read your WIRE right through. You'll find it lots of fun, and the names will gradually become familiar to you.

Sign your name underneath this flap.

BARLEUX.

London's Anti-Aircraft Signal Unit

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals (T.A.)

The 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals (commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel G. C. Wickins, T.D.), with Headquarters at 56, Regency Street, London, S.W., is the Signal Unit of the 1st Anti-Aircraft Division, T.A. It is made up of Unit Headquarters and three Companies, which are responsible for manning "Operations Rooms" and for the construction and maintenance of lines connected to those Operational Centres. The Establishment was practically doubled during the recent emergency.

The work is unique, as training is given not only in Army signalling generally, but on the special apparatus designed for anti-aircraft communications. The trades of the personnel include line construction and maintenance, and the operating of telephones, switchboards and teleprinters.

Signal Training.— Recruits are taken through a special course, and subsequently they are given training in the various signal trades. Instruction is based on a knowledge of the first principles of electricity and magnetism. Pictorial representation of the work is regarded as essential, and this is arranged by means of apparatus and lantern slides. The practical side of line construction is encouraged and throughout the training period opportunities are afforded for jointing, soldering and airline work. Map reading is important, particularly for the D.R.s, and increasing attention has been given to this subject.

A Trade Board is held annually, and N.C.O.s and men are encouraged to work for the higher classifications.

Anti-Aircraft Operations Room and Counter Operations Room Training. —Each Company has Operating Sections designed to work the Operations Room applicable to the Company area. For training in anti-aircraft operations, a Counter Operations Room has been designed for use at Headquarters to produce a mimic air raid. A Construction Section is attached to each Company.

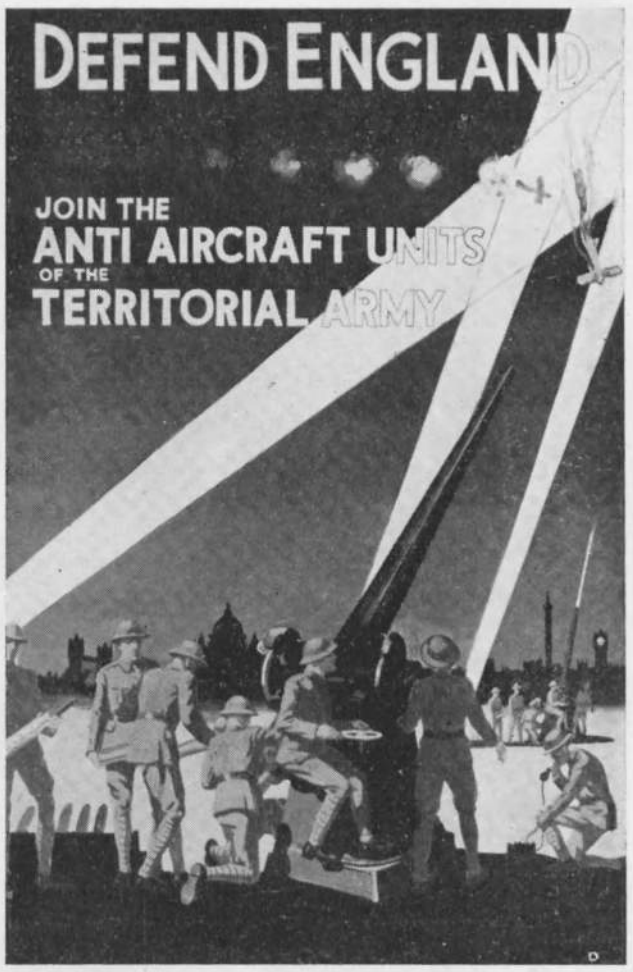
Annual Training.—Annual training affords an opportunity for outdoor technical signal training and for the practical demonstration of signal organisation. Drill and physical training form part of the daily work at annual training, and airline and drill competitions are held during the camp period. Sports are arranged and team work is encouraged. Last August the Unit took part in the Air Exercises, operating special apparatus in the Operations Rooms, and building lines.

Old Comrades' Association.—The Westminster Branch of the Royal Signals Old Comrades' Association holds its meetings and social functions at these Headquarters.

The Recent Emergency.—Prior to the new Establishment, the strength of the Unit was approximately 125 per cent., and it was on account of the additional men available that it was possible to man the Operational Centres during the recent emergency period. The personnel was ordered to report to Headquarters by means of telegrams despatched from the Central Telegraph Office, and within a few hours of the despatch of these telegrams the greater number of the men attended, with uniform and kit ready for work. In Anti-Aircraft Units, Officers, N.C.O.s and men sign a special form agreeing to being called up in advance of the Territorial Army as a whole, and it was on this understanding that the Anti-Aircraft troops were deployed for the emergency. It was most satisfactory, therefore, to know that it was definitely practicable to obtain the personnel within such a short time ready to move off to their positions.

The organisation set up during the August Air Exercises proved of immediate value during the emergency period. It was a coincidence that a week-end camp had been arranged for an Airline competition late in September, and an opportunity was taken during that camp to test all apparatus. It was therefore in excellent working condition when the emergency started.

As might be imagined, in the very wet weather of the early days of the emergency, difficulties arose in maintaining some of the telephones in good working order, but, fortunately, the modern "F" telephone was generally available and gave excellent results.



It is obvious that for work of this character the Operational Centre must be well protected, and elaborate precautions have been taken to ensure that protective schemes are put into immediate effect.

An outstanding feature of the recent anti-aircraft deployment and the work which followed, is the splendid spirit in which all ranks tackled the job. The weather conditions were generally most unfavourable, but whatever they were called upon to do, and however long they were asked to work, they did their work willingly and cheerfully. The extreme importance of the work carried out by Signals was very clearly demonstrated.

This Unit has a large proportion of Post Office personnel, and additional Post Office employees are still required. Men who are not employed in the Post Office can also be accepted, particularly those interested in electrical work and signalling. As a general policy it is not desired to draw too heavily on the Post Office, but with a definite proportion of Post Office personnel it is possible to train those outside the Post Office, and thus give assistance to that organisation when emergencies arise.

Future Organisation.—Anti-Aircraft defence has grown enormously during recent years. The Signal Unit which now exists serves the first Anti-Aircraft Division, but some idea of the organisation which is being set up can be obtained when one realises that the first Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals has been increased to four times its original establishment.

The main function of Signals is to provide operational lines and to construct and maintain such lines in particular areas. It will also be necessary to organise Signal Sections for the administrative lines. It is interesting to recall at this stage that for a long time after the War the Anti-Aircraft Signal Organisation for Fixed Defences consisted of two small Air Defence Brigade Units whose function was mainly to work with the searchlights.

ROYAL SIGNALS CORPS BAND

Left to right, back row : J. Brinkworth, J. Mason, F. E. Andrews, C. Whitfield.
Fourth row : Corporal E. A. Hurst, Corporal W. S. Skinner, W. Kellett, W. Romaines, R. E. Smith.
Third row : W. J. Bradfield, J. C. McGregor, J. Allan, W. Kendrick, E. C. Moore, A. W. Smith.
Second row : C. V. Grimwood, A. Green, A. Steel, Lance Sergeant A. G. Reilly, Lance Sergeant A. A. Robinson, W. Gibbons, D. Henry, P. O'Connor.
Front row : H. Richardson, A. Richardson, Corporal C. Purvis, Mr. R. R. Ricketts, Lieutenant Colonel R. T. O. Cary, M.B.E., Sergeant A. W. Saunders, C. Swan, Corporal R. P. Hayes, W. G. Roden.

Corps Cricket.

Royal Signals v. R.M.A.—An all-officer side played a one-day fixture against the R.M.A. at Woolwich on 15th June and lost by 120 runs. It was agreed to play twelve a side, and as we were sadly lacking in bowlers we expected, and got, plenty of leather hunting.

Batting first, the R.M.A. did not fare too well and had lost 7 wickets for 97. By this time, however, the sting had gone from the bowling and the next wicket did not fall until the score had reached 187. Eventually the Shop declared with 10 wickets down for 251 and left us with just over two hours in which to get the runs.

Our response was not impressive. Wickets fell steadily and we were all out for a total of 131.

During the Shop innings, Major Lewis-Barclay and 2nd Lieutenant Power bowled 26 and 21 overs respectively.

R.M.A.

Lewis, b Power	1
Collins, b Lewis-Barclay	14
Heaven, c Golden, b Power	45
Rogers, c Vulliamy, b Power	13
Addington, b Lewis-Barclay	1
Rice, c Hayles, b Pellew	1
Robinson, lbw, b Power	10
Stenett, b Power	56
Deakin, not out	61
Ellerton, b Lewis-Barclay	9
Willcocks, c Harrison, b Pellew	21
Inglis, not out	0
Extras	19
Total (for 10 wickets declared)	251

BOWLING.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wkts.
2nd Lieutenant R. F. B. Power	21	3	86	5
Major H. S. Lewis-Barclay	26	4	72	3
Lieutenant F. H. Pellew	11	4	42	2
2nd Lieutenant C. H. Golden	2	0	18	0
Major J. A. I. Watts	1	0	14	0

ROYAL SIGNALS.

Major L. C. Boyd, b Inglis	5
Captain E. L. Vulliamy, c Stenett, b Ellerton	28
Lieutenant F. H. Pellew, b Stenett	8
2nd Lieutenant P. T. S. Brown, b Inglis	0
Major J. A. I. Watts, c Collins, b Deakin	30
2nd Lieutenant B. R. M. Hayles, c Willcocks, b Inglis	5
Major H. S. Lewis-Barclay, lbw, b Rogers	15
2nd Lieutenant C. H. Golden, c and b Deakin	1
Captain L. C. Harrison, b Ellerton	5
Lieutenant F. S. Whiteway-Wilkinson, not out	20
Lieutenant J. H. St. G. Hammersley, b Stenett	1
2nd Lieutenant R. F. B. Power, b Rogers	3
Extras	10
Total	131

BOWLING.

Inglis 3 for 13, Stenett 2 for 44, Rogers 2 for 24, Ellerton 2 for 18, Deakin 2 for 22.

R.M.A. won by 120 runs.

Do YOU belong to the Signals Association ?

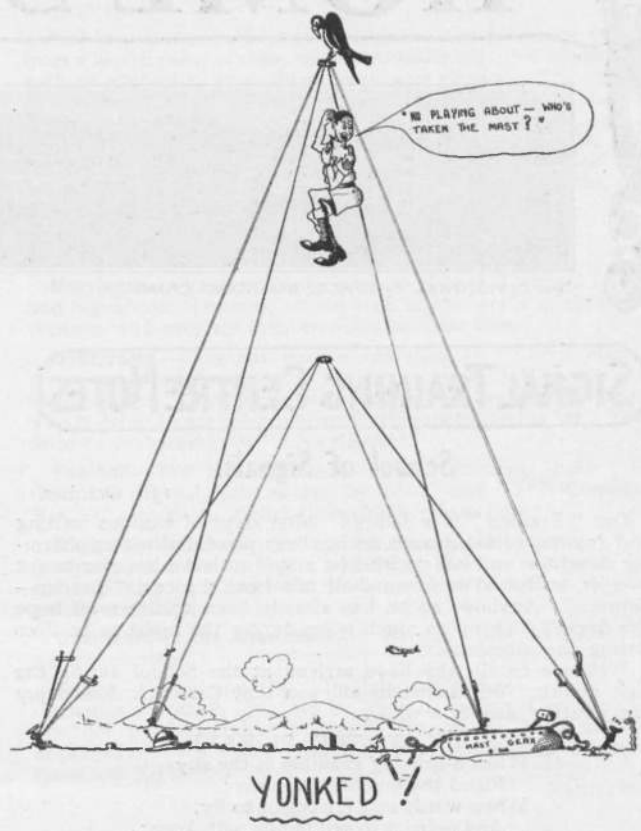
If not, join now !

Your military service will come to an end some day, and you may then need help in finding civil employment. See how the Association helps its Members in that direction, as shown on page 466.

The subscription is only 2/- per annum.

Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

DREAMS OF OUR NOTED STEEPLEJACK.



(From No. 2 Company, "B" Corps Signals, India.)

Corps Rugby Fixtures 1938-39.

Saturday, 29th October.—Sem: Final, "Cobb-Nicholls" Cup. Mons Barracks.

Monday. 31st October. — Final, "Cobb-Nicholls" Cup. Mons Barracks.

Wednesday, 2nd November.—Corps Trial Match. Mons Barracks.

Saturday, 5th November.—Corps Trial Match. Mons Barracks.

Friday, 11th November.—Royal Signals v. R.A. Command Central Ground, Aldershot.

Monday, 14th November.—Royal Signals v. R.E. Command Central Ground, Aldershot.

Monday, 21st November.—Royal Signals v. R. Tank Corps. Command Central Ground, Aldershot.

Monday, 28th November.—Royal Signals v. R.M.A. Woolwich.

COBB-NICHOLLS CUP, 1938.

By Wednesday, 26th October. FIRST ROUND. 2nd Disisional Signals v. "A" Corps Signals, at Aldershot. 3rd Divisional Signals v. 4th Divisional Signals, at Bulford.

Saturday, 29th October. Semi-Final. Between winners of the first round, at Aldershot.

Monday, 31st October. Final. Winner of Semi-Final v. Winner (Northern Command), at Aldershot.

HOME STATIONS

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

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

School of Signals.

15th October.

Our " Frankie " is a daddy ! After days of anxious waiting and gnawing of finger nails, he has been presented with a charming daughter, and has decided on a spot of leave in order to get over it, so for a week we shall not hear the cry, " Leader—Sargint." Anyhow, as he has already been told, we all hope she doesn't kick up as much noise during the night as he does during the afternoon.

Welcome to all who have arrived at the School during the past month. We hasten to tell you that Catterick does enjoy fine weather once in a while.

ODE TO THE PICKAXE.

When a droning grumble in the sky
  Filled the imagination's ear ;
When words and fur began to fly,
  And politics joined hands with beer ;
When, scattered at convenient spots
  Were placards, shovels, sand and pails,
And in the barracks, lots and lots
  Of torn and ragged finger nails.

Then " To the Shovels " was the cry,
  And all responded to the call,
And digging while the soil was dry
  Was fairish, taken all in all ;
With vicious pick fair lawns were rent,
  At divers predetermined points,
But with that first fine fervour spent,
  Came blistered hands and aching joints.

And later still, when clay was reached,
  Came choice and varied verbiage ;
If all had practised what they preached,
  What gaps there'd be on Europe's stage ;
But through the long and weary ploy,
  'Twould seem by fate intentioned,
Came interludes of sheerest joy,
  Like those here undermentioned.

An R.S.M. without a coat,
  O wondrous, rare and lovely sight ;
He with industrious mallet smote,
  And crowned his juniors left and right.
And then there was the great cave in
  With search for victims heated ;
But victims there were not within,
  Bloodthirsty joy was cheated.

At last, long last, the work was done,
  Each trench completed, ready ;
But on those earthworks, every one,
  The Yorkshire rain fell steady ;
And later, by each flooded hole,
  Small urchins, black as sin,
Would, hands in pockets, calmly stroll,
  And sail their boats therein.

But now the whole thing's finished quite,
  There's no more yarn to spin,
'Cos after tea the other night
  We filled our trenches in !

S. O. S.

Sergeants' Mess.

During the last few weeks our activities have been, like those of so many others, in the pick and shovel line, and, as always happens, surprising talent was " unearthed," and some brand new expletives heard.

One member at least distinguished himself by continuing to cover himself with mud (and glory) " whence all but he had fled." A certain daily newspaper reported that nothing of interest was unearthed during the recent A.R.P. digging. If ancient drains are interesting, we can point with pride to those we discovered. As a matter of fact they spoke for themselves when we discovered them.

A word of appreciation is due here to all those who did their little extra bit during the last few weeks, and especially to our A.R.P. experts, Sergeant McKowen and Lance Sergeant Manning, who, with their little band of assistants, did so much to complete our family A.R.P., both in Quarters and in the outlying districts.

We welcome Sergeant Betty J. and family to the School. We hope that they will enjoy their stay with us, in spite of having to take over a brand new Quarter (with garden).

Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. McKee J. and Sergeant Betty J. on their recent promotion to those ranks ; also to Sergeant Clark W. H., Lance Sergeants Manning S. and Birkett F. (F-of-S Course) on being in the running for the new Indian General Service Medal, 1936/37. Nobby's chest can still take all they give. In accordance with our old-established custom, " Caterer, please note ! "

"A" Company, Depot Battalion.

Once again the dark gloom of winter is about to fall upon Sunny (?) Catterick and we shall soon be expecting employment at our old winter hobby of snow shovelling. It should be comparatively easy this time as we have had quite a lot of practice at shovelling during the trench-digging period. Yes, one full week of it !

During the crisis, looking out from the M.T. bays, we could see nothing but a mass of men, naked to the waist, working their way underground in the opposite field, with picks and shovels.

The W/T and Drill Instructors found it rather a change to supervise the recruits on such an unusual job. Their demonstration with the pick and shovel was, perhaps, not quite so efficient as their proficiency with rifles. The work is now finished, and we are prepared, in the event of trouble, to dive into our holes just like rabbits. We know that our C.O. must be satisfied now that this task has been completed.

A great many changes have taken place in the Depot during the past few months. So many, in fact, that we can hardly describe them all in the current issue. Readers will be interested

to know that the "Wings" no longer exist. "Dismounted Wing" has gone, and in its place we have "A" Company, some six hundred strong. The "Mounted Wing" is now "C" Company.

Arrivals and Departures.—Recruiting has amazed us all, for there has been a long and steady flow of new arrivals. For the past four months an average of 25 Squads have been undergoing training on the square—this must be a record year.

Signalman Shaw, the bald-headed man with four "dodgers" (who, incidentally, is in charge of the reception room), has commenced to tear his hair out in lumps. When these rushes of new arrivals occurs, poor Baldy has to work miracles in order to find accommodation, etc. Don't get worried, Baldy, and bear up; for it really cannot be long now.

Since our last appearance in the WIRE, Squads of five to nineteen have been passed off the square. No. 17 Squad passed off under Lance Sergeant Allan, Signalman Waddington winning the Colonel's whip. Congratulations! No. 18 Squad passed off under Corporal Collett, but some difficulty was met in making a choice for the whip man. We congratulate Signalman Major for being the best of a very good Squad. No. 19 Squad passed off under Lance Corporal Graham. Another shower of Guardsmen, Baldy! Keep it up! We congratulate Signalman Russ for securing the whip presented to the best man of the Squad. Nice work, Russ; keep going!

Promotions.—We heartily congratulate Captain Goodeve-Docker on obtaining his pip. We wish you luck, sir!

We must not overlook our Lance Jacks, who have now finished with that horrible "U." They are 2321530 Lance Corporal Scott, that gross man in the stores; 2316932 Lance Corporal Ives; 2317826 Lance Corporal Shaw; and 2322307 Lance Corporal Heath, our tiny but efficient policeman. Keep going, Tich; there are more rungs on the ladder.

Jews' Mail.—To "Red Fascist Fono" and "Crazy Collins." "How about a line from you fatheads? Madder Rennie."

The same Madder Rennie has left us for a six months' Course M. of L. Good luck to you. Will you be taking on again?

Marriages.—Is this a craze just now? People just keep on getting married. We suppose there must be worse things in life. On Tuesdays and Fridays the queue for rations extends from the ration stand to halfway to the P.O. The poor butcher serves out pounds of meat; an effort which costs him pounds in perspiration when cutting up the cows. We congratulate the following, and wish them every success in the future: At St. Luke's Church, Darlington, on 21st May, Lance Corporal MacLeod to Miss Elaine Nottger. Lance Corporal Driscoll married Miss Kathleen Emily Singleton Morgan at St. Mary's Church, Lewisham, London, on 10th July. Corporal Trout was married to Miss Bessie Fairden at Denaby Main Parish Church, Doncaster, on 28th August. Lance Corporal Heath was married to Miss Alma McGrail at Richmond Register Office on 29th July. We wish them every happiness.

Things We Want to Know.—Who is Christmas?
Who is the Bradford bloodhound?
What is the difference between a C.S.M. and a R.Q.M.S.?

Who was the most noisy person in the Corporals' Mess when Corporal Carr was on leave, since Corporal Trout got married, before Corporal Matthews arrived, after Corporal Crust had gone, and when Reginald Fox is on duty?

Who said: "We will march or die with the men"?

Heard in the Barrack Room.—Recruit, whilst reading last month's WIRE: "Ha! Ha! Imagine a certain officer saying, 'I'll see Hutton's kit when he comes in,' Jock."

Jock: "Ay, funny, ain't it!" (A pause.)

"How many did Kingsford-Smith score, Jock?" (Collapse of Jock.)

Jock to Smudger (during completion of kit inspection): "Watch my kit, will you, Smudger, while I go and see a man about a dog?"

Smudger: "Why? Don't you trust us, Jock? Do you think we'd pinch some of it?"

Jock: "Oh, yes; I trust you all right. It isn't that I am afraid of someone pinching my kit, I'm afraid of them pinching their own!"

Health and Strength.—What a contrast is observed by those in the Depot Battalion between the pale-faced, drooping shouldered recruit on joining and the same chap fourteen weeks later at his "passing-off" parade prior to joining the Training Battalion. We see him erect, alert, ruddy-faced, and full of ginger. A different man entirely. And what is it due to? The answer is: open-air life, physical training, games, and plenty of good food.

And here is proof that Army life is the best for young fellows from a health point of view, without considering other advantages such as education, promotion, travel and pension. The average gain in weight of Recruit Squads after fourteen weeks of training was:

No. 17 Squad, average gain per man	..	9.67	lbs.
No. 18 ,, ,, ,, ,,	..	8.48	lbs.
No. 19 ,, ,, ,, ,,	..	7.54	lbs.

"C" Company, Depot Battalion.

Marriages.—Here's wishing Sergeant Homer, Corporal Lundie and Signalman Newsome all the luck in the world in their bold venture, and may all their troubles be little ones.

Departures.—Sergeant Brewer has gone to "Civvy Street," where we hope he enjoys as much success in A.R.P. activities as he did here. Good luck also to Farrier Staff Sergeant Vanstone, who is going to see the boats at Southampton during his "Voc." prior to embarking for "Civvy Street."

Football.—We have started well by defeating both "C" Company, Royal Tank Corps by 6—4, and "H" Company, R.A.S.C., by 3—0. Other Companies, please note!

Rugger.—We should sweep the board this season. "E" Company were beaten by 11 pts. to 3. This is, of course, only the beginning of a successful season, so don't let them say that we never told you.

Overheard in the Mess-room.—"He can't play football; he's a married man!"

Found.—Wandering in "Baghdad N.A.A.F.I., in a semi-conscious condition (due, we believe, to taking it on the chin) one not so respectable "Goon." Owner can have same on application. We think that the owner resides in Liverpool. Good old Eddie!

BATTLING.

Sergeants' Mess, Depot Battalion.

To start with, we offer our congratulations to our two new members, Sergeants Stonehouse and Homer. Also to Sergeant Clarke, for dispensing with the Lance, and to our popular singer and comedian, Lance Sergeant Cully of the Yorks and Lancs, on obtaining yet another dirty mark on his sleeve. Lastly, we cheer Q.M.S.I. Mayle, who climbs steadily on. Don't be too long, sir, in getting to the next step; we want to see how you look in your new uniform!

Soon we shall be saying good-bye to our more than six-foot Sergeant E. Jones, who is warned for still more service abroad. What's wrong with this place, anyway? Still, if you want it, the 7th won't take long to crawl up.

A most enjoyable evening was spent with the Inniskillings. The Mess "B" team was good enough to win the Boat Race. Which member almost lost his oar?

We must congratulate Lance Sergeant Homer G. on his marriage to Miss Norah Storey, at Newcastle, on 8th October.

Corporals' Mess Depot Battalion.

Despite our long, silent interval, we have very little news.

Not long ago we held a Games Tournament, which was organised and supervised by our popular "Pikye." It was a great success, and most of the members competed in billiards, snooker, darts, and many other games. During the Tournament, the Mess was crowded every night, and a most enjoyable time was spent by all.

Freddie Shuttleworth played all comers, and beat them off from the final. Nice going, Fred; and hard luck to Darkie Millner, our popular attached member. What did Fred do to

you, Darkie ? Hush ! Don't tell them that you were probably off form !

The snooker game has captured an amazing amount of interest in the Mess, and many of our members are secretly practising.

A very enjoyable evening was recently spent by our members with the Yorks and Lancs. There were several first-class entertainers.

Headquarters, Training Battalion.

15th October.

During the last month Captain C. F. Newsom, Royal Signals, has left the Unit to join 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford. Major R. Sutton-Pratt, Royal Signals, who has rejoined the Unit from temporary duty at the War Office, will no doubt find Catterick Camp to be a very quiet spot these days.

In common with the rest of the country during the past few weeks, A.R.P. has been causing much work in the Battalion. Trenches have been dug, rooms gas-proofed, and gas masks issued to families. We also supplied personnel for fitting gas masks at various villages near the Camp.

On 13th October the first of the winter series of Whist Drives was held in the Vimy Lines Institute. This was well supported, and bodes well for the future.

L. B.

"D" Company, Training Battalion.

True Catterick weather has been playing havoc during the past month. Our A.R.P. trenches seem more like a series of ultra-modern swimming pools at times. Trenches being so much in the news lately has reminded your pen-pusher that our Technical Maintenance Officer has found a new title for the initials of his appointment—Trench Making Officer. No prizes are offered for better efforts, if any.

The Junior Mess have once again given an addition to the Married Establishment. (Oh, to be a junior N.C.O.) Our congratulations go to Corporal Locke H. V. on his marriage to Phyllis Margaret Matthews, at Edmonton, Middlesex, on 5th September. Whether he has any " bunk furniture " to sell or not is yet to be decided in his last will and testament. What about the wireless set, " Taffy " ?

Lance Sergeant Whalley and Lance Corporal Gee have departed on a six months' attachment to the Peterborough Division of the " Civvy Street Light Infantry " whilst attending a Course of Instruction (or destruction if you like) at the G.P.O. Would someone kindly explain whether it is " poisonality " or " personality " that secures these holidays.

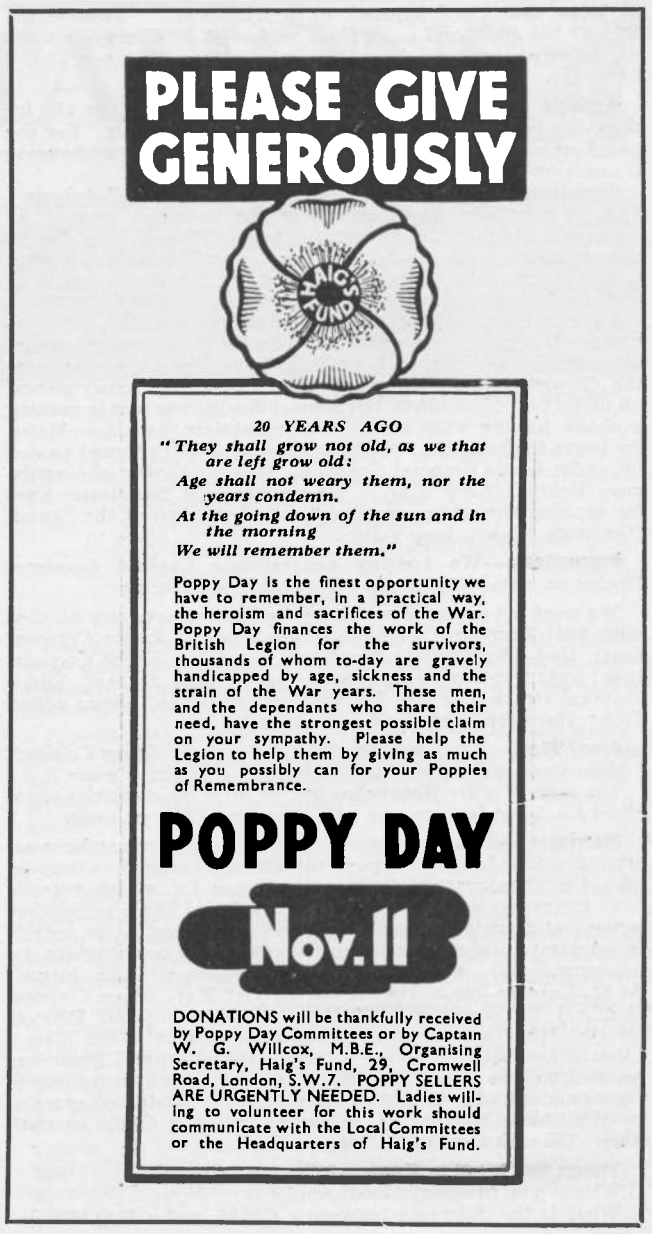
Quite a number of recruits have left the Company for Field Units to undergo training during the past few weeks, and we trust that their new homes will be to their satisfaction. Signalmen Evans and Sheridan proceeded to 1st Divisional Signals, Signalmen Timperly and Van Krieken went to 2nd Divisional Signals for duty as Instrument Mechanics, Class III. The Vocational Training Course as a " waitress " at our local Y.M.C.A. was evidently of no use to Signalman Evans.

Sergeant Parsons L. was discharged after completing twenty-one glorious years and proceeded to employment in civilian life. We wish him the best of luck and prosperity in his new work.

Corporal Bennington has always had a desire to go on a tour of duty in the Far East (the further away the better), and so we congratulate him on extending his service so as to complete twelve years with the Colours. Signalman Bartlett, one of our able carpenters, has also decided to take this bold lead.

Will readers please get the little blue book ready for amendments. Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Fishwick and Sergeant Fletcher on attaining the ranks shown ; to Lance Sergeant Taylor on entering the senior Mess, and also to Corporals Hales and Trevethan.

Recently, married personnel had to fill in a form stating what they wanted for their children for Christmas. The following is an entry on the form belonging to the Company George Robey, our Pay N.C.O. "A book on trains (not a time table)."



It may be of interest to know that we are finding it rather difficult here to decide whether we are standing on our head or our heels. Civilian employees have now invaded the mess-room, bath-house and Battalion gardens.

ARNOLD P.

"E" Company, Training Battalion.

11th October.

Once more the lowly scribe must take unto himself his pen, and write, because by hook or by crook he must produce something to keep the editor busy, even if it is " much ado about nothing."

The Catterick weather has returned to " normal," and everyone is preparing for the icy blasts which are due to make themselves felt in the very near future.

Arrivals and Departures.—The usual steady flow of recruits through the Company goes on uninterruptedly. We hope that their stay with us is not as bad as some would have us believe. Nos. 61, 62 and 63 O.S. Squads completed their training last

month, and to wherever they have been posted we wish them all that is best.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to Sergeant Lee A., Lance Sergeant Shepherd N. and Corporal Hurst E. E. A. on attaining their respective ranks.

Winter Entertainments.—The opening Whist Drive for Junior N.C.O.s and men takes place this month in the Regimental Institute. We hope that the social events in Catterick will keep our pens busy during the coming season.

Football.—Our first match in the Garrison Company League, Division I, against " D " Company, had to be postponed owing to the ground resembling a duck pond. Our next match is away from home against the R.A.O.C., and we hope to be able to report on our success in our next issue, unless our talent spotter is suffering from a misty optic.

Shooting.—The Company team is busy practising, as the season opens next month. We are very hopeful that some of our new members will make a big hit.

Billiards.—From what we have been told, " E " Company have already got the Competition in the bag. We hope they will not get " snookered " too soon.

Cross-country.—Everything points to us having quite a successful season, and we expect we shall provide quite a number of runners for the Training Battalion team this year.

Howlers.—When a piece of steel is magnetized, all the molecules crowd into a small space, thus leaving a vacuum, which is the source of attraction to other metals.

Things We Would Like to Know.—Which Junior N.C.O. would like the new barracks built near Catterick Aerodrome ?

Which Junior N.C.O. got his own back on the brook by jumping into the middle of it ?

We hear that there is keen competition for membership of the " Cadre Pool Swindle " as it is now limited. We have not yet heard of its success, but if what we hear is true, nobody else has a chance of winning. There does not appear any other language in the Cadre Hut but 1, 2, X, X, X, X, 2, 1, X, 2, X, 2.

J. N.

"F" Company, Training Battalion.

General.—At the time of writing we are experiencing weather typical of Catterick. Needless to say it is, and has been frequently, raining these last few days.

We have had plenty of gas drill lately, and the whole Company have been employed on air raid precautions. Huts Nos. 4, 5 and 9 have had paper stuck all over the windows to render them splinter proof, and the waste ground in the vicinity simply abounds with trenches. This trench digging came as a welcome change from normal routine, and also provided a few laughs. It was pleasing to see the O.C. and second-in-command roll up their sleeves and wield a mighty pick just like experienced navvies ; in fact, everyone worked like fiends. Emma provided quite a laugh when he laid a plank across the trench and nonchalantly proceeded to saw through it whilst standing on it.

On 1st October we held a fancy dress dance in " F " Company's " ballroom," as Holdaway's poster informed us. Quite a few were in fancy dress, and some original costumes were on view. There were plenty of spot prizes and also a " Lambeth Walk " competition, which was won by Fatty Holdsworth and Teddy Baldock, with Newstead and Forsyth runners-up.

Then came the fancy dress judging. Smith R., who went as a South Sea Island belle, was first. His costume consisted of four handkerchiefs, a couple of yards of crepe paper, and a broad grin. Stevenson was runner-up and was dressed as a poacher, complete with rabbits and dog. The third place was awarded to " Crash " Holdaway, who went as a Hootin Tootin Shootin son of the Wild West. Owing to the enormous success of the dance we are to have another one in a fortnight's time, when fancy dress will be essential if one wishes to dance. We are looking forward to an interesting display and a keen contest.

Arrivals.—Captain Mellor from Egypt on 25th May. We hope you will enjoy your stay, sir. Also 2nd Lieutenants Mallock and Shaw, who are attached to us for the new " Q " Course.

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Departures.—The following have left us for the Units stated : Signalman Richards to Bulford ; Signalmen Peckham and Gosling to Canterbury. Save a corner bed space, Dick !

Sergeant Rigden, our cheery pay clerk, was called away at short notice for duty with the Fighter Group, R.A.F.

Appointments.—Boys Carr K. G. and Murray A. appointed Lance Corporal Boys on 10th September. Nice work ; it was worth the effort.

Ignorance of Modern Youth.—He strutted up and down with books balanced on his head and declared he was studying elocution. Never mind, Tom, we put it down to the amount of worry you've had.

Things We Want to Know.—Who held his rifle at the trail in the left hand whilst saluting with his right hand, and only got checked for having a cigarette in his mouth ?

Who cuts his toe nails with a table knife ?

When is it going to stop raining ?

Jews' Mail.—Teak 944. " Why no letter ? Crash 066."

Tailpiece.—There's news of the Boys' Army Cup coming north this year.

SPEEDY.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess Training Battalion.

15th October.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to R.Q.M.S. " Tommy" Deptford and hope his stay with us will prove a happy one. How long we have been waiting for him to put in an appearance —only the more highly paid ones in the administrative branches know ! It is many moons since " Jackie " Cutler walked out of the Battalion.

Departures.—Sergeants Brewer and " Les " Parsons left us during September for the " better " life. The former is now one of the staff of "A.R.P." Limited, with a branch at Northallerton. Surely he didn't think he would dispose of many with his old Corps associates ? " Les " Parsons is now seated at one of the C.I.A.'s tables at Woolwich Arsenal. To those two old members of the Mess we offer our very best wishes in their new activities.

By the time these notes are in print we shall probably have lost another old stager in C.Q.M.S. Offord, who is leaving us to take over the duties of R.S.M., 48th (S.M.) Divisional Signals, Birmingham. Good luck, " Pop " ! What a habit to cultivate.

Social.—Signs that the festive season approaches fast may be observed. Draw tickets are on sale and quite a lot of time is being devoted to scheming. More news of this anon. There should have been some sports activities to report, but we have experienced so much " weather " of late that it has been necessary to postpone fixtures until the Christmas weather commences.

Casualties.—It was surprising to observe the amount of concern shown when Sergeant " Bill " Ashford went into hospital. Some said he wanted a long rest, some said he was tired of standing, but we are all pleased to see him about again, looking.

decidedly more fit. Is it correct that he has applied for a " sea trip " for health reasons ?

Personalities.—This month's photograph depicts one of the younger of our personalities, to wit, Lance Sergeant Goat A. " F " Company.

Impending.—In the list of Mess members, whose names have been quoted by Officer i/c Records for this year, Sergeant Green W. appears to be most favoured, so far—he does know when !

Conclusion.—Much ado about nothing, but better efforts to come.

BETESSES.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

"A" Corps Signals.

No. 1 Company.

10th September.

General.—We welcome to the Technical Maintenance Section those who have joined us from No. 2 Company. In future they will form part of the Establishment of No. 1 Company.

Since our last notes we have had a short spell in the Southern Command Area, taking part in the R.A. Exercise. We are now encamped at Ampthill Park, Bedfordshire, building and laying lines to be used in the forthcoming War Office Exercise, 19th to 21st September.

Drafts.—Big boats are once again the popular, or unpopular, subject. The first Palestine draft has already left. On the next boat are C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Smith for Malta ; Sergeant Millen for Malaya ; and Lance Corporal Radford (late of No. 1 Company Office) also for Malaya. We wish them *bon voyage* and a happy time at their new Stations.

Departures.—Signalman Weetman has left us to prepare for civilian life. It is hoped that he will find a comfortable job there.

Lance Sergeants Scrase and Williamson and Lance Corporal Townsend have left us to rejoin their Units in India after their hard-earned leave, and a short and (to us) useful stay in "A" Corps Signals.

7th October.

General.—The month of September was a busy and interesting month for the Company.

Firstly, the Unit camp at Ampthill Park, Bedfordshire, from 9th to 22nd September. The locality produced memories for most of the old stagers and ex-boys of the old Signal School days at Dunstable.

The United Services Club at Ampthill extended an invitation to all ranks to use the Club during our stay. This was greatly appreciated by W.O.s, N.C.O.s and men of No. 1 Company, who were made very welcome whenever they visited the Club.

The War Office Exercise provided an opportunity for G.H.Q. Signals (S.R.) to work with the Regular Line and Construction Sections. A great many miles of air line and cable was put up or laid down. No doubt, judging by the amount of stores in readiness, a lot more would have been completed if the duration of the Exercise had not been unexpectedly curtailed.

The diggers of No. 1 Company have made a name for themselves during the A.R.P. On the first night of the preparations digging for 4½ hours, by the light of the headlamps of the Company transport, they constructed sufficient trenches, 6½ feet deep, to house the personnel of the Company.

Individual Training is with us again. This year the Class II men get first chance of increasing their weekly stipend. After Christmas, the Class III and Group " E " men will do a bit of thinking.

Arrivals.—Welcome to Drivers (I.C.) Hird and Nash, who have joined us from 2nd Divisional Signals.

Departures.—The best of luck to Signalman Ball, who goes adventuring into civilian life.

No. 3 Company.

8th September.

Owing to pressure of work, we shall not be able to report much, but as the collective training season terminates at the end of this month, there will probably be more time for news.

This month, we have taken part in the Southern Command Counter Battery Exercise, and have just completed the Aldershot Command Corps Artillery Exercise. At the present moment the majority of the Company are preparing to proceed to Camp at Bedford.

Signalman Edwards J. is due to embark for Malaya on the 14th instant, and will probably be accompanied by Signalman Atkinson T., who, we understand, really does not mind either way.

During August, the families proceeded to various seaside resorts, and, according to reports, thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and were very appreciative of the arrangements made for them.

We expect our No. 6 A.S.S. to return to us this month. Thi will give us an extra marker on the first works parade, and a few more for duties.

H.G.

September.

With the exception of a small handful of us, the Company went to the assistance of Nos. 1 and 2 Companies during the War Office Exercise ; the Unit was in camp at Ampthill Park, Bedfordshire.

One or two of the older members of the Corps observed that traces of their sojourn in this district during the Great War were still visible on the walls of the United Services Club by an almost obliterated notice with the words " TO THE SIGNAL OFFICE."

We are now busily preparing for the individual training season, furlough, courses and winter recreation.

During the month, Signalman Edwards embarked for Malaya ; Signalman Atkinson was not required, but maybe he will travel in December, together with other members of the Company who have been provisionally warned.

No. 6 A.S.S. rejoined us on the 16th, and we are now quite a respectable number on parade.

No. 1 C.M.A. Section (S.R.) from Manchester completed their training on the 11th instant, and by all accounts had quite a successful time.

The following are proceeding on G.P.O. Courses on 3rd October : Lance Corporal Clarke, Signalmen Bellis and Grattage to Bristol ; Signalmen Charlton and Hopper to Birmingham ; Signalman Lewis to Cardiff and Signalman Ryley to Cambridge.

Corporal Hadland proceeded to Catterick to-day on a Drill Course. We feel sure that he is going to enjoy it.

H. G.

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

14th October.

During the months of September and October, 1st Divisional Signals ended their prolonged period of collective training when the more serious problems arising out of the recent national emergency came to the fore.

" E," " F," " H," " J " and " L " Sections returned to Mons Barracks on completion of their training, and in the second week of September the general concentration took place for the War Office Skeleton Exercise with its usual routine preliminaries. It is worthy of note that our first batch of recruit operators had on the grounds of necessity to be fitted into the Unit organisation during the latter half of field training.

The exodus in connection with the War Office Exercise commenced on Thursday, 19th September, when we proceeded to camp, at Dunstable, for a couple of days. The Exercise had to be very much curtailed, in consequence of the emergency, and must have been of considerable interest to the local population owing to the participation of so large a contingent of Signals.

Memories of activities of the R.E. Signals during the Great War, were revived and the names of Dunstable, Luton, Bedford, Fenny Stratford and Leighton Buzzard were often repeated during the course of the Operations, which extended over the South Midland area. The local Press made much of the troop movements of the various Units of the Corps. So much so that the arrival of the 1st Divisional Signals advance party with Corporal " Jimmie" Emblem, complete with cooker, buckets and pails, became the subject of a front page edition. A copy of a Press photograph appears in these notes.

"THE MASTER COOK."
Corporal J. Emblem, 1st Divisional Signals, at Dunstable Camp, 1938.

The Exercise terminated on the night of Sunday/Monday, 18th/19th September, and not many of us got away without a drenching. In fact, it almost resulted in the demise of the Adjutant, complete with Staff and lorry, when a much-laden branch of a towering elm tree decided to end its existence with the whole of the " Office " outfit. Much has been said on the subject, and our symbol of faith rests more than ever in an old cart-horseshoe. This relic now has a treasured position in the Adjutant's Office. Visitors asking special favours do so by making a detour via the horseshoe.

The crisis, or, as Corps Orders state, " The European Emergency," necessarily had many repercussions in regard to the organisation of 1st Divisional Signals as it must have done in other Units, but this is past history. The lighter side of the situation expressed itself during the " Big Dig " in connection with the passive air defence arrangements of the Unit. We even had to go to earth in that sacred domain—the paddock. Picks and spades replaced boots, saddles and spurs. The scene at present is reminiscent of a heavily-shelled position on the Somme battlefield.

Mrs. Harris undertook the fitting of gas masks for the families, and we are all grateful to her for the quiet and efficient manner in which this was accomplished. After the peaceable settlement of the political upheaval, the Unit then had the honour of organising part of the intended plebiscite force for Czechoslovakia. The attachment consisted of approximately 200 other ranks made up from all available personnel of 1st Divisional Signals with additional numbers from "A" Corps Signals and 2nd Divisional Signals. The detachment, to be known as " C " Force Signals, was commanded by Major V. J. E. Westropp. Orders came for disbandment, however, and personnel reverted to their peace-time occupations, and temperatures, respiratory organs and pulses are once again normal.

Officers.—Subalterns have had to assume multiple roles during the recent situation, and the overseas list now stands as follows : Lieutenant H. B. de M. Hunter did not go to India ; he is still with us. Lieutenant G. G. L. Hinde has gone to Egypt. 2nd Lieutenant W. C. Ramsay proceeded to India or Palestine, his actual destination is not known yet. Lieutenant R. G. Miller has gone to Cambridge in search of the fourth dimension.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

Sergeant (Wailing Wall) Andrews has departed to civilian life, and is now in employment with Stuart & Lloyds, Corby, Northampton, and Sergeant Pattenden has proceeded on a Vocation Training Course. Sergeant Blower is now in civilian life with the W.D. Constabulary at Chorley, Lancashire.

Valedictory.—Q.M.S. (W.O. II) Portsmouth F., Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, returned to Canada on 24th September, on completion of attachment duty. On the night previous to his departure for Canada, Q.M.S. and Mrs. Portsmouth were entertained by the members of the Sergeants' Mess in Mons Barracks, and during the entertainment Q.M.S. Portsmouth was requested to take back a beautifully designed silver tankard suitably inscribed, as a present to Royal Canadian Signals, N.C.O.s' Mess, from the members of the Royal Signals Sergeants' Mess, Mons Barracks, Aldershot. Q.M.S. Portsmouth accepted the tankard amidst loud applause and made a very stirring speech. " Pompey," as he is better known to us, brought with him from Canada an endearing spirit of comradeship, and we were very sorry to see him go back. The 1st Divisional Signals wish Q.M.S. and Mrs. Portsmouth every success for the future.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

17th October.

Recruit Training.—Again we have undertaken the duties of training Recruit Clerks. Our last four have sat for their trade tests, but the results have not yet been published, and they

are still walking around with that forlorn look upon their faces that denotes worry.

We have five new arrivals, Signalmen Tait, Robin, Bennett, Flockton and Witham, who arrived on 22nd September, right on time for the Emergency, and now the G.O.C.'s Inspection. Certainly a good start ! We hope that success will follow their training in this Unit.

Emergency.—This Unit, like the other Units in Mons Barracks, definitely felt the effects of the Emergency. For the past fortnight the clerks have been sleeping near the telephone, and spending their Wednesday and Saturday afternoons, as well as Sunday, in front of their typewriters. We are very pleased that the crisis came to such a satisfactory end. From the experience gained we shall know next time what is ahead of us, if anyone becomes " hungry "again.

We think that digging must be mentioned, although we are not very keen to refer to that particular kind of sport and exercise. The Unit turned out with picks, spades and shovels, and made the border of the Unit Parade Ground look like a bee-hive.

P.T.—Physical training has started in earnest. Twenty minutes of it each day. Bones creak, perspiration oozes, and feet become sore when H.Q. turn out.

We are now a Squad on our own, under the Orderly-Room Sergeant, who has graciously presented the other N.C.O.s of H.Q. with P.T. Tables without apparatus, so that he shall not bear the full burden of worries that a P.T. Squad can impose.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to Signalman (now U/Lance Corporal) Brooks W. on being presented with a brand new stripe. Did we see him carefully wetting the arrows with his finger, in order to take the shine off ? Bill, you deserve our congratulations.

War Office Exercise.—One bright lad, when asked to suggest notes on the War Office Exercise, calmly stated that he knew little about it as he had slept most of the time, but added that the beer was grand. What is one to do ?

From other sources it is learned that the whole of the Unit was not in a comotose state. The first few days were spent more or less peacefully at Newport Pagnell, Bedfordshire, and certain W.O.s and Sergeants took the opportunity of polishing up their proficiency at darts.

When everyone had comfortably settled down, the battle commenced with a rush, as did also the rain. A long " march " of eighty miles was carried out during the night, and, as it rained the proverbial cats and dogs, our M.T. drivers, particularly the young recruits who have only recently passed off, are to be complimented on their driving. As usual, the termination of the Exercise coincided with the cessation of the rain.

Departures.—Major C. Knowles, Royal Signals, who has been our Adjutant for the past three years, has departed on a month's leave, prior to proceeding to Palestine. It is hoped that he will have a successful tour in that sunny land. Best of luck, sir ! We are sorry you are leaving us.

Arrivals.—Captain A. B. de Lisle, Royal Signals, just home from Egypt, has taken over the duties of Adjutant. We hope his stay will be a pleasant and long one.

G.O.C. Inspection.—The G.O.C., 2nd Division, carried out his annual inspection on Tuesday, 11th October, and because of the high standard (or rather the usual standard) of the Unit lines, etc., a half holiday was granted to all. The extra work, prior to the inspection, was worth it.

No. 1 Company.

Preface.—May we apologise for our non-appearance in these columns last month.

Activities.—Firstly, we have to mention the War Office Exercise, for which the Company, together with the rest of the Unit, moved north to Newport Pagnell, on Thursday, 15th September. The stay at Newport was certainly appreciated ; the camp was within easy distance of the town, and the local brew was a welcome change.

On Sunday, we packed in readiness for the " war," but the weather clerk thought we needed toughening when he turned on the tap to the " torrential " sign, and so the " war " was fought in an all-night downpour.

Secondly, we had our A.R.P. work to cope with, and our lines are now gashes of freshly-turned earth where once was level turf. Many blisters were seen in the Company after a week's work of " sapping " and so keen was the desire to get " dug-in " that even the officers and senior ranks took their turn with pick and shovel.

Next on the list was the G.O.C.'s Annual Inspection. This took place on 11th October and came as a grand finale to a fortnight's hard work with paint, brush and scrubber.

" B " Cable Section barrack room won the O.C. Company's prize for the best barrack-room, but the remainder of us can still hold up our heads

Last, but not least, was the Annual Musketry Course for the casuals. This event had been previously postponed because of the crisis, and eventually took place on 13th October. No doubt the combination of the date and No. 13 Target accounted for a certain amount of hard luck, but, nevertheless, everyone qualified.

Part IIs.—Don Cupid is either passing the Company by, or else all his work is being done under cover for there are no casualties to report, but the furlough season is about to start, and perhaps a taste of home life may bear fruit.

Much to the disgust of several " One Companites," the Dunera did not sail for China as scheduled, but those concerned still have their fingers crossed.

Signalman McNulty, complete with " mozzie " boots and spine pad, has left us for Sierra Leone. He sailed in the s.s. Aba

Howlers.—Heard during a lecture on the Highway Code to Recruit Drivers :

Q. : " What is meant by filtration ? "

A. : " Stopping to get clean water from a muddy stream by filtering."

No. 2 Company.

17th October.

General.—Once again the Company scribe takes up his pen in an endeavour to describe activities during the past month.

There has been feverish activity owing to the international crisis, and it was rather surprising how quickly trenches can be dug and occupied when it is necessary to do so.

The G.O.C. has just completed his annual inspection, and the Company came through with flying colours, although we were spared the task of laying a kit this year.

Individual Training is just getting under way, and once more the Company Office is busy preparing programmes and issuing books.

We cannot help but hear the groans of " B " Draft when physical training is mentioned. Alas, they are still waiting for their boat to China, which was postponed owing to the crisis. Never mind, boys ; everything comes to those who wait.

Arrivals.—We welcome Signalmen Veevers, Mahomet, Skinley, Hancy, Massey, Smythe and Armstrong from the Training Battalion, and hope that their stay here will be a long and pleasant one.

Departures.—It is with regret that we bid farewell to Captain W. A. Purser, O.C., " E " Section, who leaves us for a spot of leave, and then joins 4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury. We hope, sir, that in your new Station you will be as popular as you were in No. 2 Company, and all ranks wish you the best of luck and success.

We regret that our " bulwark " from " E " Section, Sergeant Norcup, who has been warned for the Palestine Emergency Draft, leaves us on 5th November to join his new Unit. So long, Jack ; they don't need a bonfire night there. Signalman Mahomet has proceeded to Palestine. Signalmen Phipps, Lewis, Johnson and Lance Corporal Brown (" B " Draft) have sailed for China (if they ever get so far). We wish them all the best of luck at their new Stations.

Sport.—Winter draws near, and we are busy forming Company teams for all sports. Inter-Section football is in progress, and so far " F " Section have played " D " Troop, Cavalry Signals,

winning 2—1. " E " and " F " Sections played each other, and the result was a draw.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Lance Corporals Williams and Ward on losing the " U " in front of their names. Congratulations also to U/Lance Corporal Stubbs on his appointment.

Things We Would Like to Know.—How soon will it be before our new Company Clerk starts tearing his hair out and saying to himself, " It shall be done."

G. R. K. S. B.

No. 3 Company.

17th October.

General.—At the moment everyone is taking a deep breath after a rather hectic month. Three Companyites have been busy digging trenches, turning out decontamination squads and gas sentries, cutting up blankets U.S. (much to our Lieutenant Q.M.'s annoyance), and having a jolly good time in the latest game of P.A.D.

Any spare time available has been devoted to the loading and unloading of vehicles. This activity goes under the name of " Loading Tables." It is quite a fascinating pastime and seems to be controlled by a mysterious book known by the name of " 1098," and the secret of success is to be able to produce a " token." Old soldiers will recognise this as the modern word for the phrase " in lieu." One of the best " tokens " appeared in the form of a three cubic foot " Cases, Packing." When a Section Sergeant was asked what it was, he replied : " That is a No. 9 Set." So you see the idea !

The G.O.C., 2nd Division, held his annual inspection on 11th October. Prior to his visit, everyone in the Company did their utmost, and the results were very good. 2nd Divisional Signals once again kept their end up.

Congratulations.—Congratulations to " K " Section on winning the prize for the best barrack-room in the Lines on the occasion of the G.O.C.'s Inspection.

Appointments.—Congratulations also to U/Lance Corporals Cann and Harrison on attaining their appointments.

Arrivals.—We welcome Drivers (I.C.) Teale and Pickersgill, and hope that they will settle down and enjoy their stay with us.

In Lighter Vein.—A budding Mr. Middleton of the Company was doing his best to improve the Company gardens. Whilst so engaged, the C.S.M. arrived on the scene and asked the reason why all the chrysanthemums were laying on the footpath in a withering condition. He replied : " I've just thinned 'em out, sir." The C.S.M. thought of sympathetic training, and is now trying his sympathy on the chrysanthemums.

The Company C.Q.M.S. is willing to accept the statement that M.C. and M.T. Gloves are the same, but no one, not even our Maurice, can make him believe that two right-hand gloves make a recognised pair.

S. E. W.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

VIRTUS IN ARDUIS.

Apology.—We apologise for the non-appearance of notes from this Company last month. The scribe, who was away making notes about the bathing belles in Jersey, has returned slightly sunburnt. As no more holidays are contemplated for some time, we hope that notes will become a regular feature again.

Overtime.—We put in quite a lot this month. In company with the other 10,000 or so troops in the Command during the crisis, we proceeded to make our own semi-detached, six foot by four timbered and corrugated hole in the ground. Those who have been here will understand our difficulty about shortage of staff ; we had an abundance of traffic to cope with, but with the able help of the Provost Staff at digging, and good work on the part of our own group operators, we had everything well under control.

During digging operations, the outside of the station was transformed into a miniature fort of sandbags, about fifteen feet high, effectively blocking our exclusive view of Queen's Avenue, and ruining part of the garden. From remarks heard by the writer, this last calamity was of far more importance to passers-by than the crisis !

