

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE WIRE

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THE WIRE

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Maresfield Park, Sussex

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

is with the greatest confidence that I launch this little Journal among you, in the hope of affording some slight amusement, and of creating a greater feeling of *esprit de corps* among the members of the Signal Service—eyes, ears, and brains of the great little British Army. I fully realise the obstacles that lie in my path, and that it is not going to be “roses all the way”—do I not know that soldiers are the most heartless critics in the world?—but I am relying upon you, the readers of this little Journal, to co-operate with me in making the project a success.

I would suggest that each Company in the Training Centre should appoint a representative to collect matter for publication—such as legitimate complaints, suggestions, and matter of a humorous nature either in verse or prose.

Everything submitted for publication will receive the keenest consideration and I rely upon you all to assist me in making *THE WIRE* a clear, concise, and interesting Journal. The size of the paper depends entirely upon the number and quality of the literary contributions received. Of course, sports news will take a prominent place in its pages, and I should be glad if the various Company members of the Sports Committee will acquaint me with the various fixtures of Football and Hockey matches, and supply me with short reports of the different games. Matter for publication should be sent on one side of the paper only, and forwarded under cover to the Sapper G. E. Palin, Headquarters S.S.T.C.

ARCHIVES
ROYAL SIGNALS MUSEUM
BLANDFORD CAMP
DORSET
DT11 8RH

Officers' Mess Snippets.

Gasping and tottering, with foam-flecked flanks and hair dishevelled, the fugitive broke cover and made for the bar. Better, far better, death from one swift draught of the lately imported Irish "whisky," than the public ignominy which would be his lot if caught by his relentless pursuer.....This, dear readers, is not a scene from one of the latest cinema films, but something far more terrible. It is the chase of an officer of His Majesty's Forces by the Padre in his search for the author of "Officers' Mess Snippets." It was only the eleventh hour recollection of my last month's mess bill which prevented my taking the coward's way as suggested above. However, fairly caught, I must "dree my weird," and I sincerely hope that the perusal of these lines will not cause quite such mental agony as the composition thereof.

Some of us here are under a cloud, and if the present financial crisis only permitted, we would purchase chain mail shirts and get all food set before us tasted by one of the W.A.A.C.s first. We are up against a mighty man of science and chemistry, who goes about with a brow like thunder, muttering darkly of poisoned pills next time we go "sick." In a word, our medical adviser has taken exception to melody in its purest form, as uttered daily by the tuneful, if somewhat hoarse, and powerful voices of the trio in No. 11 room in the early hours. They have tried light opera, they have tried sob-music, they have tried Gregorian chants, and all appear equally unpalatable to our hardened medico, who, however, descends to vamping with both feet on our C3 piano for the benefit of the devotees of Terpsichore after guest nights. Well, no, I don't think I'd better; suffice to say that a farewell dinner was recently held to celebrate the departure of 66 Course, and it was a roaring success. Their departure was much regretted by us all.

From the financial point of view, the slump in "D" fund since their departure must be causing the Mess Secretary many sleepless nights.

I have no desire to give my critics too much food for criticism, so I will close for the nonce.

ANON.

"Garcon," said the Tommy who thought he could speak French very well, to the waiter in Frascati's, "What do you NALS of my French?"

"Eet ees w ID CAM. I haf nevvair heard anysing like eet, befor

Maresfield: or The Sergeant's Yarn

"Say, Sergeant, tell me, have you heard
Of Maresfield on the Mire,
Where Signal Troops are made to stay
Till trumpets sound 'Retire'?"

"Yes! I have heard of Maresfield,
The City of the Dead,
Where troops are doomed to spend their d
On work—ahem—and bed,
Where rain, unceasing, daily falls,
And mud enfolds your boots:
Methinks the camp was made to break
The hearts of young recruits.

When we were on the 'other side,'
At mud we used to swear,
We little thought that we should find
A 'Flanders' over here.
I'll tell a tale of Maresfield Park;

I was passing through the Camp,
The night was dark, I lit my path
With a windproof stable lamp;
When all at once I heard a cry
Of 'Help!' just to my right;
I lifted high the stable lamp,
And peered into the night.

There, in the mud, I saw a face
All grimed with mud and dirt;
I asked him what the matter was,
And whether he was hurt.
'My horse has made a bolt with me,'
He gaspingly demurred;

'I got in here an hour ago,
And since, I haven't stirred.'
A Sergeant, I, and thinking of
Promotion, I, of course,
Instead of helping him to land,
Inquired 'Where was the horse?'
He fixed me with his baleful eyes,
That through me sent a thrill,
'Come, help us out,' he feebly jerked,
'The horse? I'm on him still!'

"This little tale just goes to prove
That what I say is right:
It's mud and rain, and rain and mud,
From morning till the night.
And when we've finished soldiering,
We'll think about it still:
That dirty camp at Maresfield Park,
Where mudlarks sweetly trill."

Jan. 31st, 1920.

G. E.

COME TO MARESFIELD



FOR SPORT AND
BUSINESS COMBINED

That "Fed-up" Feeling.

Have you ever experienced that "fed up" feeling when you find yourself back in camp after a glorious furlough in the "smoke factory" or the pleasant country home of your boyhood, or manhood, as the case may be—that languid, depressing feeling that seems to weigh one down as if one's boots were soled with lead?

After the glorious round of activities that "leave" brings in its train, to wander back to the mud and issue of bare necessities that portend the life in our big military camps, is almost equivalent to dropping out of a ball-room window into a horse trough. Week-ends (in camp, of course) are most abominable. One thinks, and cannot help but think, of week-ends spent under different circumstances: week-ends, not particularly lively, but spent comfortably in homely surroundings, where one doesn't step into seven inches of mud on emerging from the front door; where one doesn't have to keep walking round in a circle to keep oneself from going mad; where one—and heaps of other things one has to do in camp and not at home.

When we had a real war to play with, things were different in some ways. Of course, we did not like leaving our loved ones and friends, but there was always the rum issue (if you were lucky) to console you—and when you were feeling more depressed than usual, there was always recreation, such as ratting, or picking shrapnel splinters out of your dug-out roof for souvenirs; and, more exciting still, teaching "chats" to "Form Company"; so what with one diversion or another, it was always possible to divert one's mind into other channels.

At home it is different. You get into serious trouble if you keep "chats" for pets (they even take that harmless amusement away from you); there is no rum issue to dispel your gloom; and the only shrapnel one gets is that of the Sergeant-Major's coarse remarks about your hair being long, or your hands in your pockets. When we were on the other side, we knew that we had to make the best of it and "put our misery away in our kit-bags," but, over here, it seems that we are "so near, but yet so far" away from all that we hold dear—and all the diversions that are contrived by good meaning and kindly people fall very wide of the mark when the average "Tommy" thinks of his home life and all that it stands for. Hence the fed-up feelings that seem to grip you by the throat and put you off your feed when you report back to camp after that glorious furlough. After a week or so, the feeling fades away, so to speak; not that it really leaves us—it only sleeps, to be re-awakened when the next furlough draws to an end.

"Honours and Awards."

[His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to approve of an emblem to be worn on riband of Victory Medal to denote that bearer has been mentioned in despatches.—(Army Order).]

"Will there never be an end to decorations?

For the bit o' life we chaps went out to see?

I'm thinking there's a bloomin' league o' nations

To make a soldier like a Christmas tree.

"It was jolly hard to dodge 'em out in Flanders,

It's ten to one we 'clicked' if we was seen;

Then a note from General So-and-So to ask us if we'd like

An O.B.E. or envelope of green.

"Then every other day there'd be a scrimmage

When they brought our little bag of rations round;

We'd search among the 'bully' and the 'pork and beans' to see

If a Military Medal could be found.

"For 1914 chaps we've got a little silver star,

To be worn upon the medal riband gay,

To distinguish them from other chaps who hadn't quite the luck

Of being with the first into the fray.

"Now, a little tiny oak leaf, cast in bronze, is to be worn

On the Victory Medal riband, to denote

That the owner has been mentioned in despatches by the Chief,

Some special act of gallantry to note.

"In these modern days of strife, it seems an easy thing

To fill your breast with medal ribands gay;

Some are earned, some not, but still, the issue's just the same,

You wear them, and the Public's got to pay.

"There's Major-General Who-is-it in office in Whitehall,

Who fought the Russians, back in '53,

Who, for signing 'chits' and suchlike, in a chair before the fire,

The King is 'pleased to grant' the O.B.E.

"There's Sergeant-Major What's-it, with a 'cushy' job at home,

Considered indispensable—ahem!

Because he kept his buttons and his boots so nice and clean,

He is decorated with the M.S.M.

"Now in the days of olden time we looked with pride upon

The soldier who had medals on his breast,

But now we know the way they're 'earned,' we feel inclined to grin,

And wonder if his pluck has stood the test."

Jan. 21st, 1919.

G. E. PALIN.

Things We Want to Know.

When are the Staff to get a half day for sport?

What do we pay our tanners for?

Why the N.A.C.B. tea is so bitter?

When are they going to roll the tennis courts?

When is the cinema man going to give us a decent show?

What antique shop the Y.M.C.A. get their films from?

Whether it wouldn't be better to charge a small entrance fee and obtain up-to-date films?

Why a billiard tournament hasn't been proposed at the Y.M.C.A.?

How did the Lewes supporters take their defeat?

Whether they have resorted to the game of marbles?

Is the semi-final to be played at Lewes?

Whether the Camp Food Controller enjoyed his game of tennis on the 8th?

What is the attraction at Ringle's Cross?

Why were pictures screened on Sunday, the 8th?

Was it to draw a crowd to the evening service?

When is Scotland Yard coming to Maresfield in view of the numerous thefts?

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for

LUNCHEONS

both Hot and Cold

BELLINGHAM'S

for

AFTERNOON

... TEAS ...

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High Street, Uckfield

For CAKES and
CONFECTIONERY

to

BELLINGHAM'S

come

BELLINGHAM'S

SUPPERS

are

JUST A!

When you are really fed up with Camp
COME TO BELLINGHAM'S!

If the President of the Trade Board has a bon time when examining "Rookies"?

Why are ladies so scarce at the dances in the Y.M.C.A.?

Is it because the N.C.O.s Mess give them a better time?

Why the "tone" of the Band is noticeably lowered. Is it because the flavouring of "Ginger" has not been added lately?

If our "Rookies" get an entertaining morning with the gee-gees, and whether our 1914 wallahs don't enjoy the sight?

Is "E" Company so sure of the Soccer League now? What do they think of their old rival's recent reinforcements? And did "Pedlar" pay up the ten bob?

The Quartermaster's latest acquisition—an Orderly "civies." Wonder if we will see any Rough Riders in "civies"?

Is it true that a certain C.Q.M.S. observed two anthrax parasites entering his store, and that he placed them under arrest and sent them to the M.O. for diagnosis as to state of contagion?

If a certain officer has found a pair of football boots to fit him? And is it true that he will have to have a pair made to measure if he wants to get a pair at all?

Who is the little man in broadcloth who pops into Headquarters Office twice a week or so? Is he really "Stan's" father?

Why is it that when an N.C.O. takes a lady friend to the Y.M.C.A. concert, he is graciously shown into a front seat? Is that his reason for "finding the lady"?

Who was the officer who fondly caressed the young lady on West Pier, Brighton, on the 1st? And would his wife be pleased if she saw the photograph?

Overheard in the Canteen. Time, 9.30 pip emma. Military Policeman—"Nah, then, off you go to yer 'ut."

Sapper (son of a belted Earl)—"I resent your interference; my appearance here is in absolute decorum, and my conduct impeccable."

M.P.—"Nah, then, 'op it an' none o' yer lip."

Sapper—"I consider you are trespassing beyond the circumscribed limits of your authority, and your action might be described as punctilious to the verge of supererogation."