By the aid of floodlights, work on the sandbags continued for two nights, and then came the Munich Conference, leaving us in possession of one trench and one fort—both unused. As one lawn was nearly cut to pieces by sand lorries, we decided to make a road through the middle of it. There are definitely no applications for Vocational Courses as navvies' mates !

Congratulations.—Although late, to the one and only Mahatma J, on his marriage to Miss Helen Parker of Eversly. Indian papers, please copy, but keep it dark.

To Lance Corporal Hurley on reaching the final of both the Singles and Doubles in the Aldershot Command Championships.

Hail.—Sergeant Smith C. O., late of Sarafand and now of this parish. May you find new nibs in your pens.

Farewell.—To the R.S.M., Mr. Wigglesworth, who is leaving the Service after a mere twenty-eight years' service. We have been proud to have the most senior W.O. in the Corps on our strength, and hope, sir, that you will carry many happy memories of the Corps away to your retirement.

To the other Smith (Smudger), who decided to give his valuable aid as fitter to the Standard Telephone Company. May you find " Civvy Street " companionship as good as that in the Service.

Promotion.—Lance Corporal Macken to be Corporal. A wife and another tape all in one set of WIRE notes. Isn't he lucky !

General.—The biscuit is awarded to the labourer who grabbed our feeder lines and said, " Let's take these down, they're in the way ! "

In the Bag.—The Penny Points Pool. The trouble is that no one can find the bag !

Cheerio !

FRANKIE.

Headquarters, Mobile Divisional Signals.

12th October.

Obituary.—It is with the deepest regret that we have to record the death of No. 2314301 Sergeant Stanley R., which occurred on 18th September as the result of a motor accident.

The late Sergeant Stanley transferred to the Royal Corps of Signals from the Royal Air Force, and proceeded to India in 1922, where he served continuously until 1934. He was a well known figure to the majority of the members of the I.S.C. He will be well remembered as a tennis and cricket exponent, and also as a member of the first S.T.C. (I.) Dance Orchestra.

Sergeant Stanley proceeded to Palestine with the Emergency Force in September, 1936, remaining with Palestine Force Signals until early 1938. He was subsequently employed as Orderly-Room Sergeant, Mobile Divisional Signals, a new job in a new Unit, and one to which he devoted great care and attention.

A quiet, unassuming man, he invariably got on well with Officers and other ranks, and always maintained an evenness of

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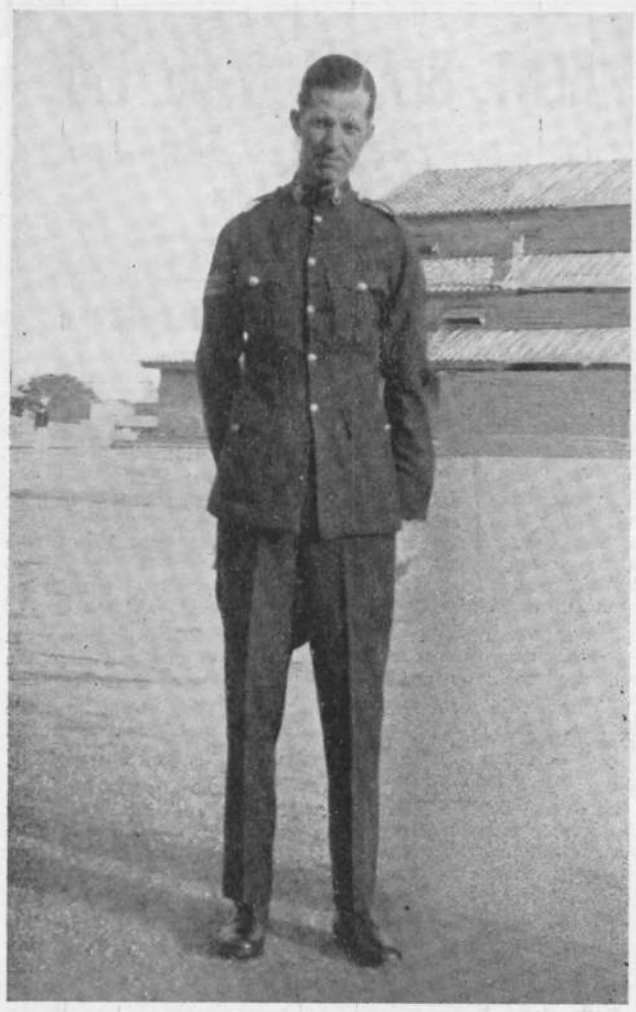

The Late Sergeant R. Stanley.

temperament which made him such a pleasant companion. Sergeant Stanley leaves a widow and three children, and our sympathy is extended to Mrs. Stanley in her tragic loss.

The funeral took place on Thursday, 22nd September, and was attended by the Commanding Officer, Mobile Divisional Signals, and the officers, warrant officers and other ranks. Representatives from 3rd Divisional Signals at Bulford, and from Signals in the Aldershot Command also attended. There were numerous tributes.

Mrs. Stanley would like to thank everyone for their expressions of sympathy in her loss.

No. 3 Squadron, Mobile Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

15th October.

I hope that it will never be my lot again to write up such a series of calamities as this Squadron experienced during September.

The whole of this Unit left Tidworth on 16th and 17th September in order to take part in the War Office Exercise. On Saturday, 18th September, while in the concentration area, the first bomb exploded—practically the whole of the Unit were provisionally warned to assemble on 22nd September for Palestine; forty-eight of this Squadron were included.

On Saturday evening, Sergeant Stanley R., chief clerk, Mobile Divisional Signals, was sent back by car to Andover with despatches, and when nearing Andover his car overturned. We regret to report that he succumbed to multiple injuries on Sunday morning, 18th September.

The Exercise opened on Sunday, and closed about 10.30 a.m. on Monday, when the Unit began to return to its peace-time station. Lance Sergeant Coaten, H. who was with the D.R. Troop, was in rear of a convoy when at about 4 p.m. near Chisledon he crashed into the front of a passenger bus and was fatally injured. It was a gloomy Squadron that went on with the work of unloading, handing over stores and preparing to join the 7th Divisional Signals for Palestine two days later. When one realises that this Squadron was losing its A/S.S.M., the A/S.Q.M.S., and all its Section Sergeants, it will be apparent that the work done in those two days was tremendous, and, in addition, a double funeral had to be arranged to take place on Thursday, 22nd September.

During Wednesday, Sergeant Deamon, our A/S.S.M., was taken off the draft, and the remainder were transferred to Bulford, where the 7th Divisional Signals formed up on Wednesday evening.

The final blow came on Thursday morning, 22nd September, when it was found that No. 2325498 Signalman Davies W. A. had passed away at about 6.15 a.m. in his barrack room. Signalman Davies had suffered from throat trouble from the time he joined the Unit, and his death was due to hæmorrhage.

Later in the day, the old hands of the Squadron came over from Bulford for the funerals of Sergeant Stanley and Lance Sergeant Coaten. The former took place at Tidworth Cemetery at 2.30 p.m., and the latter at 3 p.m. All officers of the Mobile Divisional Signals, all ranks of No. 3 Squadron, representatives from No. 2 Squadron, No. 4 Squadron, 3rd Divisional Signals, W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess, Aldershot, and the Queen's Bays Sergeants' Mess were present. The high esteem in which Sergeant Stanley and Lance Sergeant Coaten were held was shown by the number of beautiful floral tributes received.

The bearer party was provided by the W.O.s and N.C.O.s of Nos. 3 and 4 Squadrons, the Firing Party by No. 3 Squadron, and the Band and Drums by the 10th Royal Hussars, whose trumpeters blew the Last Post and Reveille.

Sergeant R. Stanley had recently joined us from Palestine, and Lance Sergeant Coaten H. was under orders to proceed with the 7th Divisional Signals.

As the occasion was the last on which No. 3 Squadron would be together, it was decided to have a photograph taken, and each man under orders for Palestine was presented with a copy.

We calmed down for two days, which was spent in trying to sort ourselves out, and rebuild a Squadron, but our efforts were upset by the European crisis, for by 10 a.m. on Monday, the 26th, we had opened up wireless communication with thirteen wireless sets in the various Headquarters and Regimental Offices in the Command. A system of alarm bells was installed throughout the Command by this Squadron, and A.R.P. tests proved these to be satisfactory.

The recruits of the Squadron are to be congratulated on a week of hard work well carried out. They were called upon to perform the sad duties of preparing the three graves, and later had to dig sufficient trenches for the protection of the Squadron, while the dozen trained men left with us were busy on technical matters.

Our last sad rite was to lay Signalman Davies to rest at the Military Cemetery, Tidworth, at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 27th September. Eight of his comrades performed the duties of bearers, the 9th Queen's Royal Lancers provided the Band and Drums, and 1st Battalion, Rifle Brigade the Firing Party. The funeral was attended by the Officers, N.C.O.s and men now in the Squadron.

The Squadron extend their deepest sympathy to the relatives of the deceased.

Marriages.—Corporal Wright W. A. managed to find time during the crisis to marry Miss Marie Webster at Scarborough on 28th September.

Lance Sergeant Marchant I. hobbled away on one foot, after discharge from hospital, to marry Miss Norah Jerram at Portsea

on 1st October. We wish them every happiness in their great adventure.

A Step Up.—Congratulations to U/Lance Corporals Riggs G. and Athow W. on their appointments; they should walk right through the Blue Book to things beyond.

V. E. D.

No. 4 Squadron, Mobile Divisional Signals.

Perham Down.

14th October.

General.—With a depleted Unit, owing to draft commitments, we have now settled down in barracks after the strenuous work of the training season. There is a class of Drivers (I.C.) striving to master the intricacies of the various types of engines, etc., under the tuition of Corporal Berry W.

It might be of interest to state that the public address equipment used by Mr. Hore-Belisha when he opened the new Royal Tank Corps Barracks at Warminster came from this Unit. We provided the personnel, too.

Drafts.—Lance Corporal Wathen W. has left us for Tientsin. Sergeants Prees and McGregor W., Signalman Barford R. and Drivers (I.C.) Ricci F., Smith F. and Stewart R. proceeded to join the 19th Infantry Brigade Signal Section. Our Foreman of Signals (C.Q.M.S. Gerrish A.) has been taken off the Gibraltar draft and warned for service in India.

Courses.—Our Commanding Officer, Major F. A. H. Mathew, O.B.E., M.C., proceeded to Shorncliffe on a Senior Officers' Course.

Signalman Smoult J. (the one and only Jimmy), who has at last finished impressing on everyone how many days he has to do, has proceeded to the Government Training Centre, Leeds. Someone observed that he might find a difference when working for his living.

Obituary.—We offer Mrs. Stanley our deepest sympathy in her tragic loss. A full account will be found in the notes from Headquarters.

We have heard with deep regret of the death of Corporal Poole D., at Jubbulpore. He was an N.C.O. known to most of the juniors in the Corps who have passed through in the Depot Battalion in recent years, and was very well liked. A keen disciplinarian on duty, and a good fellow off parade. We join in offering sympathy to his family in their bereavement.

Things We Want to Know.—Who is the champion "gripper" at break time in the Regimental Institute now that our Acting Orderly Room Sergeant is too busy handling the red tape for such pastimes?

Which N.C.O. was seen surrounded by cups and saucers one morning in the same place? Usual SMALL break, Smudger?

Why a certain member of our Office staff tried to break the top off the mess-room door with his head? Can it be the size of the hat he now wears since becoming such an important part of the Unit?

Agony.—The two N.C.O.s who practically figure on the inventory boards of this Unit—Moore and Marley—send their *salaams* to Harry Steele at Meerut. His handsome countenance was observed beaming among the stalwarts of the 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop hockey team. See our sports notes, Harry; we are upholding the old traditions!

EL PEE.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

12th October.

General.—The crisis has left its mark everywhere, and, no doubt, in most Units many yards of once neatly-trimmed lawns have been transformed into hideous holes and trenches.

3rd Divisional Signals has, however, suffered more than any. Our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel C. P. Prescot, was ordered away with such indecent haste during this much confused period that neither the officers nor other ranks were able to say good-bye in the way that all would have wished. We hope that he will be able to get back from Palestine to see us again before his time as Lieutenant-Colonel has expired.

Training.—The middle of September saw the end of our collective training. R.A. and Infantry Sections had returned by the 10th of the month, and we were busy re-organising ourselves into No. 2 Company, Neutral Signals. This was, however, cancelled at the last minute, and there our collective training finished. We are now busy with the usual Individual Training programme.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret we have to announce the death of 2321353 Signalman Joyce W., in Tidworth Military Hospital, on 27th September. Although he had not been with us long, having returned from Egypt only last May, he had settled down happily in Bulford, and his death was a sad loss to his many friends.

We apologise most humbly to all our readers for the absence of notes in last month's WIRE. Perhaps the shock of losing our C.O., Q.M. and the R.S.M. to Units abroad at such short notice will be accepted as an excuse.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

General.—We were contemplating a farewell Social and Dinner to Mess members leaving us this trooping season, when suddenly we were given forty-eight hours' notice to provide a draft for Egypt. An impromptu Social was put on right away, so that we could all get together for a "last round up."

On the eve of the R.S.M.'s and Lance Sergeant Teal's departure to Egypt we attempted to make merry and give them a good send-off. Although there were some amusing games, which normally provide a good laugh, the thoughts of "international ultimatums," etc., seemed to damp our feelings, but true to the military code we were able to spend a jolly evening together and now look forward to the time when there will be a reunion of our members. We hope that it won't be long before they return, as our numbers are sadly depleted, and Orderly Sergeant duties are too frequent!

On Tuesday, 4th October, 7th Divisional Signals left us for Palestine, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel C. P. Prescot. We all wish them a very pleasant trip on the S.S. Montclare, and hope they will find life more interesting in having a real live job to do.

Departures.—The following have left us for service overseas: R.S.M. Herbert A. F., C.Q.M.S. Higham B., Sergeant Watt N. and Lance Sergeant Teal L. We wish them good luck, and all that they wish themselves.

On 17th September we all gathered in the Mess to wish Sergeant "Gill" Brooke and his family success in civilian life after spending twenty-two years of his life in the Service. We hope to see him come up smiling at the Bulford Annual Old Comrades' Meeting.

It was also the occasion of our farewell to Q.M.S. Portsmouth (Royal Canadian Corps of Signals.) "Pompey," you are certainly a lively personality, and we shall miss you. There will be regret that "we have no more bananas."

C.S.M. Wattley has left us for 2nd Divisional Signals, and in his stead we have C.S.M. Griffiths. We hope they and their families will enjoy their stay at their new Stations.

Sergeant Gratwicke has been posted to the Royal Tank Corps Central School, Bovington, where he appears to enjoy his new job as W/T Instructor.

In the near future we shall also lose Lance Sergeant Barnett and family. They are proceeding to 53rd Divisional Signals, T.A., Cardiff.

There still seems to be one individual who cannot get away from the green fields of Bulford, and he is—

ERBIE.

Corporals' Mess

The best wishes of all members are extended to Lieutenant-Colonel C. P. Prescot, who has left us to command 7th Divisional Signals in Palestine. We hope that your tour will be a pleasant one, sir.

We hear that some of our folk are cruising around in a luxury liner. Spare a kind thought for those left behind who are in the throes of musketry and I.T., with a guard now and again thrown in. Has the Aquitania got a 28 oz. cue on its inventory? Mention of cues gives me one for the next paragraph.

Our Billiard and Snooker Tournament started off in grand style, and despite sudden warnings, entries "just for three months or so to make up the number," and blistered hands from A.R.P. work, the finalists' names appeared on the board. Corporal Crimes, who is favourite for both titles, is up against worthy opposition, and two grand finals are anticipated. It is hoped that a night, with free beer, etc., will be set aside for the occasion, but the authorities seem very reluctant to break into the £1,000 which is rumoured to be in the Mess treasury.

We spent a fiver or so on a farewell "do," when a fine demonstration of "beer eating" was given by Corporal Faircloth. Some of the others had some, too! After the show, we should have thought that bed was the best place, but three or four with different ideas were found in the newly-dug trenches. They seemed much more light-hearted than when digging earlier in the day, or even the next day for that matter.

Corporals Grant and Banks, and Lance-Corporal Matthews have gone for a holiday to the G.P.O., Liverpool. It is denied that Jock or Mutty are playing regularly for either Everton or Liverpool. But we confirm that Monty (Short Story) Banks, when interviewed by the right people, still insisted on "Burma —What it was."

Congratulations to Corporals Burfield and Gilpin on relinquishing the "L," and to Lance Corporal Hockings on dropping the "U."

That's all for now. The regular scribe is on leave (what, again?) but will be with you next time.

JAK.

Wireless Wing, A.F.V. School.

Bovington Camp, Dorset.

10th October.

General.—Our contribution this month will be far below the standard we had anticipated. The recent crisis looked as if it was going to produce a real full-blooded effort, but all we can refer to at the moment are the A.R.P. trenches, now partially filled with water after the recent gale, and the stowing away of all plans.

Instruction is back to normal, and again we have received a severe shock. During preliminary instruction on Procedure we have made veiled reference to a book which was in course of preparation to replace *Signal Training, All Arms*, 1932. Much to our annoyance, several students immediately produced the book with the information that it had been issued to their Units some time previously. Now we are wondering if we shall receive our copies before too many amendments accumulate—or before this book is superseded!

Appointments.—Congratulations to T/C.Q.M.S. Smith J. on his appointment to that rank to complete Establishment.

Agony.—Roycon, C'bury. "How's the Light Draught?"

Signature Tunes, No. 3.—Sergeant Wilbraham. "I love myself I do."

Concerning the above heading, we were nearly changing a previous title to "My forgotten man" last week. (Very deep, fellows, very deep.)

WEEPIN' WILLO.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

Unit Headquarters.

15th October.

The National Emergency.—I, a hitherto unknown scribe, have been entrusted with what to my mind appears to be a very difficult and solemn task. I am to write about my impressions, and also describe the activities of this Unit; in particular—Unit Headquarters.

Any mention of the political aspect prior to 28th September would be superfluous, as I feel sure nobody in England, or, for that matter, the world, can be quite ignorant of the feeling of impending disaster which threatened the peace of nations. Twenty-four years ago we had a similar disaster, which resulted in conflict, but nowadays we think differently about this kind of problem, as very few people on the last occasion were aware of the significance of war and the horrors and heartaches it left in its train. Moreover, the means of communication then were by letter, phone and newspaper, whereas to-day wireless broadcasting brings us all the most up-to-the-minute news, and the whole world was aware of the possibility of hostilities and the inevitable deplorable results. It is no wonder that the older ones had anxious faces, and trouble in their hearts.

At the eleventh hour, personnel who were due to be drafted overseas to Egypt (as is usual during the trooping season) were given twenty-four hours' notice to be gone, and, most unfortunately for the Unit and the individuals concerned, were the sudden orders for R.S.M. Kingman and R.Q.M.S. Evelyn, as well as several more other ranks, to join the Divisional Signals under orders for Palestine.

It is a wonder to me how the Unit survived that Saturday morning when these warning orders were issued. One thought, "Who will be next?" All sorts of engagements were cancelled, and we lived in a state of trepidation. Keyed up to such a pitch, one can almost imagine the feelings of everybody on Monday, 26th September, when the command came for A.R.P. to be put into effect at once. What a night that was! Rain pelting down whilst troops dug slit trenches, and the thoughts of mobilization, gas proofing of rooms, fitting of respirators for the families, and the prospect of long winter nights spent in those trenches, or in rooms lit only with a dim light. How terrible modern war could be.

And so to that final episode in a real life drama that has never had its counterpart, and, we hope, never will. We saw the war clouds break on Thursday, 29th September, and were told that it is "Peace in our time." Let us hope those words are true.

We are now trying to efface the scars left upon our sports field by the slit trenches that, we hope, will never be used.

JAY GEE.

No. 2 Company.

Crisis.—To an Army observer, most of the excitement associated with the use of the word "Crisis" during the events of the past weeks seems to have been centred most prominently in the display of the news bills. Certainly none of the mounting hysteria which accompanied the appearance of *La Crise* in French journals was to be seen amongst the civilian population, and the Army furnished an even greater contrast of British phlegm compared with Latin excitability.

As an immediate result of the two Dictators' implied, and later explicit, time limit delaying action, the normal routine of life in barracks was abruptly concentrated upon A.R.P., and flares above the Engineers' trenches on the first Monday were guiding lights to what awaited everyone on Tuesday morning. It was especially noticeable during the ensuing week that in spite of longer hours and a degree of exertion for which few were at first prepared, the work of trench digging was not only very cheerfully undertaken, but the amount of solid achievement seemed to the writer to be far greater than would normally have been accomplished. No need to dwell upon the toll of blisters which was exacted during the first day or two! Nor would it be kind to overlook the way in which the cook-house staff bore the brunt of sharpened appetites.

In one essential aspect of military life the British soldier was in his element. In a beautiful dream-world of make-believe, rumour after rumour soared bubble-like and as brilliant. "Czecho-Slovakia, Egypt, Palestine, Odessa, Salonika"—words wafting listeners vicariously to far ports were rife, all sustaining a spirit of expectancy which was common to everyone even when unvoiced. There was a complete absence of belligerency, and in its place was to be found a calm and cheerful willingness to do everything possible in the circumstances.

Meantime, from the Married Quarters came strange tales of blanket-wrapped husbands trailing breakables to ruin as wifie

handed up the nails, indicating more ravages due to gas-proofing and A.R.P.

Some future historian may well write, " In those days blood blisters were to be seen on many thumbs ! " Among other lesser effects of the crisis was the departure of a draft for Hong Kong one morning, and its return during the evening of the same day ; probably the most rapid journey on record to the Orient.

A much graver spirit appeared to prevail amongst the civilian community. One assumed that apart from the hurried evening issue of respirators, the majority preferred the leisure of a threatened fireside, and the more than usually frequent radio bulletins. In hostelries where a visitor might have expected the tradition of " The Working Man's Club " to have been upheld with crowded rooms of visitors exchanging views, an air of almost gloomy quiet held their place, in strong contrast to the cheery workaday outlook of the troops.

Now that the anxious days are over (for the present, at least), it is possible to assess from the post-mortems of press and platform at least one valuable aspect of a situation which no intelligent citizen would wish to have repeated. We have gained in strength by the knowledge of minor gaps in our precautionary defence measures which only an urgency like this could have revealed. The average soldier certainly acquitted himself with cheerful confidence in his initiative and readiness, and will probably continue to laugh with the civilian at the schoolboy's translation of *l'anglais avec son habituel sang-froid* as " the Englishman with his usual b——— cold."

G. A. F.

No. 3 Company.

Stop Press.—International crisis ! Just a short time ago eager faces turned over front pages in haste to try to see a break in the war clouds. Even if only a faint ray of hope could have been seen it would have been like a straw to a drowning man. Anyway the war clouds lifted at the eleventh hour. But we continued to dig, dig, and dig.

The Aftermath.—The G.O.C.'s annual inspection—and what an inspection ! Anyway it is all over now, and we think that, as usual, the Unit has given the Inspecting Officer a first-class impression. The inspection so closely followed preparations for war that we had little time to get our house in order, but all ranks put up a fine show.

What Happened.—What happened ? Surely that was what the ghost said as he tried to decontaminate the " Invisible Man." Now here are a few facts that should interest our readers.

Before 26th September the Unit had already arranged for the protection of our families and those of the civilians employed in the Unit. (Oh, yes ; we have quite two employed in this Unit. We wonder when the War Office will make up its mind and employ more civilians for staff jobs and let the Signalman get down to his trade !) This was in accordance with the Passive Air Defence Scheme already in existence.

This scheme was put into operation after a conference of officers, W.O.s and Sergeants, under Lieutenant-Colonel H. A. J. Parsons, M.C., Royal Signals. No detail was missed in the originl plan, and, like clockwork, the task began on a real howling wet night. Considering the heavy strain of constantly parting with our key men in order to make other Divisional Signals up to strength, our efforts proved that Signals can pull through anything (including a G.O.C.'s inspection).

Time was an important factor here, considering the shortage of personnel. Over 160 women and children had to be fitted with respirators ; the local authorities relegated this duty to the Army.

Slit trenches had to be provided for a Divisional Signals at war strength. The Unit also provided gas-proof rooms for the families, irrespective of Regiment or Corps, in the quarters attached to the barracks.

Appointments.—2nd Lieutenant H. J. Thompson, Royal Signals, has undertaken the duties of P.A.D. Officer for this Unit. We take our hats off to you, sir, and welcome you to Threecoy, trusting that your stay here will be a pleasant one.

Things We Want to Know.—What is a LOWE shot ?
Who went round and round the roundabout ?

Agony.—To 2309 Bang, Bang, Bang. " I love to hear that information about Egypt ! Jock."

5th Divisional Signals, Catterick Camp.

7th October.

Owing to the international crisis, a most energetic week has been spent in putting the P.A.D. Scheme into force. All hands have been busily trench digging—no light task through the mud and clay of Catterick Camp. Our recruits were taken off technical training in order to help, and they are to be congratulated on their efforts. Fortunately, these trenches will not be required, as, after two days of Catterick weather, some of them have about five feet of water in them. We shall now have to arrange for their drainage.

Under the direction of Sergeant Conyers and Lance Sergeant Cummings, whole buildings have been made gas-proof, and all the families have been shown how to gas-proof a room. Civilian gas masks were fitted and issued to all concerned in our area. Our readers will therefore gather that we were adequately protected against air raid risks.

Training.—The collective training season is now over, and the Unit (what is left of it) starts once again on individual training. Our numbers have risen with the arrival of eighty recruits from the S.T.C., who have been sent here for training as Operators Signals. The number joining the Corps nowadays is so great that the Signal Training Centre cannot compete with them, and it has become our lot to help them out. The recruits are under the care of Lieutenant (T.M.O.) A. Trapmore, Royal Signals, and six selected N.C.O.s from other Signal Units.

We hope that they will enjoy their stay with us, and will leave us as good, if not better Signalmen than their contemporaries leaving the Training Battalion.

G.O.C.'s Inspection.—On 25th July, Major-General G. C. Williams, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., G.O.C. 5th Division, carried out the annual inspection of the Unit. Owing to the paucity of numbers there was no special parade, and the Unit carried on with normal work while the General walked round the lines.

Demonstration Columns.—The Unit supplied two detachments of six men each to accompany the Northern and Western Demonstration Columns in aid of recruiting. They were on tour for three weeks, moving from town to town where the demonstrations were given.

Camps—Tow Law.—" J " Section, commanded by 2nd Lieutenant D. R. Horsfield, Royal Signals, were in camp with the 13th Infantry Brigade from 1st to 10th September.

In spite of lack of previous training, the Section worked extremely well, and the communications were satisfactory.

The Tank Signal Section, under 2nd Lieutenant J. de D. Yule, Royal Signals, attached to 7th Battalion, Royal Tank Corps, were in camp from 18th August to 14th September. Although a very small Section in numbers, they made their presence felt, and the 7th Battalion, Royal Tank Corps, were delighted with the performance of their W/T Sets throughout the training period.

Entertainments.—A dinner and games tournament was given by the Sergeants' Mess to which all the officers were invited. The Mess was saying good-bye to R.Q.M.S. Deptford, Farrier Staff Sergeant Pummell, Lance Sergeant Perkins, and Sergeant Mitchell of the Royal Ulster Rifles.

The excellent dinner, during which there were toasts and speeches by the Commanding Officer, R.S.M. Donaghy, and the departing members, was followed by a keenly-contested games tournament—Officers and the " Champ." versus Sergeants—and resulted in a win for the former, after an energetic game of " Up, Jenkins."

Dances.—There has been two Corporals' dances and one All Ranks Dance in the N.A.A.F.I. Judging from the attendance and general air of jollity at these functions they appear to be a great success. The band, composed of Lance Corporal Barker (piano) and Corporal Macey (saxophone), and also two members

of the S.T.C. Band, are in great form. It is a pleasure to dance to their music.

Departures.—Major J. R. Patten, M.C., Royal Signals, has left us for attachment to the War Office on temporary duty.

Major F. K. Morton, Royal Signals, proceeded at short notice to join 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford, where he is joining a Signal Unit that is being sent out to Palestine.

R.Q.M.S. Deptford T. E. to the Training Battalion; C.S.M. Fleming A. to civilian life; C.S.M. Dunn A. E. to the Eastern Command Signal Company; Farrier Staff Sergeant Pummell D. and Lance Sergeant Perkins H. to the Depot Battalion; Signalman Darlow F. to Egypt Signals; and Signalman Adamson W. to No. 2 Wireless Company, Sarafand.

Arrivals.—We extend a cordial welcome to the following, who have joined us during the last two months: R.S.M. Donaghy M. B.; R.Q.M.S. Dowie F. J., C.Q.M.S. Warner, A. E.; Corporals Pyne and Preston; Lance Corporals Featonby, Froud and Prescott; and our four Recruit Squads and the additional cadre to deal with them.

Northern Ireland District Signal Company, Belfast.

14th September.

General.—For once this particular scribe cannot complain of lack of news. A more hectic month than the one we have just had would be hard to visualise—and even worse to live through.

Each Unit at home had its share of the crisis, with its attendant A.R.P. and P.A.D., and other now familiar abbreviations, not to mention the terrific increase of work, so we need not go into the details of our efforts. The Company rests content with the knowledge that it did not lag in the least behind other Units in its preparedness, and was ready for all and any emergencies.

The demands on our services were certainly abnormal, and we have every reason to believe that no one outside the Company realised that we were dealing with four times the amount of our previous peak traffic; no one had cause to complain of delay due to Signals.

It is impossible to speak too highly of the linemen and D.R.s. It was a week which made us all realise just how well we could get down to it, and give of our best. We have no doubt other Units are all saying the same with as much justification, so at that we will leave the subject.

The G.O.C. had his annual inspection of the Company on Tuesday, 11th October, and once more we pulled through with flying colours. A large amount of work was involved as a lot of the A.R.P. had to be cleared away and the normal squaring up had to be done, but the worst of the work was done by the contractors, who painted and distempered the Unit buildings throughout. After last year's effort, many of us have a horror of whitewashing high walls.

After the parade and lines inspection, the C.O. sponsored a small celebration (a generous thought greatly appreciated, sir) and announced that the G.O.C. appeared to be entirely satisfied with all he saw. As all he saw included a kit inspection at ten minutes' notice, we metaphorically patted ourselves on the back. We have not yet seen the official report on the inspection, but it should be a good one.

Motor Cycle Reliability Trials.—On 6th October the N.I.D. held the Command Trials, for which we entered a team of three, consisting of Signalmen Bartlam, Cox and Scoffin. We were unplaced, owing to one of the team missing one of the control points. The machines worked perfectly, no mean achievement when it is stated that these machines were hardly ever off the road for a week prior to the Trials. The fitters, in the little time at their disposal, have every reason to be proud of their work. In the final result, the 1st Battalion Welch Regiment, were first, and the R.A.S.C. second.

LOUGH SWILLY DETACHMENT.

The Forts for us are no more. On 3rd October they were handed over to Eire, and the Signals returned to Belfast with the R.A. They were all welcomed back to the fold, and seemed glad to be back among the city lights. They weren't long in getting their names on the late pass roll, so they couldn't have forgotten the old haunts.

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Departures.—Quite a few are pending; several kits are being packed, but only one has taken place. Signalman Hobson left us on 8th October for the C.I.E. and S. Stores, Woolwich. As he is in the last six months of his service, he will not mind if we wish him all the best in his new Station and in "Civvy Street." Cheerio, Ginger!

Arrivals.—In addition to the personnel from the Forts, we take great pleasure in welcoming the following to our happy band: Signalmen Fradley, Roden and Robinson from the S.T.C. on 19th September; Signalman Johnston from Aldershot on the 29th; Signalmen Cable and Wildman from the S.T.C. on 3rd October, and Lance Corporal Morgan from Bere Island on 9th October. They are a welcome addition to our strength, and especially to the captains of the various sports teams. So far, several of them are showing great promise.

Extensions.—Signalman Biggs (Derry), who decided that another little drop wouldn't do him any harm, has signed on to complete twelve years with the Colours.

Births.—Signalman Brierly returned from furlough and announced that he was the proud father of a son, Brian Jim, born at Dobcross, near Oldham, on 2nd October. Our congratulations to you and to Mrs. Brierly, Jim.

Sports.—Our sports correspondent has asked us to say that, owing to pressure of work and the usual inclement weather, the Company has not played any matches since the last notes were written. It is hoped to be able to report next month that all our fixtures have been played. A lot depends on old man Pluvius.

Tailpiece.—Beds will be required in several stations abroad soon. Next month will see a long list of departures from this station; the ball has already started rolling.

SPUD-CAN.

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

October.

Arrivals and Departures.—Major R. T. Williams to 3rd Indian Divisional Signals. Major Williams had only been with us a short time, and we are all very sorry to lose him.

We extend the hand of welcome to Sergeant and Mrs. Andrews, who arrived in Jubbulpore from Kohat on 22nd September.

Entertainments.—An Impromptu Concert was given in "A" Company during the month by members of that Company, under the directorship of Corporal Mitchell. The performers were: Corporals Gilkes and Thom, Lance Corporals Bliss and Kilburn, Signalmen Barran, Hepworth, Lynn, Nutt, Williams, Taylor and Thomas, and the Signal Training Centre (I.) Dance Band, led by Corporal Mitchell.

A very pleasant evening was held, and to judge by the applause their efforts were appreciated. The performers are to be congratulated on a very fine show at such short notice. Anything that is worth doing is worth doing well, and they certainly did us well.

Afterwards, the concert party and the audience joined together in a Games Tournament between the Junior N.C.O.s and men, during which time the Band played selections. Of course, all good times come to an end, and this one did much too quickly.

On Saturday, 24th September, a Memorial Dance was held in the Regimental Institute. The profits from this dance are being used for the erection of a Memorial to the late Corporal Poole. Some 200 people attended, and the dance was voted a great success by all. The decorations were simple but very attractive, and music was provided by the Signals Dance Band led by Corporal Mitchell G. Amongst those present were Colonel G. L. G. Pollard, M.B.E., Lieutenant-Colonel Miller, M.C., Major and Mrs. Lee, Major Wall, and many other visitors from outside Units, all showing in what esteem Paddy was held.

The Band is greatly appreciated in the Station, where it has set a high standard of entertainment with many clever novelty numbers and swing hits; the vocal choruses are always the life of the party.

Golf.—We feel sure that all old members of the Club would like to hear of our present activities. The Fifteenth General Meeting was held on Saturday, 17th September, and the following were elected to serve in the capacities shown for the ensuing year: Captain and Vice-President, Major J. Hawke, O.B.E.; Hon. Secretary, Sergeant Ellis J. H., vice Lance Corporal Henrick; Competitions Member, Signalman Jones, vice Lance Corporal Henrick; Greens Members, Lance Corporal Munslow vice Sergeant Wright, Signalman Hughes vice Signalman Barran, Signalman Knight (re-elected); Outside Members, Staff Sergeant Simms, R.A.M.C. (re-elected).

The Handicap Committee consists of the Competitions Members, the Outside Members' Representative and Signalman Knight.

The financial position of the Club is satisfactory, especially when it is considered that this year we have had a Club House built. Plans are already out for the enlargement of this to a more suitable size and the provision of two or three additional rooms and a verandah.

The keen interest taken in our activities, and the support given by our Commandant, Colonel G. L. G. Pollard, M.B.E., is very much appreciated by all members.

Our Captain and Vice-President, Major J. Hawke, O.B.E., is at present enjoying two months' leave, and in his place we are very fortunate in having the services of Captain and Quartermaster F. G. Lawrence, M.M. Very shortly we are losing a number of our best players, all bound for Blighty. To them we extend not only our best wishes for the future, but our sincere thanks for all they have done as working members and players. They are: Sergeant Nicholson, Lance Sergeant Wright, Lance Corporal Henrick and Signalman Barran.

Competitions.—The Barton Handicap Singles was won by Signalman Knight, after a hard competition, beating Sergeant Nicholson in the final 4 and 3.

The President's Open Stroke Challenge Cup was won by Signalman Barran, with a score over the 36 holes of 200. Staff Sergeant Simms was second with 201. Considering the extremely bad conditions, and the almost waterlogged course, these scores are by no means bad.

The "Hawke" Handicap Challenge Bowl was this year re-allotted for a Foursomes, owing to the dearth of lady players. Signalmen Knight and Keymer eventually ran out winners, beating R.S.M. Nash and C.S.M. Ellerton-Long in the final by 4 and 2.

Monthly competitions—August Stroke. Signalman Barran score 92—10—82. September Bogey, Lance Corporal Munslow –7. The Ladies Stroke Challenge Cup has attracted ten entries and is to be played off shortly.

We hope that next month we shall be able to publish photographs of the new Club House and lawns, together with some of the courses.

Economy Post.—To Phillips, Blackdown: "Congratulations on the hitch-up, and to A.A. Group Signals, Blackdown. Hurry up, lads, and come out; the weather's fine here. K. O. K., Jubb."

53rd Divisional Signals. "I bet the beer didn't last long."

NORTHERN COMMAND ..... ***INDIAN ARMY***

"A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

10th October.

Troopers.—A more sensational opening to the trooping season has not been experienced for many years. The "days-to-go" talk ceased with sudden abruptness when the news came through that the trooping programme had been cancelled as a result of the war scare, and that all those due for discharge or transfer to the Reserve were to be held with the Colours for another year. Our "first boat" people had only four days to go when the news arrived, and must have received one of the biggest surprises of their lives, but they got away approximately a week later than they were originally due to leave, and by the time these notes appear in print, should be well settled down on Vocational Training Courses.

It is some considerable time since we had a draft leaving us so early in the trooping season, but the non-holding system is now in full force, and has affected us profitably with regard to early passages. Ten vacancies, given to us for the Somersetshire, were allotted to Corporals Wright and Rymer, Lance Corporal Styrin, Signalmen Foster R., Thomas J., Gillie A., Collings R., Walker F. C., MacCallum J. and Busby A. We wish them every success in their new sphere of life.

Movements.—Once again we are back in Cambridge Barracks, Rawalpindi, but only a few of us, as the move from Upper Topa consisted of Unit Headquarters joining the Rawalpindi detachment, as those men of No. 2 Company who were in Topa remained behind as rear party to close the station at the end of this month. Most of our Sections are still in Waziristan. Indeed, it will be two years, at the end of the present month, since our first Sections left Rawalpindi, and with the exception of just three weeks, we have had Sections out ever since. It will be a real reunion when all the Unit assembles together again, but at present it is impossible to say when this will take place.

Arrivals.—Major J. A. I. Watts was due to join us early this month, but as the Dorsetshire was held up on her way to India he has not yet arrived. He is expected very soon, and we hope that he will receive a good impression of his new Unit on arrival

here. Captain A. T. Sladen is also expected later, and our best wishes are extended to him, too.

Promotion.—Congratulations to " Pip " Spencer on attaining the rank of Corporal.

Decorations.—An outsize annexure to our Part I Orders was published recently, when the list of all those who had qualified for the new Indian General Service Medal was issued. We were responsible for submitting claims for those of other Units who were attached to us for the Operations last year, and almost three hundred names were forwarded covering attachments from every Signal Unit in India.

Agony.—" Busty, 667," 5th Divisional Signals. " Congratulations ! How did you manage it ? Postage only 1½d. Ging., ex-5th Div."

PEDLAR.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

9th October.

Section Training is now in full swing prior to the Unit camp, which takes place at Hassan Abdul on 20th October.

Hiking is the most popular pastime of the various Sections, and there has been a surprising boost in the sale of corn plasters and Reudal bath salts at the Canteen.

The weather has been a little cooler of late. The Hill Season is almost over and the married element do not look so dejected and neglected as they have done all the summer. The various Messes no longer swarm with these species, much to the relief of the various Messing committees.

The new Frontier ribbon, which has been freely distributed in the Unit, will greatly add to the colour and grandeur of our Church parades. Now for a little detailed information.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following, and hope that their stay in the Unit will be a long and happy one : C.Q.M.S. Solly from Peshawar ; Lance Sergeant Scrase from Blighty leave ; Signalman Whitehead M. from Lahore.

Departures.—The majority of the following have left us for the Blighty Cantonment. Our best wishes go with them for a safe and speedy journey and all success in the future : Captain E. J. F. Heap, Royal Signals, Lance Corporal Hurst, M.M., Signalmen Morey, Craddock, Milligan, Holland, Tucker, Keating, Milner, Demellweek, Wells, Thompson, Horsfield and Taylor B.

We should mention that this was our first draft who left here on 6th October and were given a rousing send-off. We were sorry to see them go, particularly in the case of Signalman Milligan, our champion conversationalist. Look out, Blighty, you don't know what is coming to you. We have also lost our wonderful little soccer player, Toddy Horsfield. Some Unit's gain is our loss.

We are glad to report that " Snowy " found his pearlies in time to get the boat ; he should be able to eat a square meal now. Did you get Paddy to dive for them again, " Snowy " ? We hope that he has been careful when leaning over the side of the boat, for Paddy isn't with him this time.

Courses.—Corporal Young F. (Don Cossack), complete, has left us for an Equitation Course at Saugor.

Sergeants' Mess.—We congratulate the following Mess members and their wives on the arrival of bonnie babies who were born during the month of September : Sergeant and Mrs. Cadell T. O., Deirdre, born at Murree ; Sergeant and Mrs. French W., Barbara Ann, born at Murree ; Sergeant and Mrs. Bishop R., Robin, born at Rawalpindi.

Heard on the Cricket Field.—Which bright Mess member suggested that all fielders should be equipped with gloves to protect their hands from " chubbies," and that the ball should be given a special cover to prevent it from collecting these deadly " chubies." Does the fact that he has been eighteen years on his feet in a Pack Section account for this brainwave, or did he acquire it at Dosali ?

Our bold Richard just can't take it these days. He is therefore taking Corporal Gully with him as escort and proceeding on U.K. leave for six months in the near future (he hopes). So do we !

Agony from Other Sources.—Which " G " Staff expert originated an " O " message with the following text : " Popeye marries Wimpey, Olive Oil much distressed, all informed " ? This is the way to win wars.

We hear that " Chris " has threatened to sign on in the country unless the Unit wins the Jamasjee Cup this season. Our heartiest congratulations go to him on dodging the red blankets for five months ; the B.M.H. must thank the cricket. All " Chris " needs now is a pair of white flannels and that famous blue and white cap.

Which little boy asked a member of the Unit Orderly Room staff where the Annexe to Part I Orders was ?

Then there was that technical expert who, when asked to give a comparison between two types of wireless sets, drew marvellous pictures of each and left the rest to the imagination of the unfortunate marking the papers. We hear that he is shortly to be asked the difference between an elephant and a letter box.

And we have heard of the bright spark who couldn't do his daily dozen in the Technical School owing to the international crisis ! Cheers, Stormy ; that was a Ray-leigh good effort !

We have thought it advisable to subscribe to the purchase of half-a-dozen clocks ; we must have something in lieu of that wonderful " ticking " personality " Dutchy," late of this Unit.

Late Press.—Congratulations to our much sought Pay Clerk, Lance Corporal Nobby Hall, on his recent marriage at Bombay. Our heartiest congratulations go with him and Mrs. Hall for a very happy future, and, of course, may we add also our sympathies to Mrs. Hall.

BEE-BEE.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

An Apology.—We apologise for the absence of our notes during the past few months. We have no excuse to offer but the time-honoured one of very little of importance to report and much space to fill.

Movements.—Have been few but, nevertheless, effective. Lance Sergeant Robins (the local Signals Association Secretary) handed over his multifarious duties to various members remaining here and proceeded to the U.K. His place in the cricket team alone would be sufficient to make us say that we are sorry to lose him, and our loss is the gain of London Corps Signals, T.A., for " Robbo " has exchanged his job of work for the " cushy " one of an Instructor. May he live long and die of a contented heart.

With him also proceeded the only " Chota " in existence—Corporal Talbot—who decided that eleven years in India were, after all, eleven years, and thought that if he did not arrive " Home " before long, " Burton " would fail to produce its " ale." We wish him all the best, both at work and play, provided the sampling of Burton's famous waters falls under the heading of play—personally we are of the opinion that the drinking of beer, occasionally, is a solemn rite. Perhaps " Chota " will find this to be true after a few months in England.

Another member of the party was Corporal McCann, who will also be missed from the cricket team. He is looking forward to seeing Brighton in the near future, when the 44th Divisional Signals, T.A., receive him as their mentor for, we hope, a long period.

We realise that spats are simply wearing apparel, and although Lance Corporal Bevan has left us *en route* for civilian life, we do not agree with the view that the price of " gents' natty footwear " will be less, or that he could ever be described as " worn," although he was often given " out."

Another of our little band was Jimmy James, who proceeded to the Emerald Isle on transfer to the Army Reserve. We hope to meet him " on the air," through the medium of the amateur bands at an early date.

Last, but not least, in the party was " Tich " Roche, who was repatriated on compassionate grounds. His place as substitute umpire will not readily be filled.

We wish them all the very best, and hope that we shall have the pleasure of meeting them again in the future.

Operations.—No; we don't mean the kind ordered by a surgeon, but those often presented to us by the tribesmen on the Frontier. Trouble has again broken out, but, fortunately, only in a mild form this time, and Kohat District Signals has provided W/T detachments for road protection duties during the past months. Continual movements of our personnel to and from Bahadur Khel and Latambar have occupied the minds of all, and much speculation has been rampant as to the possibility of further trouble in the area. We sincerely hope that peace will soon find its way to all parts of the world.

General.—Life in Kohat District Signals moves placidly, and we have our ordinary normal routine, and little seems to happen to us these days.

It is with great pleasure that we are able to record the return of the W/T detachment from Fort Lockhart. We understand that the "game" shooting at that delectable spot left little to be desired this year. Apparently, stalking an unsuspecting "Py" by moonlight is an enjoyable pastime, particularly so when the company includes the Fort's amateur dog-shooter and his friends. Their narrative reminds us of those stories often heard at "The Angler's Rest"; readers will know the kind: "Yes, the one that got away was ——." Nevertheless, we feel educated, even if we failed to be edified.

The families have also returned from the Hills, and were a pleased to note the obvious delight with which owners of dogs greeted their pals. The answer to the question, "How can I stop the dog from straying back," has not yet been found.

Kohat District Signals have won the Hot Weather Cricket Tournament this year. We confess that we don't know how it was done; whether our worthy "Skipper" (Lance Sergeant Saunders) hypnotised the opposition, or whether we were better than we felt, but the result is definite. We have won the Tournament. Our thanks are gladly given to all who have helped to win so much prestige for this Unit on the field of sport.

The Blue Book.—Only two entrants in the promotion stakes have managed to get their heads past the winning post during the past few months. Corporal Moore was promoted to that rank on 20th July, and Lance Corporal (Happy) Clarke has taken his place on the Lance Corporals' Roster. Good luck and best wishes to both of them.

The Higher Ups.—We offer our congratulations to the following officers on their promotion to Captain under the new scheme: Lieutenants R. B. Gray, H. Worrall, S. G. Humphrys and M. J. Conway, all of Royal Signals.

Marriages.—We tender our congratulations to Captain R. B. Gray, Royal Signals, on the occasion of his marriage to Miss Pamela Hoskins at Bombay. We wish them both a happy and contented life.

Jews' Mail—Dick Thomas, ex-2 Div. Office, Aldershot. "What about a letter occasionally? Styles."

And so, until next time, cheerio!

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

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

September.

Surrounded by happy, smiling faces, we once again take up the editorial pen in order to record our activities.

Troopships have been postponed, cancelled, and the cancellations cancelled. We have, nevertheless, found, after much diligent searching, five stalwarts who are brave enough to shoulder their kit bags, carry their cases, Taj Mahals and Gurkha knives, and set their faces towards the west, after a lapse of five years (of which we are incessantly reminded). In brief, we say God-speed to the following, who are sailing per H.T. Somersetshire on 9th October: Lance Sergeant Manning, Lance Corporal McMullen, Signalmen Macfarlane, Britcliffe and Tompkins. Our heartiest wishes go with them, and we trust that they won't find life too hard in Blighty, after their rest in this Garden City of the East.

The smiling faces to which we have referred belong to those who have just returned to the fold from Blighty leave. One of them, Signalman Simms, has been added to the Married Establishment.

Hatches, Matches and Despatches.—We have to record the birth of a son to C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Fuller and Mrs. Fuller on 3rd September at the British Military Hospital, Quetta.

On the same day, Signalman Clarke P. married Miss Phyllis Lee of Chaman and late of Barking, Essex, at the C. of E. Church, Quetta. A reception was afterwards held at the home of Conductor Hill, R.I.A.S.C. The bride and bridegroom were the recipients of many handsome presents. We wish them every happiness throughout their married life.

Some startling innovations have come to light as a result of the recent Trade Board. From one destined to be great we learn that "Receivers of a 7 plus 3 are placed in front of the instrument, above and below the switches." It was interesting to note, moreover, that "With key of fullerphone pressed, 'L. and E.' shorted, and switch at 'send receive,' the operator should hear a continuous buzz in the background, and also his own morse, which is a sweet note, and not a banjo twang, which is heard if the fullerphone is at fault." Apparently this phenomenal occurrence is merely a characteristic of Quetta, and, therefore, it is no use other Units trying to copy. We trust that the modest inventor will recognise his talents when reading these notes.

Social life has been somewhat at a standstill during the month. There is a Sergeants' Mess Dance in the offing, and from the chief member of the Entertainments Committee we hear that more All Ranks Dances are to be arranged. We trust that they will be many and often.

Congratulations are extended to U/Lance Corporal Wheldon, who has managed to defeat the "'Un."

The sports teams who, as related in last month's issue, were successful in taking away the Athletic Cup again, were presented with Cups by Mrs. G. Tayleur during the month.

RONKAY.

THE QUETTA QUAKE.

(With apologies to the Lambeth Walk.)
We are picking up stones, with aching bones,
Whitewashing rooms with many groans,
Painting here and painting there,
Doing the Quetta Quake.

Duties many, and of men we're short,
Sentries doing the Lambeth Walk ;
Two nights in bed, and one in baulk,
Doing the Quetta Quake.

There's a swimming and a polo Cup ;
Athletics, too, from which we sup,
To help to keep our peckers up,
Doing the Quetta Quake.

A boat, I hear, is sailing soon,
It may be October, or it may be June ;
I'd go in saucer with a spoon
Away from the Quetta Quake.

This verse was not composed at ease,
The author carried on whilst beginning to freeze
At two a.m. in the Bolan breeze,
Doing the Quetta Shake.

BURNISTON.

EASTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Unit Headquarter Company.

1st October.

General.—Phew ! Never was there such consternation in an office as when the telegram arrived suspending the trooping season owing to the recent crisis. Individuals with a matter of fourteen or fifteen days to go were plunged from pleasant anticipation into deep despair. However, all's well that ends well, and things are now back to normal.

Our Company is very small (and we are tempted to say select). We therefore have little of interest to report, but hate to be outdone by not having a few notes concerning the Company in these columns.

We welcome our new Quartermaster, Captain J. T. Cussens Royal Signals (I.A.), who was recently posted to this Unit from Waziristan District Signals. Consequent upon this officer's arrival, Lieutenant A. Turner, M.B.E., Royal Signals (I.A.), has left us for Waziristan District Signals. Good luck to you, sir, at your new Station.

Awards.—Nothing startling to report in this direction. A few members of the Company are living in hopes, and anticipate adjusting their balance when their I.G.S.M. 1936-37 arrives.

Agonies.—Charlie N., "A" Corps Signals, Aldershot. " Keep my bed space neat and tidy pending my arrival. Baldi."

Wanted ! A typist—male (unfortunately !)—with a long time to do in India, otherwise this scribe looks like missing the boat.

BILMIL.

No. 1 Company.

1st October.

Apologies.—The Company apologises for their rare appearance in print. Apart from the stable party, there is only half-a-dozen men in the Company, and it is extremely difficult to persuade one of them to write even the briefest of notes for the WIRE.

Good Luck.—Major G. R. Halliday handed over the command of the Company during the month. During our former O.C.'s tour of duty his motto, " Wake up and live," caused many a hectic hour. Having gained a short respite during the handing over of stores, etc., we have enough breath to send Major Halliday on his way with our sincere wishes that he will have the best of luck.

Welcome.—A hearty welcome is extended to Major B. D. Willoughby on taking over command of the Company.

Commiserations.—The old slogan " Roll on the Boat " is temporarily in abeyance. Our sympathies go out to those N.C.O.s and men of the Unit who have had their Blighty trip temporarily postponed.

Entertainment.—The night life of Meerut is still quiet. A few of the families are now down from the hills, but the majority have not yet arrived. It is hoped that other forms of relaxation than the pictures will be available in the near future, and which, incidentally, will provide more material for WIRE notes.

Photographs.—Several members of the Unit recently made a trip to Agra with the Meerut rugby team. The accompanying snaps were taken by Signalman Hambley, the Company's photographic expert.

No. 2 Company.

Sincere greetings to everyone at home and abroad. Strange as it may seem, these notes will probably give more pleasure and satisfaction to No. 2 Company personnel than to the rest of our readers. We are all unanimous that a few words from us are long overdue. The extraordinary thing about these notes is that although the write-up is primarily intended for others, it is also eagerly read here, and yet these things happen in our midst !

Routine is following the normal procedure for this time of the year. The second hill party has returned to the plains, and, before very long, the final Trade Board will take place. We wish all those who are being tested for a higher rating every success.

Many changes have taken place during the last few months, chiefly in regard to personnel. The appearance of these notes enables us to extend a warm welcome to Major R. T. Williams, who has taken over command of the Company. We trust that he will have an interesting and a pleasant stay with us.

The other officers of the Company are : Lieutenant T. G. V. Stephenson (Commanding " E " Section), Lieutenant G. Walton (Commanding " G " Section), Lieutenant L. J. D. Rhead (Commanding " J " Section), Lieutenant D. M. Rhind (Commanding " K " Section), Lieutenant F. S. P. H. Lang (Commanding " L " Section).

Arrivals.—Lieutenant H. B. de M. Hunter is due to arrive very shortly and will assume command of " F " Section. We take this opportunity of wishing him a safe and pleasant voyage from England.

Signalman Skinner and Signalman Matthews will also have returned after six months' leave in the U.K. We are all looking forward to hearing the latest news of what is to be expected at home, when we are fortunate enough to reach there. It is a fast-changing world and, believe it or not, there are still some amongst us who have yet to see " traffic lights."