M.P.—"Nah, then, 'ook it, I tells yer, or I'll run yer in fer swearin' at me."

(Exit the Sapper in lofty indignation).

Crowborough Notes.

How are we getting on at Crowborough? Oh, pretty fair, though we have hardly settled down yet. Things are a bit new and strange. "X" Company has got a lot of recruits, and "Y" Company a few, while "P" Company is much reduced in numbers. The P.T. instructors of "X" Company have already got to work, so I am told, by those who know.

Sports have been started, but beyond a few games of football and some running, nothing much can be done till the new gear and clothing arrives.

As the camp is spread out over several small hills, it is a bit difficult to find a level piece of ground.

It is hoped that in a short time there will be opportunities for everybody to take part in football, hockey, boxing, and running.

There is a very excellent Soldiers' Club run by Mr. Mariner, who has been here since the beginning of the war.

A successful dance was held at the Club a short time ago, and there is something on in the way of concerts, whist drives, dances, or billiards, nearly every evening.

The camp concert party is getting a move on. There are rumours of a cinema show being installed, and of a theatre being opened. There was a large gathering of the W.O.s and N.C.O.s a few days ago to say goodbye to C.S.M. Fry, who is leaving the Service.

An impromptu concert was held, and speeches made. C.S.M. Fry was then presented with a clock on behalf of the W.O.s and N.C.O.s of both the Maresfield and Crowborough Messes. Altogether it was a very jolly evening, in spite of the rather sad occasion for it. However, we all wish C.S.M. Fry the very best of luck, and hope he will often come back and visit the old corps.

Beyond these, I have no further notes, as I have had little time to collect them; but it is hoped in future to give in this column a fairly accurate account of the doings of the 2nd T.B.

HERBERT HIGHBROW.

A woman got half-a-dozen dyed eggs ready for the children at Easter—red, green, pink, brown, etc.—and left them on the lawn to dry.

The rooster came along and looked at them with his head on one side. He did this time and again, and then, exasperated, he went and pecked the peacock to death.

"A 'General' Grouse."

DEAR JOHN—

It is not often that I can be persuaded to get up on my hind legs and BRAY, but being offered a PENNEY for my thoughts, I will voice them to the best of my ability.

It has been a THORNE in my side for some time past that the humble haricot BEAN has been dished up in an uncooked state each morning at "dejeuner."

This FRENCH product is very tasty if it is prepared in LEE WRIGHT way, and when cooked, should be as soft as BRANN.

Let us hope that this STRAIGHT talk will be a lesson to the cooks.

I was in a bit of a HOLE the other morning. I lost the toss in the Y.M., and it was my turn to pay the PIPER.

HUNT as I might, I could not find a single BROWN, JOHN, and I had begun to WHISHAW the floor would open to swallow me, when a NOBLE friend of mine arrived on the scene and raised me to POWER once more by the loan of a bob.

You will be thinking I am a veritable Mrs. Caudle or Mrs. GRUNDY by the tone of my letter, but every soldier is permitted to grouse, even if his complaints have to be judicious.

Yours to a cinder,

SAPPER.

"Education for the Army."

An Orderly from "A" Company was sent to Headquarters Office for some "pro forma's" for returns. Either he was hard of hearing, or he was afraid of forgetting, and repeated his instructions to himself all the way. He arrived at the enquiry window with the request for two "Company Reformers." We are all aware that several Companies need reforming, or at least, the members thereof, but it was quite a shock to be asked for reformers as if we kept them on our shelves for the asking. When the fact occurred to us that he needed forms for returns, he was soon sent on his way rejoicing.



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MAJOR DRAPKIN & CO
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Actual Size
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'SHUN!!!

From the "Y.M."

"What we should do without the good old Y.M., Gawd only knows," said a weather-stained R.E. the other day, what time he was threading his way to the refreshment counter in the hut.

We of the "Y.M." venture to assert that this emphatic, if somewhat impious, opinion is shared by the majority of Tommies heregathered.

For be it known that even Uckfield, with its thousand and one wild joys and hysterical distractions, does not supply the ideal for the soldier in his hours of ease.

Even the excitement of walking the longest mile and a half in England, i.e., Maresfield to Uckfield, and, of course, *vice versa*, does not satisfy one's longing for enjoyment, particularly when the night is drear, the roads sloppy, and the merry motorist does his level best to send the unfortunate pedestrian to Kingdom-come in record time.

When all is said and done, Tommy is not a bad judge of what is good for him, hence the popularity of our huts, wherein we liberally supply entertainment for the mind and food for the body.

It has been said that the soldier is a grouser born, and it has been rumoured that he has even had the audacity to grouse over his army dinner—the ungrateful varlet. Surely he can't expect a Savoy Hotel menu at the N.A.C.B. any more than a Queen's Hall programme of music at the Y.M., particularly when it is remembered that the entertainment is "bucksheesh."

We have provided entertainments extending over a very wide range, from a lecture on Chopin down to a hilarious vocal effort which has a lilting refrain descriptive of the amours of a lady known as "Katey," whose adventures with a cowshed door are chortled joyously. The said "Katey" is evidently not a nice person to know, combining as she does late hours with other indiscretions.

To our muttons!

Not only have we supplied endless musical entertainments, but we have encouraged Tommy to woo the Goddess Terpsichore, and the dainty and nimble feet of more or less graceful dancers can be seen keeping time to the glad music. When lady partners fail, Tommy seizes unto himself a brother soldier, and the twain glide through the intricacies of the mazy waltz, or jazz through the ear-splitting jazz. By the way, an R.E.

was heard to remark that "dancing with another bloke instead of a gal was like drinking champagne with the fizz all gone."

Devotees of whist have had their needs met by many whist drives, and fairly substantial prizes have been given.

Entertainment has also been provided for the Vandals, who succeed in "making a night of it" by smashing up our pianos. This weird form of amusement has been freely indulged in in the past. There is hope, however, for these iron-fisted gentlemen, who will probably have learned better by the time they possess instruments of their own.

When the excitement of the piano smashing fails, there is always a weighing machine to knock out of order. Even a long-suffering weighing machine jibs when ten or a dozen hefty fellows want their weight registered at once for the inclusive sum of one penny, which they may or may not get returned.

Billiard players are well catered for, there being three excellent tables. Occasionally an alleged cueist, whose powers of observation must be somewhat obscure, mistakes a table for the downy couch provided by a grateful Government, and lays his body prone upon the green cloth; though the combination of cold slate and cloth does not strike one as forming the ideal bedstead.

For those inclined, we supply musical services on Sundays, which are fairly well attended.

We endeavour to cater well for every taste and condition, and we take the flattering unction to our souls that our efforts have been successful in the past—and we are determined to do still better.

It must be remembered that "one man's meat is another man's poison," and having men of all sorts and conditions to cater for, it is not the easiest thing in the world to please everybody. An entertainment that would probably be a feast of delight to the average Tommy would be anathema to a glorified W.O.

In conclusion, we can assure every reader of THE WIRE that—

"Our true intent is all for your delight;"
and in the words of the ancient couplet, we would pray you to—

"Be to our virtues ever kind,
And to our faults a little blind."

We wish THE WIRE every success.

"Who's Who" in the Camp.



Medal Presentation.

The Commandant (Brig.-Gen. E. G. Godfrey-Faussett, C.B., C.M.G., R.E.), held a presentation of medals at Maresfield Park Camp on Sunday, Feb. 15th, 1920. The awards were as follows:—

619507 Sapper W. G. Collins, awarded D.C.M. (*vide London Gazette*, dated 22/9/16), for gallantry and devotion to duty, when repairing communication wires under very heavy fire. Though others had ceased work, Sapper Collins worked single-handed for five-and-a-half hours, and restored communication.

23234 T Corpl C. W. Nutt, awarded D.C.M. (*vide London Gazette*, dated 3/6/19), King's Birthday Honours List: no specific act of gallantry is mentioned on that date.

Military Medal and Bar.

314174 A/2/Corpl Grant, N.

Military Medal.

25060 T/Corpl Burr, W. J.
16092 Sergt Draper, E.
344202 A/2/Corpl Graddon, E.
343928 2/Corpl Gordon, J.
39533 Sergt Webster
311251 Sapper Searson, A.

Meritorious Service Medal.

11107 F.S.M. Bowker, E. G.
15016 C.S.M. Butler, W.
2893 M.S.M. Collins, T.
8872 T/C.S.M. Cussens, J. P.
23186 T/C.S.M. Keane, M. W.
17249 Corpl Keane, R. S.
34818 Corpl Manton, H. J.
24535 T/R.S.M. Muntzer, A.
17719 A/R.S.M. Nicol, W. A.
4590 C.S.M. Watson, S. J.

Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

2893 M.S.M. Collins, T.
4590 C.S.M. Watson, S. J.
2469 T/R.S.M. Boulger, H. W.
23309 Sergt Elliott, H.
8906 T/R.Q.M.S. Walshaw, G. S.

Delhi Coronation Medal.

37073 T/C.Q.M.S. Kelly, E. F.

1914 Star.

23234 T/Corpl Nutt, C. W.
16092 Sergt Draper, E.
11387 T/R.S.M. Waterhouse, G.
11107 F.S.M. Bowker, E. G.
8872 T/C.S.M. Cussens, J. P.
18949 L/Corpl Hart, C.
23186 T/C.S.M. Keane, M. W.
4590 C.S.M. Watson, S. J.
23309 Sergt Elliott, H.
343962 Driver Brown, F. G.
315515 L/Corpl Barley, A. L.
9798 F.S./Sergt Bruce, T.
26951 Sapper Bendry, F.
23282 Sapper Curthoys, G.
314204 L/Corpl Collins, J.
34077 Driver Drew, J. L.
23144 T/2/Corpl Devine, C.
9935 T/Sergt Evans, R. T.
23141 T/Sergt Flackney, W. F.
248540 Sergt Gillin, F. G.
22943 Sapper Gale, C. W.
20811 Sapper Grace, C.
32786 T/Corpl Hayes, J.
32769 T/C.S.M. Hart, R. R.
16359 C.S.M. Jones, N.
23632 Driver Johnstone, P.
343689 A/Sergt Kneebone, G.
349044 Sapper Kirkup, E.
37073 T/C.Q.M.S. Kelly, E. F.
20032 L/Corpl Morel, G. A.
358740 Sapper Miles, D.
312587 L/Corpl Mitchell, A. J.
6675 C.S.M. Megson, F. W.
343764 Sapper McGregor, W.
344848 Sapper Prior, G.
16211 Sergt Ruffle, G.
199058 Sapper Sharpe, R. H.
315510 A/L/Corpl Spencer, H. J.
19808 2/Corpl Terry, G.
39527 A/C.Q.M.S. Underwood, H.
14977 Sergt Eldridge, J. W.
23591 L/Corpl Spreckley, J. E.
22936 Sergt Tremaine, T. W.
23293 T/C.Q.M.S. Winter, A. L.
245441 Sapper Webb, F. E.

Belgian Croix de Guerre.

11387 T/R.S.M. Waterhouse, G.

Diploma for Medaille Militaire.

17719 A/R.S.M. Nicol, W. A.

Italian War Cross.

15863 C.S.M. Patrick, E.

Army Life.

The young soldier, probably free from home influences for the first time, finds his introduction to His Majesty's Forces far from pleasing. His life is hemmed in by a formidable wall of "don'ts" which are unusual, and to an active young man, undesirable. Unfortunately, too many of these "don'ts" are not understood, owing to lack of explanation. The result is, therefore, that if the young soldier is healthy, he develops a "grievance." Just what his complaint is, he does not know, but anyway, he is up against something.

The hard fact will always remain, however, that although the Government is abusing his health by hiring men wearing stripes to rouse him up with the lark, and subject him to other forms of brutality such as physical "jerks," he had best stick it—it will pay in the long run.