Departures.—Quite a few in the Company are hoping beyond hope that nothing further will crop up to spoil their dreams of reaching home sometime this Trooper, as they have finished their allotted span out here. It was really pitiable to see the expression on their faces when it was learnt that they were in danger of having to remain here indefinitely ; but once again all is well, and, judging from the list of departures, our strength will be sadly depleted. The following is a list of B.O.R.s being repatriated this trooping season : Sergeants Shaw and Clarke, Lance Corporals Allan (the fat man), Ashby, Denholm, Leach, Hutton and Tracy, Signalmen Cashmore, Nicholson, Meacheam, Bate, Strong, Smith L., Martin, Soutar, Middleton, Mounsey, Bould and Quinn.

Corporal Jones N. has gone to Saugor on an Equitation Course (Catterick, please note). If he can ride a certain R.H. 74 on his return we shall feel that Saugor has done a good job of work. Meanwhile, " happy landings," Buck !

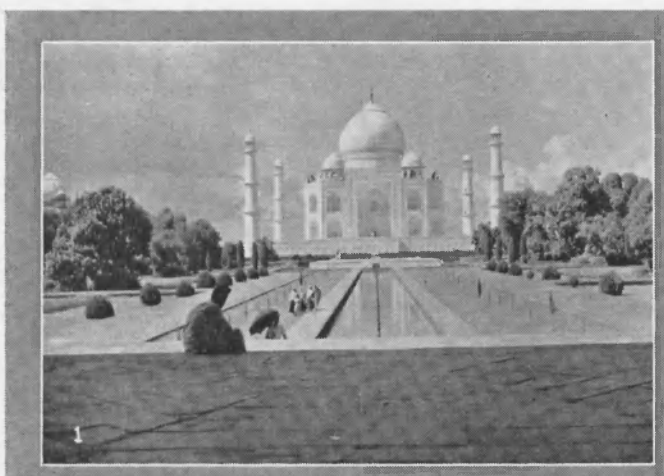
Honours List.—Congratulations to Lance Corporal Leach on being Mentioned in Despatches during the Waziristan Operations, 1936/37. To Lance Corporal Denholm on receiving a special award for devotion to duty during the same Operations. Well done !

Pets' Corner.—The love of animals in No. 2 Company is not confined to horses. A further collection of pets consists of the inevitable dogs of various sizes and doubtful breeds, goats, pigeons, parrots and even " love-birds." One individual has already made overtures for the purchase of a snake. Heavens ! What next ?

Stop-Press.—A certain N.C.O. was in the Q.M. Stores for the purpose of drawing a martingale. When asked whether he required a " running " or " standing " type, asked for a " running one." Obviously the animal is about to be exercised !

Cheerio, everybody ! CAMGUM.

AGRA



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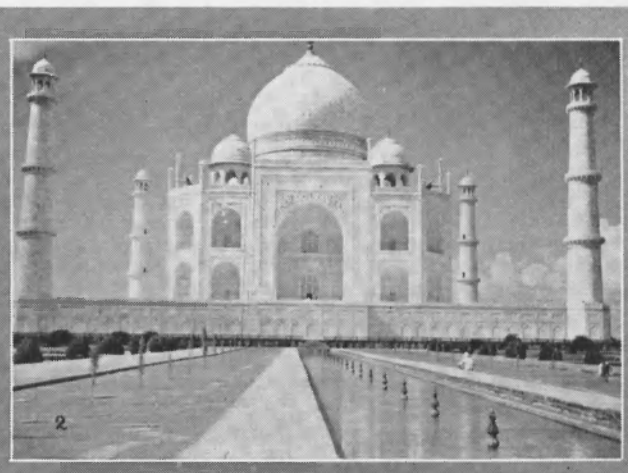

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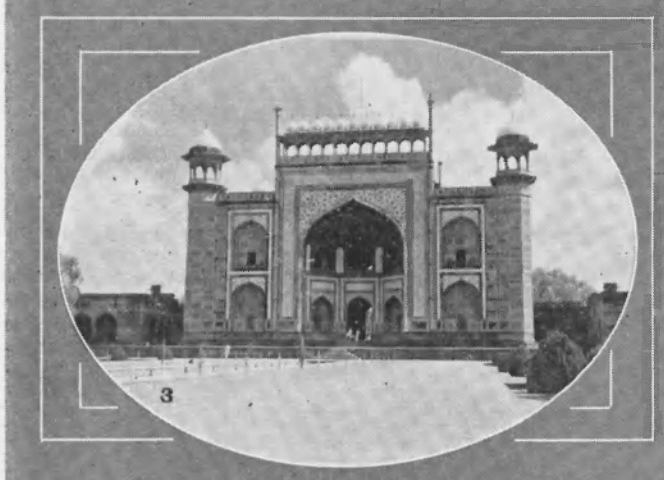

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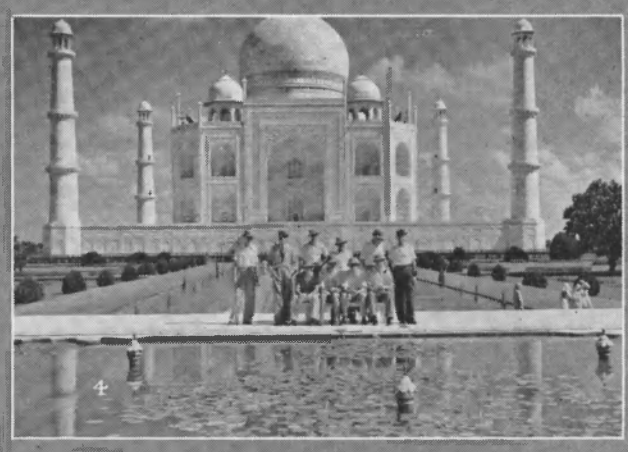

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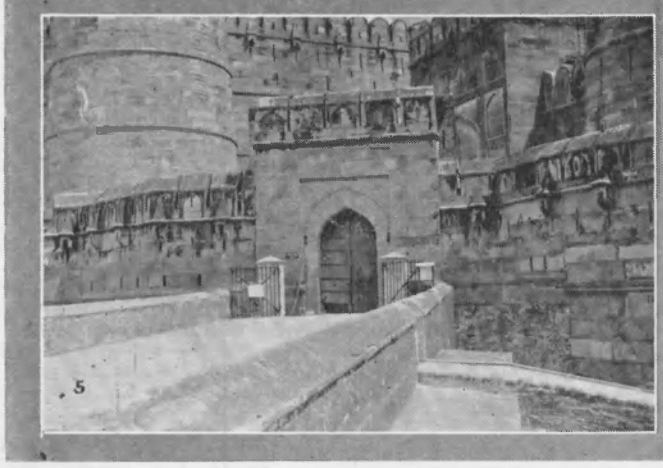

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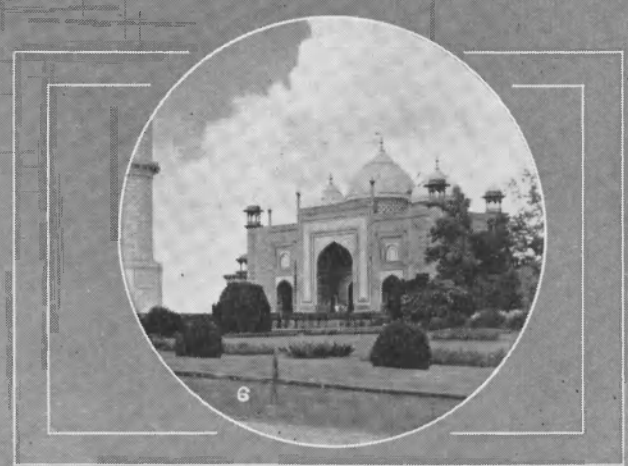

6

1. Taj Mahal.
2. Close-up of the Taj Mahal.
3. Entrance Gate to the Taj Mahal.
4. Some of the boys.
5. Ajmer Singh Gate, Agra Fort.
6. A Guardian Temple of the Taj Mahal.

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Malta Signal Section.

Command Signal Office, Strada Torre, Valletta.
7th October.

Life in the Malta Signal Section has been strenuous recently. The Fortress Exchange Operators have certainly earned their pay during the last ten days, when preparations were made throughout the Command as a result of the European crisis.

Some misguided person decided to enter one of our sub-exchanges in an unorthodox manner, via the surrounding wall, barbed wire, and three windows. The only loss was the Exchange clock (called a " Clock, horizontal " for reasons only known to D.A.D.O.S., since it presumably hangs vertically).

We are glad to welcome back our C.S.O., Major F. H. Bury, who has spent two months' leave on the beautiful coast of Yugo Slavia—" Pearl of the Adriatic "—with its mountainous and verdant background. Needless to say, it was a change from the dusty white rocks and sun-scorched fields of Malta.

We also welcome Lance Sergeant Freeman, who has spent six weeks in Brighton and, we understand, has enjoyed himself. He is now tackling the stores problem again with renewed vigour.

C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Sm.th joined us on 21st September, and we wish him the best of luck during his tour of duty here. We have already noted with satisfaction that he is a promising sportsman.

We are extremely sorry to lose Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Goodridge, M.M., who has done invaluable technical work in converting the F.E.C. System into a sound, working proposition during the last three years of expansion. Unfortunately, the climate did not agree with him, and he has now returned to England. We trust that he will soon find his way back to good health.

Our hockey season is beginning. It is hoped that, under the excellent guidance of Signalman Burgess, we shall produce some good results.

Incidentally, Signalman Melville has contrived to lose himself on the overland return route to Malta. We wonder if we shall ever see him again.

SKIP.

Malaya Signal Company.

Military Headquarters Detachment.

Fort Canning.
16th September.

Our new Foreman of Signals, S.M. (F-of-S) Flynn G. H. R., M.B.E., has arrived, and is very busy taking over. He has not yet found time to visit the delectable tract of country which has been so often and so vividly portrayed by our former stalwart, " Tando (T.B.C.)," but he looks forward to this as a treat to come.

It is with regret that we note that a gentleman with the *nom de plume* of " Pedlar," dares to criticise our one and only " Tando "—from the dizzy heights of Upper Topa, too ! Has Jhikka Ghali changed much since 1927, or is that another story ?

We are all anxiously watching for " news." The gentlemen who are hoping to take a cruise at Government expense this trooper are perhaps even a little more anxious than the others.

C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Nix, the man who never sleeps (?), gazes long and earnestly Changi-wards, where his yacht is straining at the leash. We have made plenty of really generous offers for this craft, but, so far, without success.

Nearly forty of our " reliefs and additions " embarked yesterday, and we have been very busy trying to find somewhere to put them until the " relieved " (very !) personnel depart. Let us hasten to add that we have more than enough work to go round !

LINK.

Changi Detachment.

Kitchener Barracks, Changi, Singapore.
12th September.

General.—It is rather hard for the ordinary person to take over jobs like this, especially when he steps into the shoes of some local Somerset Maugham, who seems to have taken his " grass-skirted maidens " with him. However, with the aid of a highly fertile imagination and a collection of fantastic fiction books, we shall see what can be done.

The high spot of the Detachment's activities recently was a Company photograph. The primitive wail of " C " Mk. 1 Sets (which have now superseded the tom-toms we used quite recently) summoned in the men from the various outposts. Some came by sampan, some by ricksha, the more hardy, of course, travelled in the Company bus.

After the photograph, in which our " Goldie " seems to be trying to scare someone, we played the " Townites " (Alex. residents) and lost, 4—2. Some say that it was the bus ride that wore us down, others say that we can't play anyway ; still, it was a good game. Afterwards we were well fortified for our perilous journey back. (It was a bit pathetic to see some of our chaps trying to use a knife and fork chopstick fashion.)

Our Sam Browne member (hero ?) of the " Goose Chases Man episode," reported in a previous issue, revolutionised big game hunting by using a car to hit a water-buffalo. The result is still shrouded in mystery, but we expect to see a pair of horns on top of our aerial any day now.

We understand from O'Callaghan that conditions similar to forest fires are prevalent at Pengerang, due to fearless Signal coolies cutting their way through impenetrable virgin jungle and driving all before them. Tigers, elephants, monkeys, etc., run side by side with the bold Irishman doing the hundred in just under " ten."

The Detachment, since the recent ceremonial parade, has rejoiced in the name of " Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." In amplification of this the standard tool kits issued to linemen now includes "Stools, S.A.; Test Frames—upper limits—reaching of, for the purpose." What *would* Kitchener say ?

Entertainments at which we have almost attended.—An old Eastern custom, at least we suppose so. All of us recently received highly embossed invitations to a wedding reception. (The Detachment Whip Cracker has recently applied for leave to go to his native India for the purpose of celebrating his nuptials.) With visions of many foaming tankards, dusky maidens performing, and the throbbing of snakey music, the locals screamed loudly for Jeeves (alias Murgy) to lay out the latest gents natty suitings and prepared to sally forth to the ceremony.

One can readily imagine the hoots of annoyance and throaty curses when it was discovered that the ceremony was actually taking place in " Punki," and the invitations were merely courtesy ones. He *should* receive a vote of confidence when he gets back.

Beer we have not yet Received.—Congratulations to the following on placing their hooves on the bottom rung of the fire escape : Lance Corporals Strong C. and O'Callaghan J., both appointed Lance Corporals on the Corps Roster on 1st July. Old customs are apparently dying out in this New Army !

After much frantic delving into the aforementioned fiction, and getting little help there, we would like to re-assure readers that the palm trees still sway, snakes hiss, " G " men gyrate and tigers roar, although very few snakes have been seen since the departure of one T. B. C. (the only one in captivity is now safe at Tekong), and to our jaundiced eyes there seems to be a sad lack of maidens—grass-skirted or otherwise.

So with a gurgling of a well-earned top in our ears, and a drip of perspiration from our fevered brow, we emulate the noble example of the ploughman and homeward wend our weary way.

KRAUT.

Tientsin Signal Section.

British Military Headquarters, Tientsin.

24th September.

General.—The camp at Chinwangtao closed down on the 14th instant. Those who wanted one, and even some who did not—i.e., the Grippers—had a spell by the sea. The site was an ideal place for a Rest Camp, which is the main object of these annual summer camps, and the chief pursuits were swimming, baseball, tennis, "losaking," hunting for lepricorns (eh, Paddy) and, of course, indulging in quiet sing songs.

The last party from the Section were instrumental in entertaining the Signal Staff of H.M.S. Cumberland, which was anchored at Chinwangtao for a time. Little can be told of the party except that over a hundred bottles of food were consumed, and that they were broken for the remainder of the camp. The sailors, however, repaid our hospitality with interest, when we visited their ship.

Since our last notes appeared, seventy-five per cent. of the Section have fired their Annual Musketry Course at Peking, and the results were excellent. An average of more than eighty out of a possible ninety-five was attained, and Signalmen Harrop and McDonald scored ninety-three and ninety-two respectively.

Trade Tests.—Word has come through that Signalmen Keene, Little, Lawson and Davies have passed the test for Operator Class II. Congratulations to them all.

Appointments and Promotions.—Just one. Congratulations to Lance Sergeant Hall (256 lbs. of fighting fury) on attaining that rank. Be patient now for a few years, Nobby!

Trooping.—For the information of Units at home, the following personnel are embarking in the near future for the U.K.: Our O.C., Lieutenant G. Thomson (a fine all-round sportsman, notably rugger, cricket, hockey and soccer); Lance Sergeant Hall (outsize rolls required); Corporal Govey; Lance Corporal Verlander (another all-rounder, notably soccer, tennis and hockey); Signalman Harrop (a good goalkeeper and batsman); Signalmen Bloom, Keene and Hopcraft (all play a useful game of soccer); Signalman Songhurst (of chewing-gum fame).

Welcomes and Farewells.—By the time these notes appear, those mentioned in the preceding paragraph, with the exception of our O.C., will be homeward bound, and the new arrivals will be settling down. To the old timers we extend our best wishes, and trust that they will soon settle down to a happy time in Blighty. We are sorry to lose them, but men may come and men may go, etc., etc. Farewell!

To the new members of the Section we extend a welcoming hand, and hope that they will all have an enjoyable time here. (Situation permitting.) Our best wishes are also extended to Mrs. Gresham and Murphy, and we hope soon to welcome Mrs. Wathen.

Things We Want to Know.—Why Chang seems relieved, and did he really carry Tashy's kit to the station?

Far and Near.—From a certain news agency comes the following: "In Europe it seems the bad, bad wolf is entangled with the Russian bear, while the lion looks on and twitches its tail." What offers for a tribe of honest-to-goodness Chinese "gorillas" to complete the menagerie?

From our Chinwangtao correspondent comes rumours of wild beach orgies in the moonlight. But who stole the beer, and who lost what? (Peking, please note.)

In Tientsin, recently, the well-dressed man carries a pencil. Is there any connection with those mysterious disappearances after pay parade? (Boy, chit!)

Peking Signals dare not venture out after dark owing to the nocturnal activity of "The Ringer." A reward of five dollars is offered for information re this "desprit cove."

Scene in a Cafe. A lady and gentleman *tete-a-tete*. Enter four beer-swilling villians. A silent toast to our Romeo, who responds with a plaintive bleat, "I say, you fellows, the best of people do not do this sort of thing." (Oh, Bertie, oh!)

Anyone requiring the services of a professional "Shroff" apply to this Section. We have two Group A, Class 1.

Lost.—Approximately sixty-three dots belonging to Morse & Co., whilst *en route* from Tientsin to Hong Kong. Perhaps they became mixed up with Messrs. W. & X.'s consignment, or were extracted by Shaisigs. Will finder please return to HK as we have been informed that they are an essential part of Messrs. Morse's property.

Dussvedanyah.

MATA HARI.

Hong Kong Signal Company.

Whitfield Barracks, Kowloon.

4th October.

General.—The leave period has finished, and the Unit is back to normal routine once more. Harassed Section clerks rush around looking for counter clerks, operators, etc., and Section Sergeants, having finished their juggling with the Duty Rosters, find time during the morning for a "quick one."

This season the Unit spent their leave at Cape D'Aguilar. Owing to the great influx of refugees and missionaries from Canton and the interior, we were unable to obtain the bungalow at Cheung Chau Island. D'Aguilar is not quite as good as Cheung Chau, but a good time was had by the majority.

In good weather, the trip by car around the coast of Hong Kong is very interesting and enjoyable indeed.

Angling contests were held almost every week, and most of the party, comprising one N.C.O. and eighteen men, participated. It was a happy fishing ground. There were "dingleberries, huckleberries and dingles" in abundance. What are they? Write and ask Wally of the Mobile, who, we feel sure, will supply readers with any information they may require regarding the fishing. What was that, boy? Fish for Tiffin! Good gracious, it is time we finished with this subject.

Yes, an enjoyable time was spent at D'Aguilar, and many members of the Unit are looking forward to the next "trooper."

The second B.II Course is now over, and results are eagerly awaited. Roll up those dollars! At the moment a C.1 Lineman's Course is well under way. Come on, Lines, let us have plenty of successful candidates to congratulate.

Arrivals.—We welcome Captain Whatman from Shanghai, and sincerely hope that his stay will be a pleasant and interesting one.

Departures.—Again we ask readers to keep an eye on this Section; they may see something.

Football.—Our first eleven entered the Third Division of the Hong Kong Football Association at the beginning of September. We wish the team all the best, and hope that they will provide ample copy for football notes in the near future. As a point of interest, this team beat "South China B" of the Second Division in a friendly match; score 3—1 (Bromley 2, Parry 1).

Hong Kong Whispers.—Information has been received stating that a certain "uke" player fancies his chance on ZBW.

Call of the Yidd.—Geordie Power, School of Signals. "How are the Church Elms? Titch Barritt."

Henderson W., somewhere in Karachi. "Stamps are cheap! Kitcher."

Duke J. and Danny H. "How about a grip? Parry C."

B. V. P.

THE TERRITORIALS AND SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

An account of the Unit's activities during the recent crisis appears on page 473 of this issue.

As the Establishment has been raised from approximately 300 to 600 men, recruiting is proceeding rapidly. Men are accepted for general service between the ages of 18 and 38, and for Home service between 39 and 50. Prospective recruits should make early application.

A. A.

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals Cadet Company.

Following the camp period, we are now picking up the threads again, and hope to be able to muster a really fine Cadet Company before our first birthday on 30th November. We shall certainly have a special parade in honour of this.

Ere these notes appear in print, we shall have attended the annual parade of the London and Middlesex Cadet Division, and, in doing so, we make history. For the first time an English Cadet Company, affiliated to the Royal Corps of Signals, but wearing the uniform of a Lowland Scottish Regiment, will be there, and to our Cadet Company comes this honour.

We have the most attractive and distinctive kit of any Cadet Unit in London, and we are very proud of this fact. Most of our members are genuine " Sassenachs," but we cater for all British lads, and only strive to give the boys ideals of public service.

It is with the deepest regret that we say farewell to Colonel G. C. Wickins, T.D., on his relinquishment of the command of the 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals, T.A. He has always been the best friend of the Cadet Company since its inception, and his deep, personal interest in all our activities has been an inspiration to all ranks. We wish him long life, health, happiness and prosperity, and trust that he may long be spared to carry on his patriotic work.

A.A. SCOTTIE.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—The events at the end of last month resulted in a slight postponement of the commencement of the individual training period. This training is now in progress, and each Company has made a good start. As we have remarked in previous years, this is usually the case, but the keenness suffers a setback after a few weeks owing to the failure of certain members to stay the course. However, we still look forward to the time when the various classes will continue without any depletion in numbers.

Before these notes appear, the 1937-38 training year will have closed, and Company Headquarters in each case will be busy for a brief while completing records of drills, weapon training, and so on, in readiness for the payment of proficiency grants, etc., to those who by their diligence and keenness have earned the monetary reward of their labours.

Although there has been no remarkable increase in the number of recruits, recruiting is still maintaining a steady level.

We offer our best wishes to Captain L. E. O. Evans, who recently took unto himself a wife, and wish them both good luck in their new venture.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

The Drill Hall, York Street, Devonport.

Training.—The individual training programme, which was timed to commence at the beginning of October, has, inevitably, been interrupted somewhat owing to the crisis, but by the time these notes appear will be in full swing.

The Company Commander has held his N.C.O.s' conference, and the pre-training test for operators has helped to sort out the operating sheep from the goats. Now that we are able to settle down again, we look forward to a useful and interesting winter's training.

On Sunday, 9th October, in weather conditions so often associated with the Open Range, the recruits proved their mettle with the rifle in the open.

ONECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

No. 2 Company.

General.—The absence of notes from this Company last month is regretted, but we will endeavour to convey to readers our activities for the past month or so.

The drill nights on Tuesdays and Thursdays are fully occupied with a set course of lectures, and the time has been extended for an extra half an hour in order to make the lecture more interesting as well as allowing time for questions.

Medals.—We should like to congratulate Sergeant Knight, Lance Sergeant Thomson, Corporal Divall and Signalman Dyer on obtaining their Territorial Efficiency Medals. We assume that the " bars " are not far off in their respective minds.

Recruiting.—During the last month we appear to have obtained very satisfactory results. A hearty welcome is extended to Signalmen Chapman, Fish, Moore D. W., Read, Smith and Banks. May your stay with us be a long and happy one.

Departures.—We are very sorry to lose Signalmen Downer and Herriott, the latter having joined the Marines. We wish them the best of luck.

For Company Information.—We learn from a reliable source that the trenches which have been dug near the Hurst Drill Hall are for the new Brighton Drill Hall. Another reliable source informs us that a Trench Supper is to be held (after the payment of Proficiency Grants, of course), and the entire Company will fill them in with shovels which are to be brought along as well as the customary mug.

GEORGE BEER.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds.

General.—Now that there are no further reasons for thinking about packing our kit bags, we are all hoping that we shall be allowed to carry on with our winter programme as arranged.

We presume that the procedure during the crisis was very much the same with all T.A. Units, and, therefore, no comment is necessary, except to say that the spirit shown by all ranks during those vital days revealed very plainly that we were prepared to prove that the Unit would function properly under Active Service conditions.

Training.—A Course for young officers and selected N.C.O.s, which is now in full swing, is designed to provide instructors for specialised subjects. This entails a good deal of study at home. The lectures, which are to be delivered by members of the class in turn, should, to say the least, be diverting.

Operators are doing their best to get those few extra words per minute, whilst recruits are struggling manfully with the morse code. The promise of prize money at Christmas will help them over the first and worst hurdle in the Operators' Handicap.

Social.—The approach of winter means renewed activity on the part of the Entertainments Committee. The Leeds Police are to pay another visit to the Sergeants' Mess. They seem to like our Company, and we think it better to keep well in with them ; one never knows ?

Sunday night concerts have been arranged for both the Mess and Canteen. Last year, concerts were held in both places on the same night. As the Mess is directly above the Canteen, it is easy to imagine the result of the Sergeants' Mess acclaiming " Old Father Thames " and the Canteen insisting on following " Dinah " to heaven knows where in a voice that scorned opposition. However, all's well that ends well. The Canteen Premier made his first flight and met the Dictator upstairs, with the result that these will be alternate nights, and so peace rests over Gibraltar Barracks.

AQUA.

Air Formation Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds.

Once more Annual Camp, that climax to a year's training, is only a collection of memories. Looking back now it seems impossible that so much excitement and action should be compressed into such a short space of time as fifteen days, or that we should ever have pondered on the possibilities of losing our bowler hats for good, and mobilizing there and then in that Bedfordshire field. Oh, hectic Ampthill !

Glance back at our Camp scrapbook. Remember how we of the two Yorkshire Companies greeted the Londoners from No. 2 Company from Putney ? How we chaffed those stalwarts from the Midlands, the now famous No. 4 Company ? Once more the family of Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell was assembled, with new faces from No. 25 Construction Section, Stamford Bridge, London, to swell the numbers.

Remember how " Woodlands Bridge " (all my own work) was tested by the very inexpert L.M.S. driver and his 10-ton container ! How the gentle strains of bagpipes, played with loving hands at the G.H.Q. Camp in the next field, roused one and all long before Reveille ! Have you forgotten the effect that the partially-consumed tear gas bomb had on doubting Thomases in No. 3 Company Stores, they who swaggered about *without* gas masks ?

What about that night when the Sergeants' Mess threw a party ? What a party ; what a night ! The talent, the community singing of the various contingents, the poetry and rhythm, all combining to make such a night that those officers who stayed the course will never forget it ; a performance that the B.B.C. would give their ears to be allowed to put on the air.

And manœuvres ; what a scramble, changing at a moment's notice from Air Formation Signals, replete with reams of teleprinters and whatnots, to Neutral Signals bereft of all that we hold dear save a few tele. F's and a small portion of D8 twisted. The agony of changing over from comfortable and civilised aerodromes to following whimsical umpires into the unknown. and then the remarks at the Oxford Conference ; did we feel good ? Didn't we all vote it one of the best " wars " that we've fought for a long, long time ?

Forgotten our Sports Day ? How No. 25 Construction Section turned out the smartest guard seen for many a long day, for the Guard-Mounting Competition. How the tug-of-war teams pulled and pulled until they nearly burst, they were so evenly matched ; or the spectacle of No. 4 Company rushing as one man to chair their very popular Major Braine, when they heard that the Morgan Cup (awarded to the best all-round Company) was theirs—remember ?

Grand times ; the sort of happenings that, because they come only once a year to us are talked over and over in the now once more scattered Unit. Perhaps it is because we are so scattered and isolated that camp really means to us a re-opening of old friendships, bringing that feeling of well-being because we are a fully complete Air Formation Signals, including the S.R.

PICK.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

H.Q.; No. 1 Company, and 207 M.A.B. Signal Section.

Fonthill Barracks, Aberdeen.

General.—The national emergency is now, we hope, a thing of the past. It so happened that the Commanding Officer, Second-in-Command, Adjutant and Regimental Sergeant-Major were all on leave at the time and, naturally, were none too pleased at having to return from what they thought was to be a glorious rest.

However, things started to happen so quickly that they soon forgot their sorrow, and for the next few days the Unit and Company Offices were the scenes of much activity.

An Officers' conference was held. Also, in order to give the men of the Company an idea of what would happen when they were required, a notice for all ranks to attend at the Drill Hall was sent out. Tables were arranged with their respective clerks and documents, in accordance with the Mobilization Scheme, and an explanation was given to the men on the procedure to be adopted.

The Company is to be congratulated on the 100 per cent. attendance.

Now that the Winter Training Courses are in full swing, the barracks is once more a hive of industry. Both the Operators' and Linemen's Courses have a good attendance, and as all participating seem enthusiastic, some first-class results are expected at the Trade Board in December.

The Football Committee did not waste much time in getting down to the social side of their activities, and a dance was held in aid of the funds on Friday, 23rd September. The dance was voted a great success by all who attended.

Following their example, the Badminton Club have arranged an opening dance for the season, to be held on Friday, 14th October. If it is equal to the Football Club's effort, then we can look forward to another enjoyable evening.

The effects of the P.T. Classes for the footballers are now beginning to make themselves felt, for the team held the Scottish Horse to a draw in a hard game, played on Saturday, 8th October. Four points have been collected out of five matches, but we hope to do much better when the team settles down.

The new Men's Canteen is almost completed, and we hope that it will be well patronised after the hard work which Corporal Garrod has put into it.

ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

Stirling.

11th October.

General.—With the excitement of the emergency period a memory of the past, we can now concentrate on our normal routine.

Winter Training.—Courses for operators commenced on 29th September, and there is a fairly good attendance. It is hoped to have a batch for the Group " E " test at the Trade Board in March. We have now received our 8-cwt. wireless truck, and are hoping to train all our operators as drivers during the training season.

Social.—The only outstanding event of the moment is that the Sergeants' Mess have commenced a Badminton Club, and, judging by the attendance on the first night, we shall soon have to extend the Hall in order to make room for more courts.

Departures.—We very much regret to announce that, owing to the alteration in the Establishment of the Unit, our C.S.M. (Jack Todd) has been posted to No. 3 Company. We are thankful that for the time being he remains with us for all purposes.

TWUCO.

No. 3 Company.

Hunter Street, Kirkcaldy.

General.—Having got over the effects of the disturbance caused in the Company by the national crisis, things are assuming a quieter aspect. What a hive of industry a Comapny office can be when there is the prospect of a balloon going up. Still, we are told that it did us good.

We had our usual 100 per cent. parade on Friday last, when the Annual Proficiency Grants were disbursed. Everyone went away very pleased, except the P.S.I., who had the prospect of clearing up the office and the accounts the next morning.

Now then, chaps, spread the good news about the easily-earned bounties, and get plenty of others to qualify for similar ones.

The "pay out" was followed by a sports meeting. As a result, the details of the opening of the season for the Badminton Club, Rifle Club, Dances and a new item—a Keep Fit Class—were finally settled. With the experience of those on the various committees, and given reasonable support, these functions should flourish, so we look forward to a good season.

The opportunity was taken at such a large gathering of the Company to say a few words about the Corps Journal. As a result, about another twenty-seven copies of THE WIRE will be required by this Company. Now then, Nos. 1 and 2 Companies, let us see your sales go up, too!

Recruiting.—The recruiting prize for the year 1937-38 was awarded to Signalman Payne W., who brought along the most recruits. A similar prize is offered (one guinea) for the year 1938-39, so we hope for some keen competition, lads. Someone might induce a P.A.D. clerk to enlist. He *only* requires a sound knowledge of Surveying, Mathematics, First Aid, Building, and an insight of future crises, be able to tackle puzzles with confidence, and have an expert knowledge of defence against gas. He would not be required to do more than about three or four hours' work every evening, except Wednesdays and Saturdays. The usual lessons on typing, amendments, and documents will be given to him. M.I.M.!

Tailpiece.—The lure of the Service. Signalman McN——: "I want to join the Guards, sir."

P.S.I., after running the rule over Signalman McN——: "You're not tall enough, heavy enough nor broad enough."

Signalman McN——: "All right, I'll wait."

Later the P.S.I. received this letter: "Dear Sir, You were right, the Guards are not big enough for me, so I am in the Black Watch. Signalman McN——."

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals and G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

21, Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Ampthill.—Annual Camp has once again come and gone for G.H.Q. Signals, S.R. There could be no more fitting camping place than Ampthill. Although there were manifold signs of autumn when our lads arrived for their September training, the weather throughout the fortnight might well be regarded as satisfactory.

The camp was ideally situated midst wooded hills and near to the old-time village. The pleasant environment may have been an impetus to the work of the annual training, for Glasgow S.R. cannot recall a happier camp, or results which have been more satisfactory and gratifying.

Schemes appeared to work out exactly, and without hitch. Arrangements and organisation were excellent. All things went with a swing, and according to plan.

We were much in the company of our Edinburgh comrades, and nothing could be more pleasing than the harmonious working of all ranks. We had our usual one or two camp casualties. Despatch Rider Whiteford was unfortunate enough to be involved in a dry skid. We were indeed sorry to leave him in Bedford Hospital, but we understand our comrade is making a good recovery.

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Our good friend, Captain Paterson, was *hors de combat* for the first week. Captain Paterson had put in many months of extremely hard work as S.R. Adjutant in Glasgow. Never before had the Units been so well organised and recruited, and we were glad to note that he was his old self again before we struck camp. Usually we have a grand camp complex, and this year's high spot was undoubtedly the gas mask business.

There was little left undone in order to fully impress upon us that our best friends were our gas masks.

The excellent conduct of the men of the Glasgow and Edinburgh Units must have been gratifying to the Commanding Officer. The one-day pass arrangement was highly appreciated, and the lads responded splendidly to the consideration shown them.

We shall long remember Ampthill, where there was not a single jarring note.

The Boy Gould.—We heartily congratulate Sergeant Gould A., of our P.S., and Mrs. Gould, on the birth of a son on 25th August. May the years be as gold to little Gould. Bless the bonnie wee laddie!

September Wedding.—We heartily congratulate Sergeant John Schofield and Miss Margaret Ballantyne on their marriage, which took place at Glasgow on 2nd September. The union was solemnised at the Charing Cross Halls, and the officiating clergyman was Rev. J. C. Gordon.

The ceremony took place in the presence of a large company, and a reception was afterwards held. The bride looked very charming in a beautiful dress of white silk, and exquisitely worked lace. Sergeant Jim Evans, S.R., Edinburgh, was groomsman, and the bride was attended by her sister, Miss Helen Ballantyne.

Sergeant Schofield is well known in T.A. and S.R. circles in Glasgow. After serving for several years as P.S. instructor at Jardine Street, and completing his Regular Army service, he was appointed to the position of curator at our Headquarters.

The happy couple were the recipients of many valuable tokens of esteem and goodwill. Amongst the presents were gifts from

the officers, and the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess. We wish Sergeant and Mrs. Schofield a long and happy married life. May the matrimonial adventure for them be one of sunny skies and smooth seas.

Exhibit "A".—We must mention THE WIRE in connection with the Empire Exhibition. The space in the Services Pavilion allotted to our excellent Journal was three square feet. It was indeed a labour of love to keep on replacing thumb-marked copies, and we made the most of this opportunity for publicity. Thousands of visitors must have made their acquaintance with the Corps Magazine.

Lieutenant Wylie.—It was with regret that we learned of the somewhat serious illness of Lieutenant and Quartermaster J. Wylie. We are very glad that our old friend is showing signs of improvement and trust that he will soon be with us again.

Bert Luke.—By the recent discharge of C.S.M. Bert Luke, No. 1 G.H.Q. Signal Company, S.R., have lost a staunch comrade and an exemplary Warrant Officer. C.S.M. Luke gave many years of valuable service to the Corps. Though living at Worthing for some time past he has maintained an active connection with the S.R. at Glasgow. We say good-bye to our old friend and wish him all the best.

Nos. 31 & 32 Wireless Sections, G.H.Q. Signals, Coventry.

General.—Although these two Sections are newly formed, certain traditions are upheld, and certain Army instructions have to be followed. One roving Signalman, who took it upon himself to err from these instructions, pestered a certain N.C.O. with questions relating to a new bandolier.

The " R.S." in question, failing to discern the line between biting sarcasm and wordly advice, went home and told his wife what to do with the said bandolier. Bearing in mind the instructions given by the exasperated N.C.O., and the day being washing day, everything was set for a jolly good boil up.

Wifey, determined to put up a really good show, ensured that the fire was well stoked, and the water really boiling, whilst hubby went about his daily toil, with that feeling of well being that one usually has after successfully passing on the " can."

THE SIGNALLER WHO FOLLOWED THE IRATE N.C.O's. INSTRUCTIONS TO BOIL THE BANDOLIER.

It is agreed that there are many kinds of " cans," but this particular utensil possessed boomerang properties and came back to the owner of the bandolier in a totally unexpected manner. (To the uniniated, of course.) On arrival home that evening, instead of being greeted in the manner that happily married couples usually greet each other, he was confronted with an undersized piece of equipment that had had all the promise boiled out of it.

Casting a soldierly eye over the bandolier, the roving Signalman's worst fears were confirmed, and he suspected there would be the very dickens to pay when he reported it to the O.C., for report it he must, because during the trial, in preparation for the C.O.'s parade, the said bandolier, thinking (if bandoliers do think) that the proverbial last straw had been added, burst into a hundred pieces. Our obstinate artist portrays the addition of the last straw. Our remarks on this very sad story is: *Stat Magni Nominis Umbra.*

Promotions.—Congratulations to Captain J. E. Rodgers on attaining that rank.

Courses.—Corporals Howe and Murphy attended a General Duties Course with the 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford, and obtained a satisfactory report.

Recruiting.—Recruits are still rolling along, and another six operators will see these two Sections up to Establishment. If only we could recruit these operators from the Corporation Transport, arrangements could then be made for some very interesting tournaments between the G.E.C. and the Corporation buses. But more of this anon.

GECO.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

14th October.

From 17th October to 21st October Glamorgan Territorials will hold the stage in Cardiff in the Welsh Area Territorial Week. This Unit's preparations are well forward, and it is hoped to attract a considerable number of recruits as a result.

We have no intention of describing the events to take place at this stage, but a brief outline will be given in the next issue. It is sufficient to say that we shall be well represented.

The officers' winter training programme commenced on 3rd October. Operating and Officers' Lectures are the main features. Plenty of interesting work is in course of progress.

In the past few weeks, the Drill Hall premises have taken on a strange appearance, and at first we thought that the Adjutant had taken to gardening in his spare time. Actually, certain precautions were being taken as a result of the international situation. The P.A.D. Officers' Gas Lock, a most efficient effort, was exhibited as a model of what should be done in this sphere. He has now been selected to attend the Depot, South Wales Borderers, Brecon, for an Anti-Gas Course.

On Saturday, 8th October, the W.O.s and N.C.O.s held a social evening at which their wives and lady friends attended, and a very pleasant evening resulted. We are looking forward to the next one.

Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Doyle A. E. on his promotion to that rank. His record of service and photograph appeared in the last issue. He certainly had it coming to him (among other things which he will probably escape).

C.S.M. Greenwood E. W., P.S.I., No. 2 Company, is on leave pending departure for India before the close of the year. His period of service with this Unit has been marked with extraordinary energy and efficiency. Training recruits was one of his specialities. It is no exaggeration to say that he will be missed by evryone in the Unit. It is proposed to hold a Company social evening shortly, when a presentation will be made to him.

We understand that Lance Sergeant Barnett W. R. A. will take over duties as P.S.I., No. 2 Company, in succession to C.S.M. Greenwood. We welcome him in advance.

The Unit football team have commenced the season well. At the moment they are unbeaten, having played five matches,

won three, and drawn two. 2nd Lieutenant D. G. Davies is the energetic officer-in-charge. The Unit has the distinction of being the only Welsh team entered for the Territorial Army Challenge Cup, and are drawn at home against the 55th (West Lancs.) Division in the second round. Good luck!

THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

The Green, Stratford, London, E.15.

General.—During the Annual Camp period the Unit was honoured by the appointment of Major-General R. M. Luckock, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Commander, 54th (E.A.) Division, T.A., and East Anglian Area, as our Hon. Colonel. Major-General Luckock has since relinquished the command, but we have every confidence that his keen interest in the Unit will remain.

Some rather important changes in connection with the Unit are imminent. In the first place it now seems certain that the Unit is to have new and up-to-date Headquarters in the not too distant future. According to plan, the Headquarters will be situated on the edge of Wanstead Flats and Epping Forest, in very congenial surroundings, and not more than two stones' throw from that well-known hostelry, the "Green Man," Leytonstone.

There is no doubt that our new Headquarters is due to the energetic efforts of our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel F. A. Manley, T.D., who, from time of assuming command, has never ceased in his efforts to this end. The co-operation of the Divisional Commander (Major-General Luckock), and Colonel O. P. Edgcumbe, M.C., C.S.O., certainly "put more power in the punch." At all events, there will now be little necessity for certain powers-that-be at the War House and other places to run for cover when Colonel Manley is in the offing.

Owing to the re-distribution of various Essex A.A. Units R.A. and R.E., it appears that our No. 3 Company at Prittlewell (Southend) will cease to function at that place, and will be brought under the same roof as Nos. 1 and 2 Companies. Tough luck, No. 3, but it is all for the good of the cause.

Some startling changes are apparent at this Headquarters as a result of the recent crisis. Trenches and sandbags now attract (?) the eye instead of grass lawns and flowers. Seventeen years labour of love came unstuck in seventeen minutes! The accompanying photographs definitely denote the unholy glee of two of the despoilers in their grim work. Note their joy when anticipating a burst in the water main. Still, the job had to be done, and the boys went at it with a will. If a halt had not been called on the third day, there is not the slightest doubt that the whole of Headquarters would have been underground. Anent the balancing feat being performed by "Tim" during a rest interval. We wonder how many of the old 'uns remember Ponto Delbridge? But he used to balance 'em somewhere else.

Note.—Two lawn mowers and one heavy roller for sale. No reasonable offer refused.

Second Note.—Further supply of grass seed NOT required.

No. 1 Company.

Despite the short break in the proceedings during the crisis, the motto at the "Green" seems to be "Business as Usual."

When these notes appear in print, the Trade Board will have been held, and those who have determined to succeed will have earned their reward. We take this opportunity to wish all operators "good reading," and linemen "good jointing."

We are able to report good business in the recruiting field, and if things go on as they are now we shall have to put a "Line Up Here" notice. Among our new recruits we are glad to welcome Signalman Reynolds, who many will remember for his activities in the noble art of self-defence. After a short sojourn in "Civvy Street," "Ginger" was apparently unable to resist the "Call of the No. 2 Set." Another one to go under your wing, Mac.!

Our latest recruiting effort in the district has been carried out with two "Bugs," complete with No. 1 Sets, and a load of pamphlets. We arrived at one site, commenced operations, but just as the pamphlet drive was about to commence, a small boy piped, "When's the balloon going up, Mister?" (Collapse of operator, and more bad language on the air.) So far we are unable to give the results of these drives to convince the local inhabitants what they are missing.

Since our last notes appeared, our number has been increased by another personality from 4th Divisional Signals. He is C.S.M. Skitt, who has shouldered the burden of W/T P.S.I. We regret we have so far been unable to welcome C.S.M. Skitt in the traditional No. 1 Company style, but that is a pleasure to which we all look forward. Nevertheless, we extend to our new P.S.I. a cordial welcome, and trust that his stay with us will be a long and happy one.

Now then, lads, if your Sets at home "conk," don't take them back to the maker; just fetch them along. That's all right; it is just a part of the 54th service. (With apologies to Austen Reed.)

Our congratulations to Signalman and Mrs. Church on the auspicious occasion of the birth of their first daughter.

Things We Should Like to Know.—How long have you been keen on looking at trenches, Ken?

No. 2 Company.

Regular readers of THE WIRE have no doubt missed the usual few words from this Company, but as the effects of the Brighton beer—sorry, air—take time to wear off, we must apologise to our readers for the absence of our monthly bulletin.

Having once more settled down at H.Q. after the ever-laborious store checking business, programmes were prepared for the winter training session. Paid classes had commenced and we were all striving to make ourselves 100 per cent. efficient when the dark clouds that had been gathering over Europe suddenly took a grave turn.

We all realised the gravity of the situation, but hoped and prayed that the terrible catastrophe of war would not overtake us. Things looked very black, and on Monday, 26th September, the A.A. Units of the T.A. were mobilised. Mobilisation was not for us, but volunteers were required to man certain W/T stations for the Home Defence Forces.

On the Monday, the first contingent of volunteers reported at H.Q., and were met by the R.S.M. and Mr. Kenyon. The payment of an allowance of 5s. (1s. 9d. of which had to be returned at the end of the week) to the new arrivals was certainly cheering.

As there were no definite orders for us, we all retired to the pictures for the evening; the exceptions were our four principal D.R.s, who were despatched to Hertford Barracks. Here they were accommodated in one of the married quarters. Mrs. Gilmore did the cooking, and, like King Alfred, burnt—not the cakes—but "Mrs." Willey's steak. (It's done when it's black, Tommy.)

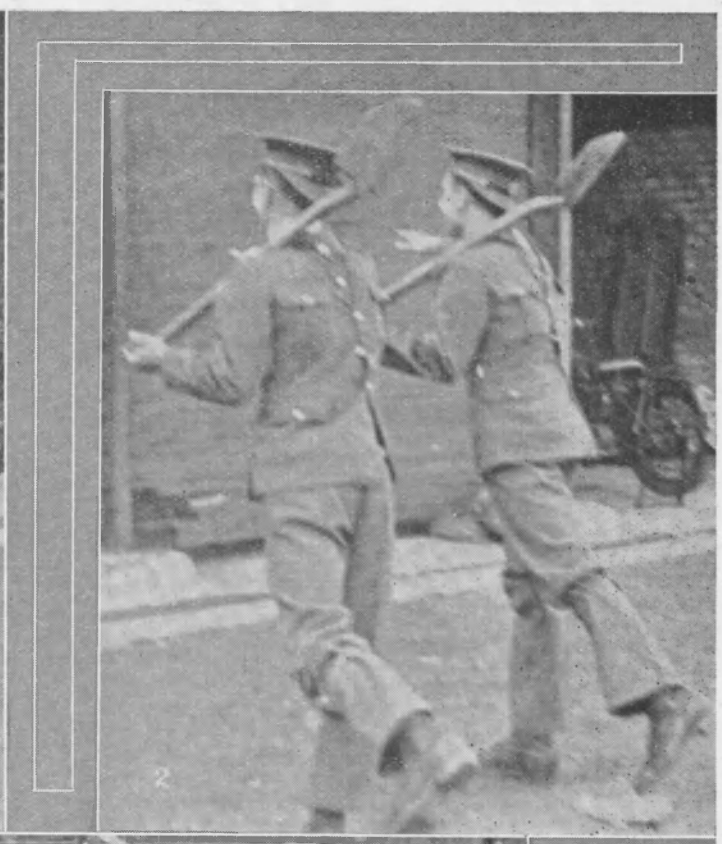
Incidentally, we were met in the streets by many pessimists who thought that our number was up. Optimists apparently were at a premium, as nobody stood us a pint.

Definite orders were not issued until Thursday, when various parties were despatched to such places as Warley Barracks, Chatham, Whitehall, Hertford, etc. Needless to say, Sergeant "Stan" Cook, of No. 1 Company, went to Whitehall, taking with him his highly polished D.3, doubtless to vie with the splendour of the breastplate worn by the "Blues."

Those who were left behind at H.Q. were detailed for the highly-skilled job of trench digging, but as they were all Union men and working strictly to Union times, only the top spit was removed when the whistle blew at 6 p.m., when all picks, spades and shovels were put away until the morrow. The rest of the evening was spent in the usual convivial atmosphere of the Canteen.

Friday brought us news of peace, and the shadow of imminent war had receded. Hopes ran high among the "Labour Corps" that this news would bring the trench digging to an end. But this was not to be, and so, with picks and shovels carried at the slope, the "Labour Corps" delved once more into the mysteries

A.R.P. ACTIVITIES



1. Things are not always . .

2. . . . what they seem.

3. Aha ! The main.

of the earth, under the vigilant supervision of Captain Gentry and Mr. Caldicatt, and the eagle eye of Sergeant "Foreman" Sunderland.

As the morning wore on, with muscles aching, joints creaking and picks and shovels ringing out their song of joy, we gradually assumed the natural habits of the ancient navvy; we could spit to leeward, and drink a pint in one gulp with the best of them. When the whistle blew, picks, spades, etc., were thrown in a chaotic heap, and the weary diggers, with hands blistered, and backs aching, managed to stagger away for their dinner.

This welcome respite soon ends, and we return with renewed zest and vigour; two members of the Company were attired in full array, viz., clay pipe, knee straps and neckerchiefs.

Digging operations finally ceased at 7 p.m., and the diggers wended their way towards the bar, where, after their strenuous duties, the "Labour Corps" proceeded to celebrate in the manner of *p::kka* diggers.

A certain member, who celebrated so well, attempted to dig up the Canteen floor; and, eventually, had to be assisted to bed with the aid of a little brandy. (Mr. McKowin has proposed to "Miss" Butcher and has been accepted.)

Saturday saw the return to H.O. of those members who had been posted to various stations. After the final one-for-the-road, and photographs had been taken, we departed once more to "Civvy Street," after a most hectic week.

In conclusion, those members who answered the call for volunteers deserve the greatest praise for their splendid response. As humble scribes, we can find no fitting words to pay adequate tribute to them.

Overheard.—Which N.C.O. addressed a regular soldier with two good conduct stripes as Corporal?

RAIMACDOG.

233rd and 234th F.A. Brigades Signal Sections.

Ashburnham Road, Bedford.

14th October.

We learn with regret that Lieutenant F. M. Greaves, Royal Signals, O.C., 234th Field Artillery Brigade Signal Section, has undergone a severe operation at the Leeds Infirmary. The operation was successful, and a speedy recovery is the wish of all ranks at Bedford.

2nd Lieutenant J. D. Cooke, Royal Signals, has stepped into the breach, and, to quote the words of the troops, "'e ain't arf all right."

The Paid Course, which started on 7th September, is due to finish on 20th October. The attendance has been good, studying keen, and everyone knows a little bit more now. Congratulations to the two chief instructors on this Course (Sergeants Thurley and Bright A.), who have done their job well; they can be sure of reaping the benefit of their work at some future date.

Congratulations also to Lance Corporal Leach H. Y. for consistently losing at cribbage and darts, thereby supplying the P.S.I. with plenty of free "womp." (Your throw, York dear!)

There is something sinister afoot in this Drill Hall. A collection is taking place, the object of which appears to be the provision of "Prams, Wheeling, Babies, for the use of—one (or perhaps two, three, or more)!

And now a word about another personality in Bedford, to wit, Lance Corporal Scott W., straight from the Canadian Prairies, who is a Class III Operator and calls a girl a goirl. All right, Lance Corporal Scott W., you bouy me a point, an' I'll let youse orf it.

BEDFORDIA.

The London Divisional Signals.
(City of London Signals.)

Signal House, 20, Atkins Road, Clapham Park, S.W.12.

17th October.

The absence of WIRE notes for October is regrettably due to the recent Emergency and the pressure of work occasioned thereby. The following copy of a Special Order of the Day, by Major-General C. F. Liardet, C.B., D.S.O., T.D., Commander, The London Division, T.A., is all that may be published in connection with seventeen extremely busy days:

"I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to all Commanding Officers, Adjutants, Permanent Staff Instructors and all Territorial Army Officers, Warrant Officers, N.C.O.s and men of the London Division and attached troops, for the splendid work they have done during the recent Emergency. The response to all calls on the Division was met in exactly the way I knew the London Territorial soldier will always rise to any emergency.

"As a Territorial Army officer myself, I realise to the full the sacrifices of time and money made by volunteers of all ranks, and I am proud of the loyalty and devotion to duty shown by all ranks."

Training.—Although interrupted by the crisis, all ranks will be able to spend the remainder of October in an effort to increase the Unit's musketry average.

On 1st November, the individual training season proper commences with a series of Paid Courses for all signal trades.

On 23rd October, officers and sergeants are to take part in a Floor Scheme.

Football.—Here are the results of matches to date:

STREATHAM AND DISTRICT LEAGUE.—v. Old Matteans, lost, 1—5; v. Waverley F.C., lost, 2—3.

1ST ROUND, TERRITORIAL ARMY CUP.—Artists' Rifles, drawn, 3—3 (after extra time); replay, lost, 0—1.

C.O.L.S.

1st Cadet Signal Company (Haberdashers' School).

Unit Strength.—The Unit re-assembled for the autumn term with a strength of seventy-eight other ranks, including a score of recruits, most of whom seem to be shaping well both at drill and at the rudiments of signalling.

Discharges.—Thirteen cadets of the Company left the School at the end of the summer term, including the following cadet N.C.O.s: Sergeant (Acting C.S.M.) Manley R. G., Lance Sergeant (Acting C.Q.M.S.) Weinstock G. D., Lance Corporal Page A. G., Lance Corporal Tapsfield H. A. We wish them all the best of luck in the future.

Promotions.—M. J. Brand has been promoted Sergeant, and is acting as Cadet Sergeant-Major of the Company. Further promotions are: Corporals Bayliss A. J., Innocenti S. R. and Sedgwick R. H. to be Lance Sergeants; Lance Corporals Mordant D. F., Morgan T. C., Denbeigh A. P. and Stonestreet D. A. to be Corporals.

Training Programme.—The instruction of the Operating, Cable and Maintenance Sections has been arranged, and is being carried out by the senior cadet N.C.O.s of these Sections, who are successfully running extra Section parades in order to fit in their syllabus.

Headquarters and Surveying Sections are being instructed by their Section Officers. The Band is in the care of Corporal Bennett (Grenadier Guards), and the Unit is fortunate in continuing to receive regular assistance from C.S.M. Guile, Royal Signals.

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SPORTS NOTES

Depot Battalion, Royal Signals.

Rugby Football.—The Depot Battalion team has started the 1938/39 season splendidly. The results of our first three fixtures are as follows:

17th September.—Darlington Railway Athletic II. Won 37 points to nil.

28th September.—Training Battalion, Royal Signals. Lost 4 points to 6.

15th October.—Darlington Railway Athletic II. Won 24 points to nil.

We hope to obtain our revenge against the Training Battalion on Wednesday, 19th October, when we play them in the first round of the "Cobb-Nicholl's" Cup.

The team consists of the following players, who represented the Battalion last year: 2nd Lieutenants G. W. Blackburne, P. E. S. Mansergh, B. R. M. Hayles and G. H. Wotton, Corporal Boyland, Lance Corporal Driscoll, Ballard and Wilson, and Driver Stenner; together with the following new-comers: 2nd Lieutenants H. L. H. Tayler, J. E. V. Rice, J. D. Y. Brett and R. R. Morrison, Lance Corporal Graham, and Signalmen Pickering and Beaumont.

Signalman Cooper, who played scrum-half for the Battalion last season, fractured his ankle in the first match, and will be unable to play for a few months.

The Battalion have entered for the Army Cup, and, together with the other five teams from this Command, have drawn a bye into the second round.

Soccer.—Nearly two-thirds of the Depot Battalion took part in a Football Knock-out Competition lasting about six weeks, and which was enjoyed by everybody.

Twenty-two Recruit Squads fought it out to a finish, and eight rooms of the Cadre did likewise. The finalists of each of these sections met on Friday, 15th October, to decide the best "Room" or Recruit Squad in the Battalion. The combatants were No. 25 Room and No. 22 Squad, and a very exciting game resulted in a win, after extra time, for the old soldiers by 4—2.

Small Cups were presented to the winners, and medals to the gallant losers, by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel M. F. M. Parkes, M.C., at the conclusion of the game.

Including draws, thirty-four games were played, and 330 players took part in the Competition.

We have entered for the Army Cup and expect to go far. Our first match, which takes place on or about 29th October, is against the Wiltshire Regiment. With a bit of luck and hard work we hope to greet and meet some of the other Signal Units in the final ties.

"A" Company, Depot Battalion.

Boxing.—On Friday, 7th October, Sergeant Reynolds, A.P.T.S., fought Norman Johnson, of the L.N.E.R., and runner-up of the Northern Counties, whom he beat decisively, the fight being stopped.

On Wednesday, 12th October, Sergeant Reynolds also fought in the Army Trials, winning the fights easily. On Friday, 14th October, he again fought Galley, the British feather-weight champion, from Cardiff. Unfortunately he lost, but only after a plucky display. He fought under the supervision of our attached A.P.T.S., Q.M.S.I. Mayle, who declares that his pupil did exceedingly well, since Galley has stopped all opponents so far. Reynolds was the first to stay full time.

On 31st October, Sergeant Reynolds will again meet Galley in the Army v. Wales match.

Football.—"A" Company have recently held a Knock-out Football Competition, in which all Squads participated. The recruits were amused and interested when watching the respective games. Nos. 22 and 30 Squads did exceedingly well, and played through to the final. No. 22 Squad won, and had the honour of playing "C" Company, by whom they were beaten by 5—2. Hard luck, No. 22 Squad; it was indeed a brilliant effort. "A" Company again played the Royal Tank Corps and beat them 4—1, but were beaten by the Depot Battalion, 5—2.

Rugby.—We have had several rugger matches this season, and have witnessed some good displays. The most exciting match was that between the Depot Battalion and the Training Battalion in the "Cobb-Nicholl's" Cup. The Depot Battalion, who won by 8 points to 3, were helped by the brilliant play of our popular forward, Badgy Graham.

Hockey.—We have had but one real League hockey match this season, when we played the Boys of "F" Company, and each collected a point; the score being 2—2.

Headquarters, Training Battalion.

Rugby.—A Battalion trial match was played on 24th September, and several promising new players were found.

On 28th September we emerged the winners in a game played against the Depot Battalion. Lance Corporal Wood A., one of our best forwards, unluckily collided with the opposing scrum-half during a breakaway in the game, and sustained a broken jaw. This game was played with a view to selecting a S.T.C. team to meet Ampleforth College. Although play was not of a very high standard, the selectors were able to find a team to give the College a good, close game. The final score of the game was Ampleforth, 9 points; S.T.C., 3.

On 19th October we are due to play the Depot Battalion in the first round of the Cobb-Nicholls Cup. This fixture usually provides a good, fast game, as both teams are attracted by the trip to Aldershot for the other rounds of the Cup Tournament.

Few games have been played by the Battalion team so far, but we are still in the early stages of the season. Time is being devoted to practice, and also for lectures to those who are desirous of learning the game.

Several members of the team have played for the Catterick Garrison team at various times during the season.

We hope to include some snapshots of various games in next month's notes.

L. B.

"F" Company, Training Battalion.

Rugby.—No matches other than practice games have been played, but a great deal of talent has been discovered. We still have some of our star performers left and, with a little training, it is hoped we shall have a good team. Lance Corporal Boy Smith A. played for the Training Battalion against the Depot Battalion. The Training Battalion won, 6—4; Smith scored all six points.

Cross-country.—We have had a few practice runs and the Inter-Hut Run. The runners in the Inter-Hut Run were divided into three sections—Juniors, Intermediates and Seniors. No. 2 Hut finished first with No. 1 Hut a close second. The individual placings in each run were as follows: Juniors—Harrison, Royle and Giles. Intermediates—Roberts, King J. and Rabjohns. Seniors—Gladwin, Marlow and Smith R. The best feat of the day was accomplished by Lance Corporal Blades, who won each race.

In an S.T.C. Trial on 8th October, "F" Company had seven runners in the first ten. Lance Corporal Blades was first.

Football.—After a few practice games we have finally started League and Company games. This year only two teams are entered in the Garrison and Army Cup; they are the Senior Operators and Workshops. The two junior teams will have plenty of school games arranged for them to play.

In their first match of the season, the Senior Operators drew with the R.A., 0—0, and, in their second game, lost 2—0 to the Senior Workshops. The Workshops, in their second match, played the Inniskilling Fusiliers. This game was played on the Colburn pitch in blinding rain and a very high wind. It was not until the second half that Brooks netted after a pass from Marshall, and they managed to hold this until the final whistle. "B" team lost to the Inniskillings 1—2.

The Company team has played several friendlies and, so far, have not lost a match. The teams at present are:

Senior Shops: Beattie, Brooks, Chandler, Griffin, Marshall, Murray A., Pavey, Smith A., Thompson, Warren, Weeks V., Weeks J.

Senior Operators: Chapman, Forsyth, Green B., Hope, Holdsworth, Holness, Hopkins, Marlow, Stewart, Tucker, Ward, Verlander.

Hockey.—In the last Inter-Company match we beat "D" Company 2—1. The team is a good one this year, and we hope to see another Shield in the Club.

No. 4 Squadron, Mobile Divisional Signals.

General.—As the season has only just started, we have not a lot to report, but we thought that the Unit should figure in this section.

We are getting together a decent hockey team, and are hoping for some good games in spite of the fact that our numbers have been depleted by overseas drafts.

The Unit has entered the Tidworth Garrison League and Cup. We played the Queen's Bays at Tidworth on 11th October, and were successful in beating them by 4—0. Lance Corporal Marley scored two goals, Corporal Moore 1 and Signalman Pritchard 1. On Thursday, 13th October, we played Headquarters, 1st Tank Brigade, and beat them by 2—0. Signalman Page A. scored both goals.

We hope to report on our rugger team and other sports in the next issue.

EL PEE.

5th Divisional Signals, Catterick Camp.

Water Polo.—The following represented the Unit on 22nd September in the Garrison Cup Competition, versus the 20th Field Regiment, R.A. (third round), losing 0—13: Corporal Macey, Lance Corporals Ridley and Brown, Signalmen Wikner, Allen, Jones J. O. and Johnson.

Football.—

GARRISON LEAGUE, DIVISION III.

24th Sept.	v. 41st Squadron, R.A.F.	Walk-over.
1st Oct.	v. "D" Company, Cameronians ..	Won 3—2

FRIENDLY MATCHES.

20th Sept.	v. "E" Company, Training Battalion	Won 4—1
2nd Oct.	v. Details, Royal Ulster Rifles ..	Won 5—4

Hockey.—

v. 7th Battalion, Royal Tank Corps (Away) ..	Lost	1—6
v. "F" Company, Training Battalion (Away) ..	Won	2—1
v. 7th Battalion, Royal Tank Corps (Away) ..	Lost	0—4
v. 2nd Battalion, Wiltshire Regiment (Away) ..	Lost	0—2

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

Golf.—The weather now is much better for golf, and the monsoon period is fast drawing to a close.

Well done, Barran! He has just made one final clean-up before proceeding to the United Kingdom, by winning the "President's" Open Stroke and the Monthly Stroke Competitions.

The Open Greensome for the "Hawke" Bowl was won by Signalmen Knight and Keymer, after a series of hard games, meeting R.S.M. Nash and C.S.M. Ellerton-Long in the final.

Lance Corporal Munslow has started his step up the ladder of golf fame by winning the Monthly Bogey Competition after playing off a tie with Staff Sergeant Simms of the R.A.M.C., winning by 7 down on bogey.

We have rather a strenuous time ahead of us during the month of October, as there are no less than four competitions to be played, of which three are major competitions. We have succeeded in getting some of the ladies here interested and are holding the Ladies' Stroke Competition this month. We hope they will like the game and take it up in earnest.

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U LINES, CATTERICK CAMP

Football.—Now that rugby is over, our football team is finding its feet and the goal, and is getting into training for the forthcoming football tournaments, which take place early next year.

Tennis.—Now the weather is warming up and the rains have finished, the tennis players of the Unit are coming into their own. They are looking forward to the opening of the courts this month.

Hockey.—The hockey season opened during this month with a win for "A" Company against "F" (Boys) Company. The result was 5—1 for "A" Company.

Tientsin Signal Section.

Cricket.—We can look back on a very successful season from a Section and also Department point of view.

The Staff and Departments, with one more match to play (the last test against the Tientsin Club) have lost only one match during the season. The following members of the Section have been regular players for the team: Lieutenant G. Thomson, Lance Corporals Verlander and Copsey and Signalman Harrop. Signalmen Welchman and McDonald have also made appearances.

The second test match was played last week-end, and the Staff and Departments required to score 195 runs to win. The Tientsin Club looked as though they were going to inflict our heaviest defeat for many years, for, at one time, our score was 69 for 5 wickets. However, two members from this Section, Lieutenant Thomson (69 not out) and Signalman Harrop (15), stopped the rot and brought the score up to 151 for 6 wickets. The match ended in a draw. Thus, so far, we have one test to our credit, one drawn, and one to play.

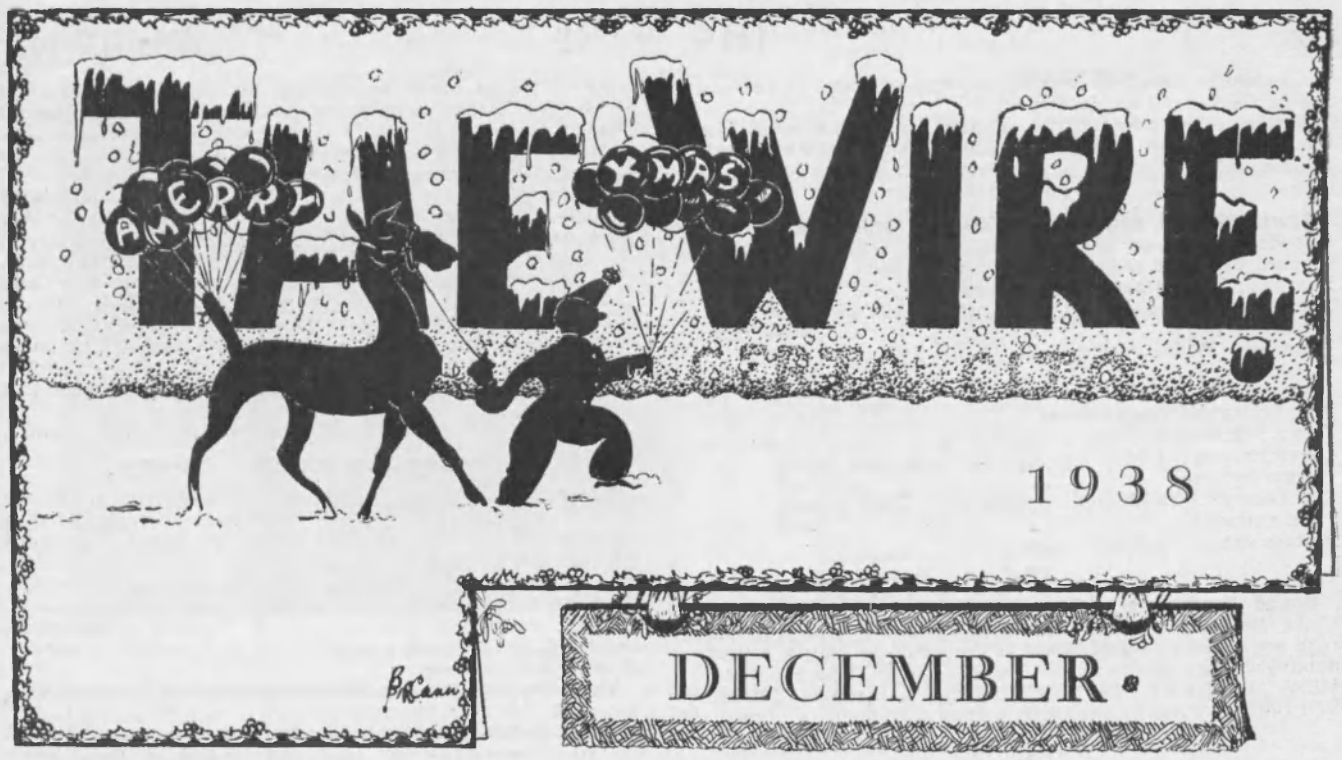
With our members doing so well this year, we challenged the rest of the Staff and Departments, and were successful by 61 runs. This was a very creditable performance as there were just eleven men available, and all were sporting enough to turn out. Our O.C., Lieutenant Thomson, paved the way for this victory by scoring a grand 62 out of our total of 140. Signalman Songhurst (29), Lance Corporal Copsey (15), and Lance Corporal Murphy (10) were the next best scorers. The bowling honours were shared by Sergeant Gresham (3 for 8), Lance Corporal Copsey (2 for 12), Signalman Harrop (2 for 16), and Lance Corporal Verlander (1 for 7).

The highlights of the match was the excellent fielding and keenness shown by the Section team, and the great last-wicket stand of 40 by Signalman Songhurst and Lance Corporal Murphy.

Tennis.—For the first time in recent years, a Garrison Tennis Tournament was held at this Station, and several members from the Section entered. However, none were successful, although Signalman Welchman partnered by Lance Corporal Cullum (R.A.S.C.) reached the semi-final of the Men's Doubles. Lance Corporal Verlander and Staff Sergeant Ball (R.A.O.C.) also lost in the semi-final, and Lance Corporal Verlander and Miss Foyle were also unfortunate enough to lose in the semi-final of the Mixed Doubles.

A Junior Staff Mess Tournament is now in progress, and the results will be published in next month's notes.

MATA HARI.



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Editorial Notes.

With the Best of all Good Wishes to our Readers at Home and Abroad

On behalf of All Ranks of Royal Signals, we beg to convey our loyal duty and best wishes to our Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, C.I., G.C.V.O., G.B.E.

The season's greetings are also extended to :
Ex-Sergeant March F. V., Victoria, Australia.
Ex-Sergeant Chick L. E., Vienna, Austria.
Ex-Sergeant Burnett T. G. H., Iraq.
Ex-Sergeant Bland R. C., Khartoum, Sudan.
Ex-Sergeant Walters C., Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.
Ex-Corporal Haines E. S. J., Auckland, New Zealand.
Ex-Signalman Vickers C. F., Venezuela, South America.
Ex-Signalman Mitchell A. S., Rhodesia, South Africa.
Ex-Signalman Graham N. F., Nyassaland, Central Africa.
Ex-Signalman Young E. J., Uganda, East Africa.

FROM ALL OF WHOM WE SHOULD BE GLAD TO RECEIVE NEWS WHEN THEY HAVE THE TIME AND INCLINATION TO WRITE.

Exeter and District Branch Dinner.—The Committee of the Exeter and District Branch of Signals Association have made arrangements for their Fourth Annual Branch Dinner to take place at the Headquarters of 43rd (Wessex) Signals, The Priory, The Friars, Exeter, on Saturday, 3rd December, at 7.30 p.m., and invite as many Royal Signals Old Comrades to be present on that occasion as possible.

The price of tickets is 3s. per head, and intending visitors are asked to notify the Honorary Secretary, Exeter and District Branch, Signals Association, "Royston," Countess Wear, Exeter, Devon, at the earliest possible moment, and not later than Wednesday, 30th November, to facilitate the necessary catering arrangements.

All applications for tickets should be accompanied by the necessary remittance.

Dress : lounge suits.

Emigration to the Dominions—"The Fairbridge Farm School."—The Fairbridge Farm School is a Society which exists for the purpose of promoting the settlement, within the Oversea Dominions, of children of both sexes, born in the United Kingdom, especially such as have suffered by reason of the Great War through the loss of one or both parents, and to establish farm schools in the Oversea Dominions in which such children shall be maintained and educated until they are fitted to earn their own livelihood.

For the information of serving and "ex-Service" Warrant Officers, N.C.O.s and men of Royal Signals, it is hereby notified that the Central Committee of Signals Association, who have a small sum at their disposal for this purpose, are interesting themselves in the movement and invite applications from parents and guardians who wish to consider the practicability of nominating a child to the School in question as a potential trainee, for subsequent settlement in the Dominions.

B

All children should be between the ages of 6 and 12 years of age on the date of nomination.

Further information will be supplied on application to The General Secretary, Signals Association, 95, Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

Sports Clothing and other Articles in Corps Colours.—The following articles are held in stock at this Office, and can be supplied by return of post at the prices quoted :

BLAZERS : BARATHEA—in Corps colours	from	47/6
SWEATERS : White woollen with Corps colours neck and cuff	from	12/6
JUMPERS : White woollen with Corps colours at neck (sleeveless)	each	12/6
SCARVES : Woollen, Corps colours	each	7/6
SILK SQUARES : Corps colours	each	10/6
TIES : Silk, double-ended, Corps colours ..	each	2/6 and 3/9
CORPS RIBBON : ½ inch, for Christmas cards and decoration purposes	per yard	6d.
CAR BADGES : In chromium plate, with Corps colours, in enamel	each	15/6

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Bound Volumes of "The Wire" for 1938.—All readers, Units, Messes, etc., requiring bound volumes of the WIRE for 1938 are asked to submit their orders early, as only a limited number will be available for distribution. NO ROYAL SIGNALS MESS LIBRARY IS COMPLETE WITHOUT THESE VOLUMES. Price 8s. per copy, post free (at home or abroad).

THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

EXETER BRANCH.

Photograph by courtesy "Western Times," Exeter.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. F. S. Fane, O.C., 43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals, with Major J. W. Western, O.B.E., T.D., Honorary Secretary, Exeter Branch, Royal Signals Association, at the Wreath-laying Ceremony at the Devon War Memorial after the Thanksgiving Service at Exeter Cathedral, on Sunday, 6th November.

As in former years, we paraded for the Exeter Cathedral Service on Thanksgiving Sunday, 6th November. We should liked to have seen more turn up, but some of our members live in the suburbs, and a parade at 9.30 a.m. on Sunday, with no buses running, presents a little difficulty.

However, we mustered a creditable little party and placed our wreath in memory of the "old boys" at the County War Memorial. Major J. W. Western, O.B.E., T.D., the Secretary of the Exeter Branch, took charge of the Old Comrades' party. Captain F. H. Reeks, the Officer Commanding the Exeter Company, expressed his pleasure at seeing us on parade and did everything to make our party feel welcome. We appreciated his kindness and told him afterwards that it was our unanimous opinion that his Company was well turned out, and had marched splendidly. We all meant it ; indeed it was the best parade that we have seen for several years.

OLD SPARK.

SALISBURY AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

British Legion Parade, Salisbury.—At the invitation of the local British Legion authorities, a representative contingent of the Salisbury and District Branch of Signals Association attended the Armistice Sunday Church Parade on 6th November. Approximately thirty members of the Branch assembled under the leadership of Lieutenant-General Sir John S. Fowler, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O., with Major E. W. J. Hobkirk as second-in-command, and a wreath was placed on the Cenotaph in memory of our fallen Comrades.

The following letter was subsequently received by the Branch Secretary :

> "On behalf of the British Legion, I wish to thank you and your Association for your participation in our Church Parade ceremony. It may interest you to know that the sum of £10 6s. 7d. was collected in aid of the Earl Haig Fund. Will you kindly convey our thanks for your attendance to the members of your Association."

Armistice Day Celebrations at Bournemouth.—It was a proud moment for our newly-inaugurated Bournemouth Branch when it became known that they had been fortunate enough to draw first place on the Armistice Day Parade, and that the Royal Signals Standard would have the honour of leading contingents from all local ex-Service organisations. Preparatory to marching off from the place of assembly, a spectator was heard to say, "Are those the Signals Colours ? "

"Yes," replied the Branch Secretary. "Are you ex-Signals ? "

"I am," replied the spectator.

"Just the man we want," was the reply. "Fall in ! " He did.

Led by the Territorial Bands, the parade moved off through the Square towards the Cenotaph. After dismissal, and in the course of subsequent conversation, it was ascertained that the "latest joined recruit" was an unemployed ex-Signalman, late of "B" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, and he was promptly invited to proceed as a guest of the Bournemouth Branch to the Salisbury and District Annual Branch Dinner, scheduled to take place at Salisbury that same evening. He accepted, and, as will be explained later, has since had good reason to be glad that he did.

Salisbury and District Branch Eighth Annual Dinner.—At 7.30 p.m. on Friday, 11th November, 84 Old Comrades, including 19 Bournemouth members, under the leadership of Major J. C. Bray, O.B.E., assembled at the Cadena Cafe, Market Place, Salisbury, for their Eighth Annual Branch Dinner. Colonel A. C. Allan, D.S.O., M.C., occupied the chair and opened the proceedings by calling upon all present to stand in silence for three minutes in remembrance of their comrades who had passed over.

As on previous occasions, the tables were decorated with the customary miniature telephone route, complete with C.B. switchboard and the latest C.B. telephones in full working order, all of which caused considerable amusement. It is believed that the switchboard-operator-elect was obliged to forego at least one course, owing to pressure of work of a priority nature. Major C. T. Hughes's most excellent model tank, complete with visual signalling lamps and field wireless aerial, was also in evidence, and the Entertainments Committee are to be congratulated upon the unqualified success of their decorative efforts.

At 9 p.m., Colonel A. C. Sykes, D.S.O., O.B.E., rose to propose the toast of "His Majesty The King," after which Major C. T.

Bournemouth Branch Armistice Parade.

Hughes, M.C., proposed the toast of " Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief of the Corps." A telegram from Her Royal Highness, conveying best wishes for an enjoyable evening, was read.

The toast of " Our Guests " was proposed by Lieutenant-General Sir John Fowler and responded to by Colonel O. E. Wynne, O.B.E., Royal Engineers.

In proposing the toast of " Signals Association," Colonel A. C. Allan gave a detailed account of the Branch activities for the year, and described the good work which had been accomplished by the Branch Committee. He apologised for the unavoidable absence of various Southern Command representatives who had been prevented from attending owing to the exigencies of the Services, and read telegrams of greeting from Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., their late Branch President, and Mr. W. Butler, the General Secretary, who was temporarily incapacitated through illness.

The speaker remarked that this was an annual occasion on which he and all members of the Branch hoped to see each of their regular visitors in attendance, and he expressed the hope that they would all be in their customary places at next year's function.

Mr. F. Cole, Hon. Branch Secretary, proposed the toast of "Absent Old Comrades," after which the assembly proceeded to chat over old times and renew old friendships.

It was at this stage that an incident occurred which aptly illustrates the Association's chief aim and object.

One of the guests, a representative of the Royal Air Force, asked the Branch Secretary if he could recommend the services of a good telephone switchboard operator for immediate employment. Our worthy representative was at that moment recording particulars of the ex-" B " Corps Signals " Bournemouth recruit," referred to in a preceding paragraph, and replied immediately, " Yes ! Here's your man." A brief conversation ensued, at the end of which our ex-Rawalpindi friend found himself no longer unemployed but engaged to commence his new duties on Monday, 14th November. A fitting conclusion to the Annual Dinner and one which conveys a moral to those ex-members of the Corps who profess to be disinterested in Association activities.

LEEDS SUB-BRANCH, SIGNALS ASSOCIATION.

O.C.A.—A dance was held at Gibraltar Barracks by the kind permission of Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. Jackson, M.C., T.D., and attracted a crowd of nearly 500. This success plainly points the way to further efforts of a similar nature. The hard-working committee deserve a word of praise for the way they are endeavouring to make the Leeds Sub-Branch a live force. Forty-five members of the O.C.A. were on the Church Parade, held on Remembrance Sunday at Leeds on 6th November.

If there are any ex-Royal Engineers or ex-Royal Signals personnel in or near Leeds, a hearty welcome awaits them at Gibraltar Barracks. The next meeting of the O.C.A. is on Monday, 5th December.

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, Croydon	Postman
2	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Motor Driver
3	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Labourer
4	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Miner
5	Ex-Signalman, Essex	Storeman
6	Ex-Signalman, Essex	Labourer
7	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Labourer
8	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
9	Ex-N.C.O., London	Labourer
10	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
11	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
12	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
13	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
14	Ex-Signalman, London	Packer
15	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Labourer
16	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Lineman
17	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Fitter
18	Ex-N.C.O., Glasgow	Postman
19	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Labourer
20	Ex-Signalman, Coventry	Welder
21	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Labourer
22	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Motor Driver
23	Ex-N.C.O., Wilts.	Caretaker
24	Ex-N.C.O., Wilts.	Wireless Operator
25	Ex-W.O., Wilts.	Clerk
26	Ex-N.C.O., Wilts.	Wireless Operator
27	Ex-N.C.O., Weymouth	Lineman
28	Ex-Signalman, Wilts.	Waiter
29	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Wireless Operator
30	Ex-Signalman, Wilts.	Wireless Operator
31	Ex-Signalman, Wilts.	Wireless Operator
32	Ex-Signalman, Wilts.	Electrician Fitter
33	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Switchboard Operator
34	Ex-N.C.O., London	Lineman (P.O. Eng. Dept.)
35	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman (P.O. Eng. Dept.)
36	Ex-N.C.O., Chatham	Experimental W/T Assistant
37	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	P.O. Engineering Dept.

23 to 33. Salisbury and District Branch Signals Association.

GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following :

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from :

Waziristan District Signals.
Mrs. F. McVittie.
C.S.M. (I.) W. P. Campbell.
Lieutenant (I.P.C.) S. C. McGregor.

APPEALS dealt with :

1	Ex-Signalman, Cambs.			Loan	£1	0	0
2	Ex-Signalman, Wilts	Grant	£2	10 0	Loan	£2	10	0
3	Ex-Signalman, London			Grant	£1	10	0
4	Ex-N.C.O., Portsmouth			Grant	£2	14	0
5	Ex-Signalman, Scarborough			Loan	£3	0	0
6	Ex-N.C.O., Middlesex			Grant	£4	0	0
7	Ex-Signalman, Colchester			Grant	£1	0	0
8	Ex-Driver, Scarborough			Grant	£1	10	0
9	N.C.O., Palestine	Grant	£2	2 0	Loan	£2	2	0

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

CORRESPONDENCE.

Vocational Training.

We feel sure that the following letter, from an ex-N.C.O. of the Corps to the Manager, A.V.T.C., Chisledon, will be of great interest to many of our readers. :—

Dursley, Gloucester.

To the Manager,
A.V.T.C., Chisledon.

DEAR SIR,—Having now been working here for a month without hearing any word of complaint regarding my work, I feel I

would like to thank you for the kind and helpful assistance I received from the Training Centre at Chisledon.

My pay last week was £3 5s. 11d., and that is just about the average. I am very pleased with the treatment I have received here and consider " Listers " a very good firm to work for.

Would you kindly give my thanks to Mr. Ireland and Mr. Fuller for the help they gave me. I should like to have had the benefit of the former's experience and teaching for a little longer ; his patience with me was greatly appreciated. He asked me to let you know if there were any openings for students here ; at present they are short of electricians.

Wishing the Centre the best success.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) A. J. S.,
Ex-Lance Sergeant, 2nd Divisional Signals

Trade : Electric Installation. Left Centre : 6/9/38.

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

[The figures in the last column indicate the pages in the " Corps Promotion Roster " (published in April, 1938), 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 Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant.

2308236	C.S.M. Hobbs G., M.M.	17/8/38	7

Promoted Warrant Officer, Class II (C.S.M.).

2308854	C.Q.M.S. Atkinson F.	7/8/38	18
2306753	C.Q.M.S. Cole W.	16/8/38	18

Promoted Company Quartermaster-Sergeant.

2306785	Sergeant Murray H.	29/7/38	21
1016693	Sergeant Wilkins T.	6/8/38	21
2306835	Sergeant Spencer A.	7/8/38	21
2306755	Sergeant McKee J.	16/8/38	21
2313670	Sergeant Johnson H.	16/8/38	22

Promoted Sergeant.

2316344	L/Sergeant Lee A.	6/8/38	39
2316429	L/Sergeant Powell G.	6/8/38	39
2306591	L/Sergeant Betty J.	7/8/38	39

Appointed Lance Sergeant.

2314792	Corporal Marsh A.	18/6/38	45
2320579	Corporal Cairns L.	15/7/38	48
2308502	Corporal Ponsford W.	15/7/38	49
1865275	Corporal Homer G.	6/8/38	49
2316949	Corporal Reynolds B.	6/8/38	49

Promoted Corporal.

2322390	L/Corporal Trevethan F.	30/7/38	69
2321280	L/Corporal Green N.	1/8/38	69
2322388	L/Corporal Spencer P.	6/8/38	69
2318653	L/Corporal Newton A.	6/8/38	69
2319655	L/Corporal Davidson J.	7/8/38	69
2322080	L/Corporal Mackenzie D.	8/8/38	67

Appointed Lance-Corporal.

2322497	Signalman Wilding W.	26/4/38
2322471	Signalman Bristow L.	26/4/38
6974799	Signalman Whitters R.	30/4/38
2323218	Signalman Smith R.	3/5/38
2562333	Signalman Jackson L.	7/5/38
778946	Signalman Funnell R.	8/5/38
2322233	Signalman Gurney I.	11/5/38
2321307	Signalman Forder C.	13/5/38
2321641	Signalman Hansen P.	14/5/38
2566694	Signalman Beard W.	14/5/38

Discharged.

2307821	C.S.M. Fleming A.	1/10/38	7
*6838920	C.S.M. Gavey G.	22/10/38	84
2309300	Sergeant Brooke G.	1/10/38	22
2314172	Sergeant Parsons L.	3/10/38	23
*6838888	Sergeant Keegan W.	12/10/38	93
2314489	Sergeant Andrews F.	14/10/38	25
*2310659	Sergeant Shiner A.	18/10/38	93
2309046	Sergeant Eisele S.	24/10/38	32

* Special Roster.

— R.SIGNALS CAR MART —

ALLERY & BERNARD Ltd.

(H. J. F. WHITE, LIEUT. R.SIGNALS R.A.R.O.)

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SOME SPECIMEN BARGAINS :—

1938 Morris Eight, four-seater tourer, one owner, 14,000 miles. As new in every way £97
1938 Austin Ten " Cambridge " Saloon de Luxe, 5,000 miles, taxed £159
1935 Wolseley Nine Saloon de Luxe, one owner. Bargain £75
1935 Rover Twelve Saloon de Luxe, taxed, immaculate £100
1937 Austin Ten " Cambridge " Saloon de Luxe. Choice of two ..... from £115

AND MANY OTHERS

Herne Bay, Kent.
1.9.1938.

My dear White,

I received your letter dated 29th August and regret that in the rush of arriving I omitted to sign the letter to the Insurance Company.

I am very pleased with the car and thank you very much for the excellent arrangements you had made for me on arrival from India.

Signed.....Major, R.Signals.

Mr. White is an ex-Officer of the Corps, well known to many who served 1914-1918. He offers special terms to all R.Signals customers, first-class service, and guarantees every car sold. Full list of cars and prices supplied by return of post on application to the firm direct or the Editor, " The Wire."

MAJOR GENERAL E. A. OSBORNE, D.S.O.
(Appointed Colonel-Commandant Royal Signals 26-8-1938.)

2307290	Sergeant Halls E.	21/10/38 ..	24
1854520	Sergeant Napier R.	25/10/38 ..	28
2315750	Corporal Smith R.	3/10/38 ..	52
31108	Corporal Cannings E.	5/10/38 ..	54
5562760	Corporal Rice J.	6/10/38 ..	38
2561338	L/Corporal Dewdney W.	30/9/38 ..	
2318091	L/Corporal Cockram R.	3/10/38 ..	74

Signal Unit, Glasgow University O.T.C.

Headquarters, University Avenue, Glasgow, W.2.

14th November.

Arrivals.—We welcome the thirty recruits who have joined us, and may their stay be a happy one. This influx is undoubtedly due to the magnificent work put in by the Unit Recruiting Committee.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to the following: C.S.M. Flint D., Sergeants Smith A., Low W., Rutherford L., Lance Corporals Montgomerie J., Taylor R., Aitken A., Laird D., Howat T.

Competitions.—We must congratulate the Unit team on winning the Contingent Shooting Cup. Congratulations also to C.S.M. Flint on winning the Davidson Medal for the most efficient cadet in the Contingent, and also the Unit Efficiency Cup for the most efficient cadet in the Signal Unit. A likely lad, what! The Signal Unit is certainly justifying its existence.

Entertainments.—On 31st October, the Unit held its annual social evening. The guest of the evening was Captain J. F. M. Macdonald, K.O.S.B., Adjutant of the Contingent. After an enjoyable dinner, the O.C. presented the Efficiency Cup to C.S.M. Flint. Whilst the brimming Cup was being passed round, the O.C. made a further presentation of a Spoon to 2nd Lieutenant J. Thomson, as a recognition of his absence from annual camp. This was due to the increase in strength of the Signal Unit. Congratulations, sir!

After the presentations, the cadets indulged in games of billiards, darts, etc. A very interesting sleight-of-hand performance was given by a conjuror engaged for the evening. One of his tricks intrigued the electrical enthusiasts, but none of them managed to solve the problem. The burning question of the day is, "Who rang the bell if CADABRA didn't?"

The Contingent smoker is to be held on 16th November, but more of that anon.

PINKIE.

Plain Tales.

Outlook Frosty.—Christmas is the one subject with which we can open the conference this month. Even the recent crisis fades into the background until some of us deep thinking chaps reflect how nearly we came to spending Christmas in khaki on an upturned packing case. So greetings to you all. Lots of fun, food and fine old Scotch. Let me know if you don't receive my card. Next month I shall probably wish you a Happy New Year. I'm like that. Utterly reckless.

Continuing Chilly.—In a few days now we shall be looking forward to snow, holly, presents, stuffed turkey, pudding smothered in brandy, invitations for the 25th, grocers' accounts and unexpected visitors with not unexpected thirsts. Not all of these things materialise. The holly perhaps, and the accounts, of course, neither of them important. Even the snow has been absent from our English Christmas for a number of years. The last really white festive season I can recall was in 1925. December of that year saw all traffic in our area brought to a standstill with the exception of certain tracked vehicles. Tanks were used to deliver milk to the families sitting huddled in their buried houses. Submarines were hastily fitted with wheels and sent on journeys into the low lying districts. All vehicles carried navigators who worked on complicated charts and travelled blind. Not in the memory of living man, or woman for that matter, had there been such a disruption of essential services. Whole trains vanished into snow-filled railway cuttings. Cars disappeared in hundreds and were found only when the thaw began some weeks later. This was indeed a white Christmas, but few people appreciated it. Dinner for the majority consisted of bully beef and stale bread with melted snow. The scene was one of unearthly beauty though no one thought of this until long afterwards. I don't know why I tell you this. Forget it.

Interruption.—This has just come in. Just as I was getting all seasonable. Very annoying. However. Captain Pronto K. Stampage, O.C. No. 1 Gaslight Company of the newly-formed Subterranean Balloon Busting Corps, desires it to be known that he is not the Mrs. Georgette Offal who drove a herd of prize cows into the Old Bailey during the hearing of the case Tipplenip, Sniptoddy, Scramm & Co. v. Neverslip Patent Skates. Nobody thought he was, but he'll feel better about it if you know.

P.S.—Did you notice that I have succeeded in getting rid of breeches, puttees and spurs for you? S'all right. Don't mention it.

Sergeant Stanley.—I was deeply grieved to learn of the passing of Sergeant Stanley R. I met him in Andover during last August and we had much to talk about, our last meeting having been in India in 1930 or '31. Stan was a "hot" drummer in those happy days and could do useful things on a piano. I know that Tom Sayers, George Mitchell and Ron Softly will join me in a silent tribute to Stan, with whom we fulfilled many wonderful band jobs. Our very deepest sympathy to Mrs. Stanley.

Society Notes.—I see that R.S.M. "Vic" Bardoe has left the 48th Divisional Signals at Birmingham for the great outside world where rate collectors lie in wait and coal is bought for hard cash. He has taken up his abode on Salisbury Plain and his friends at Birmingham wish him and Mrs. Bardoe good fortune in this great mystery of civilian life. Even now, I don't know what it is all about, so I think "Vic" will take a day or two to dig himself in.

A/R.S.M. Offord E. H. has arrived from Catterick to carry on the good work. He is already known to the 48th Divisional Signals, having spent a fortnight with them on Annual Training. I hope Mr. and Mrs. Offord will settle down here and make themselves happy.

Sergeant "Chas." Clutterbuck, better known as "Huckleberry," has retired to the country for a few weeks' rabbit chasing.

The Silent Service.—Service circles have been stirred by the news that a stoker is to sue an Admiral for damages. The action has not yet been heard, so I am unable to give you further details of this very interesting situation. It reminded me of Corporal Cornflap, the well-known inter-services dart player. The regiment was being inspected in full marching order by Major-General Sir Clifton Fagge-Ende, V.E.Z., Q.R.U., etc. When the General arrived in front of Cornflap he stood aghast. "I've never seen nothing like this before," he said, shaking his cane at the unconcerned corporal. I should mention that the general was an old Harrovian, but had left school many years before, of course. To be honest, the corporal was in a bit of a mess. His buttons were green, his spurs were on the wrong feet and upside down, one pocket of his tunic was ripped off and re-sewn with thin wire. He hadn't shaved and he needed a haircut. Apart from a greasy hat, dirty boots and badly torn breeches, this appeared to be all that was wrong.

"You're filthy," spluttered the General.

"So are you," laughed Cornflap, throwing a handful of soot over the general's breast.

The adjutant coughed and went very red. The R.S.M. burst with a loud report. I forget exactly what the Colonel was doing, but you can take it from me, there was a fine old shindy for a few minutes. The general recovered his outward composure and the whole parade, sensing the changed atmosphere, stood rigidly to attention. He strode up to Cornflap with thunder in his eyes. Right up close to him he went and thrust his face to within an inch of the corporal's nose. "Look at your boots," he hissed, "they're a disgrace."

The corporal quietly emptied a tin of yellow enamel over the general's highly polished field boots. The only sound was the plop of the empty tin as it fell in the rear rank. "Talking of

boots," replied the corporal, " I shouldn't feel very proud of those, sir."

Before anyone could do anything to stop him, the enraged general bit the corporal on the back of the neck. The rest of the ceremony arranged for that day was, quite rightly, postponed. Curiously enough, there were no serious developments. The parties concerned apologised to each other over a pint of beer, and this is the first time the actual facts have been published. The Army is like that, don't you think ?

Blonde Bombshells.—The Service is about to be viewed from a new angle. Women will be giving their opinions from the inside. At least, I hope so, for I want to persuade a member of No. 11 Company, Women's Auxiliary Territorial Service, to supply us with a paragraph regularly. No. 11 Company is attached to 48th Divisional Signals and will train at the Drill Hall, Stratford Road. Wednesday night is W.A.T. night.

I am afraid I had very little first-hand knowledge of the activities of the W.A.A.C. in the Great War, but I do know that they did remarkable work. The W.A.T.S. will undoubtedly uphold that reputation. I can, at this stage, make no sort of comparison, but while there is still time I can offer a word of advice to the ladies who become officers. Here, of course, I must step warily, for I wouldn't hurt their feelings for the world. These officers will, in their presumably infrequent dealings with N.C.O.s and men of the Territorial Army, be treated with due courtesy and respect. They, on their part, will maintain a proper dignity and consciousness of their rank. But (and this isn't idle rambling) the ladies are advised to remember that our OWN officers use great tact and not a little friendliness in their dealings with warrant officers and senior N.C.O.s, and indeed with ALL N.C.O.s. Our charming and welcome colleagues must not fall into the error of regarding the Sergeant-Major as an orderly to be addressed as " Hi, You ! " Not, let me hasten to add, that I imagine the modern enlightened lady to be capable of such a dreadful *faux pas*, but, as Omar Yashmak said, "A stitch in time butters no parsnips." I have more than once observed that women " dressed in brief authority " are prone to adopt a slightly—shall we say—more than military domination over their subordinates. High Court actions will be dealt with in strict rotation.

Loud Pedal Again.—I went to the Signals O.C.A. Armistice Dance in the Drill Hall at Stratford Road on 11th November. The Hall, kindly loaned by Lieutenant-Colonel P. H. Jones, M.C., T.D., Commanding 48th Divisional Signals, was decorated and the miniature range transformed into a long and comfortable bar. For most of the decoration we have to thank the influence of 2nd Lieutenant D. S. Allen, whose firm made a professional job of it.

The Hall holds quite comfortably, about 300 people. When the five hundredth eager patron passed in I got frightened and

48th (SOUTH MIDLAND) DIVISIONAL SIGNALS DISPLAY TEAM.

(By Courtesy of " The Birmingham Gazette Ltd.")

rushed to buy myself a drink (there being no P.S.I.s handy). It was as well that I did, for shortly afterwards the bar was verging on the " dry." Note for my diary. Licensed victuallers can't be warned. They know it all. Well, it was a good show, but not to be compared with 1937. The Band worked hard, but was not quite the combination for the occasion. Another note for my diary. Bands should be engaged by people who understand that sort of thing. After all, five drums, a piano and two trombones may get together and call themselves a band if they feel like it.

I have a foul headache this morning. I can't think why.

Our Dreadful Serial.—Ukann Larfe and his companions scrambled ashore at Folkestone. The Captain and crew being tough, swam on to Dover. Inspector Faceache blew the water out of his ears and turned to help the ladies. Ukann, with his usual old-world courtesy, was already half-way to the " Duck and Rissole," his mind running on hot whisky and lemon. " Look at that selfish swab," cried Hermione, who had acquired a more extensive vocabulary during the voyage. " I'll fix him." She buried her massive hands in the turf at the base of the cliff and heaved out a beautiful damp square. For once her aim was at fault. The soggy mass hurtled through the air at terrific speed, missed the detective by an inch and crashed into the jug and bottle department of the hotel.

" Sacre jambe de mouton," cried Collette excitedly. " Bras et l'homme. A good one 'underd and fiftee metres sans doute, peut-etre." (I still think she is French.)

That evening, as they sat at dinner in the palatial dining room of the " Duck and Rissole," Ukann Larfe told them his plans. As he hadn't any, it didn't take long. " To-morrow is Christmas Day and we are going to stay right here," he concluded. He sat down heavily. A waiter had removed his chair.

" Oh, Uky," cried Hermoine. " You're a pet. I'd love to stay."

" Don't call him ' Uky ',' whispered Collette, jabbing a fork in Hermoine's leg.

Inspector Faceache sat in the lounge on Christmas morning and gazed at the card Ukann Larfe had just handed to him. " Hooker Enterprises," he read aloud. Burglary, Arson, Forgery, etc. Robbery with violence at reduced rates. Try our despicable Frauds on Widows."

" What do you make of it, Facey ? " asked Ukann.

" Hooker seems to be doing well these days."

A terrific crash in the entrance hall sent them rushing to the sideboard. " Mine's a double," said the Inspector. " What's yours, if it's your turn ? "

Before either of them could utter another word the Hooker, known throughout the country as a rotter and a cad, a man who stole his grandmother's pension to buy toffee apples. drove straight through the glass doors in a Rittelmopper 25/30 Sports model. " Hi, blokes ! " he yelled, " I've come for Christmas. Whatcher got ? "

Hermione and Collette came slowly through the remains of the door and stood silently staring at the unabashed Hooker. Ukann Larfe and the Inspector looked at each other and remained dumb. A piece of plaster fell with a dull thump and a robin twittered on the window ledge. Outside, in the great big world, it was Christmas.

PRESS BUTTON A.

BARLEUX.

H.Q. Desert Divisional Signals (Egypt Signals).

On Tuesday, 27th September, 1938, at about 10.30 a.m., the O.C., Egypt Signals, gave orders for the formation of H.Q., Desert Divisional Signals, a Unit which, until that moment, had only existed as part of the Mobilisation Scheme. The Unit was ordered to be ready to move out on Active Service at twelve hours' notice.

At about 4.15 p.m., the O.C. of the new Unit, during a conference of some of the hastily-formed Divisional Staff, discovered that the warning order had already been issued for a move at 3 a.m. next morning. As some of the personnel required had yet to be brought into barracks from out-stations, and no provision had been made for rations, water and petrol for the detachment, we assure readers that the next few hours passed very quickly indeed !

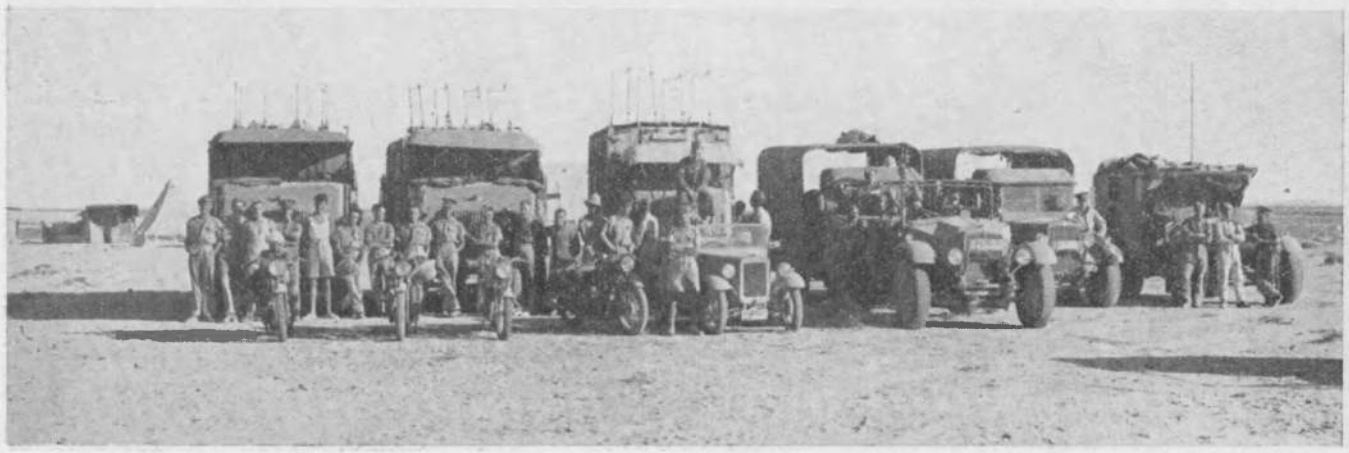
A wireless set was left temporarily in barracks, as a rear link, and another was attached to H.Q., Cairo Brigade. The remainder paraded " present and correct " (just), ready to move off under Major Kennett at 2.45 a.m. Their strength was forty-three all ranks.

After a drive of over 200 miles, the second half being over a most uncomfortably bumpy and dusty track, the detachment reached its destination—El Dabaa, about 100 miles west of Alexandria. It was 8 p.m., very dark, and everyone was tired out. 48-ft. masts were erected for the 120-watt set. This relic of the last war did a first-class job in maintaining rear link communications, and compares favourably with some of the modern sets.

After finally settling down, Division H.Q. was established at the nearby District Headquarters of the Frontiers' Administration, where we began to work. Wireless communication was established with Cairo and Alexandria, and forward to Cavalry Brigade and Cairo Brigade at Mersa Matruh ; arrangements were also made for Egyptian State Telegraphs to install an exchange, and to split the main Army telephone trunk from Matruh to Alexandria at Division H.Q. Luckily, as events transpired, we had to wait about forty-eight hours for this latter facility. " Traffic " started with a vengeance, and as many Unit locations were still unsettled, the somewhat inexperienced office staff had their hands full to cope with it.

Next day we received definite news of the Munich Agreement, and tension, to a great degree, relaxed, but, as far as Divisional H.Q. was concerned, work was only just beginning ! General Hobart arrived, and, within half-an-hour, decided to move his

(*Continued on page* 552)



H.Q. Desert Divisional Signals.

HOME STATIONS

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

School of Signals.

16th November.

Quiet once more reigns ; the war clouds having been scattered. We are now looking forward to Christmas. Nothing very exciting seems to have happened this month except the departure of the 125th Regimental Signalling Instructors' Course, who left us on 4th November, at the terrible hour of seven in the morning. We should like to know who the C.S.M. awoke at 6.29 a.m. that morning with instructions to collect some hockey kit.

Alas, the zoom of the " Square Four " is no more to be heard in the Unit lines. Yes, " Soapy " has parted from his loved one. He reports that she wasn't fast enough for him. In spite of this, we heard about an old A.J.S. who ticked over like a Staffordshire Foundry, and which gave up the ghost on Sutton Bank. I noticed that a certain gent. travelled home by train this week-end, so we presume that the " borrowed " A.J.S. was a wash-out.

Our " Reggie " has just returned from three weeks' leave, looking very down at the mouth.

Once again Cupid has shot his wicked arrow. This time poor Frankie Cross is the victim. He was married to Miss Margaret Kerridge on 12th November. Congratulations, Mr. and Mrs. Cross. Surprising how many brothers-in-law I'm getting.

We have bid *au revoir* to R.S.M. Price G. R., who has left us for Aldershot, and we welcome C.S.M. Harrison B. J., who joins us from " E " Company, Training Battalion. We hope your stay will be a long and pleasant one, sir.

Jews' Mail.—Ikestein, somewhere in Training Battalion. " Mind that —— bucket ! "

Bismarck, somewhere in " E " Company. " What price Spud's hat now ? "

Agony.—Which chappie said that he thought a " Captain's Refresher " was a pint of beer ?

S. O. S.

Sergeants' Mess.

R.S.M. Price E. has left us for Aldershot, and in his stead we welcome C.S.M. Harrison B. from the Training Battalion. C.S.M. Harrison commenced operations by moving the office chair six inches nearer to the fire, and shutting the door to keep out the draught. (Mr. Freemantle, please note.) We hope he will enjoy his stay with us.

Sergeant Manning G., who joined us from India, was closely followed by Sergeant Udell L. and family from the same hot spot. Welcome, folks, but don't blame us for the weather.

Lance Sergeant Tucker C., who has suddenly bidden us farewell, may now be found at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich. (Yes, he still plays with engines.)

C.Q.M.S. Lafford E. S. threw a large spanner into the works of the Messing Committee during the month by deciding to investigate the joys of married life. He accordingly tied the knot well and truly on 12th November, leaving rather a large gap in the ranks of the single members. Our heartiest congratulations to C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Lafford. Rumour whispers that Sergeant Langham attended the ceremony and closely studied the details with an eye to the future. Was it a reconnaissance, George ?

Our monthly function, was held without the customary whist drive. The dance proved as attractive an entertainment as ever, and, as usual, showed that we could fill a much larger floor if we had the room.

An outing to Darlington Hippodrome for ladies was arranged by C.Q.M.S. Hague and, according to all accounts, was very successful.

A trip to Blackpool for Mess members and their wives proved very enjoyable, though one hears that Sergeant Tucker's share of the illuminations was just one street lamp and someone's red nose.

C.S.M. Harrison has celebrated his move to the School, for he is now the proud daddy of a baby girl, born on 9th November. Congratulations, sir !

More congratulations to Sergeant McKowen G., on his promotion to that rank ; also to his brother for providing such good entertainment in the November WIRE. (See the photographs in that issue from 54th Divisional Signals, T.A.)

In saying cheerio, may we offer our heartiest Christmas greetings to all, with a special greeting to those who have left " School."

Tailpiece.—The following conversation took place at approximately 12 noon on one of the few days when the Catterick sun was shining :

Orderly Sergeant (hopefully) : " Good-night, sir."
Orderly Officer : " Good-night, sergeant."

Depot Battalion, Royal Signals.

General.—Three more batches of recruits were passed up to the Training Battalion on 31st October, after their fourteen weeks of training. As usual, they have put on weight, alertness and springiness. The increase in weight of the Squads is as follows :

No. 20 Squad—average increase per man ..	9.0 lbs.
,, 21 ,, ,, ,, ,, ..	11.7 ,,
,, 22 ,, ,, ,, ,, ..	5.45 ,,

Highest individual increases were :

Signalmen Grierson and Carroll, No. 20 Squad ..	15 lbs.
Signalman Francis, No. 21 Squad	19 ,,
Signalman Major, No. 22 Squad	17 ,,

"A" Company.

At last we have arrived at the fourth season of the year, and here in Catterick the winter lives up to its name. Our trees have lost their beauty, they have turned from golden brown to barrenness. Our summer's allurement has gone and has been replaced by dismal disfiguration caused by the fierce winds and rain. It has turned so cold that we expect snow to descend at any moment.

Our trenches have assumed a set appearance with a nice growth of grass along the edges to add to the beauty of our work. Although the task was accomplished by scores of inexperienced hands, it was sufficiently attractive to earn the favourable comments of the Brigadier and our neighbouring R.E. officers, who viewed the work with admiration. We cannot refrain from beaming with pride to know that our trench-digging has been the finest in the Northern Command.

Large numbers of recruits continue to arrive, and we have had to employ Instructing N.C.O.s from other Units. Indeed, the number accommodated here is so great that our drill staff now consists, in the main, of personnel from the Infantry, and a similar state of affairs applies to our Weapon Training, Educational and Gymnasium staffs. In order to accommodate this large number under training, we had to approach " E " Company authorities for a number of empty barrack rooms.

In regard to messing, we have adopted a " two-sitting system " as the only method to cope with the large numbers. Here, again, it is necessary to employ assistance.

In the near future we fully expect to introduce an entirely new system of training. Instead of a fourteen weeks' Course

for recruits, the period will be decreased to eleven weeks, and will help us immensely, both in minimising the boredom of the recruit, and also by disposing of Squads in a shorter space of time. This should be good news for the recruits, although drill on the square is much easier than it was some years ago.

Three Squads commenced training on 31st October: No. 46 Squad, under Corporal Collett; No. 47 Squad, under Lance Corporal Jarvis; No. 48 Squad, under Lance Sergeant Allen. Here's the best of luck to all three Squads.

No. 20 Squad, under Corporal Wood (Royal Scots Fusiliers), passed off on 29th October. We congratulate the following on receiving honourable places in the Squad: Signalman Lenagh T. (first); Signalman Scott S. (second); Signalman Brodie J. (third); Signalman Wright D. was awarded the P.T. medal.

No. 21 Squad, under Lance Corporal Dunbar, passed off on 29th October. Signalman Webster received the Commanding Officer's whip; Signalman Jolley L. was placed second and Signalman Jones third; Signalman McDonald was awarded the P.T. medal.

No. 22 Squad, under Corporal Carr, passed off on 29th October. Signalman Yeats was awarded the Commanding Officer's whip; Signalman Major H. and Driver (I.C.) Peckett were second and third respectively. Driver (I.C.) Peckett was also the winner of the P.T. medal.