It is the same old tale oft repeated, "Wait till I get the Sergeant-Major when he is in civvies," but when the day for casting the "clobber" comes along he says, "He was not so bad, after all." You see, he was "one of ours," and that makes all the difference.

No, we must admit, that if we had a little more money, and more leave to spend it, the Army would be first rate; but I am afraid that if we re-modelled it according to our own tastes we should spoil it. Of course, we do not tell the Sergeant-Major that, but we know it in our hearts all the same.

The first thing you get when you join is "Get your hair cut." That doesn't hurt; it is easy to wash your head afterwards, anyway. Then you are told to "stand steady." You are sure to flicker an eyelid and get choked off, but *cela ne fait rien*, that is the way soldiers are made.

Discipline is good for us, but we don't apply it to ourselves if we think it interferes with our pleasures, although the latter may leave a bad taste in the mouth and a nasty head, with which we bluff ourselves we have had a good time.

So here's luck to the Army "don'ts." They tickle, but they don't hurt, and after a while we find that the tickling is good for the circulation.

Aden.

"Now you seldom finds a 'swaddy' wot 'as any time fer dreams.

'Cos if 'e does 'is dooty by the book,

'E never 'as a lot o' time fer kippin' on 'is 'ands,

'Specially when 'e acts as Comp'ny Cook.

"When I was out in Aden just afore the Soudan war,
I was cooky for the Royal Fusiliers;
I dreamt a bloomin' dream one night I never could
fergit
If I lived to soldier on fer fifty years.

"I 'ad a sup or two o' beer afore the Canteen shut,
An' went to kip as 'appy as could be;
I dreamt as I was dyin' in the middle o' the Square,
With the bloomin' Sergeant-Major 'long o' me.

"We both of us left all our kit, and started off fer 'ell;
It seemed as we were travellin' fer days.
I thought of all the things I'd done when I were on
the earth,
An' 'ow some bloke 'ad sed 'The woman pays.'

"Well, after we 'ad travelled fer a week—or so it
seemed,
We both of us arrived at 'Ell's front door;
The Sergeant-Major, senior like, 'e knocks upon the
gate,
While I shivered like a 'Rooky' on the floor.

"Then all at once a wicket in the gate began to move,
An' out stepped Nick 'isself to call the roll;
'E ticked the Sergeant-Major off fer wearin' civvy
boots,
While 'e scribbled down perticlers on the Scroll.

"'E took down all perticlers, 'ome address and next-
o'-kin,
Both birth and vaccination marks as well;
'E told us if we didn't get a leave afore we came,
There was little chance o' getting it in 'Ell.

"Then all at once 'e ups an' ses 'Wot unit was yer
wiv,
An' where was you a-servin' when you died?'
'We was soldierin' at Aden in the Royal Fusiliers,'
The Sergeant-Major chokin'ly replied.

"'At Aden!' shrieked the Devil, 'and you're here
wivout yer coat?'
I thought as 'e was goin' to 'ave a stroke;
'E was orderin' the Major fer 'is Ord'ly Room at nine,
When the bugle went 'Revally,' an' I woke.

"Now ev'ry British soldier thinks, wots done 'is bit
out East,
'Is station was the 'ottest of the lot,
But when the Devil seconds it, you'll think the same
as me.

That Aden is the 'ottest show we've got."

Jan. 17th, 1919.

G. E. PALIN.

SPORTS NEWS.

Soccer.

This season, both the Senior and Junior teams of the S.S.T.C. have done exceedingly well in Cup and friendly matches, the Senior team having played seven friendlies, four of which they won, and lost three.

The Senior team have reached the semi-final of the Sussex Senior Cup and play Vernon Athletic in the next round.

The matches played by S.S.T.C. F.C. are as follows:

	For.	Agst.
Friendly v. East Grinstead	away	9 — 2
Friendly v. Tunbridge Wells Rngs. away	1 — 2	
Friendly v. Horsham	away	5 — 1
Friendly v. Ardingly College	home	7 — 3
Friendly v. Tunbridge Wells Rngs. away	3 — 5	
Friendly v. Eastbourne	away	3 — 7
Sussex Junior Cup v. Crowboro.....	home	6 — 0
Army Cup v. Royal Sussex Depot	away	1 — 0
Sussex Senior Cup v. Newhaven	away	3 — 1
Sussex Junior Cup v. Uckfield	away	5 — 2
Friendly v. St. Margaret's Athletic.....	home	3 — 0
Sussex Senior Cup v. Lewes	away	1 — 1
Sussex Senior Cup v. Lewes (replay) home	5 — 1	

Inter-Company Knock-out Competition.

This competition was won by "P" Company, who beat Courses Battalion in the final by 5 goals to 1.

The semi-final with "E" Company produced some really good football; the day was fine, and ground in good condition.

The weather was bad on the day of the final, and the game suffered in consequence.

"P" Company were the stronger team throughout, and well deserved their victory.

The present position of the Companies in the Inter-Company Association Football League is as follows—

Coy.	Played	Won	Lost	Drn.	For	Agst.	Points
E	6	6	0	0	14	3	.. 12
C	7	4	3	0	22	11	.. 8
D	5	3	2	0	13	9	.. 6
B	6	3	3	0	11	14	.. 6
F	5	1	4	0	5	15	.. 2
A	5	0	5	0	5	18	.. 0

Rugger.

The S.S.T.C. Team qualified for the final of the Eastern Command Championships, and were drawn to play against the S.M.E., Chatham.

A high wind was blowing throughout the game, and this somewhat affected the play.

During the first ten minutes the S.S.T.C. team confined the S.M.E. in their own half, but, owing to lack of practice, the Sigs. team gradually fell away. After a boisterous, if not scientific game, the S.M.E. emerged from the fray victors by 11 points to nil.

Other matches and results are as follows—

	points
S.S.T.C. v. M.G.C. Cav.	S.S.T.C. lost 0—3
S.S.T.C. v. Brighton	S.S.T.C. won 13—0
S.S.T.C. v. Brighton	S.S.T.C. won 13—0
S.S.T.C. v. Brighton	S.S.T.C. lost 5—8
S.S.T.C. v. S.M.E., Chatham	S.S.T.C. lost 0—11

Hockey.

Company Hockey.

It was at first difficult to get the Inter-Company Hockey League moving, owing to there being so few men in the Training Centre who had previously played the game. After a few practice games, men soon learned the rules, and the game is now going strong. The results of the League up to Feb. 6th, are as follows:—

					Goals		
	Played	Won	Drn.	Lost	For	Agst.	Pts.
E Company	4	3	1	0	18	4	7
C Company	4	3	0	1	8	6	6
D Company	3	1	1	1	6	5	3
F Company	3	1	0	2	3	14	2
B Company	2	0	0	2	4	7	0
A Company	2	0	0	2	3	6	0

It is hoped that when the above league is finished (six more matches to be played), an inter-Company knock-out competition, to include Companies of 1st and 2nd Training Battalions and Courses, will be started.

S.S.T.C. Hockey.

Owing to the scarcity of Hockey Clubs in this district, very few outside matches have been played, but

THE AFTER—HEROES.

*"We cannot all be heroes, and thrill a hemisphere
With some great daring venture, some deed that mocks at fear,
But we can fill a lifetime with kindly acts and true—
There's always noble service for noble souls to do."*

—C. A. MASON.

THEY have done their work "out there," these blinded men of St. Dunstan's. They have fought their fight. But there is greater, harder, truer heroism before them—an unceasing fight for the remainder of their lives. They have to "learn to be blind." To stoop and build up their lives with Kipling's "worn out Tools."

At St. Dunstan's we help them to their feet. Send each man once more into the world (after 8 to 12 months) a cheery, contented, independent citizen—able to earn a good living. And we look after each man—for life. The After-Care Branch watches and helps each man for life. This is where the great need for funds is indicated. For it is an expensive job. Read the following typical letter:—

L/CORPL. WILLIAM PETTIT,
1st King's Royal Rifles.
Joiner.

"Just about a year ago I removed to my present shop at 12, High Street, Harrow. The shop is close to the school. It has also the advantage of being in the main street. Here I do a very good trade in picture-framing and supplying various other articles to the boys of the school, as well as the residents of Harrow. My turnover for the past year has been £531 9s. 0½d. I estimate

my trade expenses to be about £303 13s. 9d., which leaves £227 15s. 3½d., or an average of about £4 7s. 7d. per week profit. I have also stock-in-hand to the value of £213 16s. 9d., being an increase on the stock I began the year with of £142 3s. 3d.

"I consider picture-framing the best work. I have lately, in addition to catering for the wants of the boys of the school, added to my stock-in-trade artists' materials and colours, and they are going. My work keeps me very busy, but I have been able to go in for singing as a recreation, and find much pleasure in it. My greatest difficulty during these two years has been my want of any previous business experience, and I think I may add my greatest asset has been a good wife, who has helped me very much in the business this last year."

Please help. Send what you feel justified in giving yourself. Whip round among the boys, officers and men, for a little each—to help the fallen brother-in-arms to his feet. Get up a "benefit"—write home to those you think can do this thing, and do it well. You know what a fine thing is this—you who have seen the spaciousness of Life and Death "out there"—you who have now a far truer sense of the Values than those at home can ever have.

Arthur Pearson.

Please address the Treasurer: THE BLINDED SOLDIERS' & SAILORS' CARE COMMITTEE
(Registered under the War Charities Act, 1916), St. Dunstan's, Regent's Park, London, N.W.1.

"I expect to pass through this world but once. If, therefore, there is any good thing which I can do, or any kindness I can show my fellow man, let me do it now. Let me not defer it, nor neglect it—for I shall not pass this way again."

it is hoped that several fixtures may still be arranged before the end of the season.

Results of matches up to date (Feb. 7th, 1920), are as follows:—

Date	Fixture	Result	Goals
1919.....	S.S.T.C. v. R.F.A. (Forest Row)	Lost	2-4
".....	" v. " " "	Won	3-0
".....	" v. " " "	Draw	3-3
1920			
Jan. 12th..	" v. Connaught Rangers	Lost	1-3
" ..	" v. Brighton 2nd XI...	Won	2-0
Feb. 7th ..	" v. " " "	Won	7-1

* * *

Cross Country Running.

Owing to lack of support, the Cross Country Running season started very late; but, once started, it bids fair to be a great success, as several Companies are showing great enthusiasm.

Four practice runs have been held, and also a match against Brighton and County Harriers at Barcombe Mills, as well as a handicap race amongst ourselves.

In the match against Brighton, we were heavily defeated. We turned out nineteen runners, but they only turned out eight, so the first six home were counted. The Brighton team got all their six home before any of ours, but, overwhelming as the defeat may appear, it was not really so in fact, as we were beaten chiefly by reason of our inexperience—the Brighton team packing well, whereas all the efforts of R.S.M. Nichols and Sapper Kirwan to make our men pack were unavailing.

Both the above would have come in very much higher if they had not sacrificed their own position for the sake of the team.

After the race, the Brighton men entertained ours to tea, followed by a concert, which was kept up till a late hour.

In the handicap race the order of finishing was:—

Sapper Kirwan, "A" Company.

R.S.M. Nichols, "C" Company.

Sapper Miles, "C" Company.

but, on deducting the handicap, Miles took first place.

There is to be a return match against Brighton on March 13th, and it is hoped to arrange several others.

On Thursdays there is always a race of some kind, either Cross Country or Sprints. Details of the Inter-Company Cross Country race, Individual and Cross Country race, and Sports, will be published shortly.

"Education is to become an integral part of Military Training.—Daily Paper.

How often with a keen imagination

Have I seen the British Army grow polite,
And wondered if, by means of education,
The project could be made to work alright?