Our Debating Society has started and is going along splendidly, under the supervision of C.S.M. Carpenter. We wonder how we shall get along when he leaves us next month. Best of luck to you, sir.

Officer on Church Parade to recruit: "Your trousers look very baggy; did you press them for this parade as ordered?"
"No, sir."
"Why not?"
"Pressing plant was shut, sir."
"Oh, it was; then why didn't you sleep on them?"
"Well, I am a light sleeper, sir."

Recruit to Storeman: "Can I have some 'four-by-two' please?"
Storeman (busily writing): "Can't you come back some time when I am standing up?"

Squad Commander to Recruit: "Did you shave this morning?"
"Yes, Sergeant."
"You did not."
"I did, Sergeant."
"Then I suppose you used your clasp-knife."
"No, Sergeant; I couldn't find my clasp-knife, so I used my Army razor."

Orderly Corporal to Recruit reporting sick on Saturday morning: "Did you report sick yesterday?"
"Yes, Corporal."
"What did you get."
"What do you mean, Corporal?"
"Well, did you get Attend "A", Attend "B" or —"
"Oh," cut in the Recruit, "Ah got ten shillings, Corporal."

Mess Orderly collecting names for knives, forks and spoons: "What's your name, mate?"
Recruit: "I won't tell you."
"Why?"
"It's a funny name."
"Come on, quit kidding, what's your name?"
Recruit: "Gotobed."
Mess Orderly (not too polite): "I won't go to bed, but I'll go and see the Mess Corporal if you don't give me your name."
Recruit: "I have told you; my name is Gotobed."
The Mess Orderly, in doubt, asked another member of the table whether the lad was telling the truth. "Yes," was the reply. "He is telling the truth all right; we heard his cousin 'Reveille' this morning."

The armourer requests the guilty culprits not to pull their rifles through with the "four-by-two" fastened to the weight. Cannot they find a suitable place to insert the flannelette? How about using the centre loop on the cord?

Here is the last but not least of our Squad news; it is a message for India. Look out, for we are about to say farewell to a batch of recruits leaving us for India, and they are not stopping in England even for a spot of trade training. Expect them sometime in January, 1939!

Arrivals.—We welcome Captain G. B. Bell to the Depot as our new C.D.I. We hope that your stay will be an enjoyable one, sir.

Poppies.—Three cheers for Mrs. Beverley and Mrs. Stickley for undertaking to supply the Depot Battalion with poppies on Remembrance Day.

"C" Company.

Marriages.—Corporal Lundie and Signalman Buckle both took the final plunge into this old institution. Congratulations and all the happiness they wish themselves.

Re-engagements.—Signalman Newsome has signed on the dotted line once again, this time for his "pontoon." There must be something in this Catterick air that made him do that. Time alone will tell.

Arrivals and Departures.—These have been too numerous to mention individually, but we wish them all the best of luck, especially to the following, who have left us for Vocational Training and civilian life: Lance Corporal Wright and Signalman Mudie.

Promotions and Appointments.—Get out your 1938 Corps Rosters for we have to congratulate the following on their promotion to the ranks and appointments stated: Sergeants Hampton and Gourley, Lance Sergeant West and Corporal Fox.

Sergeants' Mess.

A very enjoyable evening was spent in the Depot Battalion Sergeants' Mess on Saturday, 5th November, when a very successful dance was held, and the 5th will do down in history for two reasons. The attendance exceeded all our expectations, and we must apologise to everyone for the lack of room, but we hope that for our next effort larger accommodation will be available. We very much appreciated the attendance of so many of our officers and their ladies, and sincerely hope that they enjoyed themselves.

The programme (almost hidden) was a gay affair, and we were very interested to learn more about the much-advertised artistes. Sergt. Cully, who was down for a song, must have been good wherever he did sing, but he wasn't in Catterick, and the "Players" were only found in packets. The cream of the evening's floor show was the appearance of Mr. Graham Tenant (we hope his name is spelt correctly) from Darlington, who was kind enough to give two performances. The child impressions were outstanding, and even we are wondering what the boy was after, and whether he got it.

What a pity the card dance did not end properly. Perhaps the M.C. did not have enough practice in card manipulation, and as he could not produce all the acts, we must presume that the programme was "subject to alterations." We should have thought that the Mess would have produced some local talent to fill the gaps; and, no doubt, the "E.C." will remember this point in their next effort.

In conclusion we say, "Well done, Depot, and thanks for a very good evening. Please hurry up with the next show!"

Next month we shall be bidding farewell to our popular C.S.M. Carpenter, who is placed under orders for service in China.

Our congratulations to the following on increasing their weekly income: 2315170 Lance Sergeant Hampton P. R., promoted Sergeant, 3rd September; 2250988 Lance Sergeant Gourley G., promoted Sergeant, 14th September; 2312794 Corporal West E. R., appointed Lance Sergeant, 10th September; 2318522 Corporal Stirk B., appointed Lance Sergeant, 14th September; 2316878 Corporal Pike H., appointed Lance Sergeant, 14th September. 5948218 Corporal Theobald J., who is attached to this Unit, was appointed Lance Sergeant on 2nd November.

Corporals' Mess

Little of importance has happened in the Mess recently.

We must heartily congratulate "Dodger" Green, late of the Mess, on his marriage to Miss Aga Snilling, of Scarborough. The man who was never to be married has finally found life too hard to tackle alone. We wish you all the best, Bob. Long life and happiness.

We heartily congratulate Lance Corporal Raymond C. J., who has stepped a rung higher; his promotion takes effect from 6th September. He is accompanied up the ladder by the brightest spark in the Mess, 2313521 Corporal Fox R. Congratulations, Reggie!

We also say cheerio and congratulations to three other members who are now too superior to associate with us any longer. They are Lance Sergeants Stirk B., West and Pike H. All three were appointed the same day, 14th September.

Training Battalion, Royal Signals.

Headquarters.

15th November.

The trooping season has once again commenced. Major A. J. Harris, O.B.E., Royal Signals, has left us for Egypt Signals, and Lieutenant S. F. M. Howe, Royal Signals, has gone to India for transfer to the Indian Army. A number of N.C.O.s and men of the Battalion are eagerly (?) awaiting to learn the date of their embarkation.

After a lapse of some weeks, our photographer has enabled us to continue with our series of photographs. The one this month is of Major C. E. Sketch, Royal Signals, Officer Commanding "D" Company.

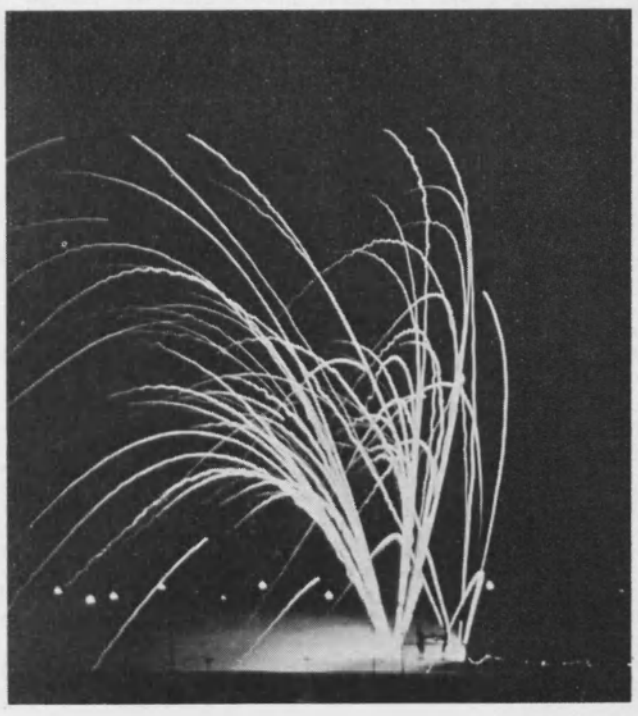
On 3rd November there appeared on "F" Company verandah some weird and wonderful contraptions reminiscent of pre-war service bridging, but it was only a reminder that Master Guy Fawkes' ideas were to be put into effect for the benefit of the kiddies between four and fifty years of age at the S.T.C.

Major C. E. Sketch, Officer Commanding, "D" Company.

The arrangements were in the hands of Captain T. W. Boileau, and on the night previous to the show there was one of Brocks' representatives and some of the boys, who, incidentally, did all the work on the 5th, fixing things in readiness.

The display was well worth seeing, and there were no misgivings about the weather this year. The accompanying photographs, taken by Major C. E. Sketch, depict two of the scenes.

L. B.



"D" Company.

Once again your humble scribe picks up his pen to give you the latest news and views of the month from this Company. Before proceeding with the news bulletin, here is the Christmas message from " D " Company : Heartiest wishes for a happy Christmas, whether you are on the N.W. Frontier of India, in the troubled areas of Palestine and China, or enjoying the beautiful sunshine in Jamaica, Bermuda or Egypt. Should you be on the high seas, bound for service at one of the outposts of the Empire, or returning to the Mother Country, we sincerely hope that your Christmas Day will be smooth sailing in every way. To others who may be with their families or friends, we wish them all the joys of the festive season.

As you probably know, A.E.C. personnel at the S.T.C. " University " are attached to " Doncoy " for administrative purposes. During the past month there has been a slight change in the staff. Warrant Officer I Henry V. proceeded to the Duke of York's Royal Military School, Dover, and Warrant Officer I Wallis has arrived as his relief. To each of them we tender our heartiest wishes.

C.Q.M.S. Offord E. H. has taken up an appointment with the 48th (S.M.) Divisional Signals, T.A., Birmingham. We hope that his stay with them will be a pleasant one.

Corporal Locke, who featured in the marriage news last month, has now been posted to "A" Corps Signals, whom we should like to inform that this N.C.O. is a good hockey player. Signalmen Heath N., Allen J., Moore T., Harris N. and several others also departed to join "A" Corps Signals. Other departures are Signalman Carter G. to Northern Ireland, and Signalmen Rae, Redding, Sharp and Sharman to 2nd Divisional Signals.

In addition to the usual large number of recruits who have arrived from "A" Company, we welcome Sergeant Nicholson W., Lance Sergeant Wright W. and Corporal Smart R. from India ; the senior N.C.O.s came from Jubbulpore, and Corporal Smart from Poona. Corporal Wood R. has also joined the Junior Mess on posting from 4th Divisional Signals. We trust that all of them will have a happy stay with us.

Those " inseparable linemen," Signalmen Clements and Douthwaite, will remain in " Doncoy " for some time to come. Clements has joined the ranks of the " Cads' Club " by virtue of his posting to the Permanent Cadre. Friend Douthwaite, although posted to Northern Command Signal Company, will remain attached to the Company. When are these two going to separate ?

Congratulations to Sergeant Harries and Corporal Yeadon on their promotion. (Please amend the blue book after reading these notes. Thank you.)

Passages have been arranged for C.S.M. Harvey to Malaya, and Sergeant Green to join the ranks of the Corps in India. (This may be some sort of consolation for those unfortunates who are " anxiously " awaiting the boat.) We hope that they will enjoy their new Stations, and return feeling full of the joys of life.

Reflecting on the recent crisis, we have to laugh at incidents which happened during that trying time. Here is a story of an incident which happened after the crisis, but has a lot to do with it. Several members of our happy throng have recently received missives from lady acquaintances demanding explanations for the lack of correspondence. The following is a specimen of the excuses given :

" Dear ———,—The recent crisis has been the reason for not writing to you. On the blackest day of those terrible times I was sent to London on a special mission under sealed orders. There were several of us together and we each had to take a 40-line Field Telephone Exchange with us. The other chaps sent their exchanges in advance by rail, but I was a man and carried it on my back. I returned to Catterick feeling somewhat fatigued after the ordeal. I have now passed for my Third and Second Class Certificates of Education and expect to sit for my First Class in the very near future. If I pass for this one, I will be promoted Brigadier. Can you imagine that ? Yours sincerely, ———."

Well, your humble scribe tried to visualise all this, but it was extremely hard work and not in my line of business.

And now for news of the various Sections.

No. 1 (Workshops) Section.—The following appeared in a test paper given to one of the I.M. Squads some time ago : " Describe the flow of a displacement current through glass."

The answer was as follows : " The displacement current will hit the glass, and, having a stronger power of penetration than the glass has of insulation, the current will pierce a hole, pass clean through the glass, and, as the current is so high, the glass will melt over the formed hole after the current has passed through, and will be as before, except that if another current is passed through the same place the insulation properties of the glass would be lessened considerably." (Total collapse of instructor.)

No. 2 (Lines) Section.—The following is an answer given to a question regarding the test for the condenser circuit of a D.III : " Short two leads, and a keener snort than normal should be heard when pressing key." Here is another of these classic answers :

Q. " How would you test the bell circuit of a Telephone, 110 ? "

A. " You turn the handle of the generator on the second wireless, and if it rings the bells in the test set, it is all right."

No. 3 (Clerks) Section.—No. 11 Class are now due to take the Class III (b) trade test, and will shortly be dispersed to join their brethren in Field Units, where, it is hoped, that they will carry on those traditions of the Service which have made our Corps what it is. No. 12 Class are now getting under way. It is early yet to refer to their progress, but such words as " cleen " and " clerickal," strongly reminiscent of the most junior of office boys, would seem to indicate a necessity for more attention in our schools to elementary spelling.

Tailpieces.—Before closing down this broadcasting station, I would like to thank all those who have assisted me in any way to write these notes during the past eleven months. I trust that they will continue with their very good efforts throughout 1939.

One of my readers from 2nd Divisional Signals complained about the changing of my pen-name, so I will sign off with the old pseudonym, and hope that all is O.K.

ACK PIP BEER.

"E" Company.

Major R. W. Morgan, Royal Signals, has assumed command of the Company *vice* Major A. J. Harris, O.B.E., Royal Signals, who is at present on leave pending his tour abroad.

Arrivals and Departures.—We welcome C.S.M. Shilton E. D., who comes to us from 1st Divisional Signals. Their loss is certainly our gain. We hope that your stay with us will be a very happy one, sir.

It is with regret that we have to record the departure of C.S.M. Harrison B. J. to the School of Signals. We hope that he will take with him pleasant memories of his stay with us, and trust that we shall be able to congratulate him very shortly on his promotion to R.S.M.

We extend the glad hand of welcome to the large number of recent arrivals from the Depot Battalion.

No. 64 O.S. Squad completed their training last month, and have since been posted to various Field Units. No. 70 O.S. Squad were posted to 2nd Divisional Signals on completion of their Group " E " training, and No. 71 O.S. Squad are due to proceed to "A" Corps Signals to complete their B.III training. We wish them well in their new surroundings.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to Lance Corporals Bagley, Craig and Smales on their admission to the paid ranks. The sale of " Blue Books " should go up now.

Winter Entertainments.—The fortnightly whist drives are proving a huge success, and we shall have to enlarge the N.A.A.F.I. if the crowds grow any larger. A Games Tournament is now in progress, and the competition at darts, ping-pong, billiards, snooker and shove ha'penny is very keen.

Football.—The Company team is doing very well in the Garrison Company League, Division I, having obtained five points from four matches. We have only lost one match, and that was to " H.Q." Company, Wiltshire Regiment.

Things We Want to Know.—Who put Johnson's "Glocote" Liquid Polish on his bedspace? He must have been listening to Radio Luxemburg.

Finale.—That's all for this time, folks. So long!

J. N.

"F" Company.

General.—Since our last notes, very little has happened in connection with normal training, except that all Boys over seventeen years of age have rifles to look after, and, up to the present, their drill has been very satisfactory.

Numerous alterations have been made in installations, entertainments and Club staff. At the last meeting Corporal Boy Verlander was appointed President. Other staff changes were Pavey and Kneebone—librarians; Stewart and Pellant—property members; Holdsworth and Griffin—general members.

An addition to the Club Inventory is the "Grouse Book," into which moans and groans are entered. These entries are perused periodically by the O.C., who either takes action or comments on the complaints or suggestions. This book is an asset to the Club as several alterations for the better have been made, and, incidentally, it provides a certain amount of amusement.

The usual annual squabble, gobble and shuffle is being arranged No doubt ex-shufflers and gobblers will recall with envy their good times in this connection. This year's concert is expected to be a bumper, and the younger generation are wishing away the time. The Company Band (?), accompanied by a couple of budding crooners, is trying its best to obtain some sense of rhythm.

Departures.—The following, amongst whom are some excellent sportsmen, will be missed a great deal: Lance Sergeant Goat A. to "E" Company for draft; Smith C. H., Baldock and Thompson to 4th Divisional Signals; McKenna (ex-Sergeant Boy) to 2nd Divisional Signals; Dick Chapman to Perham Down; and Charlton to No. 2 Squadron, Mobile Divisional Signals.

Arrivals.—Lance Sergeant Nicholson F. A., from India. May you have a good time.

Appointments.—Lance Corporal Boy Verlander to Corporal Boy; Boys Green B. and Buddery G. to Lance Corporal Boy.

Other Appointments.—Boy Fisk R. A. to be official rat baiter and washer of sports kit.

Jews' Mail.—Vicky, Sandhurst. "What about letting the boys know how you are getting on?"

To Spike, Palestine. "Give me your address. Razz."

Things We Want to Know.—How Weeks manages to put on more weight; he is about fifteen stone now!

Where Corporal Dickinson learnt to play dominoes?

Congratulations.—To Lance Corporal Elston on pulling through his operations.

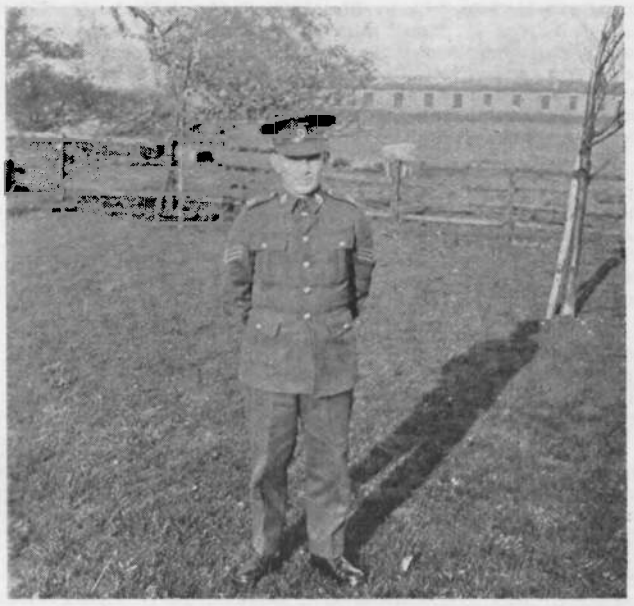
BEER AC BEER.

The Boys on A.R.P. Work.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

15th November.

Our usual scribe has suddenly developed an inferiority complex for writing, and we find ourselves left flat with one hour to catch the post. We, therefore, pray for your indulgence. Here are just a few paragraphs and a picture to carry on with.



Mess Personalities: Sergeant D. Jones, "D" Company.

Arrivals.—Warrant Officer, Class I, H. Wallis, A.E.C., Sergeant Nicholson W. and Lance Sergeants Nicholson F. and Wright H.

Departures.—By the time these notes are in print, C.S.M. Harrison B. will be well and truly settled at the School of Signals. We shall see him often, but here is good luck and congratulations.

Warrant Officer, Class I, Henry V., A.E.C., has proceeded to Dover.

Parties.—None, but there will probably be a glut next month.

Births.—To the wife of C.S.M. Harrison B. a daughter, Mary. Congratulations, Bert. May all your troubles . . .

ALDERSHOT NEWS

"A" Corps Signals.

No. 1 Company.

15th November.

Another month has passed, and what a month! Half the personnel of the Company on draft leave, half on Upgrading Courses, several on "untouchable jobs." No! That doesn't sound right, as we cannot have more than two halves, and we have quite six N.C.O.s and men for normal work; but it will give readers some idea of how things are.

The Annual Inspection of the Unit by the C.S.O. has just taken place. Although the results have not yet been published, we feel certain, judging by the way everybody got down to it, that the usual high standard was maintained by No. 1 Company.

Amendments—Blue Book.—Congratulations to Lance Sergeants Hollands and Holman on obtaining their appointments,

and also to Lance Corporals Kennedy and Fell on obtaining that extra bit of cash.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following from the S.T.C. and hope they realise how lucky they are to join "A" Corps Signals, and especially No. 1 Company: Signalmen Moore T., Harris, Loughlin and Barker. We also welcome Q.M.S. Goodridge from Malta.

Departures.—We bid cheerio and all the best to the following: Signalman Best to "Civvy Street"; Sergeant Peake C., Signalmen Turner C., Knott, McCaughay and Young R. to Vocational Training Courses; Sergeant Barry T., Corporal Manson, Signalmen Devlin, McCafferty, Millar W. T., Fox, Clements and Beaton, and Driver Coull to sunnier skies; Signalmen Higgins and Le Cheminant, and Driver Leight to 1st Divisional Signals; Signalmen Miller J. and Powell W. to 2nd Divisional Signals.

Upgrading.—Courses are going strong, and everyone has visions of big credits for annual furlough. No. 2 Recruit Linemen's Training Class passed off their Group "E" personnel during the month, and amazed everyone by their high standard and the 100 per cent. pass. No. 3 Class are under training for Group "E" ratings now, and there are some very good linemen in the making.

Recreational Training.—A trail cross-country run for everyone in the Company under thirty years of age brought to light some promising runners. The "over thirty's" were very upset at not being allowed to compete (?), but it was concluded that the strain of the recent crisis had been too much for them.

Football.—No. 2 Linemen's Course played No. 3 Course, and the game resulted in a win by seven goals to nil. According to reports, a lot more goals should have been scored, but complaints were received from the scorer that his pencil was wearing out.

Heard on Schemes.—First Detachment Commander: "Got a phone? Mine's 'dis,' and I want to tap in on this line."
Second D.C.: "What are they working, magneto or buzzer?"
First D.C. (after a moment's pause): "No, metallic!"
No information has been received as to whether the second D.C. handed over an empty petrol can or a drum of D.VIII. This conversation can be vouched for, and the following conversation was also heard:
Lineman (sent out on a cable fault and "tapping in'"): "I am now two miles from your office, and cannot get the other end."
Test Clerk: "Right. I'm going to test; get off the line and come back in two minutes."
The test was conducted, and the test clerk waited for the lineman to tap in again, but nothing happened until half-an-hour later, when the latter staggered into the office.
Test Clerk: "What the . . .? What are you doing here?"
Lineman: "You told me to come in in two minutes, and I've run all the way."

No. 2 Company.

General.—The crisis is over, and memories of kit inspections, prior to the departure for the Sudetenland and meeting the Fraulcins, has finished, and we are getting back to normal routine in barracks. The drafts to Palestine and other places East of Suez are causing quite a lot of excitement for those concerned, despite the old hands, who murmur: "Wait until you get there." Much advice is sought regarding foreign climes, and many lurid tales can be heard in barrack-rooms.

We extend a hearty welcome to the recruits from Catterick, and hope that their stay will be a long one, or at least until the boat goes.

Promotions.—Only one. Corporal Bosher, our Company clerk.

Sport.—Congratulations to Lance Corporal Rockall on getting his "Jimmie" for rugby, thus keeping up the name of No. 2 Company in the field of sport. We are sorry to be losing several of our football team, who are going on A.V.T. Courses, but we hope to get a Bryn Jones or two from the Depot.

Courses.—At the time of writing there are quite a number of worried faces to be seen as we are in the middle of an Upgrading Course which started as a good-sized class, but has dwindled to a mere handful, owing to drafts.

Musketry.—The Casuals have fired their Course on the Ash Ranges. After the Sergeant-Major had finished with the A.F.B. 192, quite a number of the Company had recorded quite a remarkable score, and No. 2 Company have done exceedingly well.

Inspections.—The Chief Signal Officer carried out his annual inspection on 3rd November, when everything went off very well.

No. 3 Company.

We are now a very depleted Company, owing to the heavy call for foreign service. There are about twenty of us left, and what with individual training, etc., we have hardly a soul to call our own.

No doubt there will be many old stalwarts who will be pleased to know that "A" Corps Signals won the "Cobb-Nicholls" rugger trophy.

The Chief Signal Officer carried out his annual inspection on 3rd November. The usual half holiday was granted, for which we were very grateful.

The next item on the programme will be the preparations for the Christmas festivities.

H. G.

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

16th November.

October passed with its many vicissitudes, the chief of which was the "big clean up" for the annual inspection by the Commander, 1st Division, on 25th October.

Individual Training, a somewhat belated effort for the very few available, is now in full progress, coupled with the "Keep Fit" movement on the Western Parade Ground.

We said good-bye to drafts. They have left the Unit for Malaya, Egypt and Palestine. Many others in the Unit are under orders, and some of them will be on the high seas during the festive season.

Compliments of the Season.—Lieutenant-Colonel A. L. Harris, M.C., and all ranks of the 1st Divisional Signals, wish all members of the Royal Corps of Signals and our Allied Corps in the Dominions a happy Christmas and a bright and prosperous New Year.

Officers.—We welcome the return to Aldershot of Colonel G. E. Mansergh, M.C., Royal Signals, for duty with the Staff at Headquarters, 1st Division. It will be recalled that Colonel Mansergh, previous to taking over command of Egypt Signals, commanded No. 1 Company, 1st Divisional Signals.

Major V. E. Westropp has proceeded to Palestine on Staff Duty. Lieutenant H. B. de M. Hunter has been posted to India for duty with 3rd Indian Divisional Signals.

Warrant Officers.—C.S.M. Shilton was posted to the Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, on 1st November.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

15th November.

General.—Life at the moment consists mainly of individual training, with all hands looking forward to Christmas and a spot of furlough.

Promotions.—First in the list for receiving congratulations is C.S.M. Cole, who has moved his office one door north, following his promotion to Warrant Officer, Class II.

Congratulations are also extended to the following: Corporals Hobbs F. and Linton J. on attaining that rank; Lance Corporals Horstead R. and Huggett F. on discarding the "U"; and to U/Lance Corporals Brooks W., McKenna and Davis G. on reaching the first rung.

Arrivals.—In addition to seventeen operators from the Training Battalion who have recently joined us for further training, we extend the welcoming hand to the following: Lance Sergeant Knight, Lance Corporal Hurst and Signalman Lawton, all newly arrived from "Punky," and to Signalman O'Sullivan, who has joined us from Spike Island.

Departures.—The lure of "Civvy Street" has taken Signalman Finnegan from us, and Signalman Berry has gone to Waddon for Vocational Training as a prelude to the same step.

Corporal Green and Signalman Bennett have gone to China and the Hong Kong Signal Company. Lance Corporal Wilson and Signalman Whitbread left us on Armistice Day for passage to Egypt in the Somersetshire; Egypt Signals are hereby warned to look after their "Cherry Blossom."

Things We Want to Know.—Which Orderly N.C.O. started day-dreaming early one morning, and wrote Shanghai on his sick report instead of Aldershot.

Scots Wha Hae.—To "Don," Bulford. "What about it, lad? Van."

Tunner, "A" Company, Depot. "Address the envelope, I'll pay threepence. Mallot, 2 Div."

No. 2 Company.

The new scribe takes up his pen (it seemed so easy when he volunteered for the job), but the flow of ideas has suddenly ceased. Knowing, however, that WIRE readers always make allowances, here goes.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the Company 2nd Lieutenant R. F. B. Power, who has come to get used to us before Lieutenant P. G. Curry leaves for the land of pineapples and typhoons. We also welcome Drivers Wood, Butterworth and Martin, who have come from Bulford to see whether Aldershot is all it is supposed to be.

Departures.—As forecast last month, Sergeant (Jack) Norcup has departed for Palestine, accompanied by several other members of the Company. Driver Vesty has left for Egypt.

Promotions and Appointments.—We congratulate the following on their appointments: Corporal Ditchfie'd to Lance Sergeant; Signalmen Staton and Sadd to U/Lance Corporal.

General.—Life in the Company continues normal, which means that the departures are far in excess of the arrivals. One day we hope to be able to report abnormal conditions when, with the Company up to strength, the C.S.M. (who has just rejoined from a long holiday (?) in "Q" Branch) can expect an easier task. No longer will he have to juggle with his duty roster like a pool fan filling in his coupons.

Despite our depleted strength we still manage to turn out daily for P.T., and even the "Younger" old soldiers manage to come under the starter's orders twice a week for a spot of the "Strength through Joy" feeling.

Quite a slight depression found itself centred over "F" Section when it was called upon to supply one of its members for service in Egypt, and even the C.Q.M.S. considers that he might as well shut up shop. Best of luck, "Vesty"; and mind you don't lose any more keys (or lorries). You will always be remembered here, if only for your very descriptive sketch on inner sheet "B" of the accident report.

All ranks join in wishing everyone in the Corps a very happy Christmas and a happy New Year.

C. R. E. P. S. B.

No. 3 Company.

General.—No. 3 Company take the opportunity of wishing all ranks in the Corps a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

We are now paying particular attention to annual furlough and individual training, and hope to be able to pull out a few chestnuts from the fire in the form of extra trade pay for those who can convince the Trade Boards that the workman is worthy of his hire.

This Company is at present in need of many hands, and we trust in the near future to be at least seventy-five per cent. of our Peace Establishment.

Our Recruit D.R.s' Class is coming along well, under the tuition of our Company Commander and Corporal Lunniss, and we hope to have in the near future a number of "L" plates for sale.

Departures.—C.Q.M.S. Tolley decided, rather suddenly, to don a suit of "Burtons" rather than indent for another Jacket, S.D. He has been fortunate in obtaining employment with "A" Branch at Aldershot Command Headquarters, and we wish him the best of luck for the future.

Signalman Bush is trying civilian life once more, and is now undergoing Vocational Training in the hope of obtaining employment as a fitter. The best of luck to him, too.

Signalman Kendall is now a civilian, and we trust that he will settle down to civilian life and rustle up a good situation.

Arrivals.—We extend the glad hand to the following and wish them a happy time with us: Sergeant Steele, Signalmen Brittcliffe, Craddock and Roche from India; Lance Corporal Morris from U.H.Q.

S. E. W.

1st Anti-Aircraft Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

North Frith Barracks, Blackdown.

12th November.

General.—A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL UNITS.

We must apologise for the absence of our notes from the past two issues of the WIRE, but can only put the omission down to pressure of work and the recent crisis. Mention of the crisis brings to mind the fact that the Unit was called upon at very short notice to furnish cable detachments to proceed to various emergency posts throughout the country. Prior to the moves, the clerks and certain N.C.O.s had a spell of making their sleeping quarters beside the Unit telephone. It is a pleasing thought to us that the crisis came to such a satisfactory end. We shall know what to do again, should the occasion arise, although it must be said that everyone carried out the various duties most satisfactorily. Mention must also be made of the trench digging, and the fact that we were glad when the job was over.

The Unit has now settled down to M.T. driving instruction and a spot of leave.

Major E. J. Murphy, our Commanding Officer, has returned to the fold after an absence of nearly seven months, of which, three months was spent at the Senior Officers' School, and the remainder in Millbank Hospital and on sick leave. He returned to duty on 2nd November, and we trust he will enjoy good health for the future.

Annual Inspection.—The Commander, 1st Anti-Aircraft Brigade (Brigadier R. B. Pargitir), carried out his annual inspection of the Unit on 24th October, and we understand that he was pleased with all he saw.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to the following on reaching the ranks and appointments stated: C.S.M. Atkinson (7th August), Lance Sergeants Watson (29th July), Lewis (7th August), Morrison (25th August) and Henshaw (1st September), Lance Corporals Jackson (7th May), Chetwynd (7th October) and Richards (17th October).

Trade Test.—Lance Sergeant Glass J. McD. passed the trade test for Clerk, Group "C," Class 1, on 25th October.

Marriages.—We congratulate Lance Corporal Buxton J. F. on his marriage to Miss Kathleen Elizabeth Larter at Woking, Surrey, on 22nd September, and also Signalman "Sammy" Wake on being so bold as to lead Miss Hilda May Bishop to the altar at Cambridge on 29th October. We wonder how "Sammy" likes lighting the fires these cold mornings.

Wintering Ahead.—This year, and next year, and—well, we won't rub it in. To Sarafand on 10th December: Signalman Hogg. To Hong Kong Signal Company on 14th December: Lance Sergeant Tent, Corporal McCarthy and Lance Corporal Hodge. To Egypt Signals on 14th December: Signalman Browne S., McGuire and Howell. To India on 20th December: Lance Corporal Judd, Signalman Leach, Martin, Taylor T.,

Elliott and Lund. To India on 23rd December: Lance Corporal Robertson, Signalmen Ross, Ashworth, Roffey, Cole, Featherstone, Wintle, Riseborough and Murray. We wish them all *bon voyage* and the best of luck at their new Stations.

Annual Weapon Training.—The Annual Rifle Course was fired on the Siberia Range at Bisley. Corporal Milligan was the highest scorer with a total of 88 points. The Revolver Course was fired at "A" Range, Ash. The highest score of 46 was obtained by Lieutenant E. W. Townsend.

G.P.O. Courses.—Corporal Burrows, Lance Corporals Stone and West, and Signalman Lewin are at present attached to the G.P.O. at Cambridge; Signalman Wilde is attached to the Post Office at Brighton. We hope that they are enjoying their stay.

Tailpiece.—Why did E.F.M. only have twenty-four hours' extension of leave? Was he afraid of the outcome of a longer period? Never mind, Paddy.

JAY EM GEE.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

VIRTUS IN ARDUIS.

16th November.

General.—November fogs have descended upon us once again, and activity in this Section during the month has been at a standstill. We have, however, managed to see some of the Army Cup football matches.

Our first draft, which leaves us early in December, consists of two-thirds of our clerical staff, and are bound for the Far East, followed a week later by a one-man draft for India. We take this opportunity of saying farewell, and hope they will all get along as well in their new Units as they have here.

Congratulations.—Are extended to "Our Bill" (Lance Corporal Williams) on the award of a Corps blazer for cricket. We are open to correction, but, we think this is only the third occasion that an other rank has received this honour. Good work!

The Retreat.—Promotions, births, marriages and postings have all passed us by this month. Didn't we emphasise that there was little activity on this front?

Still with Us.—Our sandbags! We are not looking forward to next summer, when, instead of merely mowing small lawns, we shall be mowing, reaping and threshing. Still, we live in hopes!

FRANKIE.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

No. 1 Company.

6th November.

G.O.C.'s Inspection.—"The General Officer Commanding, 3rd Division, was extremely pleased with everything that he saw during his inspection to-day. The Commanding Officer (Major G. H. Plummer, M.C., Royal Signals) congratulates all ranks on this very satisfactory report. The remainder of the day will be observed as a holiday." Nice work, Signals! Good show, No. 1 Company. The words in inverted commas are a reproduction of 3rd Divisional Signals, Part I Order, No. 257/2115, dated 3rd November, 1938.

We should like to impress on everyone, both in this Unit and outside, that we have every reason to be proud of the satisfaction expressed by the G.O.C. Oh, we know that this kind of report is nothing out of the ordinary for Bulford Signals, for we have collected them with regular monotony. But this year things were very different. Before the inspection there was a prevailing doubt that we would not be able to put it over in the good old-fashioned way. We hadn't got the men nor the time. But one thing we did have—inclination, and we can recall with satisfaction the serene and calm way in which we worked prior to the inspection.

We do not think that we were unduly put out about it. Nobody worried us, and, as the day of the inspection drew nearer, things began to take shape. Untidy details became tidy; weedy gardens took on a nice, clean appearance; floors whitened; and Section Stores became the spick and span dens that dared one to doubt the efficiency of any instrument on show—or not on show for that matter.

We walked into No. 1 Company Stores on the morning of the inspection, and hesitated. We felt unclean, our highly-polished boots and extra clean buttons, to say nothing of our new suit of serge, were entirely out of place in this miniature palace of brilliance. We hurriedly apologised to the C.Q.M.S., and wandered out to find a dirty spot in which to meditate. There wasn't one!

We are glad now that we couldn't; glad that the G.O.C. was glad; and glad that the Commanding Officer was glad, because we had the finest afternoon in bed for some time.

Now, if it were possible for the inspection to take place say every morning, we could, perhaps, creep into bye-byes every . . . No, I suppose that is asking too much. Perhaps we romance a little! Yes; Bulford's O.K. just now.

Messing.—Every week we read the soldiers' page in *Pearsons' Weekly News*. Some might say that there is nothing wonderful in that. Well, they have not been in our Mess. In the soldiers' page in this periodical, we often read letters from "Tommies" who get very little to eat. This surprises us. In fact, we are utterly amazed.

We have just had the finest dinner ever, and we think readers might like to know what it comprised. There was roast lamb (now don't get lamb mixed up with mutton), green peas (beautifully soft and delightfully sweet) with mashed potatoes and real mint sauce, followed by as much mixed fruit as we could eat, or take away in your sea kitbag if you wanted to.

Please stop us if we are wrong, but surely every Unit in this Army of ours gets the same rations and the same amount of spending money for food. Honestly, the thing puzzles me. In our Mess-room the cooks seem offended if we say, "No more for me, thanks," and we cannot remember when we last bought a supper.

Who deserves credit for these splendid messing arrangements? The P.R.I.? The Messing Officer? The Messing N.C.O.? (It's O.K., Tubby, this is not fiction, just criticism.) You might ask, "What are you worrying about, you get your full share, don't you?" Most certainly we do, but as for worrying, well, you've heard the story of the rich man and the beggar, and in any case we happen to have a sentimental nature. The sort of nature that wants to provide crumbs for birds on a frosty morning. Indeed, to put it stronger, but for the fact that we should miss the Christmas dinner, the writer would go on leave at Christmas. Perhaps it may be possible to get the family here. Perhaps readers will say that these notes are intended to create cupboard love. You're wrong, for I am a mystery writer, who does his good deeds behind the scenes. If any of our readers are ever feeling a wee bit peckish, come up and see us some time.

Individual Training.—Just in case you think No. 1 Company does nothing but eat and sleep, let us say that we are now in the fifth week of individual training. This, like everything else, has been seriously hampered by shortage of men. Every other day someone who has been finally warned for service overseas, etc., has to be withdrawn. But we persevere! If they wanted the beacon shifted, we think it could somehow be managed.

Now for that supper!

LOFTY.

Corporals' Room.

General.—Since the last notes from this source, numerous changes have taken place within the Unit, the most notable and regrettable being the quick move of R.S.M. Herbert and a number of other N.C.O.s to Egypt; but we expect these things to happen in the Service. We wish them all the best of luck and a speedy return.

Many acquaintances were renewed during the formation of 7th Divisional Signals, and the Mess Grippers' Shield during this period had to be withheld as there were so many with equal abilities. It was very pleasant to see old friends, even though it was for such a little time.

The main topic of this month, apart from No. 2 Company soccer team, was the inspection by the G.O.C., 3rd Division and S.P.A., on 3rd November. Despite the acute shortage of personnel, the Unit once again came through with flying colours.

On 22nd/23rd October, an outing to London was enjoyed by the majority of the Mess members. The outing included lunch at the Strand Corner House, and bed and breakfast at the Union Jack Club. By all accounts, everyone had a very enjoyable time. Tich Henwood apparently has made up his mind to become an A.R.P. Warden on retiring from the Service, for he appeared particularly interested in the various types of trenches in the parks.

Indoor Sports.—The Garrison Billiard and Snooker League is the main interest here during the winter months, and it has been decided to run a Mess Competition for billiards and snooker. It was then discovered that a Dart League was also being run this winter, and so a Singles and Doubles Tournament was arranged. Some very good games were witnessed during the rounds, and the result of the Tournaments is as follows: Billiards —Winner, Corporal Crimes; Runner-up, Lance Corporal Whayman. Snooker—Winner, Corporal Crimes; Runner-up, Corporal Jordan. Darts (Singles)—Winner, Lance Corporal Hockings; Runner-up, Lance Corporal Light. Darts (Doubles) Winners, Corporal Russell and Lance Corporal Bartram; Runners-up, Corporal Newton and Lance Corporal Whayman.

In the Garrison Billiards, Snooker and Darts League we haven't been doing too well. The first match against the 26th A.A. Field Regiment, R.A., resulted in a win for our opponents. Results: billiards and snooker, 5—1; darts, 7—2.

In the next match, against the 2nd Regiment, R.H.A., we did a little better: billiards and snooker, 5—1; darts, 5—4, both in our favour. It appears that the dart board doesn't suit a couple of our members, who are used to the "Rose and Crown" board, but it is hoped that they will be able to adapt themselves before the conclusion of the tournament. We appear to play "too collar and tiesh."

Rugby.—It was very pleasing to note that two members of the Mess were selected to play in the Corps Trials, namely, Lance Corporals Birkett E. and Hockings N. It was even better to note that Lance Corporal Hockings had again been selected to represent the Corps. With this in mind, he immediately produced the Corps Blazer, which, it is rumoured, had been laying on No. 19 Bungalow steps for a couple of days. Someone was heard to remark, "Let's hope he gets picked for an English touring side, then we will be able to have a game of billiards." Joking apart, congratulations, Tich!

Society Gossip.—A wedding has been arranged and will shortly take place between Corporal Crimes G. and Miss B. Lang. Corporal Crimes is busy looking for that "Yellow Basket"; he is already in possession of a bicycle and accumulator. It is understood that he will reside at Amesbury. If they feel completely lost, members of the Mess will be only too willing to introduce our friend "Joe."

Believe It or Not.—The following conversation took place between a Clerk attached to this Unit and the Unit Exchange Operator:

Clerk: "Give me Bulford 236."

Exchange Operator: "I'll ring you."

Clerk (ten minutes later): "Did you get Bulford 236?"

Exchange Operator: "I rang three times, but there was no reply."

The Clerk then decided to ascertain whether the correct number had been given, and discovered that the number should have been 239—236 was the Unit Exchange number!

I.T. Instructor to Student: "What is the test for a generator on the Tele. 110?"

Student: "Press the pressel switch, and a click and blow should be heard."

MULLER.

No. 4 Squadron, Mobile Divisional Signals.

Perham Down.

15th November.

Greetings.—We hope that everyone will have a very happy Christmas, and we wish you all the very best for the coming year. Isn't this the year when the "Blue Book" fiends come into their own?

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General.—The notes this month will be very brief, but our total messing strength at the time of writing is only about thirty, which includes the individuals for normal overseas drafts. The remainder have already gone to Palestine.

Appointments.—Congratulations to U/Lance Corporal Taylor K. on attaining his first step.

Departure.—Signalman Page A. to the A.F.V. School at Bovington on 7th November.

Agony.—Sergeant Jones E., Depot Battalion: "So you signed on after all! Pip."

Jeff, Palestine: "What about a line to Tub at Perham?"

Wireless Wing, A.F.V. School.

Bovington Camp, Wareham, Dorset.

16th November.

General.—With our present Course past the half-way mark, signs of the coming festive season are appearing each day. The Mess Draw is receiving quite a lot of attention and, so far, is paying good dividends—at least to some people. Others find it a dead loss, even when they know where the lucky numbers are! Still, cheer up, Vic.; you'd only draw "blanks" anyway!

For some reason the daily papers have been well read since the recent reports of Jew baiting appeared. We wondered if it was a case of blood being thicker than water, and if the hiring of screwdrivers at a penny a time was to assist the Relief Fund!

By the way, we received another shock the other day. We visited the P.S.I. at a local T.A. Unit and were again introduced to the new "Signal Training, All Arms." Good job we weren't asked any questions about it!

Arrivals.—We welcome Signalman Page A. from Perham Down, and hope that his stay with us will be a pleasant one.

Departures.—Ginger, from 8.A. "Coo! It was a lovely cat; worth pounds."

Signature Tunes, No. 4.—Sergeant Little V.: "Tea for two."

And so we close, wishing all ranks of the Corps at home and abroad the season's greetings.

WEEPIN' WILLO.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

General.—Whilst the majority of the Company are debasing (is that the word ?) themselves on leave, the few remaining in barracks struggle (*sic*) on.

The far-flung outposts have taken their annual toll.

The efficient hands of the P.R.I. have founded a novel tournament in table tennis. It is run in the form of a ladder, the player beneath taking his courage, and whatever else he can grab, in both hands and challenging the player directly above. Despite the remarks of the many "Alibi Ikes," the best player is bound to finish on top in the end.

There is also a billiard knock-out competition in progress.

Howlers.—The kind of conversation that makes one sign on:
A.: "At birth I only weighed three pounds."
B.: "Really! Did you live?"
A.: "Did I live? You should see me now."

Departures.—All ranks are extremely sorry to have lost Sergeant Matthew, our Acting Company Sergeant-Major, who has left us for 53rd Divisional Signals, T.A., for duty as a P.S.I. Our loss is certainly their gain, and he takes with him all the best wishes of "J" Section, Sergeant Ball's football boots, and the Company Office rubber.

A large draft left for Winterbourne Gunner to undergo a Gas Course. The draft was Sergeant Page, taking all the good wishes and the Mess cutlery. (Who put the how d'you do's down the drain ?)

Arrivals.—A daughter to C.Q.M.S. Wells. Congratulations!

Impending Departures.—C.S.M. Hall to Hong Kong. It is an ill wind that blows no one any good. They cannot do without you, sir!

Promotions and Appointments.—We take our hats off to the following: Lance Sergeant Twigger to Sergeant; Corporal Bolton to Lance Sergeant; Lance Corporal Brown E. to Corporal.

Technical.—Which D.R. recruit said that the "S" cell had an "exciting past"?

THREECOY.

No. 2 Company.

17th November.

"Where are you" would make an ideal theme song for the Company these days. It seems to us that "Records" are convinced that men of this Company's standard are the exact type required for duty in the far-flung outposts of the Empire. Those of us who are still left here are under the most able command of 2nd Lieutenant Sutherland, and we are holding the fort against all comers (and goers).

Furlough.—Several members of the Company are at the moment enjoying a month's leave, and we hope that they will have a good time. Thank goodness I will not be here to see that dreamy look in their eyes when they return; it always reminds me of the things I could have done, but didn't.

Departures.—These are far too numerous to mention, but we wish them all the best. We still wonder whether Roger has got the natives of Sierra Leone to clean his boots yet!

Sergeants Skitt and Walters, Lance Sergeants Hunter and Eason, and Corporal Galbraith have all obtained appointments as P.S.I.s with the Territorials.

Arrivals.—We extend a welcoming hand to those who have joined us, and trust that they will all enjoy their stay in the Unit. We ought to record the look of disgust on a certain N.C.O.'s face when he read that his draft orders had been cancelled. He had come all the way from Ireland, too!

Trenches—A.R.P.—Do you remember how in last month's notes we described our efforts at digging trenches. During our labours, many of us looked with envy at the very neat trenches that were being dug in our lawn by the R.E.s, and went back to look at our own crude work with disgust.

The little gods must have observed our mortification, and laughed, because a couple of weeks ago half of those marvellous trenches fell in. Maybe several here had a slight grin on their faces, too, when they observed the wreckage, because ours are still holding their own with the little gods and the elements.

Congratulations.—Heaps of these to Corporal Baker on his amazing jump from Section Sergeant to Acting Section Officer, and now to Acting Company Sergeant-Major.

Births.—Congratulations to Driver and Mrs. Higgins on a bouncing bonny baby. Now for some sleepless nights!

Howlers.—Who said that a certain car should go into workshops because the plug-points needed adjusting?

Finale.—This is my first effort and, believe me, if my identity is discovered, it will probably be the last!

"J."

5th Divisional Signals, Catterick Camp.

14th November.

Now that the international crisis is over, life in the Unit has more or less returned to normal.

It is regretted that some of the trenches which we so laboriously dug as air raid shelters have been unable to stand up to the Catterick weather, and, consequently, have been filled in again. This was the job allotted to our fourth and last-joined squad of recruits. It must have been a heart-breaking sight for those who worked so hard digging them. There are, however, some trenches which still remain, revetted and drained, which will go down to posterity as a reminder of our activities during the crisis.

Army Motor Cycle Championship.—The Unit team (2nd Lieutenant D. R. Horsfield, Royal Signals, 2nd Lieutenant J. de D. Yule, Royal Signals, Corporal Stowers G., Lance Corporals Nix H. and Bailey G. as Fitter) that won the Northern Command Competition entered for the Aldershot event on 28th and 29th October. Three weeks' training on the moors was wound up with a weeks' training at Aldershot. The three machines to be used in the trial and the one in reserve were loaded on two 15-cwt. trucks and taken to Aldershot by road.

Our heartiest congratulations are extended to the team on their good performance in finishing second. The 4th Battalion, Royal Tank Corps were the winners. But for a bit of bad luck in the "mud bath" we might have pulled it off. However, the team have learnt a lot from their efforts, and we hope to see them in the first place next year.

The Commanding Officer has received letters of congratulation on the team's performance from General Sir William Bartholomew, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., A.D.C., G.O.C.-in-C., Northern Command, Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., and Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C.

Mention of this event would not be complete without thanking both 1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot, for their kindness in putting up the team, and the R.A.O.C., Catterick Camp, for the interest taken, and also for the work they did in connection with the machines.

49th Divisional Signals Motor Cycle Trial.—The Unit team, fresh from their success at Aldershot, proceeded to Walton, near Chesterfield, to take part in the Territorial Trials organised by 49th Divisional Signals, T.A. The team travelled, complete with four Nortons in two 15-cwt. trucks, to Derby on Saturday, 5th November, staying the night at the Depot, Sherwood Foresters. Next day they moved up to Walton for the trial, where they put up a good show by winning the trial from 49th Divisional Signals, who were second.

This was an example of good team work, for the following reason. The two riders of the 49th Divisional Signals, who obtained better marks than any of our team, were let down by the other two members' marks, whereas all the members of our team were within twenty marks of each other.

After the trial, the team again spent the night with the Sherwood Foresters, returning to Catterick on Monday, 7th November. Congratulations to them all!

Entertainments.—A very enjoyable concert was given by the "Imperial Players" in the N.A.A.F.I., on 27th October. It was free for all, and there was a full house, which included the wives and children; the latter seemed to enjoy the show as much as anybody.

A dance was given by the members of the Corporals' Mess on 28th October. The entertainment was enhanced by the introduction of a cabaret, the cast of which was drawn from local talent in the Unit. The adventures of a certain Padre were very entertaining, and the powers of a conjuror of Eastern extraction were quite remarkable. There did not appear to be any deception whatever in his demonstration of the Indian rope trick, and the Unit gardener would do well to study his method for making plants grow quickly.

The Other Ranks gave a dance on 4th November. The function was enjoyed by all. The Unit Band played with their usual zeal and vigour at both the Corporals' dance and this one.

It is with great regret that we read in Unit Orders that Corporal Macey has been finally warned for the "Shiney." We hope, however, to hear him once more in the Band before he goes. He will be hard to replace, and we feel sure that the Signal Training Centre (India) Dance Band at Jubbulpore will gain considerably by our loss.

Departures.—Corporal Breeze C. G. to the Depot Battalion; Corporal Sanderson W. to 52nd Divisional Signals, T.A., as P.S.I.; Signalman Blakeney to Hong Kong Signal Section.

Arrivals.—We extend a cordial welcome to the following, who have joined during the last month: Signalman Brierley from Northern Ireland District Signal Company; Drivers (I.C.) Howlett and Vallence from the Depot Battalion; and Signalmen Pow K., Grant J. W., Mount R., Morgan S., Murrin C. and Price W. from the Training Battalion.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to Lance Corporals Newton and Howland on their promotion to Corporal; to U/Lance Corporal Hepworth on appointment to Lance Corporal on the Corps Roster; and to Signalman Roscoe on appointment to the ranks of the "great unpaid."

Northern Ireland District Signal Company, Belfast.

November.

General.—*Et tu Brute!* is the cry as the members of the Company fold their tents and depart for sunnier climes. I suppose we are not the only Unit that has been badly hit, and, nowadays, it's a wise man who knows his bed mate. Arguments as to who is Orderly N.C.O. have ceased; there are only two of them left! We are consulting Tennyson's *Brook* for inspiration.

Departures.—Signalmen Bartlam, Brightwell, Cartlidge and Heslop to Egypt; Signalmen Conboy and Wild to Malaya; Corporal Ogden and Signalman Humphreys to India (send us a postcard of a "sunshine scene" when you get there!); Signalman Brierley J. to 5th Divisional Signals, Catterick Camp.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Carter G., Grieveson and Williamson from the Training Battalion. They are very welcome. Thank you, Mr. Records!

Re-engagements.—Lance Sergeants Barron (Snug) and Oliver (John) and Corporal Ogden signed on the dotted line before proceeding on their Cook's Tour. (Needs must when the de'il drives!) We wonder if the £5 Disturbance Allowance has anything to do with it!

Sport.—As all grounds have been out of bounds for play, owing to "natural conditions," we have been unable to play a single fixture. Where does the East get the water for the monsoons?

Courses.—Lance Sergeant (Re-moaner) Brown S. and Lance Corporal Garton W. to Liverpool for a G.P.O. Course. F-of-S Forrest to Hounslow on a Fitter's Course. How is it done, Wally?

Draft Furlough.—Lance Sergeants Barron, Oliver, McLaren and Maguire, Lance Corporal Roy, Signalman Davidson, Morrice, Slavin, Busby and Scoffin. (Handkerchiefs for Christmas presents, please!)

Things We Want to Know.—Who were disturbed by the Disturbance Allowance, and will those going to India remember to collect it when they return?

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Why is the "Guide to Civil Employment" becoming so dog-eared?

Agony.—Arthur: "Where is that other five bob going? And when are you shifting that lineman out of my path to promotion?"

BIG HEARTED.

LONDONDERRY DETACHMENT.

Owing to the departure of our Superintendent, Lance Sergeant Maguire, it has fallen upon me to assume the duties of scribe. The station wish you all the best, Micky; and may you never want for matches. Is it true that you are going to smoke the Fakir of Ipi out?

We welcome Corporal Grey, ex-India, as our new Superintendent, and also Signalman Williamson from the Depot. May their stay be a long and pleasant one.

We were honoured by a visit from Captain Orr and C.S.M. Bishop at a kit inspection, and have every reason to believe that everything was in order.

The station was a shining example of cleanliness for the G.O.C.'s Inspection, but to our disappointment (ahem!) he did not visit us, but the Commanding Officer of the South Wales Borderers expressed his complete satisfaction at our heroic efforts. We are now waiting for putty medals as big as frying pans.

For the benefit of our readers, our aquarium expert, Signalman Lamb, reports that the station tiddlers are progressing favourably.

Two new arrivals to the station are Jimsie-Wimsie, a dog of doubtful pedigree, and Patsie-Watsie, a cat that appears to be responsible for ninety per cent. of the Garrison feline community.

Station Reports.—Corporal Grey: "Bring back my bonny to me!"

Lance Corporal Whitters: "There's no heat!"

Signalman Biggs: "Marriage is a great institution!"

LADDIE.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

2nd November.