And now the day has dawned, when education
For the soldier is to be a special course;
He will mingle his attempts at vulgar fractions
With his acrobatic tricks upon the horse.

Soon now, you'll hear the raucous Sergeant-Major
Conversing with you like a magistrate,
Correcting you with accents meek and gentle
The instances you fail to aspire to.

The Sergeant will approach you with effusion,
For any other style is *infra dig*,
And warn you with a sorrowful expression,
"You are wanted in the Cookhouse on fatigue."

Then, in the Riding School, the Riding Master
Will treat you in a pally sort of style,
And when you fall from off your mule or gee-gee
Will help you to your saddle with a smile.

And then when you, needs must, the Quartermaster
A confidential sort of visit pay,
He'll beam on you and sweetly say "Good morning,
What can I have the pleasure, sir, to-day?"

Then, when you have to pay a flying visit
To the sanctum of the local A.P.M.,
For being in a jovial condition
On the highway at the hour of one a.m.

He will greet you with a jovial "Good morning,
And cordially invite to stay the night,
And send for friends to take you back to Barrack
In the future, when the Army grows polite.

Jan. 15th, 1920.

G. E. PALIN

Feather was home on leave, and feeling the occasion demanded something more "posh" than Woodbin, he called at the village store for a couple of cigars.

"Well, boy," said the storekeeper, who was acquainted with Feather's family, "still a private, I see."

"Yes," responded Feather; "like this cigar yours: one of the rank and vile."

In Reply to Yours.

SAPPER F.A., writes:—

What is the correct meaning of "Honi soit qui mal y pense"?—The correct translation is "Evil to him that evil thinks"; not "It does not matter about you, Jack, I'm alright," as most soldiers are led to believe.

T.J., Crowborough, writes:—

Where is the reputed rum issue that is served to troops during severe weather?—Ask me something easier, such as "Where do flies go in winter?"—Ed.

E.S., Crowborough, writes:—

I am a M.S.A. man, called up for Service in January, 1919. When shall I be eligible for discharge?—There are no definite orders on the subject issued yet, but I should say "When the sands of the desert grow cold."

JACK B., Maresfield, writes:—

I joined up in 1915, went overseas to France on August 6th, 1918, and came home in December, 1918. How many chevrons am I entitled to?—One blue, but I should certainly think you are entitled to an O.B.E. for "dodging the column."

F.S., Crowborough, writes, complaining of the very forcible language used by one of the senior N.C.O.s when he has happened to lay in bed a little too long in the morning.—Cheer up, F.S., it is all part of the game, and I believe it has been known of a Sergeant not to swear. Go to bed a little earlier and rise with the lark at reveille, and maybe you will find the N.C.O. you complain of is not such a bad sort, after all.

* * *

The instructor was not satisfied with the way Pioneer Rookie was going through bayonet exercise. "Look 'ere, my man," he snapped; "spose you was in a German trench an' a whoppin' big 'Un came for yer; imagine 'im pointin' 'is bayonet at yer; wot steps would yer take?"

"Mighty long 'uns, Sergeant," returned the embryo soldier.

* * *

Two Sappers of the Signal Service were walking in Brighton, when one stopped, and pulling the other's arm, said, "Look, is that the Major?"

"Yes," was the reply; "but who is that with him? Not his wife, surely?"

"No, I think it must be his emergency ration."

Please fill up and forward to the Editor, "THE WIRE," Headquarters S.S.T.C., Maresfield Park, Sussex.

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RAILWAY TIME TABLE.

WEEKDAYS—

London to Tunbridge Wells.

VICTORIA	6 45	...	9 3	12 0	...	1 20	...	5 48	7 58	...
Clapham Junction	6 53	...	9 10	12 8	...	1 27	...	...	...	...
LONDON BRIDGE	6 30	8 7	9 7	...	12 50	1 20	4 10	...	7 38	...
East Croydon	7 11	8 33	9 30	12 28	1 11	1 47	4 32	6 6	6 6	8 0
Oxted	7 40	9 5	...	1 0	1 41	...	5 4	6 30	6 36	8 32
East Grinstead	8 17	9 34	10 44	1 33	2 6	2 57	5 32	6 55	7 1	9 2
Groombridge	8 44	10 0	11 11	2 0	2 32	3 24	6 0	7 22	7 28	9 22
TUNBRIDGE WELLS	8 51	10 7	11 18	2 7	2 39	3 31	6 7	7 29	7 35	9 35

Tunbridge Wells to London.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS	7 5	7 42	8 48	9 50	11 18	3 30	6 10	8 20	...	...
Groombridge	7 11	7 48	8 45	9 57	11 24	3 37	6 17	8 26	...	...
East Grinstead	7 50	8 16	9 31	10 28	12 8	4 10	6 57	9 5	...	...
Oxted	8 17	8 47	9 56	10 52	12 30	4 32	7 21	9 27	...	...
East Croydon	8 43	9 12	10 20	11 18	12 59	5 1	7 48	9 50	...	...
LONDON BRIDGE	9 2	9 32	10 39	...	...	5 21	...	10 12	...	...
Clapham Junction	9 0	9 30	10 41	11 32	1 13	5 47	8 12	10 7	...	...
VICTORIA	9 8	9 40	10 49	11 42	1 23	5 57	8 22	10 16	...	...

* Sats. only. † Not Sats. ‡ On Sats., 1.10. § Not Sats. from Victoria or Clapham Junction to East Croydon.

SUNDAYS— London to Tunbridge Wells.

VICTORIA	a.m.	p.m.
Clapham Junction	...	...
LONDON BRIDGE	8 30	6 46
East Croydon	8 58	7 14
Oxted	9 30	7 44
East Grinstead	10 0	8 59
Groombridge	10 26	9 26
TUNBRIDGE WELLS	10 35	9 33

Tunbridge Wells to London.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS	a.m.	p.m.
Groombridge	7 15	5 45
East Grinstead	7 21	5 52
Oxted	...	...
East Croydon	9 50	7 32
LONDON BRIDGE	10 13	8 0
Clapham Junction	10 23	...
VICTORIA	10 32	...

WEEKDAYS—

Brighton to Tunbridge Wells.

BRIGHTON (Central)	6 56	8 5	9 22	10 20	12 0	1 38	4 27	5 43	6 19	7 24	9 5
London Road	7 0	8 9	9 26	10 23	12 4	1 42	4 31	5 47	6 23	7 28	9 9
Lewes	7 17	8 26	9 42	10 38	12 24	2 0	4 49	6 4	6 50	7 48	9 34
UCKFIELD	7 40	8 49	10 4	10 54	12 46	2 22	5 11	6 25	7 11	8 10	9 56
CROWBOROUGH	7 50	9 10	10 23	11 11	1 5	2 40	5 30	6 43	7 30	8 28	10 14
Groombridge	8 20	9 31	10 37	11 31	1 20	2 55	5 45	6 58	7 45	8 43	10 28
TUNBRIDGE WELLS	8 27	9 38	10 44	11 38	1 27	3 2	5 52	7 5	7 52	8 50	10 35

Tunbridge Wells to Brighton.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS	6 57	8 0	10 0	11 25	2 0	4 25	6 38	7 36	9 32	...	...
Groombridge	7 4	8 6	10 6	11 31	2 8	4 32	6 47	7 44	9 40	...	...
CROWBOROUGH	7 28	8 21	10 21	11 46	2 24	4 52	7 1	8 0	9 56	...	...
UCKFIELD	7 47	8 38	10 37	12 3	2 43	5 9	7 17	8 17	10 12	...	...
Lewes	8 13	8 59	11 2	12 26	3 8	5 34	7 40	8 40	10 35	...	...
London Road	8 32	9 14	11 17	12 45	3 26	5 51	7 59	8 59	10 50	...	...
BRIGHTON (Central)	8 37	9 19	11 22	12 50	3 30	5 55	8 3	9 4	10 55	...	...

SUNDAYS— Brighton to Tunbridge Wells.

BRIGHTON (Central)	a.m.	p.m.
London Road	9 40	2 10
Lewes	9 44	2 13
UCKFIELD	10 3	2 32
CROWBOROUGH	10 25	2 55
Groombridge	10 43	3 12
TUNBRIDGE WELLS	10 59	3 26
TUNBRIDGE WELLS	11 4	3 33

Tunbridge Wells to Brighton.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS	a.m.	p.m.
Groombridge	7 5	5 0
CROWBOROUGH	7 11	5 6
UCKFIELD	7 26	5 22
Lewes	7 42	5 39
London Road	8 19	6 7
BRIGHTON (Central)	8 38	6 27
BRIGHTON (Central)	8 43	6 32

THE WIRE

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

OUR little Journal is now an accomplished fact, and well on the way to a successful future. Thanks are mainly due to the Rank and File, who intelligently foresaw the possibilities which a real live Camp Magazine opened up. In these days of fabulous prices, the production of a magazine is no trivial matter. Paper, for one thing, has quadrupled in price since the "Piping days o' Peace"; and greatly increased wages in the Printing trade also figure largely in the enhanced cost of production.

I wanted to avoid giving you a "Rag"—I wanted rather to give you a Magazine that held *worth* in its pages from cover to cover; a Magazine you could send home to your friends, or keep as a memento of your service with the Corps. Having no funds in hand to work upon, the first number had to be priced at 6d. per copy in order to cover the cost of production; but this and subsequent editions will be sold at 4d., as certain allowances are made by the Printers which enable the reduction to be made.

A certain person (with a small brain and a very narrow outlook upon life) remarked, when approached to purchase a copy, "What! 6d? why, it is not so big as *London Opinion*, and that is only 2d." I turned away sorrowfully; he was a "transfer," so I made allowances.

It is such people as these (who do not realise that a circulation of two million copies weekly is not in the same street as one of two thousand monthly) who "cast the dark mantle" over any effort that is made for their welfare and amusement. These are the people who expect a Queen's Hall programme at the Y.M.C.A., or a five-course supper for 7d. in the N.A.C.B. Thank goodness, they are in the minority, or I should apply for my "ticket."

Well, comrades, the size of the Journal is increased from sixteen to twenty pages this month, and I hope that everyone will make a point of having fourpennyworth.

It has been decided to publish a balance sheet every six months, in order that all ranks may have an opportunity of noting the disposal of surplus funds.

As a last word, avoid the man who criticises! He is probably expecting his discharge in a few weeks, and consequently has lost all interest in the Corps which has been his home for the "duration."

The Vigilance of the Sappers.

And behold, it came upon a day that the Intelligence Officer said unto himself, "I will go into the forward area, and see with my own eyes what precautions are being taken that no spies are permitted to roam at will and learn of our defensive methods, and also I will find out what these Sappers do, that they require so many men for working parties."

So he girt about his loins, and laid aside his hat of brass and his sanguine raiment, and he did camouflage himself so that he could not be distinguished from any other strange officer.

And he gat himself to the forward area with a map whereupon the defensive works were shown. And it came to pass, as the day was wet and the trenches were muddy, he climbed out upon the top, where he lost himself; and by-and-by he met a Signal Officer, and he inquired his way; and having identified himself, he was supplied with the information that he required, and directed upon the route that he should follow—and as the day was far spent, the Signal Officer also invited the stranger to partake of some nourishment, yea, even bully beef and biscuits.

But the Intelligence Officer would not hearken, and went upon his way.

And behold he fell among strangers, yea, even Sappers, who knew him not. Of them he asked many questions which aroused their suspicions, for he was a strange officer, and behold he was not accompanied by a runner, even as it was provided he should be.

So they said unto him, "Hold up your hands, and come quietly with us. You are even a spy—we know you not."

So they took him, and led him away to Battalion Headquarters to be identified.

Here he produced a parchment to show that he was an officer of the Intelligence Department; but they said unto him, "We know you not, nor can we tell whereof you have obtained these writings; yea, you may even have purloined them."

So the Intelligence Officer waxed exceeding wrath, and gnashed his teeth, but they heeded him not, and held him prisoner until he was properly identified by Headquarters.

And it is even so that the Signals "Carry On."



Dear Old Lady (visiting Hospital): "Do you know a soldier with one leg named Smith?"

Tommy: "What's the name of the other leg, mum?"

Robert of Gillingham.

Robert of Gillingham paced the square,
And his satellites flocked around him;
He "ticked" off recruits for the barber's chair;
He was busy at this, when I found him.

Oh, Robert's a rattling soldier bold:
At his place, in the front, you will find him,
And none can dispute, neither young nor the old,
That I have correctly defined him.

A figure, familiar at Bedford or "Brum";
At Chatham, they simply adored him;
With "Infantry Training" 'twixt finger and thumb,
I ne'er knew a point that had floored him.

Of "circular" aspect, and genial smile,
A good hearted fellow "all round,"
And a typical picture to grace the new "Mag."—
A better one could not be found.



The Signal Company's Ten Commandments.

- 1.—The Captain is thy boss: Thou shalt have no other boss but him.
- 2.—On parade thou shalt make of thyself a graven image, let his wrath fall upon thee.
- 3.—If thou paradest in improper raiment, thy name shall not be taken in vain: the Sergeant-Major will be thy accuser, and verily thou shalt be up against it.
- 4.—Six days shalt thou labour and do all thy work; and lo, on the Sabbath cometh Church Parade.
- 5.—Salute thy Captain and his host, that thy days may be long in the Signal Company.
- 6.—Thou shalt not murder the Trumpeter that bloweth "Reveille" before any other trumpeter in the land.
- 7.—Thou shalt keep thy raiment and the brasses thereof beyond reproach, lest thou fall into evil ways and work at night with a lantern.
- 8.—Thou shalt not steal an hour's sleep while the wise men of the land lecture on the Fullerphone.
- 9.—Thou shalt not bear false witness as to one who is absent when the Orderly Sergeant calls through the huts at Tattoo.
- 10.—Thou shalt not covet the jobs in the Royal Army Service Corps, nor their meals, nor their leaves, nor anything that is peculiar to the Royal Army Service Corps.

"Who's Who" in the Camp.



"THE SQUARE"

"The Only Game."

Once upon a time (for so all stories must so begin), there lived a band of mighty warriors.

It was an ancient custom for these warriors to assemble at least once yearly, to consider all the great games of that period.

Upon a certain date the "Great Chieftain" called for all his Braves to assemble in the Council Chamber, to consider and arrange for these games. The mandate was sent forth with all due ceremony, and these mighty men answered the call to a man, and came to this great council. Silence prevailed in that huge gathering when the "Great Chief" arose and began to speak. His voice was as the rushing of many waters, and the Braves listened, for well they knew that only words of wisdom would fall from his lips.

In that congregation were many who had grown old in the Service, and who bore the marks of many a bloody fray, yet meekly bore the emblems of victory; even the youngest of these Braves could display his battle honours.

"My children," he cried, "we are gathered here to-day to discuss all the greatest games, and it is to you I look now for suggestions; for to my mind, it is necessary that every young Brave be taught some game besides the great game of War. We are far from rich; and it must be borne in mind that we can only consider games in which no outlay is required, and which also must be of such a nature that all can participate therein.

Then one mighty Chief arose and made his obeisance to "The Great One," and said, "Surely the Greatest-of-All has spoken words of wisdom to his children, and it is good that we are thus met to consider such great things. Thou hast heard, oh Mighty One, of the Peoples beyond our domain and of their games of strategy and skill; I myself have seen these, and truly they are wonderful."

Then that gathering of Warriors lifted up their voices as one man, and cried, "Tell us, oh Mighty One, of this game and of all thou hast seen."

Gravely he spoke, for the matter was serious. "It is a game of great endurance, for, arrayed as if for battle, I saw two bands of chosen Braves face each other. I could see no weapons and I was amazed; but in the centre of this battlefield, I observed what appeared to me as a round skull, and all eyes were centred upon this object.

"Suddenly, I heard a shrill blast, and with one mighty rush those Braves commenced to kick this round ball. With lightning-like rapidity the ball passed from end to end of the plain, and it was with difficulty that I followed this game. Then I saw one mighty giant rush past all the others, and the ball was at his feet the while. Something seemed to hold me spell-bound; for I felt as if the great moment had come. Suddenly this mighty Brave gave the ball a terrible kick, and the next moment the air was rent with yells of 'Goal!'

"I then observed that the ball had passed between two huge trees, and that the Brave who had been detailed to guard this post had failed to stop that rushing ball."

Then all the Warriors cried, "Truly, this must be a mighty game of skill and strategy, even as thou hast said. Tell us, oh Brother, the name of this wonderful game."

Then, in a voice like one calling out of a great stillness, he said, "I heard them call it 'Football.'"

It was agreed that this great game should be played. But then a discussion arose, for it was known that only a selected few could participate in this game.

Then the Great One spoke again, and his voice trembled with emotion, for truly he was sad at heart, for he had desired a game wherein all could participate. "Tell me, oh my Braves, of some game wherein all can take part, for it is truly desirable."

Then up stood one young Warrior, his face pale, and his lips twitching as if in pain. "To me, oh thou Great One, has been revealed, as in a dream, that great game for which thy soul thirsteth, for it is one that all can take part in. No ball is required, and there is no necessity to call for any expenditure, but it is of such a nature that calls forth fortitude and brain power."

The eyes of the Great One shone as the stars, and truly he was made to rejoice and be glad, for he had been given his heart's desire. All those mighty Braves silently smoked the pipe of peace, and quietly pondered all that had been said. Then, with a voice like unto mighty thunder, they cried, "Tell us, thou Diviner of Dreams, to whom it has been revealed, all that we desire. What is the name of this great game?"

In a voice choking with emotion, this young Warrior tried to speak, but his lips were dry and parched, and the colour of his face was like unto death. Twice he essayed to speak, but failed; finally he collapsed to the

The Photograph.

(See Supplement).

Upon a recent Sunday, just after Church Parade, A Medal distribution for War Services was made; The Staff was quite impressive, and the ranks extremely neat. From their well-adjusted headgear to their regulation feet.

A certain camera artist, full of enterprise and go, Had brought his tripod several miles to photograph the show: He hoped each man who had a medal pinned upon his chest Would want to prove to Somebody how well he stood the test!

The troops were nicely balanced in a square, and well in front The eighty meritorious men keyed up to do their stunt: A well-considered distance off, the Staff was grouped, and each Stood stiffly to "Attention" while the General made his speech.

It gave the bold photographer the very chance he sought Of spotting the position where the victims could be caught: He sighted on the General for his photographic shoots At much embarrassed heroes and their specimen salutes.

But ere the fun had started, to his measureless disgust, Another three-legged camera beside his own was thrust, And at the eleventh hour was established on the spot Which experiment and tactics had laboriously got.

He muttered imprecations from beneath his velvet pall, Which didn't seem to interrupt the other man at all; But soon they both were busy, by a contradictory chance, At dodging one another in a complicated dance.

To retain the point of focus, which shifted half a pace Every time another Medal-man advanced to take his place; And by the time the General had shaken eighty hands, The two competing cameras were rocking on their stands.

floor. Consternation prevailed, and many cried for water to be brought; but this cooling draught had no effect, for this young Brave was "anti-Pussfoot."

Then one old and grizzled Warrior spoke unto the Great Chief, and said, "Truly it is desirable that our young Brother be made to speak, and to reveal unto us this great secret. Thou hast remembrance, oh Father of All, of that glorious and life-giving tonic which all the Braves of our tribe call 'S.R.D.'"

And the Great One cried out with a loud voice for his servant, and said, "Haste thee; go, bring that dog of a Quarter-Blake, and bid him give unto this young Brave one good issue of 'S.R.D.'"

And when the Quarter-Blake drew nigh, the soul of this sick Brave rejoiced, for he had heard the mandate of the Great One. Gently they raised his drooping head, and gave unto him a double "tot." And the young Brave opened his eyes, and with a voice that choked with emotion, and with breath like unto Vesuvius, he whispered the name of that great game.

So it came to pass that the night air was rent by a mighty cry of "LONG LIVE TIPPIT."

C. I. V.

BELLINGHAM'S
for
LUNCHEONS
both Hot and Cold

BELLINGHAM'S
for
AFTERNOON
... TEAS ...

Central Hotel
High Street, Uckfield

For CAKES and
CONFECTIONERY
to
BELLINGHAM'S
come

BELLINGHAM'S
SUPPERS
are
JUST A!

When you are really fed up with Camp
COME TO BELLINGHAM'S!

The ranks dismissed, the Staff dispersed: in one triumphant glance,

The first embittered man perceived a compensating chance—

His rival walked the other way—his steps he swiftly bent

Where leisurely, to luncheon, the group of Red Tabs went.

He politely begged a favour of those exalted Three,
And posed them, acquiescent, behind a sheltering tree;
But ere the nice adjustment of his camera was done,
That regrettable intruder joined the picnic at a run.

Then the first man spoke, and speaking said precisely
what he thought.

And at the heated instant took the photograph he sought;

The sympathetic posers promptly shifted from their places—

And the poignant situation was reflected in their faces.

The photo shows the General a trifle stern, but kind;

The Major's gravity conceals a merry jest behind;

The Captain's left eye smiles upon the man who's going to win,

While his other eyebrow's frowning at the one who butted in.

March, 1920.

JAY HOO.

Non Sibi, Sed Patriae?

The boys are coming back, the Tommy and the Jack,
And we feel a sort o' jumpy jubilation
Cos they've freed the land and seas, sent the Hun
upon his knees,

And made Old England yet a mightier nation:
They have honours by the score, and victories galore;
They have fought in every clime beneath the sun,
The tropics and the snow, fighting hard to overthrow
The domineering tactics of the Hun.

They went from stool and bench to the horrors of the trench,

With the same old martial spirit as of yore;
They did their little bit with the same old bulldog grit
As their fathers and their grandfathers before;
They kept the highway free on the broad and mighty sea,

And made the Hun blockade a thing of jest;
So just to show our thanks to the lions of the ranks,
Let's give them, of our store, the very best.

They do not want your pity or your sentimental ditty;
Public meetings and your dinners they detest:
The right to work they want, not the unemployment grant

For the great unwanted army to congest.
Now we've a proposition: we must think of their position,

And our duty tells us plainly not to shirk—
There are jobs about in shoals; let's do away with doles,
And show our gratitude by finding work.

Feb. 27th, 1920.

G. E. PALIN.

The Soldier's Encyclopædia.

ANIMAL—An epithet applied to horses and mules, to distinguish them from men, in correspondence, etc. The word is derived from the same root as "animated," owing to the rapid moving propensities of their hind legs. (See also "HORSES, MULES.")

ACCOUNT—(See Paymaster).

AIRCUT—A curious expression used by Regimental Sergeant-Majors when a soldier's hirsute adornments are in the ascendant. The word is sometimes pronounced "Haireut," but very seldom.

BUCKSHEE—A cosmopolitan word, used extensively when obtaining goods by the Jewish or Scottish method. The word is said to have been coined by a Quartermaster-Sergeant, but proof of its origin is wrapped in obscurity.

BLANCO—This name is given to a white chalk-like substance, used (under pressure) to smother the grips of pantaloons, so that the soldier must perforce walk bow-legged to prevent the grips from rubbing together and ruining the effect. Walking in this style also makes recruits look like old cavalymen. The name "Blanco" is generally given to N.C.O.s and others whose name happens to be "White."

BEER—Machine oil for the human frame, obtainable in large or small quantities according to the size of the void. Responsible for the phrase, "Take his boots off."

CANTEEN—The soldiers' rendezvous, where everything that is not needed can be obtained, and where they are out of everything that is required. It is generally known in these days as the "Nac.Beer."