Arrivals and Departures.—We welcome Captain and Mrs. Whistler, Captain and Mrs. Palmer, and the leave details on their return from summer furlough in the U.K. We also extend the welcome hand to those who have joined us from other Stations in India during the past month, and hope that those who have left us will enjoy life at their new Stations.

Entertainment.—A very enjoyable evening was spent by all at the Ladies' Night in the Recreation Room. The usual whist drive was held, followed by an impromptu dance, which, with the help of the S.T.C. (I.) Dance Band, was a great success.

Another evening's entertainment was also provided in the Institute and all agreed that they had enjoyed the show. We have several who fancy themselves as amateur jugglers, but they don't get much chance to practise, as the contractor now keeps all his bottles out of harm's way.

Agony.—Straight from the boat. Which man started to polish the brass studs on his topee on arrival at Southampton? (Obviously, some will say, what on earth are you talking about?)

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

The monsoon is over, and the tennis courts are once more in constant demand. The season commenced with the long delayed Mixed Doubles Handicap Final. This proved a very evenly and well-contested match. The first set went to the winners at 6—3, and the second to the losers at 6—2. The final set was most exciting. At 3—5, Sergeant Hoy and Mrs. Ellerton-Long were almost beaten. Match point was reached, and with a cry of "Oh," and a completely sunken feeling, Mrs. Long thought that she had "done it," but the ball trickled over the net and the match was saved. This proved to be the turning point, and four games were then won straight off to end the set at 7—5. The losers, Staff Sergeant Simms and Mrs. Thwaites, were congratulated on their fine performance in forcing the match to three sets. Mrs. Nash kindly presented the Cups to the winners and runners-up.

Tin and Bottle Tournaments are again very popular and are held every Sunday. The winners to date are: Mrs. Long, Mrs. Nash, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Le Ghys, Mrs. Pickering, Mrs. Benfield, R.S.M. Nash, R.Q.M.S. Weston, C.S.M. Ellerton-Long, Sergeants Pickering, Woolhouse, Hoy, Drudge and Fairman.

Tennis "At Homes" are held every Thursday, and are well attended. Only seven games to a set are played, thus cutting out that "long wait."

An annexe to the courts in the form of a Children's Playground has now been completed. Swings, see-saws and a sand-pit provide enjoyment for the children whilst their parents are playing tennis. There have been various remarks concerning the "Williams—Fairman" Park, both kind and "otherwise." Enough said!

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

"A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

8th November.

General.—We are once again beginning to look more like a Unit, since No. 1 Company have returned from Waziristan. Quite a number of British ranks have also returned, owing to the number of "A" Corps Signals personnel in the field being reduced for the winter season, but we are by no means up to full strength yet, as the majority of No. 2 Company are still out, but we are far better off than we have been all the summer.

It is more than two years since we last had the whole of the Unit together in Rawalpindi, and although the Waziristan Operations officially finished just before last Christmas, we have maintained detachments in the field ever since, as it has been essential that regular communications should be established at the various camps.

The personnel of these detachments were changed recently, as many of them had been out all the summer, but the best part of them are now back in 'Pindi again, with the exception of one or two of the old hands, who are still out. Amongst them is Lance Corporal Wood, who on his arrival in the Unit from Jubbulpore in April, 1937, went straight to Bannu, and has been in Waziristan ever since, which must be a record in the Unit. Some people must actually like this life, or is it the thought of the accumulating credits that keeps them going?

Comings and Goings.—The M.A.R. Section (formerly known as the M.A.B.) have left us to join the 7th Medium Regiment, Royal Artillery, for Section and Brigade training at Ambala, and are due to return shortly before Christmas. Signalman Townsend A., who recently returned from six months' furlough, has been posted to 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut, and we hope that he has settled down in his new surroundings.

Signalman Melluish J. has been posted to A.H.Q. Wireless Section, New Delhi, in relief of Lance Corporal Morgan W., who has returned to us on completion of his tour of duty. Signalmen Barber E., Brooks S., Gordon-Jones M. and Kelly R., who joined us from Jubbulpore on completion of their recruit training, seem to be quite happy with us.

C.S.M. Peerless W. arrived from Quetta for employment as the Chief Signal Officer's clerk at Northern Command Headquarters in place of C.S.M. Saul J., who is being repatriated very shortly.

The following officers have returned from leave in the United Kingdom: Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. H. Vulliamy, D.S.O. (our C.O.), Lieutenant-Colonel A. Newton, O.B.E., and Lieutenant E. C. R. Blaker. Captain N. M. May, M.B.E., is the only one still to return.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Corporals Spencer P., Sullings F. and Wragg F. on attaining their new ranks.

Trade Boards.—At the last Trade Board, held at Upper Topa, the following candidates were successful: I.M., Class II: Lance Corporal Stead W. and Signalman Carpenter G. E.F., Class II: Lance Corporal Allaway F. E/S, Class I (Additional Qualification): Corporal Phillips L. and Signalman Davidson A. F/S, Class III (Additional Qualification): Signalmen Ketteridge N., Hughes P. and Hancock F. O/S, Class I: Corporal Spencer P., Lance Corporals Copestake F., Ramsden H., Campbell P., Signalmen Ross D., Homer F., Melluish J., Fowler A., Smith P., Porter V., Wilson A., Watt F., Everard J., Long S., Oates R., McCarthy J. L/M, Class I: Signalman Littleford, J. L/M, Class II: Corporal Harris A., Signalmen Brady C., Pearson J. and Thompson L.

Extract from the Orderly Sergeants' Roll.—WOOD MAY WEST SAVAGE BUTCHER?

The Great Mystery.—Who wrote to "Nobby" of *Pearson's Weekly?*

PEDLAR.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Hasan Abdal Camp.

November.

General.—By the time that our camp news appears in print, the festive season will be almost with us. So we take this opportunity of wishing all members of our widely scattered Corps all the best for a really Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

At present the Unit is enjoying a fresh air and sunshine cure at Hasan Abdal. The camping ground, to which resort we

trekked on 20th/21st October, staying for one night at Sang Jani *en route*, was certainly a pleasant sight for the weary ones on their arrival. Much credit is due to the advance party, comprising " F " and " B " Sections, for their fine effort in laying out a picturesque camp for us—complete even to the whitewashed stones.

Camp life appears to be very popular with all, in spite of the fact that Schemes and Operation Orders have been the prevailing topic for many days. Somehow we seem to have stirred up a bundle of trouble, and much hostility has been encountered.

Southland and Westland having completed their own little war, the Sultan of Sultanpore and the Abbot of Abbottobad must come to blows. One report even suggested that the pye dogs of a certain village were distinctly hostile. In spite of this, the Unit seems to have borne up well, and an excellent spirit prevails. Even one or two of our dismal Desmonds have been heard to remark that they are their own happy selves once again.

The River Jhablat adjoins our camping ground, and swimming and fishing have been popular pastimes. Our fishing expert, William the Moody, not having accompanied us, very few fish and chip suppers have materialised so far. Robinson, no relation to Crusoe, has, however, prevented a real famine by blowing a few choice Mahseer out of the river with his .22 popgun.

It is rumoured —and hoped —that swimming sports will be held prior to the return to Rawalpindi.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following, who have joined us: Captain P. J. Palmer from U.K. leave; Signalmen Hyde L., Flood F. and Ryton H. from S.T.C. (I.), Jubbulpore.

Departures.—The following members of the Sergeants' Mess have left us. We wish both them and their families all the best for a happy future: C.Q.M.S. Powles A., Sergeants French W. and Standen R., all per S.S. California for U.K. on discharge. To Lance Sergeant Dicky Dirs, who also left by the same boat for a winter furlough in the U.K., we wish a pleasant voyage. Have you started gripping yet, Dicky? The Mess seems quiet these days!

Sergeants' Mess.—Life in the Camp Mess has been considerably enlivened by the inclusion of a wireless extension, and by the introduction of some new games, in which everyone joins. " Stopping the Bus " and " Finding the Queen of Sheba " vie with the deck tennis courts for popularity.

On Sunday, 30th October, we were visited by the families, when an afternoon's programme, which was excellently organised by C.S.M. Snooks, was greatly enjoyed by all, particularly the kiddies, who were treated to coconut shies and supplies of fruit.

Which member of the Fighting Corps stood up in front of a full house and said that he was walking round the gardens the other morning in the middle of the afternoon and saw the Mali watering the rose bushes? Steady, Jock; he should have given you a drop instead of the rose bushes. You know the old saying: " Take more water with it."

Mac. has astounded us by telling a hushed meeting that Christmas is coming. This event still falls on the 25th, Mac., as you were told. It has only been like that for 2,000 years, but it takes time to find these things out.

Which hero stated that he had a 7 plus 3 and two other B.O.R.s in his office? Perhaps that is where the saying " Shake your Handset " originated.

This week's booby prize goes to our enterprising Caterer. He has added " Nut Milk Chocolate " to his war cry of " Come on, the last bottle of M.B." Keep it up, Harry. " I'll tell the missus you sold her biscuits."

Agony from Elsewhere.—Which D.R., in his road reconnaissance report, stated that map references for position of water points were much too " enumeruss " to mention? He wasn't the one who got lost either.

Which sentry challenged, " Halt! Who goes there, sir? "?

Helpful Suggestions.—One of our brain-wave experts has suggested that cable in future should possess elastic properties, and so make a saving all round!

We congratulate our Draughtsman on his Indian Government " Hookum " signs for car parks. According to the "Arrow," they are riding the range in the sky!

Detachment, 1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Things are very quiet in Rawalpindi, as the Unit is away in camp at Hasan Abdal. Remarks like " You can't take it " have been flung at the poor unfortunates who are denied the beauty and splendour of camp life, but our reply is obvious, for we are known as the 'Pindi Defence Force—and what a Force, too; more of the canine species than men. It is a great pity we cannot train our four-legged friends to perform a few duties.

Still, we have discovered that a few of our comrades still care for those who have been left behind, as fan mail comes in quite regularly.

Agony.—Which B.O.R. was seen marching up and down the Pay Office guarding the cash box? We can imagine his mortification when he was told that the box was empty.

Will past and present Bulfordites please note that " Charlie " is now a very enthusiastic hockey player? Bulford's loss is our gain! Even tennis takes a back seat with him now, but we should like to know why he always falls down to kiss the ground when the ball is yards away!

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

8th November.

General.—It is very much regretted that our notes have been absent for the last two months.

This small Unit of the Corps has again been in the public eye, for we have received congratulations all round by winning the " Strettell Revolver Shooting Cup." This Cup is competed for by all Units throughout the district, and there are thirty-six teams in all. The average score of our team was 92. The District Commander, Major-General C. B. Dashwood Strettell, C.B., came along himself to present the Cup to us. The photograph shows him shaking hands with one of the team, Troop Sergeant-Major Gould G. The team comprised Captain R. A. Conner, Royal Signals (holding the Cup), T.S.M. Gould, Corporal Dale, Signalmen Danfer, Edwards and Goodall.

Whilst on the subject of congratulations and awards, we have to report that 100 per cent. of the men undergoing Upgrading Courses (British and Indian) this year have obtained higher ratings.

Now that the trooping season is back to its normal routine, many of us can now remark: " —— days to go." But some say, " Just sixty months to go."

Our " Q.," T.Q.M.S. Cozens, had hopes of Christmas in Blighty. Did he say '38 or '39? He should be home just in time for training. The " Farrier Staff " is already on line leave. (Sorry, Farrier, we didn't know it was "Attend C " that the M.O. had given you.) Never mind, March will soon be here!

We welcome Captain and Mrs. R. A. Conner, Royal Signals, from Quetta.

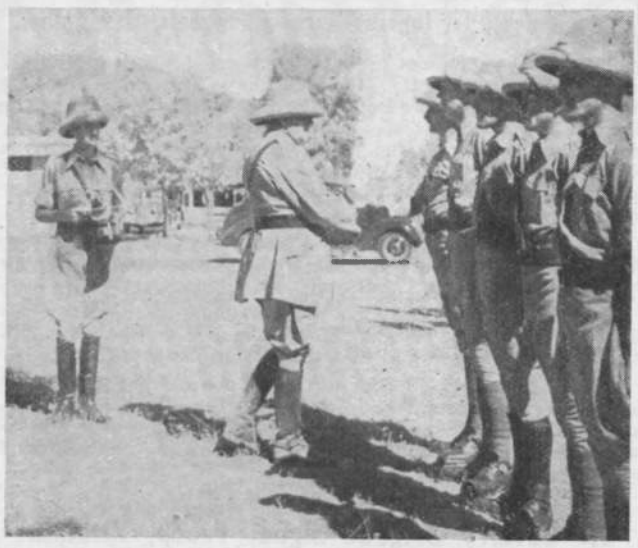
Captain and Mrs. P. B. G. Gambier, Royal Signals, our Commanding Officer and his wife, has recently arrived from privilege leave in the Blighty Cantonment. We are all pleased to note that the C.O. is looking fine after his leave, especially as he had been unwell prior to leaving here for the U.K.

Captain R. C. Yule, Royal Signals, our former Troop officer, left us on 1st October for leave in India prior to embarking in S.S. California, ex-Bombay, on 27th October, for transfer to the Home Establishment. He is an old friend, who will be missed.

Signalmen Parkinson and Stewart also left us on 9th October for the U.K. in the hopes of a Vocational Training Course. We were sorry to lose them, and a large crowd saw them off from Risalpur Station. We all hope that they will get through their Courses without trouble, and soon find themselves comfortable in a civilian job. Obviously, Scotland takes care of her kin.

Corporal Strong thinks that leave in the U.K. is better than serving in Risalpur, so he and Signalman Erskine embarked in H.T. Somersetshire, ex-Karachi, on 12th October, for six months' winter furlough in the U.K.

Some of the old inhabitants of " Rissy " had a pleasant surprise the other week when Major V. C. Holland, Royal Signals,



a former O.C. of this Unit, and now Commandant, Army Signal School (India), Poona, paid us a visit. Corporals Hargreaves and Bale, who came here in the year dot, certainly had the Major in a " Grip." " Have you heard about old so and so ? " " What about that fine horse, number so and so ? " If the Major wanted to hear about the Troop, he certainly got it that night, or should we say early morning.

The Sergeants' Mess have held one or two all ranks' " Tin and Bottle " tennis tournaments, which were very successful, especially when we finished up with a spot of dancing inside, afterwards a spot of something else.

Before we go to press, our " Rough," Lance Sergeant Johnny Bull, has returned from leave in the U.K. By the way, they have a Woolworth's store in Ramsgate, but Johnny didn't get as far, for Littlewoods were above " par " that day and remained satisfactory ! As long as they are not paying any bonus out, we'll say it's a good deal, Johnny !

Now that everyone is back from the Hills and Courses, the Unit is engaged in serious training, although our Orderly Room Sergeant (Ronnie Paling) says that every day is the same to him. Perhaps it is, but not the same as he thinks !

All the families were invited by Captain Conner to tea the other evening, and we understand that they all had a very nice time indeed.

The weather here is really wonderful just now, and all our sportsmen are getting down to hockey and football again, and we are looking forward to claiming a few more Cups in the near future.

RIP.

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

"B" Corps Signals, Karachi.

Headquarters.

2nd November.

It is regretted that our notes for last month were not published, as a fine literary effort was somehow mislaid.

The Somersetshire left us after a prolonged stay in port, taking several families and fellows back to civilian life. We hope that they will enjoy the Blighty that has taken so long to " roll on." Their departure was celebrated in the usual manner, under the kindly eye of the good god Bacchus. The morning after business was brisk, bottles rising to one anna after opening. The market for bed-plates, too, was brisk, rising as high as the beam in the garages.

The money exchange at the quayside was poor, several attempts to pass aluminium rupees into the market being frustrated. The usual nasty cards from the ship at sea to the men holding them back were received a few days later ; the dak wallah had the hardest job in the world to get rid of them.

The gas germ has bitten India, and for a few days the Unit was on the run. Mysterious bells and bugle calls were the order of the day, combined with a little trench digging for congenial exercise. We assume that the presence of blisters provided a good excuse for the indifferent dart throwing that took place !

Karachi had the usual black-out, which some folk considered was unnecessary. According to the papers, the land forces won by two Tiger Moths to one hurricane lamp. It is believed that the chowkidar reached shelter in safety, the only casualty being those already stated.

The Unit Dances still maintain their great popularity, the introduction of the " Lambeth Walk " proving a great success. Where everyone got the " griffin " has yet to be discovered.

The writer appears to have one up on his colleague at the Company press as we are first with the news of the marriage of Sergeant Brazier of the old Pack Section fame. We offer our congratulations to him and his *memsahib*.

We welcome our Adjutant, Captain C. C. Worrall, from leave in the U.K. Glad you're back, sir !

Nuts and Bolts.—Which old Norwich international tried to take a load off his mind by kicking a fifty-six pound ball over the tennis court, or was it just to spite the old ball and chain gang ?

Where was Mike when the lights went out at the Unit Dance ?
Who keeps his cat on a lead to stop it bolting its milk ?

Cheerio, folks ! The season's greetings to all our friends and sympathetic readers.

G. O. O

No. 2 Company.

General.—Apologies are tendered for the absence of our notes last month ; they were omitted owing to an oversight.

Trade Boards are now things of the past, and quite a number of our members, and also others attached to us, are anxiously wondering whether they will receive that higher rating. Those who have attended the Trade Board Examination will now have an opportunity of putting that extra knowledge to a practical use as Section training is due to start.

A.R.P. has claimed our attention recently. We spent a week at digging trenches, and dashing for cover at the sound of trumpets, bugles, gongs and whistles. On a certain Thursday morning, the Unit were turned out of their beds at the unearthly hour of 6 a.m. All lights were switched off at the power station and we heard the attacking planes zooming overhead. About an hour later, the actual attack took place, when a flight from the R.A.F. Depot bombed the important parts of Karachi. The attackers in the end were driven back by the gunners of the K.S.L.I.

On the following day, the Unit carried out another similar Scheme (without the planes and gunners) as Major-General Hutton was coming along to see what training the Unit had received. We hope that he was impressed by everything he saw.

Congratulations.—To all who successfully passed the Operators' Trade Board (First Course).

To the man who likes the Army, and has signed on for the extra four. Nice work, Bill !

To Sergeant Myddleton, Lance Sergeant Connaghton and Corporals MacNair and Green on attaining their respective ranks ; and also to Lance Corporals Twiddy, MacBeth and Kirk on losing the " U."

Marriages.—Only one to report, but we have reason to believe that there are at least two weddings due to take place in the very near future. Congratulations to Signalman Clarke P. on taking the plunge. He was married to Miss Phyllis Mary Lee at Quetta on 3rd September.

Arrivals and Departures.—We welcome to the fold Captain J. R. Beeton, our O.C., who has rejoined us from two months'

leave in India, and also welcome Lieutenant J. F. MacSwiney as Section Officer. A hearty welcome to Sergeant Rowe from Waziristan District Signals, Corporal Stares and Signalman Fulcher from the Zhob Signal Section, Signalman Flavell from Chaman and Signalman Coleman from Cherat. To replace them we lost Lance Corporal Fouracre, Signalmen Thornton, Fitzgerald, Perrins and Barr S., and also Corporal Axson, who has proceeded to Cherat in relief of Lance Sergeant Nicholson, who has since departed to England.

Eleven B.O.R.s from Jubbulpore and thirty Burmans from the Burmese Army have also arrived, the former to be trained as Operator Signals, and the latter as Operator Signals, Instrument Mechanics and Electrician Fitters.

Prominent People.—We hear that a certain ex-member of this Unit was mentioned in a Scottish newspaper as being one of the prominent people v.siting the Empire Exhibition at Glasgow. How he managed that still puzzles us, as he did not embark for the Blighty Cantonment until 9th October.

Best Wishes.—To those who have left, and who will be leaving us in a very short while for the colder climes of England, some to soldier on, and the others to " Civvy Street." We hope that the latter will soon settle down to their new mode of life, and get the jobs they want.

Overheard.—Instructor: " What is the range of the ' C ' Set ? "
Student: " Fifty miles by day, Corporal."
Instructor: " H'm ; I suppose that it is 100 miles at night with a telescope."
Pretty good, Les. !

Personalities (1).—The fellow who says he cannot play football, but thinks himself the lucky mascot. Let it be known that the Unit team wins when he is not playing.

Personalities (2).—The Orderly Corporal who puts himself on the Sick Report, and is the only one to receive "Attend C." What is the secret of your success, Willie !

Tailpiece.—We take this opportunity of sending our best wishes to all members of the Corps, both past and present, for Christmas and the New Year.

And so, for the present, good-bye, folks !

E DOUBLE U.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

Departures.—Since the main interest of the past month has been " The Boat," a subject which even left the recent European crisis a bad second, it seems fitting that we should open this contribution with a reference to the fortunate ones who have recently left us for cooler climes.

After many conflicting rumours, and a week's delay, caused by the aforementioned crisis, H.T. Somersetshire left for England on 9th October, bearing from us Sergeants " Pip " Steele and " Fruity " Frampton and their respective families, and also Lance Sergeant Young W. W., of Glasgow Exhibition fame.

With the departure of " Fruity " is revealed the identity of " Caterer," who has so ably contributed to these notes for the past two or three months. In consequence, it falls to the lot of this unpractised scribe to attempt to follow in his footsteps.

C.S.M. " Jock " Laing, Sergeants Jones T. A. " Taffy," and Broadhead H., and their respective families, being apparently " well in " with somebody who matters, left us on 25th October on S.S. Vita to embark at Bombay in the good ship California. We hope they are finding plenty of opportunity to indulge in their favourite pastime of " Yonk." These last three are all due for " Civvy Street " during the next six months, and we take this opportunity of wishing them all good luck and cushy billets.

Arrivals.—Perhaps this should have come before the preceding paragraph, but we are sure the lady concerned will forgive us, since in this country it is undoubtedly more exciting to depart than to arrive. Mrs. Bevan has made herself so much one of us during the short time since her arrival that we almost overlooked the fact that she was a recent recruit.

The long-awaited Somersetshire (where is that telescope, Joe ?) arrived at Karachi on 28th September, with the wife and family of R.S.M. Bevan B. We trust they will enjoy their stay in Karachi and that Mrs. Bevan will yet be lucky enough to win a tin of kippers. The advent of Mrs. Bevan cuts down the number of our " grass-widowers " by one. (How long, Mr. Records, how long ?)

Marriages.—Now we arrive at the real, red-hot topic of the day. On this very afternoon, our one and only " Badgy " Brazier takes unto himself as wife Miss Joan Wood, who, incidentally, is already a well-established Mess member. At the moment of writing the ceremony is still some hours off, and details are not yet to hand, but we are able to reveal that Mr. and Mrs. Brazier have four tickets in the Christmas Draw, and that the honeymoon will probably be spent in Karachi. We hope to give a full account of the wedding next month.

On Saturday next, 5th November (Oh, Jack, it's Guy Fawkes Day !) yet another of our grass widowers willl have the brake applied by the arrival of Mrs. Scratcher.

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44 BEDFORD STREET, STRAND, W.C.2

Also among the passengers is Miss Alice Ross, the future wife of our " Schoolie," Sergeant-Instructor Harrison, A.E.C. This knot is to be tied on the same day as the bride's arrival, presumably before the future Mrs. Harrison has a chance to appreciate the beauties (?) of Karachi and decide to go straight back home. Again, we hope to give you the full story of this wedding in our next issue.

The best wishes for the future are tendered to both of our newlyweds. (Come out the boy who said " They'll need them !)

Sport and Entertainment.—These seem to be so inextricably intermingled that we offer no apology for bracketing them together. We have now settled down to a more or less regular weekly fixture list. On Monday afternoons we have been holding a series of " Tin and Bottle " tennis tournaments. The weekly winners seem to be as varied as the contents of the tins and bottles, which, commencing as an assortment of tinned fruits, pickles, etc., have lately become more varied by the addition of sardines and cigarettes, while, at our last tournament, there was an extraordinary rush on the canteen for tinned kippers. We wonder what time will produce in this respect !

Indoor games have not been neglected, and Wednesday evening is becoming a recognised fixture for whist, while Friday nights are being marked on our society leaders' engagement pads as " House " (for those who like it), followed by a " Chota Hop."

One very successful evening was devoted to a farewell function to the members and their families leaving us this trooping season. It was remarkable what a lot of hidden talent was discovered among those so soon to be departing.

5th November, of course, will be devoted to a GRAND FIREWORK DISPLAY AND GUY (capitals, please, Mr. Printer) for the entertainment of the children (sez you), to be followed by a social evening for the adults, at which it is rumoured a brand new thrill will be introduced for those who have a couple of annas to spare.

Special.—Tim Healy is back from Blighty leave, and still in single blessedness. The crooning season has now begun in earnest !

Congratulations.—To Sergeant C. A. (tennis champ.) Smith on adding yet another handsome Cup to those already displayed by him in the Mess. It is for the Birch Club Open Handicap Singles.

To the Unit football team, who at present occupy top place in the Garrison League, despite hot opposition from the Royal Scots Fusiliers. We hope to be able to recount in our next issue that they have secured the League cup and medals.

To you, gentle reader, on having had the patience and determination to read so far.

Good heavens, it's twelve o'clock, but there's just time to wish all members of the Corps, at home and abroad, all the best for Christmas and the New Year.

MIDNIGHT OIL.

Western (I.) Divisional Signals, Quetta.

The Unit is once again buzzing, and the cry reverberates, " If I could wake to find I'd passed it, I know I'd never have to sit again." In other words, I.T. is in full swing. Talking of swing, Lance Corporal Hayes has reorganised the Band members, and the Unit Band has recommenced operations under his able leadership. Their harmonious rehearsals are considerably helped (or hampered, according to one's outlook) by all the would-be " Don Juans " of the Unit who regularly attend these rehearsals in order to be inveigled into the noble art of " swinging a nifty chapli." (Ex-2 Divites will know Attwell.) In spite of this the Band is going steadily ahead, and from all corners we hear well-merited praises.

Those frontiersmen who are likely to be snatched " from this earth, this realm, this England " and sent to the Garden City of the East (for the benefit of the ignorant and unlearned the name is Quetta), are warned that if they can play the saxophone, violin, clarionet or any such instrument as is in this band needed, they are liable to such less penalties as are in somewhere mentioned if they fail to bring any such instrument, to wit, those that they can play, to this abode of swing. Enquiries should be addressed to the President, Royal Signals Dance Band, Western (I.) District Signals, Quetta. (Advt.)

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CAMBRIDGE CIRCUS
LONDON, W.C.2

We have to congratulate the following, who have been rewarded with a token in recognition of eighteen years of undetected crime : Lance Sergeants Hockley, Fairclough, Bray and August. May their good fortune never desert them.

Births.—Congratulations are extended to Captain and Mrs. A. S. Milner on the birth of twins, and also to Captain and Mrs. Barker on the birth of a daughter.

Departures.—Mrs. Noonan and son to the U.K. on S.S. California, and C.S.M. and Mrs. Peerless to Rawalpindi.

Arrivals.—C.Q.M.S. Wyeth and family from Rawalpindi to take over from C.S.M. Peerless. We trust his stay in the Unit will be a long and happy one.

Death.—It is with deep regret that we record the death of Mrs. Knight, wife of Lance Sergeant Knight, which occurred at Karachi while waiting to board H.T. Somersetshire as a Class "A" invalid. Our deepest sympathy goes to Lance Sergeant Knight in his bereavement.

Tailpiece.—There was a guard commander who, struggling with a refractory electric light switch, exclaimed, " Out, you swine ! " The sentry in the guard room answered, " No, Sergeant ; I have to remain on guard by the arms rack." No comments !

RONKAY.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

October.

General.—We are still going strong and hope to continue so for years to come. Sport is forging ahead, and we are still progressing in the hockey and football fields. The days are now growing short and cold, and outdoor games are the order of the day, and will help to keep us fit and well for the forthcoming " Column " season.

On 24th September we held a very successful Station Dance, at which the various Units in Loralai were very much represented. Thanks to the Committee, and especially to Signalman Price, who did wonders, everything went with a swing, and the early hours of the next morning saw our heroes of the light fantastic wending their way to slumberland. We soon hope to stage another, which, we trust, the success of this one will warrant. Our O.C. was unfortunately absent on Classification duties, but he was with us in spirit.

Education.—Several budding specialists, etc., attended the Educational Examinations this month. We wish them success, and trust that all of them will come through with banners flying. To those unsuccessful ones we say: "Remember Bruce of Bannockburn's motto—If at first you don't succeed, try, try, try again."

Awards.—Congratulations to our C.Q.M.S. Conway, who, as a Sergeant with "B" Corps Signals, annexed a *Mention in Dispatches* during the 1936-1937 Frontier Operations. Well done, "Q," another load on your left side!

Arrivals.—Corporal Spong and Signalman Hall from Blighty leave. Both are looking well and happy. Married life has made the Chota Corporal "rationlike."

Departures.—Signalman Lawton, our famous fire-blowing expert, to the Home Establishment. Any firm requiring a human welding expert should apply here. Good luck, Ginger!

Signalman Houlton, complete with corkscrew and opener, proceeded to the environments of Fort Sandeman. Already there is a noticeable drop in Canteen sales. Bahri is looking sad, Edgar!

Congratulations.—To Sergeant Beach and Lance Sergeant South. The former on relinquishing the Lance in the last promotion tent pegging, and the latter for picking it up.

Sport.—At last we have a hockey team, thanks to the advice of our O.C.! We have knocked off the rough edges, and with a little more scientific polish we shall have the finished product.

The football season opened well, and though we have only played one or two matches, we still can produce the goods and, all being well, we hope to annex the Beetham Cup and Baird Trophy this cold season.

PALEY KHAN.

Fort Sandeman Detachment.

18th September.

Introduction.—Yes, believe it or not, these notes are from Fort Sandeman, that outpost in the wilds of Baluchistan, and a place visited by few. A good start will be to introduce the present members of the Section: O.C., Captain MacCormack; N.C.O. i/c, Sergeant Hotchkiss; Operators: Lance Corporal Roberts, Signalmen Harding, Knowles, MacGraw and Till; Instrument Mechanic: Signalman Arnold; Lineman: Signalman Burke.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Till R. and Knowles H. from Quetta; Signalman Burke D. from "B" Corps Signals, Karachi.

Departures.—Signalmen Lawton, Swales and Timbrell to Loralai for a spell of educational training. The rest of the Section wish them every success and hope they manage a "D" or so between them. Signalman Lawton leaves us shortly for the "land of satisfaction and good times."

General.—Life in Fort Sandeman still runs smoothly, a fact which is due to our friend "Ipi" and his satellites being interested in places further north. Two members of the Section are hoping he keeps there, for the boat lists have been published.

Sport.—Owing to the Section being so small we have trouble in finding enough to make up a team, but thanks to the helping hand of two or three Staff Officers, we get a fair share of sport.

In six-a-side football tournaments held by the Ghurkhas, we lost in one after a replay, but won the other easily. Some of the prizes presented to us were opened on the field. (It is surprising the thirst that a game of this sort develops.)

A Swimming Gala held here recently by the R.A.F. was a huge success. The Signals proved that they could keep their heads above water occasionally. Thirteen "prizes" were brought back to the Institute, and the event was duly celebrated later.

This Section also provided the gala's "Queen of Fort Sandeman," in the person of "Tim," who entertained the audience with a demonstration of the strip tease act. Unfortunately, or should we say fortunately, the spot-light failed at the vital moment.

Things We Should Like to Know.—Is the present Central European situation providing "shakes" for any members of the leave details or T.A.R. men?

Will life be safe when "Robbo" gets his shooting gun? The dogs will have to look out!

Things Other People Would Like to Know.—Arnold the "ham" still receives the whole world either by radio or correspondence.

The Section's old soldier, "Lugs," still manages to get about, but the "screws" are now affecting him, and we believe his fighting days are over. Old members of F.S.N. please note.

PADDY.

EASTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Unit Headquarters.

31st October.

Trooping has commenced, training has begun, Christmas preparations are well in hand, and, needless to say, U.H.Q. are busy once more.

This month saw the return of Lance Corporal Greaves from his six months' furlough in England, during which time he committed the ignominious offence of getting married. He says he never had a chance! As several of our comrades are due for a spot of Blighty leave in the near future, we fear for the worst; and so do they.

Readers will have to excuse our short notes, but with "tempus fugiting" along as it does, and as the little bit of "tempus" we do have is devoted to digging huge trenches outside our comfortable homes, there is little time for relaxation. Some say the digging is A.R.P., some say R.I.P.; but we doubt whether anyone knows. Perhaps it is to bury all the suggested WIRE notes that would-be correspondents submit.

In the meantime we must follow the advice of *The Times* given during the Crisis, and "Keep calm and dig." Our trenches are not the shell-proof or splinter-proof type, nor are they swear-proof or perspiration-proof. What a shelter—or should we say swelter?

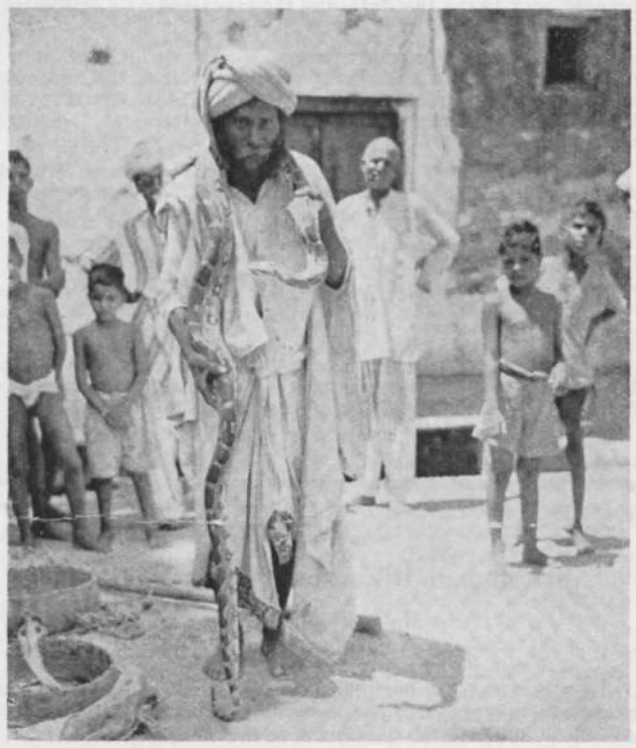
NONOS.

No. 1 Company.

Christmas Greetings.—The Company take this opportunity of wishing all ranks of Royal Signals, at home and abroad, a bright and cheerful Christmas. To borrow the title of a certain featured broadcast, may you all have "tight lines"; and this has nothing to do with fishing.

General.—At the time of writing, it is rather early to think of Christmas, but the feeling is in the air. The Corporals' Mess have organised a gigantic Sweep with almost everyone in the Unit as shareholders. It is unnecessary to say what the prizes will be. Rumours of various dances are in the wind, and it appears to be the common impression that indoor sports are to be organised. We hope that thrilling games, such as Snakes and Ladders and Ludo, will be given a miss. Crash Ashby, the Unit's Rummy expert, is expected to vote strongly for a knock-out tournament at Rummy.

Many have rosy dreams these days of winning such a lot at "House" that they can retire and live happy ever after; then Reveille is sounded. Apart from dreams, quite a lot can be won in Meerut at present by exponents of this ancient game. The Infantry Battalion run a "House" every Friday night, when



the larger prizes reach an equivalent of £15. The " Divsigs." have their show on Saturdays, when the prizes are not quite so large, but are still quite presentable. It is said that " Porky" Edwards is sending to the Bennett College for an Elocution Course. (Edwards is the gentleman who shouts out the numbers that are never on my card.)

Departures.—During the month some of the following pillars of the Company, complete with thick heads after the night before, crept quietly away for Blighty's shores. We wish the best of luck to all of them : Sergeant " Inky " Udell, Corporals Jock Bain and Bob Yaxley, Signalmen " Pedlar " Palmer, Jones, Price and Hurst.

Things We Want to Know.—Which chap won a full " House " and the " Snowball," but forgot to give the " Caller " a drink ?

How many of the Company are doing secret chest exercises in preparation for the Frontier Medal ?

Great Snakes.—A further example of Signalman Hambley's photography is given this month. He wishes it to be understood that this photograph is not up to his usual standard. The photograph had to be taken close up, and his one idea was to get away again as soon as possible.

Trade Boards.—The last Trade Board of the year has just commenced. A rather unusual fact is the unstinted praise of the students for their instructors. Great results are, therefore, expected in the near future, and a number of men should have a useful Christmas present in the form of a higher rating.

Finale.—We apologise to those members of No. 1 Company whose names have appeared on Part II Orders and whose names have not been repeated in WIRE notes.

DOUBLEYOU.

No. 2 Company.

Hello everybody, at home and abroad ! The occasion calls for a double greeting, and having said hello ! we readily seize this opportunity to extend to all serving members of the Corps, to our reservists and pensioners, and to our Territorial Units, our sincere wishes for a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year. Throw all cares and worries to the four winds, and remember that there is no time like the present for " drowning " our sorrows. Whoops ! It does not matter in which part of the four corners of the globe that we happen to live, the spirit in which we all celebrate Christmas will always remain essentially the same. Whether in the arms of Bacchus, or on the wings of poesy, depends on the individual's taste. However, let us all choose our weapons and not be slow to join in the fun. Even if we have a voice like an old fog-horn it is well to remember that Christmas comes but once a year and for that reason alone it is certainly worth singing about.

We already have a complete Christmas entertainments programme, which caters for everybody. As all Sections will be moving off for Brigade training immediately after the celebrations, it is hoped that everybody will celebrate with becoming moderation, such moderation as becomes the knowledge that we start marching on the morrow.

Brigade Training.—Speaking of preparations and things, we would like to mention that the usual hurry and bustle preparatory to Brigade training is in evidence here, there and everywhere. Very soon the annual treks will commence. The following moves may be of interest to some of our readers : " E " Section to join 11th Field Regiment, R.A., at Meerut ; " F " Section to join 25th Field Regiment, R.A., at Jhansi ; " G " Section to join 22nd Mountain Regiment, R.A., at Amballa ; " J " Section to join 9th Indian Infantry Brigade at Jhansi ; " L " Section to join 7th Indian Infantry Brigade at Dehra Dun ; " K " Section to join 8th Indian Infantry Brigade at Bareilly.

A number of improvements have been made with regard to Section equipment which all tend to make our manœuvres as enjoyable and as homely as funds and the surrounding countryside will permit. Amateur photographers in the Company are hoping to add to their collections of rare signs. Judging by the store of films one individual has already bought, we hasten to add, for his particular benefit, that although these moves take place in the nature of an organised tour, they have nothing in common with rambling clubs or Mediterranean cruises.

General.—In our notes of last month, we merely hinted at a probable marriage. We are now in a position to declare openly that Corporal Taylor H. was recently married at Dehra Dun. We all wish Corporal and Mrs. Taylor the best of luck.

" Freda " is now the proud possessor of sextuplets. Six motley-coloured youngsters. Those who know " Freda " will agree that this is indeed news. This female of the species is, by the way, just another of our canine pets.

Whilst on the subject of animals, the increase in the number of dogs in India is threatening to prove as great and as troublesome a problem as rabbits are in Australia.

Two very stirring marching tunes have been adopted by all and sundry in No. 2 Company, and our thanks are due to " The Singing Marine " and " The Seven Dwarfs." Nobody can complain of not knowing these tunes when the time for marching commences. At the moment we are getting " Heigh ho ! " and " Over the sea let's go, men " at all times of the day and night.

The subject of music prompts us to sing the praises of a would-be violinist in our midst. Having been forcibly ejected from every bungalow in turn, he now betakes himself, complete with violin, into the confines of the wash-house. There, to the accompaniment of leaking taps, he fiddles as only a learner can fiddle. Someday, perhaps, he will be able to look back to his humble beginning, if only that day would dawn for his sake as well as ours.

In conclusion, we should like to add that, in spite of many similar afflictions, life is running along very smoothly for us here. At this season of cheer and goodwill amongst all men we shall readily forget our immediate troubles and concentrate on our efforts in creating the right atmosphere for everybody. So " Landlord, fill the flowing bowl . . . for to-night we'll merry, merry be ! "

Good health, everybody ! MUGMAC.

6th (M) Regiment, R.A. Signal Section, Muttra.

25th October.

General.—It is quite a time since any notes have appeared in the WIRE from this Section, but we shall do our best in future to contribute our quota every month.

No doubt there are a few ex-Muttraites who are wondering if there is still a Section at Muttra. Well, there is ; and at present it comprises the following : Lieutenant E. B. Elliott, our O.C. ; Section Sergeant Carfrae ; M.T. : Lance Corporals Brickles and Floyde, Signalmen Fabian, Ferguson, Harte, Kindred, Marchant, Nicoll and Rutherford ; D.R.s Aldridge and Savory. With these stalwart thirteen we can boast of a football and hockey team, not quite "Arsenal" or " Jhansi Heroes" standard, but coming on.

Births.—Congratulations to Sergeant and Mrs. Carfrae on the birth of a son, John Lionel.

Training.—We are now in the midst of Section and Regimental training in preparation for camp, which, we think, will be held somewhere near Delhi, in December. More of this later, when it is over, and we have gathered in the strawberries.

Sport.—We have had several games of football recently, and the results shown are rather pleasing. A record has not been kept of all the games. We entertained our old rivals, Regimental Headquarters, twice last week, beating them 6—0 and 6—1. In our hockey match with them we lost 3—1, but H.Q. fielded a Brigade goalkeeper and four stars in their team. The Signal Section fielded ten men, and no stars. Maybe the right back was one, but less said the better.

The Other Sport.—We shall now have a short speech by our one and only " Bring 'em back alive" (Werp) : " Well, up to now it is a bit slack. Crops are too high, and can't see the stuff, but it will be all in soon. I went out last week-end, and hadn't been gone ten minutes, when I looked up and there were three black bucks. I jumped out of the ' Rolls,' loaded, looked up, and they had gone ; in the sugar-cane again."

" Well, thanks ; and how long will it be before you will be able to go shooting again ? "

" Oh, about a fortnight, as the crops will all be in then."

So that's that. Next month we may be able to tell readers about some roast buck or fried chink.

Saving Stamps.—2321780. " When are you going home ? George, 1764."

Paddy, 933. " Am forwarding annas 2½. Lank, 929."

George Mitchell, Jub. " What about it ? Charlie."

Things We Want to Know.—Why will Nobby insist on letting Donald beat him at darts, and why doesn't " Nick " turn pro. ?

A bit of fishing a few miles from barracks.

The Section Bungalow.

Who scored a goal while a large goat was chasing the opposing goal-keeper across the Maidan ?

Why does Busty sleep with the sweeping brush near his pillow ?

Finish.—It is time, too. Busty has started singing " Why did I leave Heaven."

E. DEWS.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

5th November.

Jumbled Jottings.—The omission of our notes in last month's issue is regretted, for which many apologies are tendered. May we point out, however, that mosquitoes are rarely selective in their choice of victims.

We welcome back to the fo'd—and saddle—Captain McVittie, our Troop Officer, who has been enjoying six month's leave in England. We take this opportunity of offering him our sincere congratulations on his recent promotion.

The following have returned after a spell in Blighty : C.Q.M.S. Applegate W. and family ; Signalman Leebrick, who has since developed an obscure malady of the throat, and, in consequence, is now " enjoying " the not very apparent comforts of " dock " ; and Signalman White O. C., who is our very competent " bran masher." It is rumoured that on the latter's return, our four-footed friends pricked up their ears and actually sighed with relief. We take this opportunity of congratulating " Blanco " on his matrimonial venture.

During the International Crisis (was it the fourth or fifth ?), those seekers of high places, who had been sojourning at Chakrata, hurriedly returned to Meerut, where they continued their intense studies. Judging from their casual remarks, they appear to be in less congenial surroundings. The Trade Board has been completed, and they are now anxiously awaiting the results. Does this account for their vigorous wielding of the grooming brushes. We hear that they have been doing very well during the preliminary tests, and trust that they succeeded in pulling the wool over the examiner's eyes during the actual tests. The " wool-pullers " are : Corporals Douglas-Beveridge and Marsh, Lance-Corporal Rainbird, Signalmen Bass, Beeley and Moysey.

The past few weeks have been spent in preparing ourselves for camp at Sadrana Bamripur. This earthly jewel is located near Gurgaon, but, according to reports from eye-witnesses, it is merely a sandswept wilderness.

Training has been carried out thrice weekly before breakfast, followed by the usual post-mortem around the breakfast table. These illuminative arguments point to our being infallible in all departments; in fact, an outsider might reasonably believe that we had all reached the acme of perfection. We are usually brought back to earth by frank statements which invariably begin: "Now I assure you, etc."

Our Commanding Officer, Captain Ponsonby, has evolved a new type of message pad which passed its final tests with flying colours. In appearance it is rather involved, but in practice is a valuable time-saver, and will, no doubt, be worthy of all the time spent in its preparation.

As prophesied in our last notes, there have been some "signings." They did not create the public interest as happened, for example, when Bryn Jones was transferred to the Arsenal, but, doubtless, the signatories considered the deed just as momentous as the signing of the Versailles Treaty. Congratulations to the following on re-engaging to complete twelve years: Corporal Mitchell H. R. and Lance Corporals Gedney W. and Kelley V. There may be more later!

If the shipping news can be relied upon, Signalmen Marson (Popeye fan, No. 1), Warren and Glew, who left us on a cold, bleak morning in mid-October—the temperature must have been at least 60 degrees—are at this moment preparing to disembark at Southampton. Although their departure was inauspicious, our best wishes went with them, and we hope to hear from them in the near future.

A Show Jumping Competition was held a couple of weeks ago. The competitors were our friendly rivals and neighbours, the 3rd Indian Divisional Signals. We turned out a very strong team and won rather comfortably. The jumping, which was very good, was enjoyed by all. The Troop team comprised: Captain W. M. Ponsonby on "Stand D'or," Captain A. B. McVittie on "Kitty," Jemadar Ali Hussain Shah on "Charlie," Havildar-Major Taj Din on "Escape," Sergeant Yates on "Sweetie," Signalman Forrest on "Bijli," Signalman Craggs on "George," Naik Hakim Khan on "Toby," Naik Jan Mohd on "Daisy."

The three officers collected one fault between them; the three B.O.R.s had 12 faults, and the I.O.R.s fourteen faults. Quite an exceptional performance and well worthy of record.

A couple of days ago we were beaten in a Handy Hunter Competition, which was organised by "G" Battery, R.H.A. On this occasion our team comprised the following: Captain A. B. McVittie on "Charlie," Jemadar Ali Hussain Shah on "Captain," Havildar-Major Taj Din on "Escape," Lance Corporal Turner on "George," Signalman Forrest on "Bijli," Naik Hakim Khan on "Toby," Naik Jan Mohd on "Daisy."

The best time for our team was recorded by Naik Hakim Khan, who had an exceptionally good round, completing the course in two minutes thirteen seconds. "G" Battery won by one minute fifty-three seconds. We were rather unfortunate as one of our competitors was disqualified for missing a jump.

Those who attended witnessed an extremely good performance. Congratulations to all concerned, including "G" Battery, R.H.A., whose organising ability was again conspicuous, thus ensuring a continual procession of competitors and, consequently, an uninterrupted entertainment for the spectators.

On the approach of the festive season, all ranks of 3 Bar C wish all officers and other ranks of the Corps, both active and obsolescent, a really Happy Christmas and a happy and successful 1939.

TIM.

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

4th Indian Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry.

20th October.

Promises.—Promises are made to be broken. We promised to contribute regularly, but have been unable to do so, owing to the sudden rush of work at the beginning of the month.

Photo by "Hubert."
The New I.O.R.s' Institute.

Photographs.—The following photographs published with these notes, illustrate items already mentioned in our last notes. Photographs Nos. 4 and 5 were taken by "Hubert":

(1) Lieutenant North, Royal Signals, being decorated with the M.B.E. by the Officiating Officer Commanding, Major Bushby, Royal Signals. (2) The Unit re-forming from "Hollow Square" after the presentation; Lieutenant North, M.B.E., in the foreground. (3) The Unit marching past, C.S.M. Russell leading. (4) Subedar-Major Panchanadan addressing the visitors at the opening ceremony of the I.O.R.s' Institute. (5) Major Bushby, Royal Signals, replying to the address.

Arrivals.—C.Q.M.S. Kelsey from U.K. leave. He knows quite a lot about gardening now, and the golf course is due for rejuvenation. C.Q.M.S. Farr from U.K. leave and Ahmednagar. Private Wilde, Cheshire Regiment, on probation as an I.M.T.

Departures.—Sergeant and Mrs. Wright and family to U.K. Corporal Tweedley to the U.K. for duty at Jardine Street. Conductor Rea, R.I.A.S.C., to U.K. on pension. W.O.II Richards, A.E.C., and Mrs. Richards to U.K. ('Pindi, please note).

Blue Book.—Sergeant Farr promoted C.Q.M.S., and Corporal Brennan (Cavalry Troop) now dines off the polished table. Congratulations from all of us.

Games.—The Sergeants' Mess still finds dominoes very exerting, but why should we pay if we are left with the "double blank"? Meanwhile, we understand that the Corporals are still cribbing.

Believe It or Not.—Scene: Quartermaster's Office.
Fanny (calling Clerk): "Take down this indent."
Clerk: "Yes, sir."
Fanny: "Drawers, woollen, long, pairs—(aside) two 'I's' in woollen—sizes, etc. Got that?"
Clerk: Yes, sir."
[One hour later.]
Quartermaster: "Sergeant, what the —— is all this?"
Fanny: "Allwotsir?"
Q.M.: "This!"
The indent is inspected and found to be made out as follows:

Item:	Sizes:
DRAWERS, WOOLLEN, LONG.	Two L's in Woollen.

Q.M.: "Only three more months to go!"
Fanny: Speechless!

The two "Mob" "S" Cells of the Cavalry Troop were rendered active recently.

The M.E.S. made a cupboard for the hospital. The size of the cupboard conformed to that laid down in a certain book. On completion, it was found to be too large to pass through the doorway. Correspondence which flowed freely resulted in no authority being given to alter the size of the cupboard, so the entrance to the room was enlarged!

TERMITE.

4th INDIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNALS.

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5

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

No. 2 Company, Egypt Signals.

Headquarters.

November.

General.—The whole Company (less " X " Troop, who were in Palestine, and " Y " Troop, who preceded us) proceeded to Mersa Matruh on 28th September. Although we were only there for two weeks, quite a number welcomed the order to return to Abbassia. Others, of course, sadly missed the fine facilities for swimming, boating and fishing, particularly our C.S.M., who, although an ardent fisherman, was either using the wrong bait, or the fish had already learned of his prowess. It must have been a bit galling for him to see the old fisherman sitting next to him continually hooking fish whilst his own efforts were of no avail. Personally, we think that the C.S.M. had rare visions of tunny, judging by the meat cutlets he used as bait. Curiously enough, our C.S.M. invariably returned to camp with a very neat bundle of big fish. (No one supposes that he bought them !) In the role of Captain Bligh of " Mutiny" fame, he certainly excelled himself, and his husky orders to would-be mutineers were received with awe and trembling, even the O.C. changed colour.

Many exciting events occurred during our stay, not the least of which was the advent of Sergeant Hart as Cook Sergeant. (Fortunately, our stay was not too long !) With his customary enthusiasm he made the best of things, and it was indeed an education to listen to the various opinions expressed by the lads. His ears must sometimes certainly have burned ! The scribe assumed the guise of a martyr and accepted everything without complaint. My muttered " Orderly Sergeant " to the cooks worked wonders for the first few days, but afterwards failed to make any impression—phew !

Ginger really thought that the lads were having a grand spree, and threatened would-be moaners with dire threats of a tour in the cookhouse. This bore fruit in most cases of course, but poor old Dave was doubled up ! Was it the food or the petrol fumes ?

" General Jackson," of " W " Troop fame, held several " buckshee " parades, and had some encouraging words of advice for his troops, who responded wonderfully, and stood by him to a man. A wonderful " gripper " is Fred ! For a solid hour he discussed a recent Exercise with me. A General, indeed ! (We must not have too much to say or there will be no tea for the writer during future Exercises.)

And as for Ritchie—what a man ! Does it matter if the iron rations were not up to the standard of the emergency rations ? The *chota* canteen was quite a success, and even Ritchie couldn't help the beer and cigarettes running out. (Incidentally, these were the only two items in stock.)

What labour of love induced Fred to make that tin fish for the C.S.M. ? Still, he did try to catch the darned things, although he might have been a bit too technical !

Goodness ; we nearly forgot Mutt (pardon me—Jeff). Is he really deaf, or does Dave shout in order to create an impression ? Whenever we see him, it recalls the tea swindle.

Things We Should Like to Know.—Why did all the married men, except the writer, grow a moustache ?

Who lost his spare wheel until discovered by the " General " ?

The location of No. 1 Squadron ? Lieutenant Blum is anxious to know.

Who swamped an office file with ink, and then left the poor scribe to bear the brunt ?

Arrivals and Departures.—We welcome Major J. E. S. Walford M.B.E., Royal Signals, as our new O.C., and hope that his stay will be a long and happy one.

It is with regret that we have said good-bye to Major M. S. Wheatley, Royal Signals (our former O.C.), who has left us in order to take up a War Office appointment.

We also extend a welcoming hand to Major B. B. Kennett, M.B.E., Royal Signals, and 2nd Lieutenant J. E. Anderson, Royal Signals, who have joined us as the vanguard of Mobile Divisional Signals, a new Unit that will form a vital part of the Mobile Division.

" W " Troop.

Introduction.—We must commence these notes with an apology for the absence of our notes last month, but owing to the numerous moves and changes, it was impossible to submit them.

Leave.—Quite a number of the Troop were enjoying the benefits of local leave last month, and a few of the families proceeded to Alexandria for a change of air. Unfortunately, some of the married folk had their holiday rudely interrupted by the " hold 'em back " event at Mersa Matruh. There was much weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth, but " death before dishonour " prevailed.

Moves.—In the early hours of the morning of 20th September, Lance Corporal King A. and a detachment moved off with the 8th Hussars *en route* for Mersa Matruh. After various adventures, they arrived there on the evening of the 21st, and settled down among not unfamiliar surroundings.

After a short stay with the 8th Hussars, they moved down into the village to join No. 2 Company, which had arrived and camped in an open space near the centre of Matruh. " W " Troop, with a number of additions, were there in full force. Unfortunately, Signalmen Watt and Edwards had been left behind in hospital, but we are glad to report that both have now fully recovered, and are enjoying a spot of leave in order to rebuild their iron constitutions !

Dhobi.—During our stay at Matruh, a Dhobi arrived, and for the small sum of P.T. 5 per man, per week (perhaps), promised to carry out a twenty-four hour service. With much rejoicing, dirty kit was handed into the Section store tent, but, alas for our hopes, the twenty-four hours developed into days before the laundry arrived. The owners were seen to be muttering strange oaths into their beards. But " all things come to those who wait," and it eventually arrived, after five days (nicely starched and ironed (?)), and there was peace in the land again.