CUSHY—A quaint word denoting appreciation. Applicable to jobs generally; sometimes used to express the general working character of an officer or R.S.M.

CAMP—A township of troops, comprised of either hutments or canvas. A damp place is usually selected, and the farther away from a railway station the better.

COAL—A substance (almost extinct) used to fill dumps, etc. Seldom seen elsewhere.

DRIVER—A tamer of wild animals, e.g., horses and mules. Men who are tired of life are usually selected for this job. These men have a curious language of their own, and the longer the service, the more forcible it becomes. It is a notable fact that one Driver never considers another perfect in this art.

(Continued next month).



BIG THINGS of the WORLD

THE MIND OF MAN

The world is wealthy in wonderful things, but greater than all these is the creative mind of man himself.

MEN who are proud of their mental equipment smoke "GREYS" Cigarettes. In quality of tobacco, in wholesomeness, and size, "GREYS" excel





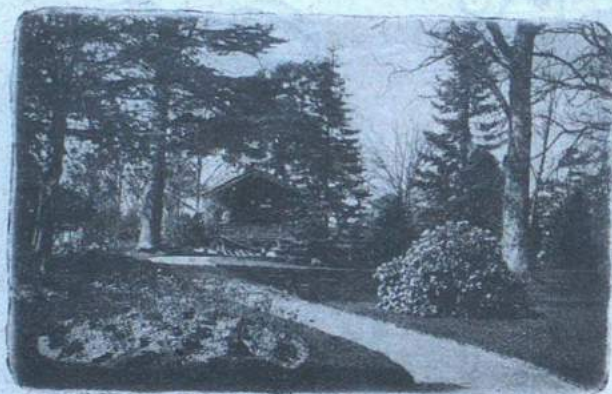
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The BIG CIGARETTE with the Choice Flavour



A Landmark—The Chalet, Maresfield Park



Heathfield Park, once the Residence of Brigadier-General Elliott, the gallant Defender of Gibraltar during the Siege of 1779-83. (The General subsequently became Lord Heathfield)

The Gibraltar Tower, in the North-west of the Park, was erected in memory of the Defence of "The Rock," and forms a landmark for the whole of the Weald. Commanding views of Sussex and Kent are to be obtained from the top of the tower (600 feet above sea level).

CAMP NEWS

We understand that quite a lot of mugs are being "removed" from the Y.M.C.A., and knives, forks and spoons from the N.A.C.B. This sort of thing is very petty, and men who expect to be looked upon as men should hold themselves above that sort of thing.

We are pleased to note that the person or persons concerned have desisted in their systematic ransacking of huts in the still hours of the night. I am "touching wood" as I write, but I hope the culprit or culprits have learned to distinguish what is their own by this time.

Apropos our remarks in the last issue, those "pro formas" are getting mutilated again—on paper, this time. Extract from "chit": "Please forward to this office copies of *proformers* of the 'R' Return."

Headquarters Notes.

Another of the clerical staff has gone to join the great unknown, *i.e.*, civil life (for I am inclined to believe that, as things are at present, going back to civil life is a big gamble).

This time it is Sapper F. C. Smith, and I am sure that his erstwhile colleagues wish him the very best of luck in his "change of life."

Capt. Penney is away on the "Continong," showing our French neighbours how the great game of Rugby should be played; and I don't think a doubt exists as to how the Army will quit themselves. They always have "played the game" in peace or war!

An epidemic of "flu" just now is leaving some of us more or less in a state of coma, but I guess it *will* have its fling, and visit each one in turn.

EAVESDROPPER.

United Services Club, Uckfield.

How many of the troops in Camp have taken advantage of the kindly offer of Major Thomas, in throwing open the Club to R.E.s stationed in the neighbourhood?

The Club is situated at the Drill Hall of the Uckfield Company 5th (Cinque Ports) Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment, and is open daily (excepting Sundays) from

11 a.m. to 10.30 p.m. It has a billiard table and a canteen bar, and is comfortably furnished.

The subscription is 1s. 6d. per quarter, and all the privileges of the Club can be enjoyed for that modest sum. Full particulars *re* membership, etc., can be obtained by a personal call.

Company Notes.

"A" Company.

These notes will be like the "donkey's gallop," I am afraid, but I hope to get going in real earnest in next month's issue.

The Company has fully kept up its reputation this month by losing two more football matches, and two hockey matches, but we are improving both teams, and will surprise some of our opponents one day in the near future by actually winning a match; and "E" Company will not be so sure of winning the next Company Knockout Competition.

Running is going strong in the Company, and we have some real "hot stuff" coming along; and I think we shall hold our own when the Boxing Competitions come off.

By the time these notes go to press, we shall have sung "Auld Lang Syne," as Pom, Stan, and Billy Spill will have left us for harder times in civil life. I am sure the whole of this Company, and the remainder of the Training Centre, will join me in wishing them the best of luck; and I am also sure some of our "Rookies" will not wish them a speedy return.

Next month I hope to fill a column with the doings of this Embryo Soldiers' Company, but as it requires *some* thought (and soldiers are not supposed to think), it will take some little time to work the notes up. Keep a look out for us next month, and we will surprise you.

By the way, who is the fellow who said that "13" was not unlucky? I was strolling along Framfield Road the other afternoon, and my attention was drawn to an old gentleman sitting in the front garden of one of the houses there.

He had a bath of water in front of him, and in his hand he held a small fishing rod. He was going through the motions of fishing in the bath, and I stood watching him for a few minutes.

Thinking perhaps the old chap was a trifle "loose in the tiles," I thought I would humour him a bit.

"Having a good day, old chap?" said I.

"Pretty fair," he answered.

"How many have you caught?" I asked.

"Oh, you're the thirteenth," he replied; and, would you believe it, I "clicked" for Stable Guard on the following Sunday.

I think "13" is *very* unlucky.

GRANMAR.

"D" Company.

Someone said that "D" Company were lucky to win their hockey match against "Y" Company, but, considering the number of passengers we had, *they* were lucky in not getting a more severe trouncing.

In fact, I am inclined to believe that, if we pull ourselves together, we shall give "E" Company a good run for the Hockey Knockout Competition.

THE DON.

"E" Company.

The notes for this Company will open in the nature of a challenge! In the words of the comedian of olden time, "Let 'em all come." That Inter-Company Cup seems to be in our grasp, but as we are informed that "There is many a slip 'twixt the cup and the Company," or words to that effect, we will refrain from "shouting the odds" yet.

All the same, we still feel that we can hold our own both in Soccer and in Hockey. Running, too, for if it came to the "pinch," I am sure our Provost-Sergeant would "run" any man in the Training Centre if he "asked for it." But, joking apart, the wine to christen the Inter-Company Cup has already been subscribed for by the junior N.C.O.s, so it is of little use anyone else worrying about it.

Going back to last month's number of THE WIRE, our Company Cook has taken to heart the reference to "uncooked beans." He feels that the world (in addition to the beans) is hard! He worried so much about it that he literally shook. In fact, his hand shook so much that the troops had real "Sergeant-Major's tea" the next day.

By the way, a very rude fellow in the Mess Room asked me what the Cooks did with all the dry tea they saved. I referred him to the Cook, and—well, it is a good job we are starting Inter-Company Boxing Bouts. Perhaps the fellow will attend a few of them before he tackles the Cook again!

EASE-E.

"F" Company.

We are pleased to report that accidents to enthusiastic would-be motor cyclists have not been so prevalent of late, and, up to date, we have no more than five or six in Hospital with injuries.

The absolute limit was reached when an inquiry was made at the Company office by an "M.-C." as to whether men were allowed to proceed on leave on W.D. machines. He appeared to take his disillusionment very badly.

It is with regret that we shall say farewell to the Band, who have sojourned for several months in our Company; and we think the charms of the Camp will greatly suffer (?)

Things "F" Company Want to Know.

What really caused the epidemic in "F" Company? and whether the victims enjoyed the M.O.'s treatment of a stiff dose of "Oileum Recini?"

Whether "F" Company will be so popular now that leggings are taboo? and whether a gentleman named Fox will benefit?

How our 'Varsity men like "swotting" for their Third?

Whether "F" Company will get to sleep earlier after the exit of the Band?

At a wayside cottage in Ireland, whilst taking refreshment, an English tourist noticed a large brick, and a rose underneath a glass shade, on the sideboard.

"What's that for?" he asked.

"D'ye see this dint in my head?" said Pat, pointing to his head.

"Yes," replied the tourist.

"Well," said Pat, "the brick did that!"

"But what on earth is the rose for?" asked the tourist.

"Begorrah," replied Pat, "that rose is off the grave of the divil who threw the brick!"



Photo by Chas. Lane

The Staff

[Maresfield Camp]



BY APPOINTMENT

THE Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Company have the Finest Stock in London of Presentation Cups, Bowls and Trophies, of which inspection is invited. **C.** The Company are always pleased to prepare Special Designs (free of charge) if desired. **C.** Selections of articles can be sent for approval at the Company's risk and expense. **C.** Illustrated Catalogue sent Post Free.

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JEWELLERS TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING

112, REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.

Crowborough Notes.

[From our own Special Correspondent.]

"B" Company.

We have very little of general interest to report this month. Owing to a great number of our fellows being granted furlough, our Sports have been very tame.

We did manage to get a Football team together on the 9th inst. to beat "A" Company by two goals to nil, otherwise our endeavours have been confined to Basket Ball, at which we excel, and have never yet been beaten.

We are open to entertain all comers on our famous pitch; and in the near future, so soon as our American Rounders team gets going, we shall be open to accept challenges from all local talent. Americans, Canadians and Mexicans abound in our Camp, and the doctor has kindly promised to be in attendance at all games of Rounders.

It may interest those who know him, to hear that "Joe" Wassell is on the Frontier with the 40th Division, and in the "pink."

We regret to state that Billy Weeks has had to surrender to the malady he contracted on active service, and is now in the Royal Herbert Hospital, Woolwich, but we are pleased to say he is doing well.

"C" Company.

Owing to the fact that we have only been in Crowborough Camp for a short time, our notes for this month must be like the pig's tail—short and sweet.

We are gradually settling down to work. The Telegraph and Wireless Schools are now in full swing, and already, owing to the untiring efforts of the O.C., are going very strong. Everyone is now interested in some sort of sport.

I think a few words of praise, here, will not be out of place, for the able way in which the O.C. and R.S.M. Nichol coached and organised our Cross-Country team, who did so well in the Eastern Command Cross-Country Run; also congratulations to all members of the team for their great effort, and the hope that they may meet with better success in the near future.

Our boys drew with Uckfield Grammar School at Football, after a hard-fought game; they also are doing very well at Cross-Country Running, getting three boys home in the first ten at our last Company meeting.

A Cross-Country Meeting of the Company was held on Tuesday, March 2nd, when about 120 men turned out. [There being a serious lack of N.C.O.s, someone said they were all dead; but on making inquiries at the Mess, we found that they had only been temporarily incapacitated, owing to the Cook thinking it was "Rat Week."] About 110 men finished in good style, which proved well for the Company in the Battalion run.

We had a visit from our new C.O. on Saturday, March 6th, and we have every reason to believe he was satisfied with our efforts. We are one and all resolved to give him greater satisfaction on his next visit.

On the whole, we have no "grouses," and are satisfied with our new "home." We are consoling ourselves that it must be an ideal resort in the summer. (Roll on).

We received the first issue of THE WIRE, and must say we were greatly surprised; and we now take this opportunity of wishing it every success.

"P" Company.

On February 27th, Lieut. Johnstone, R.E., and 2/Lieuts. Spurway and Swinhoe, with 2 R.G.A. and 2 and 3 R.H.A. Sections, left for India, after waiting a long time for draft. Good luck to them wherever they go.

A draft of fifteen is expected to go shortly for India.

The Company is now reduced to Cadre, which is a great change from the young Battalion we had last December.

We played "X" Company at Hockey, and lost by 7 goals to nil. The enemy's front line, with its T. A. R. Scott, Carey, and T. N. Scott, was much too strong for us, though we had a really good game.

We played "X" Company again at Football, and drew after a determined encounter.

"Y" Company.

At present this Company is in a state of flux, no one being sure whether we are to carry on as a Company. It is rumoured that the high and mighty gentlemen in the Treasury cannot see their way to grant the bonus, which it was hoped would bring the brains of the Wireless world into the Army of to-day.

Still, this does not mean we are living a life of ease and indulgence: we still have a little to carry on with. Jeff, the off-man of Mutt, takes us on P.T. at that unearthly hour of 06.45, and it would bring smiles on the faces of the old-time "muscle merchants" to see the efforts of the old soldiers to imitate Gaby in her famous glide, as—for dwarfs and giants—that's easy

with us! Altogether, it is a nice enjoyable hour we have, and a petition has been forwarded to the Messing Officer to increase the rations of the Company, leaving out that delectable dish of ptomaine poison (otherwise salmon rissoles).

Of course, it is general news now of how the Sergeants' Mess Cook tried to help the junior N.C.O.s up the Promotion Roll; but in case no one has heard of it, I will tell it again.

On a dark Monday morning, the above-mentioned cook thought out a plan whereby he would make a name for himself in the annals of the Signal Service. He concocted a potage of Salmon Rissoles, and the majority of members partook of the same, especially those who returned off week-ends (you can guess they were hungry).

Well, to cut a long story short, signs were very soon observed that all was not well, and that evening, at the hospital, you would have thought you were back on the Somme. The groans were terrible, but our Jock turned up trumps, and, with the aid of PILLS, soon had them on their feet again (and running)—but it *was* terrible while it lasted!

Needless to say, we are off Salmon Rissoles in the future.

HERBERT HIGBROW.

R.E.O.C.A. Notes.

The following letter from the R.E.O.C.A. sets forth the details of a stupendous scheme for the employment of ex-Service men. Men expecting early demobilisation would do well to take advantage of the excellent opportunities which are being opened up by the Association.

ROYAL ENGINEERS' OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION.

Patron—H.M. The King.

Horse Guards, S.W.1.

18/2/20.

We have been approached with a view to supplying ex-Royal Engineers on two large building schemes—(a) in Staffordshire, and the other (b) will eventually develop all over the country; but in (b) a School of Instruction will, in the first instance, be formed about fourteen miles outside London.

(a) is a definite scheme, and will consist of a factory in the motor industry, and a Garden City. It is estimated that the Factory will employ some 3000 hands,

but the primary requirements are men for roads, rails, and construction of buildings. The houses are being built on one of the concrete or composite block systems, so that highly skilled workmen will not be essential. As a matter of fact, men will be trained to do the work, and will be paid while under training. When proficient, the standard rate will be paid, with an additional percentage for output. Accommodation will be obtainable (but not for families in the early stages of the work).

(b) runs somewhat on the lines of (a), though the Pise system of construction has been adopted. Men will be trained at the School of Instruction, and eventually sent to places where the houses are being erected. This is a scheme for ex-Service men only, and all employed must have served in one or other of His Majesty's Forces.

It is understood that, in both systems, any man with common sense would soon become proficient; and the schemes appear to afford good outlets for the unskilled men who can be trained and adapt themselves to the work. It must not be thought that the skilled men will not be wanted—for example, Foremen or Clerks of Works, Surveyors, etc., are actually wanted at once. All classes, skilled or unskilled, can apply, so long as candidates give full particulars of themselves.

We are informed that, in all probability, we will be asked from time to time for certain numbers—or units—of men, so if a candidate is not selected for one batch, he might probably come in the next. Lists with particulars will be submitted from this Office to the authorities concerned, who will make the selection. Applications addressed to: "The Secretary, R.E.O.C.A. Horse Guards, Whitehall, S.W.1." can be received now; and it is requested that those who are not already on the R.E. Civil Employment Register will give as many particulars as they possibly can of themselves, to save time and correspondence in having to ask ordinary questions.

(Signed) J. McB. ROBBINS,

Secretary.

The R.E.O.C.A. welcomes, as members, any N.C.O.s or men who have served with the Corps, and assists them in finding employment on their return to civil life. It would be advantageous to any man who may be leaving the Service to communicate with J. C. J. DALTON, Esq., 65 Farquhar Road, Gipsy Hill, London, S.E. He would be pleased to give any information with reference to membership and the activities of the Association.

Things We Want to Know.

Is it right that a certain Cook complained of being expected to cook when "All his coal was coke"?

Do "D" Coy. really intend to peel their potatoes one day?

Were the ladies who paraded the Avenue at 2 a.m. on a certain morning in February anything to do with the N.A.C.B.?

Whether the Messing Officer really likes being called the "Camp Food Controller"?

Will a certain Irish cook disclose the secret of "Black-Eyed Susan's" popularity?

Is it true that 25 per cent. of the present recruits can neither read nor write?

When are Company Cooks to be taught that cloves are for flavouring apples, and not apples for flavouring cloves?

Who is the person who keeps saying "Look here" on the telephone? Is he anything to do with Messing?

Who spread the rumour that men of the North Russian Relief Force were entitled to the 4th Order of St. George?

Where did the fish come from that had to be covered up with pastry in the N.A.C.B.? Were they the 1914 North Sea Heroes?

What does the General think of the show our "Brains" made against Vernon Athletic? Will he come to the Final to see the "Brains" win?

Did Vernon's outside right think he was up against a brick wall when he charged Lieut. Talbot?

Is it true that the new motto for Maresfield Park Camp is to be: "Abandon hope, all ye who enter here"?

Did the Army miss Capt. Penney in the Army v. Navy Rugby Match?

F. E. LAWRENCE

Motor Engineer

Agent and Repairer for Car and General
.. Insurance Company, Limited. ..

RINGLES CROSS, UCKFIELD

When are the P.T. Instructors going to carry themselves like soldiers, and remember that their trouser pockets are for holding their money and not their hands? [Present company excepted.]

Who told "E" Coy. that Regimental Soccer players were to be barred from playing in Company matches?

Would it not be possible to get a few Regimental Soccer players transferred to "E" Company?

How did the N.C.O. of "D" Company enjoy his walk from Brighton to Lewes on the Sunday after the Lewes match? and how did the other N.C.O. dispose of his grey suit on the same morning?

Do "E" Coy. think they are going to win the Hockey Knockout? and will they get a shock?

Is it true that, in future, Pay Clerks in certain Companies are to be barricaded in their offices, and accompanied by an armed escort when proceeding out?

Did the "Tall Corporal" manage to learn the "Saunter" well enough to take the dance on Thursday the 4th?

What the Regimental team thought of "D" Company's reserves in the Company League?

Is it true that the Guinness Fox Trot was invented at the dance on the 4th?

Who is the respectable 2/Corpl. who takes sudden trips to Brighton?

Who are the two C.S.M.'s who are prepared to give lessons in the "Boston"?

Who is Winkle?

Where's that — Orderly Corporal?

Why the ghurk fell out with the oilrag?

Who are the Sheet Beetles? and how will their April Dip go down?

If a certain Roughrider is happy now he's off his "Beat"?

Is a cat a kitten?

If anyone has ever met Mrs. H——? and how many know her (?) illustrious son?

Are "D" Company still of the same opinion regarding the Football League? and what "Price" the Hockey League?

Why the Uckfield "Bobby" has not been to see us lately?

Is "E" Company getting good?

When "Bottled" will be sold at the Canteen?

What Banger Mark ii. thought when the retired Colonel asked him if he (Banger) was the N.C.O. conducting a Bible Class at Crowborough?

Would the retired Colonel have asked, if he had known that Banger was found talking to his own shadow one morning in Fethard (Ireland) after a rough night?

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SPORTS,
AND
MILITARY
COATS



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MATLOCK.

15th January, 1920.

"I have had the Coat all through the War, and want to keep it, as it is in such good condition. It has never let me get wet during the whole time (four years), and I have had some soaking rains for days together."



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(Ladies' and Gentlemen's).

SPORTS NEWS.

Soccer.

Sussex Senior Cup.

S.S.T.C. met Vernon Athletic at Maresfield on Feb. 28th, in the Semi-Final of the Sussex Senior Cup, and a win for the "Signals" by 1 goal to nil resulted.

The goal of the match was scored by Fairclough in the first three minutes of the game, after which Vernon played more warily. The visitors' goal was severely attacked, but by a series of beautiful saves by the custodian, they were saved from mere severe defeat.

The results of Cup matches prior to the Semi-Final were as follows:—

	For	Agst.
v. Newhaven (away)	3	1
v. Lewes (away)	1	— 1
v. Lewes (replay, at home)	5	— 1

S.S.T.C. had a bye in the first round. The Final will be played at Lewes on Saturday next (27th inst.).

Sussex Junior Cup.

The results of Sussex Junior Cup matches, played up to March 6th, are as follows:—

S.S.T.C. Reserves versus

Crowborough Athletic (home)...	5	—	0
Uckfield (away)	4	—	2
East Grinstead (home)	6	—	1
Cuckfield (away)	1	—	1
Cuckfield (home)	3	—	1

Inter-Company Cup.

The matches played in the Inter-Company Knockout Competition up to March 8th, leave the Companies in the following position:—

	Coy.	Played	Won	Lost	Drn.	For	Agst.	Points
E	9	8	1	0	0	21	7	16
D	8	5	3	0	0	17	13	10
C	9	4	4	1	0	26	16	9
B	6	3	3	0	0	11	14	6
F	8	2	5	1	0	11	21	5
A	6	0	6	0	0	6	22	0

Hockey.

S.S.T.C. v. R.F.A. (Brighton).

S.S.T.C. played the "Gunnery" at Brighton on Feb. 26th, and won, after an easy game, by 4 goals to nil.

The ground was very fast and bumpy, and the shooting circles were only about three-quarter size. This latter was a big handicap to our forwards, who, in all probability, would have doubled the score if the circles had been the normal size.

The S.S.T.C. team was as follows: Sergt. Kneebone, Lieut. King, Corpl. Spillman, Sapper Bendry, Major Phillips, Sergt. Foulger, Lieut. Stoddard, Major Pinent, Driver Horscroft, C.S.M. Forward, and Lieut. T. A. R. Scott.

S.S.T.C. v. Brighton 2nd XI.

The hockey match against Brighton 2nd XI., played at Maresfield on March 6th, resulted in an easy win for the S.S.T.C. by 7 goals to nil. The whole of the play was confined to the Brighton half, and the visitors never looked like getting a goal.

The following represented the S.S.T.C.: C.Q.M.S. O'Brien, Sergt. Tyler, Corpl. Spillman, Sapper Bendry, Lieut. King, Sergt. Foulger, C.S.M. Forward, Major Phillips, Driver Horscroft, Lieut. T. A. R. Scott, and Lieut. Chaldicott.

* * *

Cross Country Running.

In the Cross-Country Running Championship, held at Chatham on March 5th, the positions of the S.S.T.C. teams were as follows:—

1st Training Battalion	Fourth
2nd Training Battalion	Seventh

Sapper F. A. Jones came in tenth of the whole of the competitors, and was selected to run in the Army Cross-Country Championship Race at Aldershot, held on March 13th.

THE AFTER-HEROES.

"We cannot all be heroes, and thrill a hemisphere
With some great daring venture, some deed that mocks at fear,
But we can fill a lifetime with kindly acts and true—
There's always noble service for noble souls to do."

—C. A. MASON.