More Moves.—Between the 10th and 20th October, the Troop returned to Abbassia in small groups, and, after some re-shuffling, we settled down to normal routine (cleaning and maintenance).

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to Lance Corporals Adam and Richardson on receiving the pay for their appointments. (It's been a long time, Bertie !)

Arrivals and Departures.—On Sunday, 23rd October, we said good-bye to our C.O., Lieutenant-Colonel G. E. Mansergh, M.C., who left us for England. Good luck, sir ! Major Wheatley, our O.C., has also departed from this land of eternal sunshine, after commanding No. 2 Company since its formation. We look to you to do big things as Santa Claus in England, sir !

Postings to and from the Troop have been quite numerous lately. We extend a welcoming hand to Lance Corporal Richardson, who has joined us from " Y " Troop, and hope that his stay with us will be a happy one. We also welcome Signalmen Lawrence, Good, Pescud, Williams, Beagley and Goslin, who have joined us from various Troops. Lance Corporal Byron, after a long stay with " W " Troop, has proceeded to " Y " Troop. Sergeant Hart has rejoined us after a very short sojourn with " Z " Troop.

Boats.—None have been reported on the horizon yet, but several " troopites " expect to embark during this trooping season.

Deaths.—We extend our deepest sympathies to Signalman Burgon on his recent bereavement.

Jews' Mail.—Lance Corporal Whitelaw from F. H. D. " Please send full address and accept my congrats."

Davidson (Leeds) from Rogers (Leeds), and Lance Corporal Lord J. E. from Rogers. " What about a line ? "

Page from Andy (Bo'ness), Little (China) from Dick, and Lance Corporal Craig from Lawrence. "A stamp doesn't cost much!"

EIFLA.

"X" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Cairo.

Attached 11th Hussars, P.A.O., Helmieh.

2nd November.

Readers who are interested in "X" Troop notes will no doubt have missed them in the last two or three issues. We must apologise for their absence.

To give you a full account of events that have occurred in the Troop since our editor's last brainwave would entail a complete WIRE for ourselves.

Since our last notes we have been employed in Palestine, and have moved around a good deal. On 29th September, in company with the 11th Hussars, P.A.O., we made a spectacular return to our old haunts in Egypt. A famous Dictator should, we think, be quite able to supply the reason for this move.

It was soon discovered that our help was needed in the home of the Jews—or Arabs—we don't know which. Perhaps it should be "home of the Jews and Arabs"? We therefore packed up our troubles in our old kit-bags, loaded them on to our vehicles, and off we went to Palestine.

Most of the Troopites are quite used to this journey by now, which we regret was, and we presume, will always be, an uncomfortable one. We travelled by road, stopping *en route* on two occasions in an attempt to get a night's sleep. Some were lucky!

We left about eight of our members at Helmieh to work a No. 9 Set to us, sweep the areas, dodge the fatigues, and so forth.

The majority of the Troop eventually arrived in the land of garlic and oil devourers, amongst the familiar dress of the Arabs, and the most attractive and very short trousers of the modern Jews. The individuals who were already here accompanied "B" Squadron, 11th Hussars to Jerusalem; some of the others went with "C" Squadron to Nablus, and the remainder proceeded to Haifa with H.Q.

Several of the fellows are saying: "Only eight days to do," or "Only another week." Some even say they have finished! Be that as it may, they are still here, and are likely to do rather a lot of overtime.

Many will be interested to learn that Captain De Lisle, who has left us, is now Adjutant of the 2nd Divisional Signals. We wish him well. Sergeant Pearce is now in charge of the Troop with Corporal Lonton as second-in-command.

Best wishes from a much-travelled Troop.

G. A. D.

Hong Kong Signal Company.

4th November.

General.—Yes, you are right! Troopers and still more troopers! Let them all come! Cries of "Good old Grimsby," and the like may be heard in barrack-rooms, canteens and bath-houses. Various enquiries are being made regarding English money, cost of living and English habits.

"Dodger" has already completed his rather interesting booklet entitled, "How to conduct oneself when in England," and copies may be had for the moderate sum of fifty dollars.

During an exclusive interview, "Dodger" said "Yep, I guess it's grand to be alive," and as I was about to leave, he finished off his glass of water and cadged a cigarette from me. But, seriously, we wish everyone God-speed.

Work in the Unit has returned to normal once more after the various unheavals which occurred during the past month. The Mobile Section, who have relaxed, are now weed picking again. But still we hear that cry, "Roll on, roll on!"

Arrivals.—We welcome Lieutenant Corbett to the Unit, where he will take over the Line Section from Captain Holmes. We also welcome Lance Corporal Blount (W/T). Lance Corporal Blount has already figured in various Company sports, and has been selected for the Unit hockey team.

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Departures.—Captain Holmes will be leaving the Unit for the U.K., per H.T. Lancashire. We wish him *bon voyage*. Signalmen Grainger, Ravilious and Fox G. are also leaving. Won't be long now, chaps. Good luck!

To All Whom it May Concern.—"Scrooge" has signed on for a "cumshaw" to enable him to "grip" us about his four years' tour in Hong Kong.

The Call of the Yid.—To S. Tong. "What about it? Ginger, H.K."
To Pat Nash. "How about a line? 7335498 Lance Corporal Dove."

Football.—Well folks, Hong Kong Signal Company hits the headlines once again with our national sport. We easily overcame Powhatton in a league match, beating them 12—0.

The Company football selection committee has been reorganised, and, so far, seem to be doing well. Lance Corporal Dove still holds his position as Hon. Secretary. Incidentally, he is also Hon. Secretary for hockey and indoor sports, Hon. Secretary of the Umpire Board, and also for the Large Units and Small Units Hockey. Here are the results of the last two League matches:

v. Powhatton (Signalmen France 6, Bromley 5, Kitcher 1) 12—0
v. R.E. .. .. (Signalman France 3, Bromley 1) 4—3

Tennis.—Unfortunately we have to report that after our smashing victory in the Kowloon Division of the Area Tennis League we continued defeating all our opponents until we reached the semi-final. The R.A.P.C., who had the best team, "knocked us out." Semi-final: lost 8—1.

Hockey.—Things have certainly bucked up recently, and everyone appears to be getting energetic. Here are the results of the latest League matches:

v. "H.Q." Wing, 1/Kumaon Rifles .. .. Lost 3—0
v. R.E. .. .. ..(Signalman Coombe) Drawn 1—1
v. 7th A.A. Battery, R.A. (Signalman France 5, Lance Corporal Austen 1, Signalman McGuire 1) Won 7—0

MALAYA SIGNAL COMPANY, AUGUST, 1938.

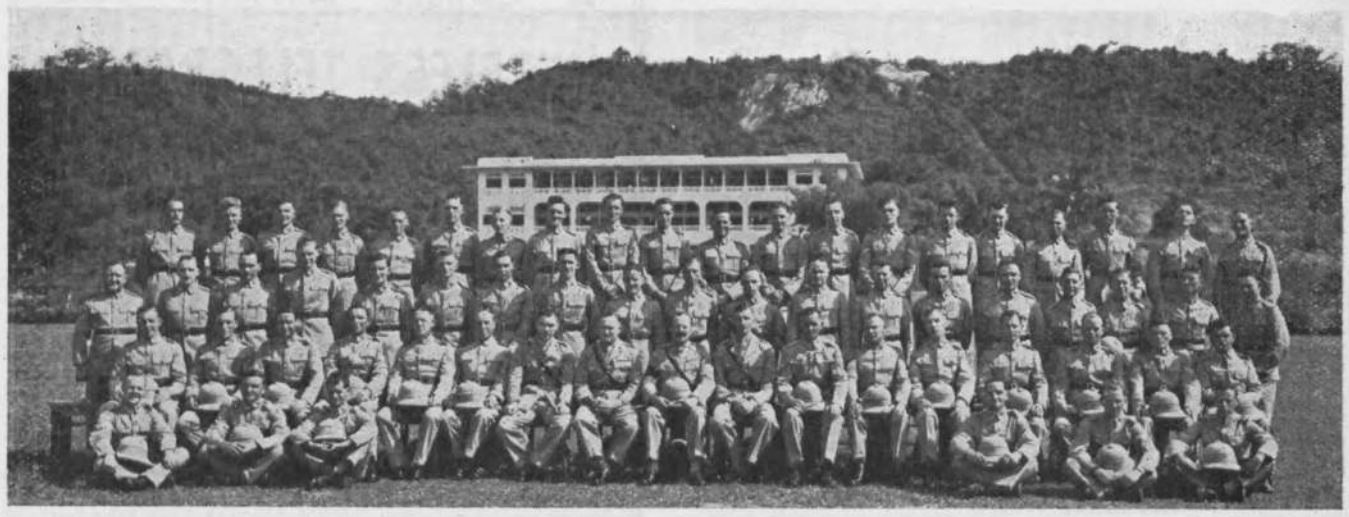

Photo by Nakajima & Co., Singapore.

Rear rank (left to right) : Signalman Laker, Lance Corporal Whitelaw, Lance Corporal Gatford, Signalman Mottershead, Signalman Notley, Lance Corporal Peck, Signalman Girt, Signalman Harris A., Lance Corporal Salisbury, Lance Corporal Smyth, Lance Corporal O'Callaghan, Signalman Smart, Signalman Cocking, Lance Corporal Keeling, Signalman Parsons, Signalman Sherratt, Lance Corporal Lambert, Signalman Ball, Signalman Barrett, Lance Corporal Strong.

Centre row (left to right) : Lance Corporal Bellis, Signalman Gamble, Corporal Spriggs, Signalman May, Signalman Brown, Signalman Hard, Signalman Clarke, Signalman McLennan, Signalman Jones, Signalman Fox, Signalman Barron, Signalman Church, Signalman Dickson, Signalman Buck, Signalman Carlson, Lance Corporal Smith, Signalman Duckworth, Signalman Goldfinch, Signalman Reaney.

Front row (left to right) : Lance Corporal McDonald, Lance Corporal Carter, Corporal McAuliffe, Lance Sergeant Cook, Lance Sergeant Walker, Sergeant Abraham, Lieutenant E. I. E. Mozley, Major F. T. Pope, Major R. G. L. Giblin, Lieutenant L. S. Stirling-Wilkinson, C.Q.M.S. Knight, Sergeant Taylor, Sergeant Gordon, Lance Sergeant Penny, Corporal Sharpe, Corporal Cunningham, Signalman Holmes,

Seated (left to right) : Lance Corporal Mansfield, Signalman Stewart, Signalman Dackham, Signalman Burge, Signalman Northall, Signalman Harris W.

v. " D " Company, Royal Scots (Lance Corporal Austen 1, Signalmen France 1, Signalman Price 1) Won 3—0

v. 30th Battery R.A. (Signalmen McGuire 5, France 1, Lance Corporal Austen 4, Signalman Price 1) Won 11—1

Here is the team : Lance Corporal Dove ; Signalmen Smith L. Holland ; Lance Corporals Wright, Stanford and Blount ; Signalman Coombe, Lance Corporal Austen, Signalmen McGuire, Price and France.

B. V. P.

Malaya Signal Company.

Alexandra, Singapore.

3rd November.

Greetings from this Isle !

The Company has recently been augmented by a draft of thirty all ranks, and with a total strength of something like 100 we hope shortly to be in a position to commence going to places and doing things.

The draft at one time had given up all hope of ever reaching this Emerald Isle, as Pharoah (in the guise of Egypt Signals) was reluctant to let them go. Six of the original (Pineapple) draft were detained at Alexandria, but we have since heard that even this remnant became too hot to hold, and are to make a belated but triumphal entry into Keppel Harbour on or about 19th October.

We should like to thank Egypt Signals very much for their very hospitable treatment of what must have been, under the circumstances, a very inconvenient addition to their strength. Sergeant Jones especially would like to thank all those who went out of their way to help him with the preparation of the Advance Division equipment. The Q.M. Stores and Workshops of Egypt Signals can certainly do their stuff, and deserve a full mead of praise, but Signals always did come up to scratch when the occasion demanded !

Recent Arrivals.—Sergeant-Major (F-of-S) Flynn, M.B.E., C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Kavanagh, Sergeants Jones and Millen, Corporals Funnell and Norton, Lance Corporal Radford, U/Lance Corporal White, Signalmen Ansett, Burgess, Devonport, Darlow, Elliott, Edwards, Garner, Hunter, Hawkes, Hudson, McLeod, Moffat, O'Mara, Parent, Pierce, Platt, Ruddock, Smithies, Sayer, Thompson, Tatham, Westmaas, Webb.

Inter-Unit Movements.—Sergeant Cook rejoined Company Headquarters after a protracted holiday at Canning.

Sport.—At present it is a nil report, but in the near future we hope to have a great deal of activity to report in this sphere. We have a hockey team in the making, a football team ready-made, as far as individual talent is concerned, and only waiting for a little practice in team work when the season opens.

Boxing.—On the way out, in H.T. Dilwara, the draft entered two novices for the usual Inter-Unit Competition, Signalmen Westmaas and Webb. Unfortunately Signalman Westmaas, who is a boxer pure and simple, was somewhat surprised when he found that Army scrapping is a mixture of Blackfriars and the boxing booth. He has since got over this and is willing to battle with anything on two legs.

Signalman Webb was an eye-opener. He said that he had never scrapped before. My hat ! For sheer battling ferocity, when he gets warmed up, we have rarely seen the like, and with some tuition in ring-craft (which he is getting at present) we venture to prophecy an interesting future for him.

His first fight resulted in his opponent disembarking on a stretcher, and although losing the last fight on points, his opponent was pronounced by the M.O. as unfit for further fighting at present. Moral : Beware of novices !

Cheerio, everybody !

SIG. MALAY.

Changi Detachment.

General.—Once again the scribe takes up his pen to proclaim to the world the activities of Changi Section.

Our main event of the month was musketry, and many cheerful faces were noticed on the mornings of the 25th and 27th October, when the personnel were rudely awakened for the purpose of proceeding to Seletar Ranges. The " Gallant Gunner " and his A.D.C., "Allsop," disapproved of the idea, and many diverse opinions of " Uncle Leslie " were heard as the " Seng Hup Special " tore its way through the jungle paths.

On reaching Seletar, we met the rest of the Company and spent the following few hours in exchanging tall stories and " Before you came out " yarns. The results of our bow and arrow practice are not yet to hand, but listening to excuses like, " I lost my grip, Sergeant," and " Fix bayonets and charge ! " we can safely say that William Tell was an amateur compared with the jungle people of Changi.

Moves.—On 26th October we bade farewell to the following : Corporal Cunningham, Lance Corporal Strong, Signalmen Reaney, Mottershead, Hard, Carlson and Buck, all having completed their time or tour in Malaya. The best wishes of the Section go with them, and may they never again be haunted by the agonising discord that goes with the " gobble-pipe " and trumpet.

Since our last notes were published, we have lost our worthy Foreman, C.Q.M.S. Nix, who left us on posting to Fort Canning. No doubt he will miss the beauty and charm of Changi. But never mind, " Q," there's always the " Mossy Bus," and we hope to see more of you on the Sunday trips.

Congratulations.—Raised tankards and best wishes to Captain Stirling-Wilkinson and Corporal Gatford on their promotions to those ranks, and to Lance Corporals Strong and O'Callaghan on reaching the first rung of the ladder.

Queries.—We should like to know :
Which man lost his grip ?
Who are those Zulus we are always hearing about ? Perhaps Sergeant Gordon knows more about them than we do, but it has been noted that the R.E. Companies march past the Signal Office with scared looks. Are they expecting to be attacked at any moment ?

This is about all that can be said this month, but look out for a bumper number in our next issue.

SENG HUP.

Malta Signal Section.

Command Signal Office, Strada Torre, Valletta, Malta.

9th November.

General.—Much has been written about the crisis, and we hesitate to renew any further acquaintance with the subject. The writer, who was on home leave during that period, learns that this Section was quite able to cope with the demands made upon it.

From all accounts the " leave " idea was quite a sound move, and as things are now quiet and normal, we resume our labours without any undue shock to the nervous system. It is rather disturbing, however, to be greeted as a stranger in one's own Unit, as if a stone or two extra really mattered.

Corporal Drake and family have also returned from leave in the United Kingdom. This N.C.O., who heartily recommends the overland journey to those travelling with families, will issue a pamphlet on the joys of Continental travel should the demand warrant publication.

With our C.O., Major F. H. Bury, back in the chair, Mr. T. de B. Miller is now away on home leave. We wish him fair weather, and an enjoyable time away from the cares of Empire.

Previous to our donning serge, winter had arrived. Summer has now returned and flatly refuses to conform to regulations, which talk of seasons reminds us—

Greetings.—A complicated mental process tells us that this issue of the WIRE will appear just prior to the festive season. We therefore take this opportunity to extend heartiest wishes for a Christmas all may remember, and a really successful New Year to all branches of the Corps, including the T.A. and affiliated Units. Happy times and good fare to all.

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Sport.—Bat and ball being laid aside, the Section once again branches out on the football and hockey pitches. Friendly games have been played under the eagle eye of the " talent spotter-in-chief," Sergeant C. A. Freeman, who assures us of creditable performances in the leagues about to get under way.

Matrimonial.—Congratulations and best wishes to Signalman and Mrs. Conroy, who recently took the plunge into the matrimonial whirlpool. They had the fullest support of the Section at the reception, and we understand that our reputation of " trenchermen of the first degree " was stoutly upheld. We feel for the photographer whose flash didn't. If a varied assortment of wires and an awesome array of apparatus spell success, it should have been electrifying. However, it did work well before and after, so patents may still be applied for.

War Memorial.—Malta is to have its own War Memorial, which is to be unveiled by H.E. The Governor on Armistice Day. A small representative party from this Unit will attend and, no doubt, acquit themselves in the creditable manner to which the Corps is accustomed.

Exchange.—Having realised a long-standing wish, a certain sensitive Signalman, who shall remain anonymous, now wears a uniform entirely devoid of brass. He is prepared to dispose of a stable-bag with some cleaning materials and invites offers.

Hospital.—We regret to report the admission to hospital of Sergeant Williams H., who is rather seriously ill. The thoughts of the Section are with him and his family at this time, and all look forward to seeing him about again and on the way to recovery.

SKIP.

THE TERRITORIALS AND SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

2nd Cavalry Signals (Middlesex Yeomanry).

Chelsea, S.W.3.

It is some time since we have appeared in print, a fact which has been due to the lack of suitable material.

Annual training this year went off as smoothly as usual with no accidents in the horse lines to mar the even tenor of our existence. The officer's coach was an innovation and its daily departure and return was watched by an expectant multitude. Its appearance of instability was apparently false, for it did not overturn once.

In the light of current information, it now appears that, with the exception of a few, this was our last camp with our four-footed friends (so-called). We have also heard other descriptions.

Since our return from camp, things have been very quiet, with the exception of the crisis, when all ranks rallied round with great promptitude.

The Annual Dinner for past and present members of the Regiment took place at the Criterion on 27th October, and, as usual, there was a good attendance. The speeches this year were of an exceptionally interesting character, although we had heard ex-Sergeant Hatton's story of the " fox lying fifth " on a previous occasion.

Sir John Brown, during the course of his speech, dropped what must have been a bombshell to a large majority, when he told us that it was " good-bye to the spurs " and " hail to the oil-cans." Some consolation may be taken in the fact that oil-cans do not require burnishing or chromium-plating.

Our problem now (also arising from this speech) appears to be how to get forty men on one horse. So far we have worked it out to a maximum of six, as illustrated by our tame artist. Contrary to expectations, however, we can state on good authority that the Regimental March in future will not be " Widecombe Fair."

One phrase in Sir John's speech struck the writer as worthy of note. We refer to " the spirit of the Regiment is greater than an individual." Newly-joined members will, no doubt, like to know that the traditions of the Middlesex Yeomanry are built on that phrase. It is not what our particular job is, but how we carry it out.

Cavalry Signals, T.A. Partial Mechanisation.

The arrival of our new Morris " bugs " was very welcome, and so are the No. 9 Sets. New equipment always means fresh interest.

Congratulatory.—We hear that Corporal Ballard of Royal Signals and late of this Unit is getting married shortly. Heartiest congratulations and best wishes to the future Mrs. Ballard and himself from all his old acquaintances in this Regiment. A word of advice : " Don't argue with him, young lady. Lean on him with a big stick, and don't believe all those stories you are going to hear about being kept late in the Mess." That one, Corporal " B " is for the crack about the absence of our notes.

Greetings.—Will any Signals Units in the vicinity of the following Regiments please convey our best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to their N.C.O.s' Messes. Also our sincere thanks for many happy Sundays spent at the Cavalry Barracks at Hounslow, Scots Greys, 16/5th Lancers, 3rd Carbs., and 7th Hussars. Thank you !

Conclusion.—More notes might appear in future, if I am not worried so much by all those people who borrow and read the WIRE.

ROBEAU.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Norton Street, Brooke's Bar, Manchester.

16th November.

General.—Well, we are back at work, although the absence of our notes gives an impression to the contrary. Preparations have been going on for several weeks now, and a commencement has been made.

A Junior Officers' Course is held on Monday and Wednesday of each week, and a more advanced Course has been arranged to commence immediately. Courses are being held during the week for the operators and linemen. Sundays have been reserved for M.T. instruction. A training programme on a much larger scale has been arranged than in the past, but all the details have not yet been published.

Attendances, which have been good, are improving each week, and the amount of publicity on the importance of the T.A. has done a tremendous amount of good in this respect, proving that the spirit is there, and that it only requires support from the right quarter to produce results.

New transport has arrived and consists of four wireless trucks and two wireless vans, which will greatly add to our interest. We look forward to receiving further interesting equipment.

Needless to say we still have the usual waiting list of officers and men desirous of joining.

The new Warrant Officer, Class III, rank is now in force, and the I.B.s, etc., have got their selected Sergeant-Majors.

Did we hear someone ask what else have we done ? A lot more ! The D.R.s' Club is now a permanent institution, and is going strong. A Rifle Club has now been formed under Captain F. A. Walter.

Prize Distribution.—The prize distribution was held on Saturday, 22nd October. The C.O. (Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Delaney) opened the proceedings with a speech, in which a summary of our activities during the year was given, and he also gave details of the training programme arranged for the forthcoming year. The C.O. then asked our Divisional Commander, Major-General W. G. Holmes, who had kindly come along, to present the prizes. He congratulated the Unit on its record during the year and on the fact that its strength exceeded Establishment. At the beginning of the month the strength was 26 officers, 462 other ranks, and the establishment is 21 officers, 404 other ranks.

Major-General Holmes said, "In training, the Territorial Army was at last getting real co-operation with the other arms. Equipment was slowly improving, though it was not anything like what he could wish it to be. Some of it he would call " dawn " equipment for the same reason that the woman gave her maid that name—always breaking. For 300 years this country has known nothing whatever of invasion. From what one reads now about Abyssinia, Spain, and China, I am not sure that we have not got to alter our ideas and think once more of what this Army of ours stands for. You all know about anti-aircraft defences being increased and all of them being furnished by the T.A. The same applies to coastal defences.

" If you are going to prevent this country being bombed you have got to keep the enemy aeroplanes at a sufficient distance. That depends on the Navy, but what most people forget—if they ever knew it—is that the naval bases are protected entirely by the Army. If only we realised that a little more, there would be less talk of doing away with the Army."

Cups and trophies were awarded as follows :

Officers' Miniature Range Competition : Lieutenant T. C. R. Walker.

Weapon Training Challenge Cup : No. 1 Company (Lieutenant Walker, C.Q.M.S. Norton J., Sergeants Daniels N. and Wigston A., Lance Corporal Hulme A. and Signalman Craven A.).

Inter-Company Challenge Trophy : No. 1 Company (Major K. F. Woodham). Beakers to C.S.M. Kennon W., C.S.M. Barber H., Sergeants Connors C., Brennan W., Burke T., Howard F. and Mowatt A.

Telegraph Company Challenge Cup : No. 1 Detachment, B Section (Lieutenant J. L. Harrison). Beaker to Corporal Wood J.

D Section Trophy : No. 1 Echelon (Sergeant W. Hay).

Roberts Challenge Cup : 211 Section (Lieutenant D. G. Allen). Beaker to Sergeant Larkin A.

Dobson Cup : K Section (Captain T. A. H. Lea). Beaker to Sergeant Heywood T.

Subalterns' Cup : Lieutenant S. A. Woods.

McNair Cup : No. 3 Company (Captain F. A. Walter).

Efficiency Medals (Militia) : Signalmen Pennlington J., Turner J., Cashinella H., Brown F., Cooper N., Hutchings F., German L., Fitzgerald A., and Lance Corporal Howard C.

Our second-in-command (Major E. R. Sutton) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Divisional Commander for presenting the prizes.

Officers.—We congratulate Major K. F. Woodham on receiving his majority, and wish him success in his new post. Also Captain W. B. G. Collis on receiving his third pip.

Congratulations to the following officers on passing their Promotion Examination : Captain E. J. S. Brookes (Majority), Lieutenants C. F. Kerr, D. G. Allen, P. Yates, F. F. Ellis, P. A. Toombs and H. H. Corser (Captaincy). The officers are indebted to our Adjutant (Captain A. McNair) for the amount of time he has spent in their training.

R.S.M.—Our R.S.M. (Mr. E. A. Brooks) is retiring from his present position, and this opportunity is taken to thank him for his interest and devotion to the Unit, and we wish him success, prosperity and happiness in the future. We understand that he will not be leaving us, and, therefore, will not be losing touch.

We take this opportunity of welcoming our new R.S.M. (Sergeant-Major Whittington G. W.), who has been P.S.I. for our No. 3 Company, and trust that he will soon settle down with every success in his new appointment.

Boxing.—Lieutenant Yates has now taken over since our friend, Lieutenant Clegg, sailed from these shores, and the team has commenced training. Our scout has not yet had a chance to see if we have any likely lads.

A Hot Pot Supper, which was held at the barracks on 5th November was enjoyed by all present.

More Changes.—Captain T. A. H. Lea, M.M., who has been Mess Secretary for many years, has now taken over P.M.C. duties from Major E. R. Sutton (second-in-command), in order to enable him to devote further time to the training side. Lieutenant J. L. Harrison has now assumed the duties of Secretary, and Lieutenant Yates has been added to the Mess Committee.

Socials.—The social side of the Unit is due to commence, and arrangements have been made to hold several dances and dinners during the training year. A Dinner, held on 11th November, was attended by most of the officers.

D.R.s' Club.—As mentioned in our last notes, this Club was duly formed, and is now going strong. A trial, held during September, was enjoyed by all those who participated, and a great deal of experience was gained. The A.C.U. very kindly assisted us in this event, and we are very much indebted to them. A short account of this trial was given in *Motor Cycling*.

The Club has also entered nineteen riders in the Inter-Unit Trial held at Chesterfield. This was the first time we had competed against other Units, and, from our point of view, the event was a great success. Signalman King E. J., who did not fail anywhere, ultimately proved the winner with eight marks lost. Signalman Kirkpatrick W. H. also did well on the course. We were unfortunate in not having a fourth rider to complete the course, and so the best team did not get a place. We have several riders who, with a little more experience in trials, will be a great asset to the team. We are hoping to have another event in December.

Dinner.—At the Dinner held on 11th November, a presentation of a clock with a suitable inscription was made to the retiring R.S.M. (Mr. E. A. Brooks). The C.O. (Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Delaney), when making the presentation, said how sorry we were in losing his extremely valuable services which he has given to the Unit during his tenure of office, and wished him every success in his new sphere of activities, which will not be so far removed from his present office. The C.O. also took the opportunity of welcoming our new R.S.M. (Mr. G. W. Whittington). Although described as a welcome, it is really not so, as our new R.S.M. has been with us for a considerable time now as P.S.I. of No. 3 Company.

Arrivals.—We take this opportunity of welcoming our new P.S.I., Sergeant Turner F., from 1st Divisional Signals, who is taking over from R.S.M. Whittington in No. 3 Company.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

15th November.

Editorial.—Time passes quickly, at least it seems to do so at the commencement of the new training year. Everyone seems to have got into their stride, and attendances at the various classes are excellent. We hope this will be maintained.

Recruits are coming along steadily, and exceed the number of discharges.

In some quarters, the paying-out of grants has commenced, and it will not be long before all those who have earned something will have received it, irrespective of the amount. For the keen and diligent man, the total is quite a respectable sum.

On 29th October, Brevet-Colonel C. H. Walsh was promoted to that rank when he relinquished command of the Unit. We congratulate both him and Lieutenant-Colonel A. F. S. Fane, who has succeeded him. We thank Colonel Walsh for all he has done for the Unit, and we wish Lieutenant-Colonel Fane a very successful tour. To Captain C. H. Howarth we offer our congratulations on his promotion to that rank.

We regret to learn of the indisposition of Major Knight, but we trust that a complete rest will restore him speedily to good health.

The round of Company Dinners has commenced. No. 3 Company held their annual function on 12th November, and, as usual, it was a great success. One noticed many new faces, and also several whose active service with the Unit has ceased. It is indeed a pleasure to meet these stalwarts again, and we hope those who are now serving will emulate their good example, and equal, if not surpass, their excellent record.

At long last we learn that permission has been given for the site to be purchased for the proposed new Drill Hall, which will accommodate our No. 1 Company and also the 43rd (Wessex)

Divisional R.A.S.C. We earnestly hope that now this stage has been reached, it will not be long before a start is made with the building.

Our Devonport Company has been very patient, and it now certainly deserves a quick move to its new quarters after existing for over thirteen years in what has been described by outsiders as little short of a " hole." Its name among the " locals " does not bear repetition.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

The Drill Hall, York Street, Devonport.

Since these notes last appeared, a change in the command of the Unit has taken place. The Company, in common with the whole Unit, has to say farewell to Brevet-Colonel C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C., whose four successful years of command seem to have passed only too quickly. At the same time the Company tenders their congratulations on his promotion to Brevet-Colonel and hopes to see him as a visitor at future camps.

We also welcome our new Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel A. F. S. Fane, and congratulate him, both on his promotion and on his appointment as C.O. of the Unit. We trust that his period of command will be a happy one.

Training.—This last month has seen the individual training programme in full swing, and we are glad to notice good attendances at drills, especially among the younger element, who are coming along very well. We have enlisted two more D.R.s among other recruits, and we hope that others will be following them.

We were very pleased to see Sergeant Taylor (No. 3 Company) and Sergeant Griffiths (No. 2 Company) the other evening. They are undergoing a Course at Tregantle. We are sorry we had such a poor place to welcome them in, but we hope for better things.

ONECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

General.—The recruiting situation in this Unit has reached bursting point, and we need just a few more men to complete our full 20 per cent. over strength. Our already inadequate Headquarters has now reached the appearance of an overturned ant-hill, but we hope that, in spite of the difficulties, we shall be able to make our new men realise that they have joined a good and hard-working Unit.

We have to thank the recent emergency for a sudden influx of equipment. If another emergency should occur, we may possibly be able to complete the balance of our requirements !

Officers.—Guest Night, held on 5th November, is, normally, a hectic affair, but on this occasion a new level was reached, especially during an attack by a young, but well-armed force on a superior and well-covered enemy. The attack moved to a successful conclusion, was broken up and finally converted into a rout by the collapse of an assault bridge, which was being negotiated by the attackers' tank. The tank fell into a deep ravine, but was subsequently recovered in a fairly good state of repair. (" M " Section, please note.)

Sergeants' Mess.—The Armistice Dance, held on 12th November, proved to be a well-organised and enjoyable function, demonstrating again that those responsible have mastered the art of social activities. We are now looking forward to the Sergeants' Dinner, on 26th November. Rolling home !

Armistice Parade, 13th November.—This was one of the best we have had in recent years. A large and smart turn-out attended the Service at Turnham Green Church. A wreath was laid on Turnham Green Memorial on the return march to H.Q.

W.A.T.s.—The first Company of this branch of the Services to reach full strength was enrolled at these Headquarters, and is at present working to a training programme prepared by our P.S.I.

No. 25 Construction Section.—This Section succeeded in winning the Guard Mounting Competition held in camp at Ampthill. Wangle ! Also the Hammer and Jumper Competition against four Companies of Air Formation Signals.

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Egypt.—" No spik Inglis ? "

Mombasa.—When do we hear from you, " Maestro."

JOSIE JUN.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham 28.

10th November.

General.—A Course of morse is now in progress twice weekly and is well attended by all ranks. Classes are graded according to proficiency, and considerable progress is being made. Trade Courses for linemen and operators are due to commence shortly, and T.E.W.T.S. for officers and senior N.C.O.s are also on the programme for the New Year. A Sunday Training for D.R.s will take place on 20th November.

Recruits are already coming in steadily and there is every prospect of the 20 per cent. increase in Establishment being completed for next camp.

We welcome our new R.S.M., Mr. Offord, and hope that he will have a long and enjoyable stay with us.

Reminiscences.—It seems impossible nowadays to go anywhere without coming up against some " R. Signalite." In a recent holiday tour up North, the writer stopped for a few moments at Morecambe on the sea front, and it was not long before someone with a Signals tie appeared ; this turned out to be an Old Comrade of R.E. Signals, and whilst talking to him, someone else came along and, noticing my D.R. badge, also spoke to me. This time it was Sergeant Schofield of the 52nd, who was there on his honeymoon.

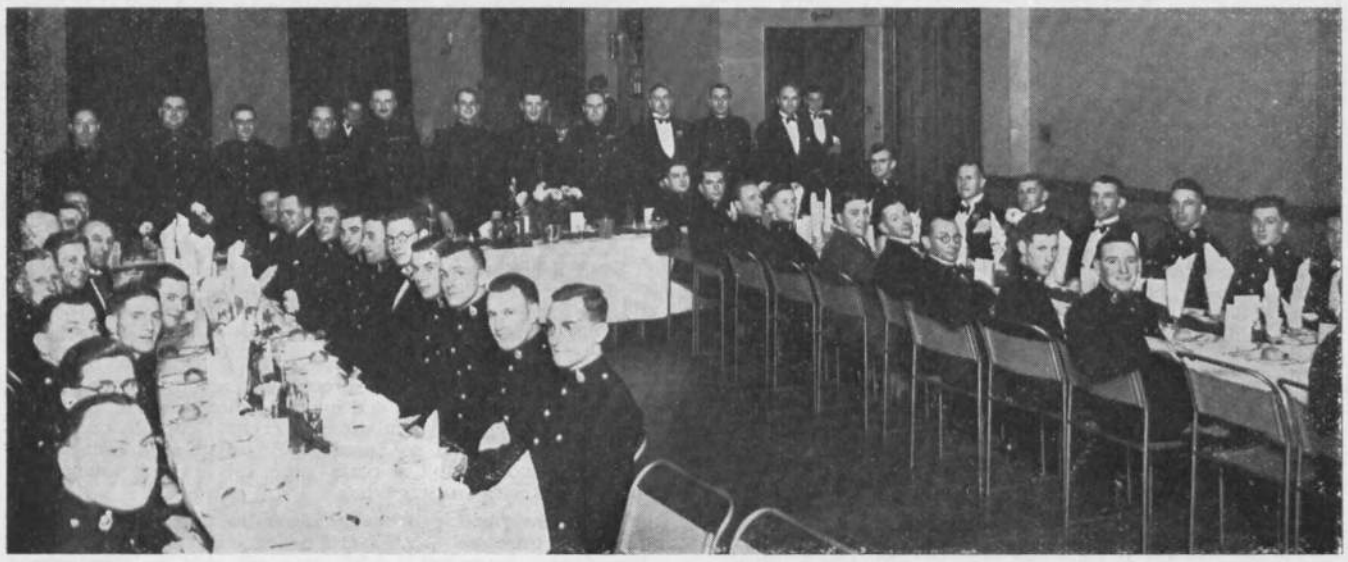
On the same tour I took the opportunity of visiting one or two Unit Headquarters. At Manchester I found R.S.M. Brooks over a morning cup of tea with his colleagues. After inviting me to share one with them, the R.S.M. showed me round the barracks. I was also able to have a look round the Glasgow H.Q., but as they had only recently returned from camp, things were rather quiet. I understand that they have recently formed an excellent Pipe Band, who practice indoors with considerable energy, a fact which rather complicates matters in neighbouring lecture rooms.

Sergeants' Mess Notes.—The Mess Dinner took place on 22nd October, when R.S.M. Bardoe presided for the last time over the annual gathering of members, past members and visitors from other local Units.

After the loyal toasts, the toast of the visitors was proposed by C.S.M. Galpin, and R.Q.M.S. Barlow rose to bid farewell to R.S.M. Bardoe upon his retirement. He referred to him as " a good, hard worker, who kept things going," jocularly adding, " and kept a firm hand on the P.S.I.s." He wished him good luck in " Civvy Street."

In reply, Mr. Bardoe said that he had been with us for nearly six years. Referring to his military service, he said that it had been good whilst it lasted, but he had had sufficient, and was

48th (SOUTH MIDLAND) DIVISIONAL SIGNALS.



DISPLAY TEAM ANNUAL DINNER *By courtesy of The Midland Press Agency.*

Head of the table (left to right) : C.S.M. R. Sant, Lieutenant J. F. Timings, Lieutenant N. E. Dixon, Lieutenant-Colonel M. E. Holdsworth, T.D., Lieutenant-Colonel P H Jones, M C., T.D., Lieutenant R. W. N. Danielsen, Lieutenant R. E. Dennison-Pender, Major F. E. B. Jones, Mr. GrahamWalker, Mr. H. Drake.

now glad to get away and have a permanent home of his own. He was going away in the knowledge that he had endeavoured to do his job, and in parting wished the Mess the best of luck.

The entertainment which followed included the now familiar to us trio, consisting of R.S.M. Bardoe, R.Q.M.S. (B.108) Barlow and Sergeant Ironmonger. The other artistes were : Aston and Thompson (comedians) and Val Lacey (piano).

The Children's Party takes place on 17th December.

Below is reproduced one of Barleux's famous " Improvisations on a well-known theme," which he produced at the Dinner, and which is too good to miss.

Thanks for the memory,
The Camp at Windmill Hill, the Doctor and his pills ;
The Scheme in hired lorries, whose last job was carting swill ;
How lovely it was !

And thanks for the memory
Of operators line, women, song and wine ;
Of things you came and took away and then forgot to sign ;
How lovely it was !

The stores spread all over the county,
The Quarterbloke counting his tins ;
Oh, well, we can pay with the bounty,
We did have fun and no harm done.

And thanks for the memory
Of pints down at the " Ram," Bromhall's strawberry jam,
Recruits who trod where angels feared, and did not care a damn ;
How lovely it was !

And thanks for the memory
Of cars that parked at night
And got pinched without a light ;
The girl you chased at Bournemouth
Till she turned—Oh, what a fright !
How lovely she was !

Many's the time we were blotto,
But most of the time we were sober ;
And so, once again it is over ;
Did you have fun ? and no harm done ?

Well, thanks for the memory
Of mudguards that you bent,
Things you said and never meant ;
Next year we'll put D.R.s up to fifty in a tent ;
Cheerio and toodle-oo, I wonder where we'll be sent—
So thank you so much.

Display Team Dinner.—The Display Team celebrated the close of its first and very successful season by a Dinner, and we cannot do better than quote the report which appeared in *Motor Cycling*, of which the Editor, Mr. Graham Walker, was among the many distinguished guests who were present :

" The skill and daring of the Unit's Display Team has earned for it a well-deserved popularity. The conclusion of a successful season was celebrated by an equally successful Dinner at the Market Hotel, Birmingham, on 15th October.

"After an excellent meal, the Chairman, Lieutenant R. W. N. Danielsen, proposed the loyal toast, while Mr. J. F. Timings proposed ' The Princess Royal.' To Lance Corporal Hadnett and Lance Corporal Smith fell the honour of proposing ' The Guests,' which included Lieutenant R. E. Dennison-Pender, The City of London Signals, T.A., Mr. Robert Jones (Shirley Stadium) and Lieutenant N. E. Dixon, 49th (W.R.) Divisional Signals, T.A., and others. The two former responded, congratulating the team on its very good showing.

" The health and continued prosperity of the Display Team was proposed in an extremely witty speech by Colonel M. E. Holdsworth, T.D., whose amusing comments on the wiles of the Territorial soldier showed him to have a very complete knowledge of the subject. In responding, Sergeant Goffe, to whom the Display Team owes a very great debt for the energy and initiative he has shown in its development, paid a tribute to the City of London Signals for the help given by their famous team in the early days of the 48th's training.

" ' Depatch Riding ' was the toast proposed by Mr. Graham Walker, Editor of *Motor Cycling* who gave a series of reminiscences of a D.R.'s life under Active Service conditions, stressing the very fine tradition which underlies Despatch Riding.

" Lieutenant Danielsen, in his response, made it clear that no Unit appreciated these traditions more than the 48th, and there is no doubt that the keenness of this Unit is a fine example of the efficiency of the T.A. Signal Sections.

" The high spot of the evening's entertainment was a display of colour films by Major F. E. B. Jones, the camera giving convincing proof of the ability of the team to do the almost impossible with two and three wheels.

" The Unit is looking forward to an even more successful season in 1939, and there can be no doubt that the Annual Dinner will become an institution looked forward to by members of the Corps and visitors alike."

The report would not be complete without mention of the Commanding Officer's opening speech, in which he referred to the excellent work done by the D.R.s during the War Office Exercise at Annual Training. He said that when he undertook the job, he was certain that of all Sections the D.R.s could be relied upon, and they had not let him down. He also congratulated the team upon putting on an impromptu show at short notice at camp for the benefit of the Lord Mayor and the Hon. Colonel, who had been amazed at their skill.

C.S.M. Sant R., representing the Sergeants' Mess, said he was an old soldier who still believed in " spit and polish," and he could not help regarding D.R.s " as a class." One thing he could never understand was, that after several fruitless efforts to induce D.R.s to line their machines up correctly during a Scheme, he was amazed to see them faultlessly lined up during a display !

During the evening the C.O. made presentations to various individuals who had particularly contributed to the success of the Display. They were : Mr. H. V. Brown, who had been mainly responsible for its formation, and still continues to take an active part ; Lieutenant Danielsen, the officer in charge, and 2nd Lieutenant Timings, who now succeeds him ; also the two civilian lorry drivers, Messrs. Gore and Hather ; the hon. mechanic, Mr. Geo. Rowley ; Sergeant Goffe, and Mrs. Hadnett. Medals gained in the last Trial were also presented.

Others who contributed to the entertainment, in addition to the professional artistes, were Mr. Jack Barlow (escapeologist), and Lance Corporal Smith and Mr. Sid Keen in accordion duets.

Good Advice.—

If your girl you are keen to impress,
Be careful, I pray, how you stress,
That you're a D.R.,
She may say (what a jar),
Isn't that a kind of illness.

New Rank.—We find in a newspaper account of the Unit Concert a new rank—Lieutenant-Corporal Smith !

We Want to Know.—What is happening about the Unit Dinner !

Inter-Unit Team Trial.—Eleven of our riders visited the 49th's Motor Cycle Trial at Walton on 6th November. Unfortunately, through omitting to " read orders," we arrived rather late, and thus most of our riders were unable to complete the course. Signalman Bennett, who made a fine individual effort, was placed second with a loss of only 17 marks. We should like to congratulate the 49th on their excellent organisation of this event, and express the hope that it will be followed by similar ones in the near future.

We hope to run a trial of our own early in the New Year, and hope that we can rely on the support of other Units.

The Despatch Riders' Dance takes place on Friday, 2nd December.

The Unit Concert and Prize-giving.—This event took place during October, before an audience of 500 men and their relatives and friends.

The Lord Mayor of Birmingham (Councillor E. R. Canning) was present, and the prizes were distributed by the Honorary Colonel, Brigadier-General R. C. E. McCalmont, D.S.O., who, in his speech, paid a tribute to the Unit's general efficiency.

An enjoyable concert was staged afterwards. Variety items were given by Perry and Barr (entertainers), Will Bent (comedian), " Ossiette " (conjuror), Val Lacey (accompanist), and the inevitable trio, consisting of the R.S.M., R.Q.M.S., and Sergeant Ironmonger. Refreshments were supplied by Messrs. Sandri.

The following prizes were presented :

" McCalmont " Trophy for Section Drill : 1937, " D " Section (Captain Chatterley) ; 1938, " K " Section (Lieutenant P. W. Malins).

Section Officers' Cup : Lieutenant J. W. E. Fellows.

Subalterns' Technical Cup : 2nd Lieutenant A. M. Keeling.

Officers' Shooting (Martineau) Cup : 2nd Lieutenant D. S. Allen.

Sergeants' Shooting (Martineau) Cup : Sergeant Goffe C.

Section Attendance Cup : " D " Section (Captain Collins).

Lord Mayor's Cup (For the best all-round recruit) : Signalman Pettitt R. C.

Cleanest Tent : Corporal Whittington.

" Smallwood " Cup (For the best D.R.) : Lance Corporal Smith H.

Best Boy Operator : Boy West.

Best Shooting Score at Kingsbury Rifle Meeting : Signalman Helbing.

Cleanest Turned-out Recruit : Signalman Timson.

Best Recruit Operator : Signalman Ball.

Best Recruit Lineman : Signalman Tatham.

Best progress at Boxing : Signalman Bond.

All-Round Efficiency Cup : No. 4 Company, Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

There have been many promotions amongst the N.C.O.s this month, and we shall endeavour to mention them all in our January notes. Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Bright on promotion to C.S.M., and to Sergeant Bromhall on promotion to C.Q.M.S., and also to Corporals Coles, Abbotts and Robinson on obtaining their third chevron.

Christmas greetings to everyone in the Corps from the 48th and

GETCHER.

Nos. 31 & 32 Wireless Sections, G.H.Q. Signals, Coventry.

15th November.

Social.—A very successful social was held by the two Sections on 22nd October at the Bull's Head Hotel, Binley. The function was well attended, and a good service made the whole show go with a swing. Major Forwood, the Zone Recruiting Officer, gave the signal for the show to commence, and a hearty meal was served.

The customary toasts were given, and after a quick scene-shifting act, the room was prepared for shaking a wicked hip and a " nifty " toe. Songs, very well rendered, were given by the two " Spud Brothers," followed by a sketch by Fowkes, Unlimited Brothers, called " On the Job." These bright spots were very well received and appreciated by all members.

It is regretted that the several offers made by the B.B.C. and Mr. C. B. Cochran have had to be refused owing to the intricate laws governing amateur status. These men are " key " men and will be required in the case of a grave national emergency to lighten the hearts of young soldiers, etc., etc.

The success of this very popular social was due to the fine organising ability and keenness shown by the social committee, who, as everybody with experience in this kind of work knows, is, at the best of times, an unthankful job, especially when so many individuals with different tastes are gathered together. Gentlemen, we thank you !

Armistice Day Memorial Service.—Representatives of the Sections attended the Armistice Day Memorial Service held at Coventry Cathedral, on 6th November. This very impressive ceremony was well attended, both by civilian and military personnel. The parade after the service proved a source of attraction to the civil population, who rarely see their military might on parade.

The Old Comrades of the Warwickshire Yeomanry and the 7th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, led their Units to church, and representatives of the British Legion formed up with the 7th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

Impending Moves.—We are rapidly approaching a transitional period when these Headquarters will be moved to their permanent abode in Melford, Warwick Road. More of this anon.

Arrivals.—We welcome to our fold the following : Signalmen Powers, Lord, Downs, Elson and Dart. We also extend a welcoming hand to those others who are still in the " abhi nahin " tray.

Scrap Book.—All enquiries regarding certain telephone numbers should be made at the Orderly Room, between the hours of 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., when the P.S.I. will be free to answer them. (What a pal !)

Which N.C.O. tripped over a stationary car after the Armistice Day Parade. Was it due to the impressiveness of the service, or was it the service after the service ?

GECO.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds, 2.

The outstanding item of interest which took place this month was the Inter-Unit D.R. Team Trial, which, after being postponed because of the crisis, was held in North Derbyshire on 6th November. The team from the 5th Divisional Signals put up a splendid performance and carried off the premier honours. A special word of praise is due to the members of the 49th (W.R.) Divisional Signals team (Lance Corporal Redman F., Signalmen Vaughan W., Rosendale L. and Newbould R.) who took second place, and to Signalman King E. J., of the 42nd (E.L.) Divisional Signals, who put up the best individual performance with a loss of only eight marks. Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. Jackson, M.C., T.D., and Major H. Richardson, T.D., visited the trial and expressed their desire for further meetings to be arranged. These are already in hand, and Lieutenant N. E. Dixon, of Leeds, who has done so much towards making the necessary arrangements, tells me that the 49th (W.R.) Divisional Signals will organise a further trial to be held on 26th February, 1939, and that the start will be at Baslow, Derbyshire.

The 49th and 50th Divisional Signals are combining once again to work a wireless link during the winter. Everyone concerned gained much useful knowledge last year, and we know that the Wireless Operators at Leeds are looking forward to giving the No. 2 Sets a good testing this winter, and to enjoying the experience of distance working which gives a satisfaction not gained in ordinary work.

Arrivals.—We take this opportunity of extending a hearty welcome to the following new members of the P.S. : R.S.M. Collins, who came from 4th Divisional Signals on 7th October, C.S.M. Frampton and C.S.M. Isaac, both from India. Yorkshire will be chilly after India, but the fire in the Mess has a world-wide reputation.

Departures.—C.S.M.s Gatford and Brewster leave us this month for India. The whole Unit is sorry to lose them. They have been popular and have worked well for the Unit during their tour of duty at Leeds.

A.Q.U.A.

Air Formation Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds.

14th November.

The notes for this month are chiefly a *resume* of our interna activities, and are concerned with such mundane matters as recruiting, expanding the Unit, and making our general social arrangements.

All members of the Unit will be very pleased to hear that we have now on our strength a full-time Lieutenant-Quartermaster. We welcome Mr. H. T. L. Archbold, late of 5th Divisional Signals, who has now secured a commission and is filling this post. We trust that his stay with us will be very pleasant indeed.

Since our return from annual training, we find that the Unit is again in a state of flux and is expanding rapidly to become one of the largest Signal Units in the Corps. Our old No. 1 and No. 3 Companies are being re-hashed, and a brand new No. 5 Company is being formed with its own barracks and training quarters, situated in Currer Street, Bradford. A separate Officers' Mess, Sergeants' Mess and Men's Canteen are being completed, with lecture rooms and training facilities, as well as a complete issue of brand new stores to start the Unit off technically. In this connection the new Company is to be recruited almost from scratch, and, so far, the response has been amazingly good. It is very gratifying to note that many members of our Unit have brought men along as recruits for the new Unit.

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Major J. Gardiner, a new-comer to Air Formation Signals, will be in command of the new No. 5 Company, and we wish him every possible success in this position.

Recruiting offices to cope with the expansion of the Unit have been opened at Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds, and at Currer Street Barracks, Bradford, where full details of service, vacancies of trades, etc., can be obtained.

Turning to Leeds, we have had built on the drill ground two large huts to be used as technical stores, and they are already filled with an amazing number of new items of equipment.

Because our Unit is growing so quickly, a good deal of promotion has been available to many members of our old Unit. It is impossible to cite all these promotions one by one, but we wish all the newly-appointed N.C.O.s the very best of luck.

Arrangements are being made for the Unit Dinner to be held before very long, and it is also hoped to get the Sports Committee functioning again on sports items within the Unit.

We were very disappointed with the response of the Despatch Riders following our call for entrants for the recent combined Despatch Riders' Trial held in Derbyshire. It is felt that the reason for this was probably due to our men being so scattered about the West Riding. We should like to see a team representing Air Formation Signals actually competing in any future event such as this one.

In conclusion, we wish to point out that we are making arrangements for any member of our Unit to obtain his copy of the WIRE through the Unit Orderly Room. Names should be handed in, together with the appropriate subscription, as soon as possible.

PICK.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Fonthill Barracks, Aberdeen.

Now that winter training and social activities are in full swing, not much time is left for journalism. In the near future we hope to announce the forming of a record-breaking boxing team, as most of the lads are getting down to really serious training.

On Friday, 28th October, the Badminton Club held a most successful dance. During the evening, Major T. P. E. Murray gave a lucid explanation of the Auxiliary Territorial Service for the benefit of the ladies' present, and, up to date, we have enrolled five recruits. This is a very promising start, and it is hoped we shall soon be up to strength in this direction.

The first Company dance was held on Friday, 11th November, and was attended by most of the Company. Judging by this, our first effort, it is hoped the succeeding ones will be even more popular.

During the week 14th-18th November, the whole of the Company are parading for gas training. A gas chamber received from the R.A.M.C., Dundee, will play a prominent part in the efforts of Major D. P. Levack, R.A.M.C., to make the members of the Unit realise that their gas masks really are of some use.

The Operators' Classes are still enjoying a 99 per cent. attendance, and next month we shall publish some results of the Trade Board being held at Aberdeen.

ONECOY.

No. 3 Company.

Hunter Street, Kirkcaldy.

General.—Notes from Kirkcaldy this month must necessarily be brief. Things are quiet. Activity will commence on 22nd November, when a Paid Course commences.

The Badminton and Rifle Clubs are going well, the Badmintonites obviously fancy their chance, seeing that they have entered the local league. We wish them success.

We held our first dance on 4th November and, although a slow starter, it eventually was a social and financial success. The "Lambeth Walk" was the hit of the evening. Lance Corporal Aitken and partner found the "spot" in the spot waltz and no wangling, either. We hope to see more members of the Company present at our next dance, which is being held on 9th December.

A detachment of three officers and twelve N.C.O.s and men of this Company paraded with detachments from other T.A. Units in Kirkcaldy for the Remembrance Day Service in St. Brycedale Church on 6th November. Captain A. T. Wood, Royal Signals, commanded the parade, and Lieutenant D. J. Bogie, Royal Signals, was Adjutant of the parade. It would be nice to see more members of the Company on this annual parade; they cannot say they were not informed this year!

Arrivals.—We extend the welcoming hand "on paper" to C.S.M. Todd T., from No. 2 Company. When are you coming over to see your new Company, sir?

THREECOY.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals and G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

21, Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Major Anderson.—We heartily congratulate Major J. Anderson, T.A., on his promotion to that rank. A close friend of the T.A. and S.R., Major Anderson carries with him the best wishes from all ranks for even further advancement.

The Sergeants' Mess.—The annual meeting of the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess took place on 10th November. The year's work was reviewed, and a sound financial position was disclosed. The work of C.Q.M.S. Smith S. B., the retiring President, was lauded on all sides. Under his capable direction, a year of stability and progress was the result. C.S.M. Bain R. was elected President for the ensuing year. C.S.M. Bain, with his long experience of Mess affairs, should prove a distinct asset. R.Q.M.S. Bodys and Sergeant Roberts J. carry on the good work of Secretary and Treasurer, respectively.

The Eleventh.—Jardine Street, as usual, contributed its quota to the Armistice Day parade at Glasgow. The contingent was led by Captain Forsyth, T.A., and Lieutenant W. Johnstone, S.R. Although the turn-out this year was smaller than usual, the position was balanced by the excellent appearance and deportment of our lads. A most encouraging feature was the keenness of our very young Territorial comrades, and all honour is due to them for keeping the flag flying. There were many of the old brigade from Jardine Street, who watched and admired the youngsters.

Territorial Gathering.—There was a break with tradition on Armistice night this year. It had hitherto been the rule that 11th November was to be observed with solemnity. This year the Lowland Divisional Signals held their annual gathering on Armistice night. It must be said, however, that the significance of this day was fully realised, and the entertainment provided was of a high order. The function took the form of a supper and dance, and there were over four hundred guests of all ranks. The lecture room had been specially re-decorated for the occasion, and the Drill Hall was transformed to represent an enormous restaurant. The officers, headed by Lieutenant-Colonel T. M. Niven, were well represented.

The entire proceedings were under the able direction of the Adjutant, Captain Shawcross, whose work, coupled with the indefatigable efforts of R.S.M. Murphy, and others of the T.A. Permanent Staff, had much to do with the great success of the annual regimental gathering.

The McNeils.—We have news of a one-time Jardine Street Signalman, Corporal McNeil J., of the 1st Indian Brigade Signals. The Corporal informs us that he is proceeding on a six months' P.T. Course. He adds that he eagerly looks forward to Glasgow notes in the WIRE.

C.S.M. McNeil J., father of Corporal McNeil, is still going strong as an efficient and sprightly warrant officer with our T.A. Units. Another son, ex-Sergeant Joseph McNeil, was on parade with the mounted section of Glasgow police on Armistice Day. We look for big things from this lad, for we are informed that his excellent work has more than once gained for him the high commendation of his superiors. So, wrapped up, as it were, in the Corps, and its associations, the McNeil family continues to prosper. This is only as it should be, for there are few families who have contributed so much to the Signals.

Bowls.—We sent two very fine old gentlemen with the S.R. to Ampthill Camp, to wit, Bob Murray and John McQuarrie. Of course, those grand old fellows played the old man's game—bowls. The natives of Ampthill were astounded. Bob Murray displayed amazing agility, despite the handicap of a kilt and claymore. John McQuarrie was troubled at times by his long whiskers trailing on the green. But Murray and McQuarrie will long be remembered as the men who brought bowls to Ampthill.

Odds and Ends.—Sergeant Macdonald M. proceeds to Edinburgh on a P.T. Course. C.S.M. Bain R. goes to Catterick on a Drill Course. Athletic arrangements are much the same as last year. The football club has struck rather a bad patch, but the lads are carrying on valiantly. Local Courses are well attended. All Units have been recruited practically to the limit.

Christmas.—We send our fervent good wishes to our many friends at home and abroad. It will not be so long now till we receive your welcome Christmas cards. A joyous Christmas to you all from your comrades at Glasgow.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

15th November.

As a result of the Territorial Army Week, 17th to 21st October, the Unit finds itself, at the moment, in the very happy position of being 5 per cent. over Establishment. The limit of course, is 20 per cent. over Establishment, and we have hopes of reaching that figure before the next camp.

We were much in evidence during this occasion. The Information Bureau, which was open all the week, was in charge of Captain W. G. F. Bale, who was assisted by C.S.M. Goble F. R., Sergeants Sutton W., Whitfield E. and Milton G., while C.S.M. Varley J., assisted by Sergeant Williams W. and Lance Sergeant James H. E., was at the Swansea Bureau.

What impressed the public particularly was the Unit's exhibits, namely, the Nos. 1 and 2 Wireless Sets; the Mechanical Cable-layers; the 10-line Exchange; the Telephone, 110; and also the attractively-mounted photographs depicting interesting scenes of the Royal Signals at work and play, as well as the Cups and Trophies for the various competitions.

The Mechanised Column Parade on 17th October, which included our D.R.s' Lorry (30 cwt.) and Trucks (8 cwt.), was well turned out, and did the Unit credit. The salute at the March Past was taken by General Sir Walter M. St. G. Kirk, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

A dismounted route march through the main thoroughfares of the city took place on 20th October. Seven officers and 140 other ranks turned out, with Major W. R. Hawkins and Lieutenant J. B. Senior each commanding a Company. General Sir Henry C. Jackson, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., G.O.C.-in-C., Western Command, took the salute at the City Hall.

Much could be said of the enthusiasm displayed at these events, and it is particularly gratifying that 59 recruits were attested, and more are expected.

On 5th November, the W.O.s and N.C.O.s held a social evening, at which wives and lady friends were present. A very happy time was spent.

The W.O.s and N.C.O.s' Annual Armistice Ball took place on 11th November. Sergeant Hawkins R. C. and Sergeant Whitfield E. controlled the proceedings and, as usual, a gay and joyous gathering of over 200 acclaimed it as the best ever. Many officers were present, but, unfortunately, the C.O., Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Trice, could not attend. He sent a telegram wiching us all a happy and successful evening.

C.S.M. Barnett W., now P.S.I., No. 2 Company, duly arrived, and has settled down quite comfortably. He comes at a time when the social side of the Unit is in full swing,, and, we understand, he is already greatly impressed.

An additional P.S.I. to the Establishment has been authorised, and Sergeant Mathews F. A., 4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury, comes on the strength as from 15th November. He is at present on a month's leave.

A Unit smoker is to be held on 15th November, and we are quite safe in saying beforehand that a grand evening will be had by all.

The W.O.s and N.C.O.s meet the United Services' Mess in a Games Tournament on 16th November. They have been in training indoors for some weeks past, and a draw is confidently expected.

Mr. A. J. Blower and Sergeant Rees A. E. attended an Anti-Gas Course at Brecon from 17th to 22nd October, and obtained a satisfactory report.

Congratulations to Captains A. E. Johnson, A. W. Bartholomew and W. G. F. Bale on passing their promotion examination at Shrewsbury on 13th November.

THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

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

General.—The main item of interest this month has been one to which no member of the Company has eagerly looked forward for 1st November was the occasion of the departure of our P.S.I., C.S.M. Worth, who, after three years, has left us for a warmer climate. C.S.M. Worth joined us at a critical time, when our numbers were depleted, and the Sections in the course of minor reorganisation prior to the forming of a nucleus of " D " Section. Since then our numbers have been doubled, and the nucleus of " D " Section has grown to three Sub-Sections, all capable of doing their job in a way that has earned the admiration of many. Although several have received credit for this satisfactory state of affairs none know better than this scribe that 99 per cent. of those kind words should have gone to C.S.M. Worth. We feel that " our Fred," even though he is miles away, will be with us in spirit for a long time. The Company unites in saying, " Cheerio, Fred, *bon voyage*, and —Up the Argyle ! "

The task of filling his vacant place will not be an easy one, but we are fortunate in having C.S.M. Eason from 4th Divisional Signals posted to us. We welcome our new P.S.I. with the hope that his stay will be both a long and happy one.

The Armistice Parade, held on 6th November, was attended by approximately fifty members of the Company, and the Unit, under the command of the C.O., marched to St. John's Church, Stratford, where the Service was held. After the Service, the Unit marched past Colonel W. J. Brandsden, T.D., R.A., T.A., who took the salute.

The senior N.C.O.s are at present to be seen carrying note books, training manuals, and many wear worried looks. All this is due to the lectures now being held by the Adjutant on the mysteries of I.B. Sections, prior to the formation of No. 3 Company at Stratford, after its disbandment at Southend. All ranks are at present on their best behaviour, because—who knows ?

Promotions.—The Company congratulate our skipper, Major Wardle, on his promotion. We look forward to the time when a star joins that crown, sir !

Births.—Our congratulations are tendered to C.S.M. and Mrs. Warner upon the birth of a daughter, Alma. Mine's a pint, sir !

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Sergeants' Mess.—Activities in the Mess of late warrant a few notes in this Journal. The dart fiends have been undergoing strict training, but alas, without results. On 22nd October we entertained some friends from Woolwich. After a brilliant recovery, we won the first leg. Success was, however, not for us, as that was all we did win, and the finish saw us buying the beer.

We had the pleasure of entertaining the Officers' Mess on 29th October, when we said farewell to C.S.M. Worth, and also took the opportunity to welcome our new P.S.I.s, C.S.M.s Skitt and Eason. The evening opened with a presentation of an engraved cigarette case to C.S.M. Worth. After we had told our outgoing P.S.I. how we should miss him, daggers were drawn, and the match between the officers and P.S.I.s versus the Mess begun. Once again we bought the beer, despite the efforts of sabotage upon the part of all the P.S.I.s, with the exception of one. Why did you do it, Chippy ? The evening closed with a game of poker dice, and once again—but why bring that up !

Determined to win one game, we are now playing in the Individual Championships, in order to decide who will wear the crown or feathers, or, in other words, will buy the beer. As the scribe has no further interest in the games, it is doubtful whether any further reports will be forthcoming.

The Mess would like to express their thanks to C.Q.M.S. Long (Don't go, Eddie) for his work in the capacity of President of the Mess Committee ; pressure of business in " Civvy Street " has caused our Quarter Bloke to hand over the reins to the new Mess President, C.S.M. Warner.

Agony.—Any darts team that wants us to buy them beer should apply here.

Things We Should Like to Know.—The name of the new Corps March, or was it a new style of playing " Away dull care " ?

When are we going to see you again, Jock ? Don't forget the Unit Dance at the Baths on 2nd December.

When is Sergeant Langworthy going to learn to throw a nifty dart ?

Why wasn't Bert Eason in the dart team that played against the Essex Regiment Sergeants' Mess on Armistice Sunday ? We might have won the beer then instead of losing it.

No. 2 Company.

General.—We were somewhat severely reprimanded for disclosing secrets in our last bulletin, and we write these notes in fear, with visions of a Court Martial and discharged with ignominy looming before our eyes. We shall have to be guarded in our literary efforts !

After the tension of last month, we have now returned to normal routine, although quite a number long for the old trench-digging days.

Trade Boards are finished, and several members have acquired a superior air now that they have passed their Group " E " rating. Sunday morning Recruiting Schemes are still in progress, but our general activities seemed to have quietened down for the time being.

Armistice Parade.—The annual Armistice Parade, held on Sunday, 6th November, at Stratford Church, was attended by a good mustering of the Company. (Was this due to the fact that Travelling Allowances were being paid on that day?) We could neither see nor hear the Band, but, with a supreme effort, we managed to keep step. (We did not have to change step—much.) Sergeant Cook, of No. 1 Company, apparently has two left feet that seemed to keep in step with each other. (Left, left, Stanley!)

Departure.—We join with No. 1 Company in expressing our regret at the departure of their very popular P.S.I., C.S.M. Worth, to 4th Divisional Signals. His presence will be greatly missed by everyone, and all members of this Company wish him the very best of luck and *bon voyage*.

Things We Should Like to Know.—Who suggested that Unit Headquarters should be transferred to the "Black Dog," Canterbury? Were they thinking of changing D.IIIs for XXXs?

Whose slacks were given the place of honour at the top of the flag pole? (Gertcha, traitor!)

RAIMACDOG.

Bedford Detachment.

Ashburnham Road, Bedford.

The Bedford Detachment have had a busy month, owing to the change over of the P.S.I.s.

On Friday, 4th November, we gave a farewell supper to C.S.M. Sayers. After supper, Lieutenant Cooke presented C.S.M. Sayers with a huge box. The C.S.M. opened it, and, after unwrapping approximately two miles of paper, he found a poor little cat. C.S.M. Sayers is being posted to China, and Sergeant Bright has been instructed to warn all individuals there who own cats to keep them off the road on and after 1st January, 1939.

The members of the Detachment are very curious to know what Lance Corporal Scott lost from his kit on the night of 4th November, and also, does the cat look better at Stratford! Will Nobby or Ivor please let us know?

BEDONIAN.

The London Divisional Signals.
(City of London Signals).

Signal House, 20, Atkins Road, Clapham Park, S.W.12.

16th November.

Inter-Company Guard Mounting Competition.—As in former years, this was held in the Drill Hall on 1st November, before an appreciative audience composed of a large number of officers and other ranks. The standard of drill was very high. The competition was judged by the Commanding Officer, who awarded points out of 110. Result: No. 3 Company, 106 points; No. 2 Company, 101 points; No. 1 Company, 99 points.

Individual Training Paid Courses.—These commenced on 1st November, and are very well attended.

A Floor Scheme.—A Scheme for officers and sergeants was held on Sunday, 23rd October. This appears to be an excellent method of holding a Tactical Exercise indoors without troops. An enlargement of the map at a suitable scale—1 ft. to 1,000 yds. works well—is chalked on the floor. Models of cars and lorries are used to represent Headquarters and Signal Detachments, whilst cable is represented by coloured wools pinned to the route actually followed by the Cable Detachments. An innovation this time was the use of toy soldiers to represent the position occupied by leading troops. Wireless sets are represented by coloured arrows made of cardboard. The shape of the arrow denotes the type of set, and the colour of the arrow denotes that sets of the same colour are working to each other.

The Scheme used was a continuation of that on which the Unit was exercised for the Divisional Commander's visit during camp.

The Commanding Officers of a number of Units in the Division attended the Scheme, which was, therefore, in the nature of a demonstration.

New Role of the London Division.—On 1st November, the London Division became a Motor Division under the Territorial Army Reorganisation. City of London Signals still remains the Divisional Signals and, as far as can be ascertained at present, the main outcome of the change, in so far as it affects this Unit, will be a general speeding up of the methods of establishing communication.

Permanent Staff Instructors.—Sergeant Armstrong T. completed his tour of duty and left to rejoin the Regular Army on 9th November.

City of London Signals extends a very hearty welcome to Sergeants Galbraith A. C. and Jamieson H., who joined the Permanent Staff at the end of October.

The Annual Despatch Riders' Dinner.—The Dinner took place at Signal House on 12th November, when the thirty-five despatch riders entertained about double this number of guests. The guests included the Commanding Officer and Colonel G. D. Ozanne, M.C., and a large number of officers of the Unit.

Mr. Welton and Mr. Headlam of the Triumph Motor Cycle Company, Captain H. L. B. Kealy, Officer i/c Catterick Display Team, a party from the 48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals, headed by Mr. Danielson, and Inspector Mailing and Sergeant Catchpole of the Balham Police were amongst the official guests.

After a very good dinner, the company settled down to speeches. Mr. W. Darkin, the Officer i/c D.R.s, gave some account of the work of the Section during the past twelve months. Mr. R. E. Denison-Pender proposed the toast of the guests, which was responded to by Mr. Welton, of the Triumph Company, who stressed the good that was done to motor cycling by such as the City of London Signals Display Team.

A telegram of good wishes and regrets was received from our old friend Mr. Graham Walker, whose duties as Editor of *Motor Cycling* on the last day of the Motor Cycle Show prevented him being present.

The Commanding Officer, in proposing the toast of the "Display Team," stressed the importance of display work in the training of the despatch rider and praised the high standard of training reached by the despatch riders.

Lance Corporals Knight J. D. and Barry W. A. replied to the toast in excellent speeches.

C.S.M. Angell E. J., proposing the toast "1934—1938," spoke of the work done by Major Firth, the Adjutant, in starting the display, and in helping the display team in their many activities. Major H. R. Firth, responding, paid tribute to the help given by the Triumph Motor Cycle Company at all times, and instanced several occasions when the good work of the despatch riders had helped the Unit and the Corps.

Displays have been given during the year at:

Hastings Tattoo		22nd May.
Empire Day, Hornchurch Aerodrome		28th May.
Suffolk Agricultural Show, Bury St. Edmunds	(4 shows)	2nd and 3rd June.
Chiddingfold Gymkhana, Godalming		6th June.
British Legion Fete, Haslemere		6th June.
Ilford Hospital Fete		11th June.
Northamptonshire Agricultural Show	(2 shows)	18th June.
Lincolnshire Agricultural Show	(6 shows)	22nd—24th June.
Colchester Carnival	(2 shows)	25th June.
Diss Gymkhana		2nd July.
Guildford Carnival		7th July.
Dengie Hundred Show		9th July.
Television Programme, Roehampton Club		15th July.
Military Tournament, Windsor		16th July.
Camberley Carnival		16th July.
Wembley Speedway		16th July.
Saffron Walden Show	(2 shows)	23rd July.
Unit Sports, Friston Camp		30th July.
Kingston-on-Soar Show, Derby	(2 shows)	1st August.
Philanthropic Society's Fete, Ealing	(2 shows)	27th August.
Mount Vernon Hospital Fellowship, White City		4th November.

On 17th November, Major H. R. Firth completed his four years' tour as Adjutant, City of London Signals. Major Firth has identified himself so wholeheartedly with all the activities of the Unit that it has become difficult to think of him as anything but one of our officers. His departure will leave a gap

which will be filled with difficulty. His personality has made itself felt throughout the Unit, and there can hardly be a man who did not feel a personal sense of loss when he departed for Eastern Command Signal Company. We feel sure that the two Commanding Officers he has served so loyally and with such distinction will endorse these remarks.

The universal regret at losing Major Firth does not affect the welcome which the Unit has given to Major J. J. Duvivier. He has already spent a fortnight with us in Camp, so he is no stranger to us, and we all wish him a very happy tour of duty as Adjutant of the City of London Signals.

C.O.L.S.

1st Cadet Signal Company (Haberdashers' School).

12th November.

General.—Three buglers of the Unit's Drums were responsible for the sounding of the "Last Post" and "Reveille" at the School's Armistice Day Service on 11th November. They acquitted themselves very creditably.

We congratulate Officer-Cadet Sergeant C. V. Smith of the Cambridge University Officers' Training Corps Signal Unit, an ex-member of this Company, on being gazetted to a T.A. commission for service with his present Unit.

We are very sorry to hear that Major H. R. Firth, Royal Signals, Adjutant, London Divisional Signals (City of London Signals), T.A., our parent Unit, is leaving his present post on the expiry of his tour of duty. Major Firth has been a very good friend to this Cadet Unit, and we should like to wish him all success for the future.

Field Day.—Below is an account of a recent "Field Day" which has been contributed by Cadet-Corporal Mordant D. F., who was the supervising N.C.O. of the Operations he describes:

On Wednesday, 26th October, a small tactical Scheme was carried out by the Operating and Cable Sections of the Unit on Hampstead Heath and Parliament Hill. Communication was to be provided for an imaginary Battalion between Battalion H.Q. and two forward Companies on a narrow front, with L/T, V/T and D.R.s available. A Battalion Signal Centre, working V/T to "A" and "B" Companies, was established half a mile forward of Battalion H.Q., to which it was linked by cable.

At "half-time," the Companies moved forward (on an order from Battalion H.Q.) to new positions, and an hour later H.Q. moved forward to the site of the Signal Centre, whereupon the cable was reeled up. This was a relief to a certain lineman, who had been left posted at a crossing on the level to warn civilians (chiefly nursemaids with infants) against the possibility of danger to the cables as well as to the nursemaids. We understand that his complacency suffered a rude shock when, seeing two youngsters running away after he had carefully pointed out the cable, he discovered that the line had been neatly sliced in two!

A novel and interesting feature of the Scheme was that, once the above general idea had been explained, it was run almost entirely by the cadet N.C.O.s, who held the posts of Battalion Commander, Adjutant, Battalion Signal Officer and Company N.C.O.s. Real difficulties of communication in the field, including the restricted use of D.R.s (who had to keep to the roads and use concealed approaches), and the responsibilities of those in command were clearly emphasised.

With the good fortune of a fine, bright day after two preceding days of thick fog, everybody appeared to enjoy the Scheme, and at a subsequent "post-mortem," held by the C.O., we gathered that we had acquitted ourselves tolerably well, and that the methods adopted to ensure continuity of communication were approved.

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

56, Regency Street, London, S.W.

November.

The month of November is one of extreme activity in this Unit as it heralds the commencement of the winter training season, and this year it has meant a lot of extra work in clearing up after the recent period of mobilisation. Added to this, the Establishment of the Unit has been doubled, which has meant the enrolment of recruits and the equipping of a new Company Headquarters, all of which have thrown a heavy burden on the available staff.

Recruiting has been very satisfactory, both from the point of view of numbers, and also the type of man who is coming forward. We prefer to enrol friends of serving members, and a very hearty welcome is waiting for any men who would like to visit the Headquarters on any Wednesday evening, when they will be shown the work we are doing, and any points they may wish to raise in regard to service with the Unit will be gladly discussed.

During the winter, a series of lectures of general interest have been arranged, and many are supplemented by films and slides. We invite all members and their friends to these lectures, and the subjects range from international questions to the instruction and operation of electrical equipment. Up to date we have had talks dealing with the European situation, the development and evolution of radio valves, and the defence of London in ancient times, whilst a very attractive programme which includes instructional films by the Post Office Film Unit, has been arranged for the next few weeks.

A Church Parade took place on Armistice Sunday, 13th November, which was very well attended; over 100 men were on parade, and they are to be congratulated on their very smart appearance. The Old Comrades and the Cadet Company were also on parade.

The social side has not been forgotten, and although the crisis interfered with the programme originally arranged, we have been able to hold one Novelty Dance, which was very successful, and a full programme has now been arranged for the remainder of the season. The Unit dances are very enjoyable affairs, and new members are cordially invited to come along and bring their friends; we can guarantee them a very pleasant evening.

A.A.

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1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals Cadet Company.

On 30th November, 1937, our Cadet Company was launched. We celebrated our birthday in fitting fashion, and the first Cadet has now become the first Sergeant.

During November, too, we had special parades in connection with Armistice Day and Armistice Sunday.

We welcome to the Company, Cadet 2nd Lieutenant A. G. Mason, who has already done a lot of enthusiastic work for the boys. Mr. Mason is an old Cadet, who knows what is required of a good Cadet Officer.

Recruiting is good, and we still have a fine leaven of the sons and nephews from our Parent Unit, 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals, T.A., from whom we receive every possible aid and assistance.

The technical training is of a very high standard, thanks to the splendid work put in by Cadet C.S.M. Pitz M. F. G.

On Armistice Day, Cadet 2nd Lieutenant A. G. Mason, with an escort of Cadets, took a special parade, and laid a wreath on the Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey on behalf of all ranks of the Cadet Company.

We start our second year of life with high hopes for the future.

A.A. SCOTTIE.

SPORTS NOTES

School of Signals.

Soccer.—Our record to date in the Garrison Company League No. 2, although not imposing, is very satisfactory. Here it is :

v. " B " Company, 7th Battalion, R.T.C.	Home.	Lost.
v. " H.Q.," Scots Rifles	Away.	Lost.
v. " B " Company, Scots Rifles	Away.	Won.

Our team was somewhat depleted in those matches which we lost, owing to three of our best players being called upon to play for the Depot Battalion. We think the results would have been different had the players been available—at least, that is our excuse, and we are sticking to it.

We offer our heartiest congratulations to the Depot Battalion on their success in the first round of the Army Cup.

We also congratulate Lance Corporal Kerr, Signalmen Todd and Sutton on their efforts in the Depot team, and again to Lance Corporal Kerr and Signalman Todd on playing in the Garrison trial match.

Hockey.—To date we have played six friendly matches against neighbouring hockey teams, and, although the results were not entirely in our favour, the games were certainly enjoyable.

Several of last season's players of note have left the School, and the task of finding new blood to replace these stalwarts is proving difficult. However, with several more practice games, we hope to mould a team that will give a good account of themselves. We very much miss the services of Captain A. M. Man, Middlesex Regiment, C.Q.M.S. Mitson and Sergeant Hayhoe.

Army Motor Cycle Championships.—

CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE ARMY.

1. 4th Battalion, Royal Tank Corps ..	Marks lost	156
2. 5th Divisional Signals	,,	200
3. School of Signals	,,	209

Team : Captain W. R. Smijth-Windham, Royal Signals ; Captain T. E. Dobson, Royal Signals ; Driver Baker C. F. G.

Holden Trophy.—

CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP.

1. School of Signals	Marks lost	3 S.O.S.

Depot Battalion, Royal Signals.

Army Cup, First Round.—Our soccer team met the 2nd Battalion, Wiltshire Regiment, on the Command Central Ground, Catterick Camp, on Friday, 28th October. After a hard struggle we won by two goals to one. Notwithstanding being closely watched by Signalman Todd at centre-half, the centre-forward of the Wilts. managed to score first. Before the whistle blew for half-time, Lance Corporal Kerr at centre-forward put in a nice equaliser. The second half gave opportunities to both sides to score, and Signalman Sutton, at outside-left, took advantage of one of these openings to put in a strong, low drive, which won us the game.

Amongst five diminutive, hard-working forwards, Mansell deserves special mention, especially in the first half, when he did some very clever work. Our halves and backs were pressed considerably in the second half, but held up all attacks successfully. They worked hard and in a praiseworthy manner. Driver (I.C.) Jones in goal did excellent work. Two recruits played in the team : Signalman Burden at back and Signalman Codd at inside-right. It was their first and only game with us, as they were posted to the Training Battalion a few days later. Now we have to train their replacements.

The Battalion is handicapped in playing recruits in the team as the rules of the Army Cup prohibit recruits from playing in the competition until they have two calendar months' service. And now to get ready for the next round. Our difficulty is in getting time for training, for we need more speed, kicking practice, and planning. There is not enough daylight for this purpose as work finishes at 4 p.m.

The names of the team which " put it across " the Wilts. are as follows : "A" Company : Signalmen Burden and Codd ; " C " Company : Signalmen Mansell and Phillips, Drivers (I.C.) Jones, Markey, McKay and Stranks ; School of Signals : Lance Corporal Kerr, Signalmen Sutton and Todd (captain).

"A" Company.

Boxing.—On 31st October, Sergeant-Instructor Reynolds (A.P.T.S.) fought Galley, the amateur feather-weight champion of Britain, for the second time. The contest took place at Cardiff, the fight being four three-minute rounds.

For the first three rounds, Sergeant-Instructor Reynolds put up a splendid show. He kept the champion off with unfailing persistency. In the fourth round, however, great misfortune overtook our man, when he damaged his right hand. Galley, in need of points, seized the opportunity and fought very hard to gain the decision.

Galley is to meet the world's champion in his next fight on 27th November. Incidentally, on the same date, Sergeant-Instructor Reynolds will be broadcasting, no doubt to tell us of his new job as boxing captain when touring Norway and Sweden.

Football.—Already the Depot Battalion have made a respectable start both in League games and the Army Cup. "A" Company, so far, have played three Garrison Company League matches, with the following results :

v. 7th Battalion, Royal Tank Corps	Won	4—1
v. No. 9 Section, R.A.O.C.	Won	4—2
v. " E " Company, Training Battalion	Lost	2—6

In a quiet moment, "A" Company played the Depot Battalion in a friendly and, to the amazement of all, drew 2—2.

Once again we were very glad to note that "A" Company helped in the first round of the Army Cup, and helped to win.

On 28th October we met the Wiltshire Regiment on the Garrison Central Park to play for the "A.C." It was a good game, and both teams were evenly matched, the Signals being slightly superior, and maybe a trifle luckier than our unfortunate opponents, who lost to the Depot 2—1, after an exciting 90 minutes' play. We eagerly await our next match with the 1st Battalion, K.O.Y.L.I.

In the Alloa Cup, we have only played one match so far. Our opponents were the 20th Field Regiment, R.A., and, once again, we came out on top with the score of 3—1.

Rugby.—On 22nd October the Depot Battalion met the 20th Field Regiment, R.A., on the Marne Ground. The game was rather scrappy, owing to the bad weather conditions and the wet state of the ground, but, nevertheless, our team emerged victors, after 90 minutes' play, with the score of 14 points to 3. This score was obtained despite the fact that eight of our regular players were reserved for the Cobb-Nicholls Cup at Aldershot.

At Aldershot our team fought hard against "A" Corps Signals for the Cup, but luck was not with them, and we lost, the score being 17 points to 9. The game was rather a scrappy one. Lance Corporals Driscoll and Graham made a score of 6 points to nil between them at half-time, but "A" Corps Signals in the second half started something and finished something with the said score of 17 points to 9, and the Cobb-Nicholls Cup. The Depot team tried very hard, but were unlucky ; we wish them better fortune next time.

Hockey.—So far we have played very little hockey. On 26th October we played 5th Divisional Signals, and met defeat with a score of two goals to one.

On 29th October we met the Inniskillings and were glad to beat them by two goals to nil. The Depot Battalion win on this occasion may be an indication that hockey has captured enthusiasm again. The team, which had been re-arranged, played a brilliant game.

On 2nd November we played the 20th Field Regiment, R.A., but, alas, we were beaten 4—1. This beating was, no doubt, due to their having a famous Yorkshire forward playing for them. He has already made history by his scoring record, and this match was no exception, as he scored all four goals for our opponents.

"C" Company.

Things are not so bright at present, although we did remarkably well in the cross-country event, but there is still room for improvement, which will be forthcoming under the supervision of Corporal Matthews, who seems to think that we will confound the critics yet. We hope so, because everybody has the impression that we should do great things in the other fields of sport, especially at rugger and soccer. We think the Company should sweep the board, but who are we to say such things and get away with it.

The Company football team is doing very well this season, and remains unbeaten in the Garrison League. Driver Hunter is carrying the Company colours in different parts of Yorkshire in his role as a member of the S.T.C. cross-country team.

BATTLING.

Training Battalion, Royal Signals.

15th November.

Rugby.—On 22nd October we met the Depot Battalion in the first round of the Cobb-Nicholls Trophy. A keen, hard game was enjoyed by both teams, and the Depot Battalion were worthy winners by 8 points to 3 at "no side."

Our first match during November was with the R.A.O.C., Catterick. The game was played on Peronne ground in bad weather conditions. The Ordnance had a number of learners in their team, but settled down well, and at half-time the score was 3 points each.

During the second half of the game, our pack began to get the ball in all scrums, and tries were scored by Lance Corporal Buscall and Signalman Powell. In the last few minutes of the game the Ordnance fought back, but we were able to hold them from our line and ran out winners by 9 points to 3.

On Saturday, 12th November, Harrogate Old Boys "A" team were the visitors. Play during the first half was fairly even. Weather conditions were not good for three-quarter play, but our light pack of forwards held the opposing pack well. At the change over we led by a penalty goal (kicked by 2nd Lieutenant Philp) to nil.

In the second half, the Harrogate pack began to get the upper hand and were able to score two tries, one of which was converted, and eventually ran out winners by 8 points to 3.

Our congratulations are extended to 2nd Lieutenant J. Sheepshanks and Sergeant Fraser A. of this Battalion on being selected to play in the Corps rugby team.

"D" Company.

Cross-country Running.—We compile these notes for those thousands still serving, pressed men and enthusiasts, who toiled for the honour of their Companies.

Although in previous years "Doncoy" have never showed exceptional prowess in this strenuous sport, this season found us lamentably short of talent.

The result of the first Inter-Company run was very disappointing. We were beaten by "C" Company for fourth place by three points. We congratulate "F" Company Boys who were, as was expected, the winners by a good margin. We must prove that we are not doddering old men.

As a result of the Inter-Hut runs, quite a number of willing lads have been discovered, and it is expected to produce a good average team for the next meeting on 12th November.

The first Inter-Hut run brought Signalmen Harris N. and Carter G. into the limelight. These two promising lads are now settling down in their new Units, and we hope to hear of further successes. Our last Inter-Hut run produced Signalmen Raynor, Foy and Preston and a few other triers who will, we hope, soon be making names for themselves.

Signalmen Worsley and Harris N. were Company representatives in the S.T.C. team which visited Middlesbrough on Saturday, 29th October, for the second meeting of the North Yorks. and South Durham Harriers' League.

It is hoped, as our team members improve, to give them trials in these very interesting league runs.

Field Units are advised to keep a look out for the men who have been mentioned in these notes.

Football.—The Company team have made a splendid start in their fixtures in the Garrison Company League. We congratulate all members of the team on their wonderful performances at the matches. The results to date are as follows:

v. "H.Q.," Wiltshire Regiment	Won	4—2
v. Royal Irish Fusiliers	Won	8—2
v. R.A.M.C.	Won	4—3

Keep it up, "Don"!

Units had better keep a wary eye open for the following recruits, who will be posted in the near future: Signalman Lee A. (full back), Mottram (goal) and Sherwood (half-back), and three forwards: Signalmen Hunter, Marriott and Coleborn.

The cross-country notes come to you from "Nil Desperandum" and the soccer notes have beeu compiled by "Ack Pip Beer."

"F" Company.

Rugby.—Since last month we have played two fixtures, both of which have been against Richmond Grammar School. The senior XV played their first game at Richmond, and after a tussle, in which the forwards saw most of the play, they ran out winners with a score of 6 points to 3. All the points were gained from penalty kicks by Marshall and Holdsworth.

In the second game, which was played on Scotton Ground, we again won with a score of 7 points to 3. Several fine breakaways were made by the three-quarters, but each was checked. Eventually the forwards took the ball at their feet and bustled it over the line allowing Rowberry to touch down. This try was not converted. A movement between Forsyth and Marshall allowed Marshall to make a beautiful drop kick from the halfway line and complete the scoring.

At the same time as the senior games were being played, the Juniors were playing on Scotton and Richmond grounds, respectively. We won the first game on Scotton by 3 points to nil. Knight scored a try which was not converted. At Richmond the Juniors again won, this time by 8 points to nil. The points were scored by Lees, the try being converted by Hopkins K. Martin scored a try, which was unconverted.

Cross-country.—The first Inter-Company run was won by the Company by a wide margin. Lance Corporal Boy Hopkins was first, and Lance Corporal Blades and Boy Gladwin filled the next two places.

Football.—Since last month the Company Junior League has been well under way, and some very good matches have been witnessed. The senior operators have played various league games, with the following results:

v. Cameronians (Chapman 2, Tucker 2, Callegari 1)		Won	5—1
v. Royal Scots ..	(Marlow and Chapman)	Won	2—1
v. Borderers ..	(Tucker, Phillips, Ward)	Won	3—1

The Senior Workshops have played four league matches, with the following results:

v. Royal Artillery (Brooks 4, Pavey 3, Thompson 1)		Won	8—0
v. Cameronians (Brooks 5, Chandler 2, Thompson 2, Griffin, Marshall, Smith A.)		Won	12—0
v. Royal Scots	(Griffin)	Drawn	1—1
v. R.U.R.s	(Brooks 4, Pavey 2)	Won	6—0

The first round of the Army Cup was played on 24th October on Vimy Lines Ground. The teams playing were the Senior Operators and the Senior Workshops. They lined up as follows:

Workshops: Rowberry; Warren, Murray A.; Moseley, Smith A., Thompson; Beattie, Pavey, Brooks, Griffin, Marshall.

Operators: Hopkins K.; Dixon A., Verlander; Holness, Holdsworth, Stewart; Marlow, Ward, Chapman, Tucker, Forsyth.

At the start, the game was very even, and it was a goal by Brooks which went in after hitting the cross-bar that opened the score for the Workshops. This success caused the Workshops to throw everything into the attack, but they were time and again repulsed by the stern defence of the Operators. At nearly half-time a pass from Brooks to Pavey was converted, Pavey

allowing no margin for error. It was a good goal. Brooks scored again before half-time.

The second half began with both teams paying every attention to the attack, and goals looked like coming every minute. Eventually, Brooks broke through again and scored another for the Workshops. A little later, Griffin had a very hard shot stopped by Hopkins, but he failed to clear properly, and Beattie took an easy chance.

The Operators, despite the score, would not give up and tried hard to find the net. They just could not do it. With five minutes to go the Workshops added another through Brooks, and the game finish d with a fine win for the Workshops by 6—0.

The next round is to be played during the month against the R.E.s from Chatham. The Workshops have the choice of ground.

All-in Rugby.—A game of all-in rugby was played during the past month south-west of Scotton. Goals were placed on two adjacent hills approximately 150 yards apart, and the fact that the hills were covered in gorse made the game much more enjoyable. After about ten minutes' play, Verlander brought Collins down in the middle of a miniature lake at the bottom of one of the hills. After that it was a case of never mind the ball, let's get on with the game. Some excellent ducking was carried out by Rowberry, Perkins and Griffin, who never stayed above water for more than ten seconds at a time. As for scoring, neither side managed that. Nicky Warren came very near to it, and Holdsworth tried well. The ball actually did cross the Operators' line, but not under the few rules prevailing. Biting, scratching and kicking were forbidden, but otherwise no rules were enforced.

1st Divisional Signals.

Football.—Bowing to the inevitable, we could not possibly enter a team for outside competitions, and our matches have been confined to Inter-Company and Section games, with an eye of course, to the Mons Barracks championships.

Hockey.—The 1st Divisional Signals hockey team differs from the football team in that we have the services of old and valued hockey players. It should be of interest to readers to know that the members of our old guard are R.S.M. Westwood, Sergeant Starling, Lance Sergeant Trew, Corporal Pettit and Lance Corporals Moase and Knox.

The team has been drawn against the 18th Field Regiment, R.A., in the first round of the Aldershot Command Hockey Tournament. The match will be played at Deepcut on Monday, 21st November.

Here are the results to date :

v. R.A.M.C.	Won	5—0
v. "A" Corps Signals	Won	4—0
v. 2nd Divisional Signals	Drawn	1—1
v. 2nd Field Regiment, R.A.	Lost	1—2
v. 2nd Battalion, Hampshire Regiment	Won	1—0
v. 24th Field Regiment, R.A.	Won	1—0

Boxing.—The noble art, fostered by Corporal Emblen, has a crowd of supporters from amongst our Recruit Operators' Squads. Corporal Emblen states that he is pleased with his "novices."

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

6th November.

Perhaps readers would like to know that after trying to withdraw from the Army Cup Football Competition through a shortage of personnel, we found ourselves at Warminster facing the 3rd Battalion, Royal Tank Corps. Now we are not grumbling, for, with luck, we should have won. Our team consisted of eleven individual triers, who tried desperately to force goals. The Tanks, whose methods were more direct than ours, scored first. Later on we equalised. Surprisingly enough, although we were continually in the Tank's penalty area, none of our forwards seemed prepared to take the responsibility of hearing his name mentioned in the ten o'clock news in the Regional programme. Sergeant Philip in goal, with Corporal Bundy and Signalman Delicate as backs, were good. We should like to make a special mention of one man who was only put in to fill the gap in the outside left position, left vacant by our star left winger, who was away on a Course. Signalman Beard E. is the man. He was indeed brilliant at times, and his long surprise shots were an outstanding feature of the game.

Half-way through the second half, Signalman Stevens (eligible for overseas and therefore should interest the Units manning the outposts of the Empire) scrambled the ball along the right wing, and into the net, but the referee disallowed the goal as Stevens had done something wrong.

A little later, Lance Corporal Murray forced everything around him into the net. When the crowd cleared, we noticed that the ball was "under the bar and between the posts," and so, of course, we all shouted "Goal!" but the referee thought otherwise. Funny how one man can make all that difference!

It was only natural that we began to wonder how many times we would have to get the pill between the posts to score one legitimate goal. But there it is, ours not to reason why, ours but to lose 2—1, because the Tanks scored a beautiful goal in the closing minutes. That's what we thought, and that's what the referee thought. But, who cares? We wish the Tanks the best of luck in the next round, whoever they may be drawn against.

Bulford Garrison Cup Competition.—Yesterday, 5th November, was fireworks day. Readers might be able to tell us about squibs, rockets, catherine wheels, and what have you; but let us tell them something. No. 3 Company got through the second round of the Garrison Cup, 6—1; 3rd Divisional Signals cross-country team beat King Alfred's College; the Unit hockey team drew with Porton, 4—4; and No. 1 Company, 3rd Divisional Signals (we're proud of that name!) slaughtered 40th A.T. Battery, R.A., to the tune of 5—0 in the second round of the Garrison Cup. This game is worthy of special mention. One goal, perhaps; two goals, certainly; but five goals! We had new shirts on, too, but we do not insist that they had anything to do with the result of the game, but readers know as well as we do that bright colours affect some people.

If readers think that our new shirts had the Corps colours, then we must beg to differ. One more guess! White? No. Red? No. They were yellow and black with laces at the neck! If you must blame somebody for this midnight canary effect, then we suggest that Captain J. G. F. Morton, Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, and Lieutenant P. D. Gracey, Royal Signals, the Central Games and Football Officer respectively, be approached.

In the first minute of the game, a delightfully clever performance of dribbling and passing between Lance CorporalWhayman and Signalman Finnigan T. ended with Whayman selling a perfect dummy to the Artillery right back and placing the ball well out of the goalkeeper's reach. The Signals played like a team inspired. In the fourth minute, Whayman again scored, this time with a 30-yards left foot drive that the goalie didn't know anything about. Signalman Finnigan T. completed his hat trick before the interval. We might add that Finnigan will shortly be joining one of the overseas Stations. This lad is full of good soccer, with a terrific shot in either boot.

And so we won 5—0, which, when we come to think of it, is not so bad, provided readers have not forgotten the fact that we were wearing those yellow and black shirts.

Rugby Football.—We beat 4th Divisional Signals in the first round of the Cobb Nicholls Cup at Bulford, only to travel to Aldershot and lose to "A" Corps Signals, the eventual winners of the trophy. We congratulate them. Whilst handing out congratulations, let us remember 2nd Lieutenants A. F. Freeman and P. T. S. Brown, Lance Corporals Birkett and Hockings, and Signalman Finnigan T. (yes, the same Finnigan we were just telling you about) on being selected for a Corps Rugger Trial. After the first trial, 2nd Lieutenant Brown and Lance Corporal Hockings were asked to come again.

5th Divisional Signals, Catterick Camp.

Football.—Here are the results of matches played in the Garrison League, Division III. The team is congratulated on its performance, having played and won eight matches :

v. 34th Company, R.A.S.C.	Won	10—1
v. 51st Company, R.A.S.C.	Won	5—4
v. "B" Company, 2nd Battalion, Wilts. Regt.	Won	8—0

v. 45th Field Battery, R.A.	Won	2—1
v. 41st Field Battery, R.A.	Won	6—2
v. " C " Company, 2nd Battalion, Wilts. Regt.	Won	6—4
v. " C " Company, Cameronians	Won	3—2
v. 41st Squadron, R.A.F.	Walk-over.	
Hockey.—Friendly matches :		
v. School of Signals	Won	3—2
v. 2nd Battalion, Wilts. Regiment	Lost	2—6
v. Depot Battalion, Royal Signals	Won	2—1
v. School of Signals	Won	3—0
v. 20th Field Regiment, R.A.	Lost	0—5
v. Depot Battalion, Royal Signals	Drawn	2—2

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

Golf.—We are now in the midst of a number of competitions, the Maguire Open Singles, and the Eduljee Open Foursomes, with the usual monthly competitions as well. We hope to be able to publish in our next notes details of the presentation of Cups to the winners of the competitions for the previous nine months.

The annual matches against the Gun Carriage Factory Golf Club and the Nerbudda Club are due to begin next month in the competition for the " Victory Column," which, last year, was won by the Signal Training Centre Golf Club, and which we hope to retain this year.

Cricket.—The Unit has entered one team in the Brigade Inter-Unit Cricket Competition this year, and several practice matches have been played ; we are hoping to be able to put on a good team. There were two or three unfortunate casualties during the match against the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess, when the latter won by 39 runs. Our wicket keeper has retired from cricket for this season " owing to injuries received."

We have reached the final of the Brigade Competition at the expense of the 28th Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, and now meet the King's Own Scottish Borderers in the final on 3rd November, 1938. Here are the details of our game with the Royal Artillery :

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE (INDIA).

Farrier Staff Sergeant Agar, lbw	25
Lieutenant Goldsmith, b	1
Corporal Mitchell, c	5
C.Q.M.S. Jackson, c	52
Sergeant Woolhouse, c	62
Captain Nepean, b	6
R.S.M. Nash, c	7
Sergeant Collett, lbw	0
Lance Corporal Softly, lbw	13
Signalman Thomas, c	5
Signalman Hepworth, not out	8
Extras	16
Total	200

28TH FIELD REGIMENT, R.A. Total .. 103

Bowling : Captain Nepean 4 for 14, Sergeant Woolhouse 2 for 11, R.S.M. Nash 1 for 22, Lance Corporal Softly 1 for 19, Signalman Hepworth 1 for 32.

Football.—There are no competitions being played at present, but football still goes strong, and we have many players to choose from to make up the team for the Wallace Cup and the Porter Cup. These competitions begin sometime in February.

Hockey.—Our first team still holds its own with many of the teams in Jubbulpore, and we are expecting good results from them as soon as the hockey tournaments begin.

Tennis.—Tennis is now in full swing, and there are a good number who spend their leisure hours on the Unit courts.

Athletics.—Athletic training will soon be starting in preparation for the Copeland Cup (Medley Relay) and the Inter-Company Athletic Team Sports, and also the Inter-Company Individual Events in February and March. Last year "A" Company won the Fazal Din Cup with a good margin of points, and, with plenty of training, we should be able to make another win.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Two important cricket matches were played just before the Unit moved to camp. The full details are not to hand, but here is a brief summary. We should like to state that our Captain, Signalman Gale, feels very confident that the Jamasjee Trophy is well on its way to 1st Indian Divisional Signals.

Our match against the North-Western Railway was played at West Ridge. We batted first and Signalman Gale scored a brilliant 46, and Sergeant Bloodworth 44. Signalmen Pauley and Dawson then took the score to 181 for 5 wickets before the close of play. On the second day, Dawson and Pauley were undefeated with scores of 54 and 24 not out, respectively, before our innings was declared closed at 221 for 5 wickets.

The Railway batted and were all out for 113, Signalman Davies and Sergeant Bloodworth taking all the wickets. We put them in again and this time Signalman Gale decided to put the non-bowlers on to bowl, with the result that the Railway were 54 runs for 8 wickets when close of play was announced.

The match against the R.I.A.S.C. was played at Chaklala, an proved to be our most exciting match. They batted first and scored 50, Sergeant Bloodworth maintaining his habit of taking 8 wickets. We went in to bat, and scored 95 ; Signalman Gale was the top scorer.

We then had a delightful lunch, and our heartiest thanks go to the Chaklala Club for the splendid time they gave us.

After lunch, the home team went in to bat again, and this time they gave us something to think about, scoring 129 for 6 wickets declared. This left us an hour before close of play to get 85 runs, and the excitement commenced. Gale was out when he had scored 18 and Dawson was run out after scoring the same amount. The winning hit came from Signalman Maskery a minute before close of play, and we eventually won the match by 6 runs.

The Detachment has played three games of hockey since the Unit has been away ; the first was won by two clear goals after a very good game. We played "A" Corps Signals and lost by two goals to one after another very good game. Our best achievement has been the defeat of Arsenal Workshops by two goals to one, after a terrific struggle. The tackling of the team was superb, and we are proud of our win over such formidable opponents.

On 31st October our " B " team played a " B " team from "A" Corps Signals, and after a strenuous game our team lost by two goals to nil.

On 1st November we got together a scratch team against the ladies in Cambridge Barracks. A very good game ensued and ended in a draw of two goals each. The ladies are very keen on the game, and we hope that before long they will be bringing a little silverware to the barracks. Good luck, ladies ; you deserve it for the spirit and pluck you showed when playing.

"B" Corps Signals, Karachi.

We are pleased to announce that the Corps team is getting back to its old form of 1934, the glorious year of the Durand and Buffalo Cups. We are hoping to win the Garrison League, and, judging by the series of overwhelming victories, we definitely stand a chance. Come on, lads, let's have you !

GARRISON LEAGUE.

The results up to the present time are as follows :

v. 13th Heavy Battery, R.A.	Away.	Won	3—0
v. " D " Squadron, R.A.F.	Home.	Drawn	1—1
v. " A " Company, R.S. Fusiliers	Home.	Won	4—2
v. " B " Company, R.S. Fusiliers	Away.	Won	3—0
v. " C " Company, R.S. Fusiliers	Home	Won	6—0
v. " D " Company, R.S. Fusiliers	Home.	Lost	0—2
v. R.A.M.C.	Home.	Won	6—0
v. "A" Squadron, R.A.F.	Away.	Won	7—0

Signalman Rosbotham heads the list of goal scorers with 19 nettings from the centre-forward position, the result of fine opportunism. Other goals came from Corporal Jarvis (7), Sergeant Connor, Lance Corporal Brooks, Signalmen Massey and Symonds (one each), and one from a kind defender of the R.A.M.C.

4th Indian Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry.

20th October.

Hockey.—Up to the present we have had a very successful season. We have won the majority of our friendlies, both British and Indian. Most of last year's players have left the

Unit, the B.O.R.s being in the majority. At one time it seemed unlikely that we should be able to raise a team for the tournaments. However, we are now allowed to include three Indian players in a British team, and this helped us out of our difficulties. The Unit has entered the following tournaments: British Inter-Unit; Indian Inter-Unit; Small Units, British; Small Units, Indian.

We reached the final of the British Small Units' Tournament and, after a replay, lost to 65th Field Battery, R.A., by four goals to one. The road to the final was as follows: 1st Round: Bye. 2nd Round: v. "H.Q.," 16/5th Lancers; won 7—0 (goals by Lance Naik Narayansami, 6, Corporal Hatton 1). 3rd Round: v. "A" Company, West Yorkshire Regiment; won 3—1 (goals by Lance Naik Narayansami 3). Semi-final: v. "H.Q.," West Yorkshire Regiment; won 1—0 (goal by Lance Naik Narayansami).

For a small Unit this is a result of which we are proud, and we all congratulate Lance Naik Narayansami for finding the goal ten times up to the semi-final. He also scored the only goal for us in the final. This is the second year in succession that we have been beaten in the final. Third time lucky! Lance Naik Hukam Singh was also of great assistance, and Corporals Hatton and Kerr played a grand game at right-back and centre-half respectively.

Next came the Indian Small Units Competition, which was won by the I.O.R.s of the Unit, when they beat "B" Company, 5/2nd Punjab Regiment 1—0, after a replay. The road to glory was as follows: 1st Round: v. 65th Field Battery, R.A.; won 2—1 (goals by Lance Naik Narayansami and Corporal Hatton). 2nd Round: v. "H.Q.," 5/2nd Punjabis; draw 1—1 (goal by Lance Naik Narayansami). Replay: won 2—1 (goals by Corporals Kerr and Hatton). Semi-final: v. "H.Q.," 4/19th Hyderabad Regiment; won 2—0 (goals by Lance Naik Narayansami).

TERMITE.

Corps Rugby.

The results of the Cobb-Nicholls Rugby Cup Competition, 1938, are published below:

26th October.—"A" Corps Signals (11 pts.) beat 2nd Divisional Signals (3 pts.) at Aldershot.

25th October.—3rd Divisional Signals (19 pts.) beat 4th Divisional Signals (5 pts.) at Bulford.

29th October.—"A" Corps Signals (11 pts.) beat 3rd Divisional Signals (6 pts.) at Aldershot.

19th October.—Depot Battalion, Royal Signals (8 pts.) beat Training Battalion, Royal Signals (3 pts.) at Catterick.

31st October.—"A" Corps Signals (17 pts.) beat Depot Battalion, Royal Signals (9 pts.) at Aldershot.

H.Q. DESERT DIVISIONAL SIGNALS (EGYPT SIGNALS)

(*Continued from page* 512)

headquarters seventy miles forward, the move to take place immediately.

A reconnaissance party went off at once, and a site was selected at El Gerawla, a small Arab settlement about eleven miles east of Mersa Matruh. By noon the next day, everything was through at the new site, communication having been maintained throughout the move, and nearly 200 messages were dealt with at the same time.

Communications were finally established as follows: One No. 9 Set worked to H.Q., B.T.E., and details at Dabaa, at which place there was another No. 9 Set. One 120-watt Set was in communication with Alexandria, and one No. 3 Set was in touch with Mobile Force and Cairo Brigade at Mersa Matruh. We had D.R.L.S. to Matruh, and a train courier service to Alexandria and Cairo.

Shortly after our arrival at El Gerawla, a pyjama-clad working party of the Egyptian State Telegraphs arrived, split the telephone trunk, superimposed our baseboard as an intermediate station between Matruh and Alexandria, and installed a 20-line exchange, all with surprising speed. This line communication,

The Desert Party.

though subject to considerable interruption and overhearing through faulty insulation and bad regulation of the wires, did much to relieve the pressure on the wireless sets, which would have given up the ghost long before but for the resource and capability of Signalman Batty, for whom a punctured condenser or red hot wire appeared to hold no terrors.

On Thursday, 6th October, the new G.O.C. held a Signal Exercise for the Mobile Force, directing operations himself from one of our No. 9 Sets. We were given a forecast of the speed at which the Operations of the new Mobile Division were likely to be conducted, whatever the type of country or however uncomfortable the going. The Operations were carried our successfully, and an entertaining time was enjoyed by all. The detachment conducted themselves admirably.

Another crisis had to be dealt with before we left for Cairo. On Sunday, 9th October, H.Q., Cairo Brigade, and "J" Section at Matruh, were ordered to pack up and leave for Palestine at two hours' notice. "J" Section were responsible for area communications at Matruh, and had to move off leaving most of their "battle communications" on the floor, so that H.Q., Desert Division Signals, had to take over the one and clear up the other. Fortunately, signal traffic was easing up steadily by now, and, eventually, a line party from "E" (R.A.) Section retrieved most of the cable, and there was no difficulty in sorting things out.

Closing down and packing up commenced on Tuesday, 11th October, and on the following day the main party of the detachment left for Cairo by road, under Lance Sergeant Wright.

The O.C., with two No. 9 Sets and four vehicles, accompanied the G.O.C. on a desert reconnaissance, leaving Matruh on Thursday, 13th October, and bivouacked about 100 miles west of Cairo the same night.

Early the next day, one of the wireless trucks began to give trouble. The General and Staff, spurred by that homing instinct usually felt by everyone during the last stage of a long desert run, disappeared in a cloud of dust, led by their navigating officer. The engine trouble proved to be very slight. We had our own sun compass, and Signalman Batty, who was appointed navigator, successfully steered the party to its objective, "kilo 36" on the Alexandria Road; from where they made barracks during the early afternoon after an interesting run over some new country.

The rear party, under Lance Sergeant Hall, remained to dismantle the communications that remained, and then returned to Cairo by road. A few of the fortunate ones, for whom there was no transport, were sent ahead by train.

By Sunday, 16th October, it was over, and all details were back in barracks. The cleaning up is still going on! Part of H.Q., Desert Divisional Signals, are being formed into the nucleus of the new Mobile Division Signals, and the remainder are being re-absorbed by their parent Company—No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals. The process, as may be imagined, is not too comfortable for either party.

R. E. H.