THEY have done their work "out there," these blinded men of St. Dunstan's. They have fought their fight. But there is greater, harder, truer heroism before them—an unceasing fight for the remainder of their lives. They have to "learn to be blind." To stoop and build up their lives with Kipling's "worn out Tools."

At St. Dunstan's we help them to their feet. Send each man once more into the world (after 8 to 12 months) a cheery, contented, independent citizen—able to earn a good living. And we look after each man—for life. The After-Care Branch watches and helps each man for life. This is where the great need for funds is indicated. For it is an expensive job. Read the following typical letter:—

L/Corpl. WILLIAM PETTIT,
1st King's Royal Rifles.
Joiner.

"Just about a year ago I removed to my present shop at 12, High Street, Harrow. The shop is close to the school. It has also the advantage of being in the main street. Here I do a very good trade in picture-framing and supplying various other articles to the boys of the school, as well as the residents of Harrow. My turnover for the past year has been £531 9s. 0½d. I estimate

my trade expenses to be about £303 13s. 9d., which leaves £227 15s. 3½d., or an average of about £4 7s. 7d. per week profit. I have also stock-in-hand to the value of £213 16s. 9d., being an increase on the stock I began the year with of £142 3s. 3d.

"I consider picture-framing the best work. I have lately, in addition to catering for the wants of the boys of the school, added to my stock-in-trade artists' materials and colours, and they are going. My work keeps me very busy, but I have been able to go in for singing as a recreation, and find much pleasure in it. My greatest difficulty during these two years has been my want of any previous business experience, and I think I may add my greatest asset has been a good wife, who has helped me very much in the business this last year."

Please help. Send what you feel justified in giving yourself. Whip round among the boys, officers and men, for a little each—to help the fallen brother-in-arms to his feet. Get up a "benefit"—write home to those you think can do this thing, and do it well. You know what a fine thing is this—you who have seen the spaciousness of Life and Death "out there"—you who have now a far truer sense of the values than those at home can ever have.

Arthur Pearson.

Please address the Treasurer: THE BLINDED SOLDIERS' & SAILORS' CARE COMMITTEE (Registered under the War Charities Act, 1916), St. Dunstan's, Regent's Park, London, N.W.1.

"I expect to pass through this world but once. If, therefore, there is any good thing which I can do, or any kindness I can show my fellow man, let me do it now. Let me not defer it, nor neglect it—for I shall not pass this way again."

Correspondence.

To the Editor of THE WIRE.

SIR,—As one who is intimately acquainted, not only with the few enterprising individuals who are responsible for launching this little Journal amongst us, but also with the many difficulties they have had to contend with in the publication of their first number, I should esteem it a favour if you would permit me to comment on several most unsportsmanlike criticisms from the "Wet Blanket" element.

I feel sure it is generally understood by all well-wishers of THE WIRE that what is most needed at this stage of affairs is support—not criticism.

The publication of any journalistic venture in these days of high prices is no small task; and if, as I am given to understand is the case, THE WIRE has been launched without any financial backing whatever, I would remind all those who are inclined to criticise, that there is such a thing as *esprit de corps*; that it is their *own* Camp Journal at which they are throwing mud; and that the least they could do would be to assist the energetic few who are doing their best to provide something amusing and interesting for the whole Camp, instead of holding the effort up to ridicule.

I am sufficiently well acquainted with the Editorial Staff to assert that, given time in which to put this Journal on its feet financially, they will not only welcome criticism, but will also give a very good account of themselves.

In the meantime, "Here's wishing you every success, Mr. Editor," and to your readers I would say, "Look twice at the person who criticises. Purchase your copy, to a man, each month; and in a very short time, I feel convinced, the few coppers thus expended will put you in possession of as interesting a collection of facts and information as the most fastidious of you could wish for."

CRICKET.

To the Editor of THE WIRE.

Dear Mr. Editor,—I hear from a very reliable source that you are publishing in next month's WIRE a sort of a "Soldier's Dictionary," in which you explain, in detail, the meaning of various words used by a soldier.

This being the case, perhaps you can explain to me the real meaning of "Sloip Oips!" I have, for the past week, been spending my spare time in looking through Nuttall's and various other dictionaries, but have so far been unsuccessful in tracing out this mysterious word. Is it Latin, Greek, Arabic, or what?

Perhaps, if you are unable to supply the information, some of your readers who have served in the various theatres of war could help.

I trust this will not take up too much of your spare time; but I feel I have the right to ask this question, as I have been a constant reader since your very first issue.

Yours sincerely,

CURIOUS.

Blinded Soldiers' and Sailors' Hostel,
St. Dunstan's,
Hanover Gate, Regent's Park, N.W. 1.

March 15th, 1920.

To the Editor of THE WIRE.

Dear Sir,

I have your letter of the 10th March, enclosing copy of THE WIRE, the Camp Journal of Maresfield Park Camp.

I note the extremely favourable position which you have been so generous as to give to the advertisement for St. Dunstan's. Please accept an expression of my very cordial and sincere thanks for your kindness in showing this, free of charge, both in your present issue and in that of every other month in future.

This very prominent publicity in a widely circulated Service magazine such as yours cannot fail to do St. Dunstan's a great deal of good; and I and those who with me are responsible for the welfare of the men who were so unfortunate as to lose their sight at the Front, are most deeply grateful to you and to your Journal for this assistance.

Yours faithfully,

ARTHUR PEARSON,
Chairman—Blinded Soldiers' and Sailors'
Care Committee.

A. L. LEACH

Cycle Engineer

CAR FOR HIRE. CYCLES FOR HIRE.

ACCESSORIES.

REPAIRS a Speciality. Personal Supervision.

23, RINGLES CROSS
UCKFIELD.

In Reply to Yours.

T. J. writes:—

Is swearing back at a Sergeant-Major, after he has sworn at you, permissible?—Yes, providing he doesn't hear you!

Frank B. writes:—

Can we "put what we like" in THE WIRE?—Yes, if the Editor "likes what you put."

W. F. writes:—

How much money has been taken by the sale of THE WIRE?—Sixpence less than we would have done if you had purchased one. Never mind! have four-pennyworth this month and each month onward, thus setting an example to any over whom you may have influence. (Ed.)

A S., Crowborough, writes:—

Thanks for suggestions to stop men from falling off horses. Have you any recipe for obviating the risk of housemaid's knee?

J. J., Maresfield (6 Lines), writes:—

Are the N.A.C.B. officials human beings?—If they inform us, we will let you know. (Ed.)

J. V. M. writes:—

How many stars are there on the Yankee Flag?—Cannot say for certain, but we know of one that is not there: "The Mons Star." (Ed.)



Heard on the Pier at Brighton.

An old gentleman strolled into an aerodrome one day, and spied a pilot standing by a new machine. Thought he: "Here's a chance for a free flight."

"Excuse me, old man," he said; "but could you possibly take me up with you?" The pilot scratched his head. "Well, I don't know whether I ought," he commenced; but was finally persuaded. "Jump in, then," he said.

They had circled the aerodrome two or three times, at somewhere between 100-120 miles an hour, when the pilot heard his passenger shouting, "By Jove, old man, I am enjoying this; it's my first time up!" "So it is mine," shouted back the pilot; "HOLD TIGHT!"

Another airman (a real one, this time!) was asked by two old ladies if he would take them up. He promised, on the strict condition that they did not speak a word. They had been going some time, when he felt a tap on his shoulder: "Forgive me breaking my promise, but my friend has not been with me for the last hour!"

Please fill up and forward to the Editor, "THE WIRE," Headquarters S.S.T.C., Maresfield Park,
Sussex.

Herewith I enclose.....value.....being subscription for.....numbers of
THE WIRE.

Name.....

Address.....

Date.....

(3 Copies 1/6, 6 Copies 3/6, 12 Copies 6/6, Post Free)

RAILWAY TIME TABLE

WEEKDAYS—

London to Tunbridge Wells.

VICTORIA	6 45	...	9 3	12 0	*...	\$1 20	...	*5 48	†5 48	...	...
Clapham Junction	6 53	...	9 10	12 8	...	\$1 27	...	...	...	...	...
LONDON BRIDGE	6 30	8 7	9 7	...	12 50	\$1 20	4 10	...	...	7 38	...
East Croydon	7 11	8 38	9 30	12 28	1 11	1 47	4 32	6 6	6 6	8 0	...
Oxted	7 40	9 5	...	1 0	1 41	...	5 4	6 30	6 36	8 32	...
East Grinstead	8 17	9 34	10 44	1 33	2 6	2 57	5 32	6 55	7 1	9 2	...
Groombridge	8 44	10 0	11 11	2 0	2 32	3 24	6 0	7 22	7 28	9 28	...
TUNBRIDGE WELLS	8 51	10 7	11 18	2 7	2 39	3 31	6 7	7 29	7 35	9 35	...

Tunbridge Wells to London.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS	7 5	7 42	8 48	9 50	11 18	3 30	6 10	8 20	...	...	...
Groombridge	7 11	7 48	8 45	9 57	11 24	3 37	6 17	8 26	...	...	...
East Grinstead	7 50	8 16	9 31	10 28	12 8	4 10	6 57	9 5	...	...	...
Oxted	8 17	8 47	9 56	10 52	12 30	4 32	7 21	9 27	...	...	...
East Croydon	8 43	9 12	10 20	11 18	12 59	5 1	7 48	9 50	...	...	...
LONDON BRIDGE	9 2	9 32	10 39	...	...	5 21	...	10 12	...	...	...
Clapham Junction	9 0	9 30	10 41	11 32	1 13	5 47	8 12	10 7	...	...	...
VICTORIA	9 8	9 40	10 49	11 42	1 23	5 57	8 22	10 16	...	...	...

* Sats. only. † Not Sats. ‡ On Sats., 1.10. § Not Sats. from Victoria or Clapham Junction to East Croydon

SUNDAYS— London to Tunbridge Wells.

VICTORIA	a.m.	p.m.
Clapham Junction	...	...
LONDON BRIDGE	8 30	6 46
East Croydon	8 58	7 14
Oxted	9 30	7 44
East Grinstead	10 0	8 59
Groombridge	10 26	9 26
TUNBRIDGE WELLS	10 35	9 33

Tunbridge Wells to London.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS	a.m.	p.m.
Groombridge	7 15	5 45
East Grinstead	7 21	5 52
Oxted	...	...
East Croydon	9 50	7 32
LONDON BRIDGE	10 13	8 0
Clapham Junction	10 23	...
VICTORIA	10 32	...

WEEKDAYS—

Brighton to Tunbridge Wells.

BRIGHTON (Central)	6 56	8 5	9 22	10 20	12 0	1 38	4 27	5 43	6 19	7 24	9 5
London Road	7 0	8 9	9 26	10 23	12 4	1 42	4 31	5 47	6 23	7 28	9 9
Lewes	7 17	8 26	9 42	10 38	12 24	2 0	4 49	6 4	6 50	7 48	9 34
UCKFIELD	7 40	8 49	10 4	10 54	12 46	2 22	5 11	6 25	7 11	8 10	9 56
CROWBOROUGH	7 50	9 10	10 23	11 11	1 5	2 40	5 30	6 43	7 30	8 28	10 14
Groombridge	8 20	9 31	10 37	11 31	1 20	2 55	5 45	6 58	7 45	8 43	10 28
TUNBRIDGE WELLS	8 27	9 38	10 44	11 38	1 27	3 2	5 52	7 5	7 52	8 50	10 35

Tunbridge Wells to Brighton.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS	6 57	8 0	10 0	11 25	2 0	4 25	6 38	7 36	9 32	...	...
Groombridge	7 4	8 6	10 6	11 31	2 8	4 32	6 47	7 44	9 40	...	...
CROWBOROUGH	7 28	8 21	10 21	11 46	2 24	4 52	7 1	8 0	9 56	...	...
UCKFIELD	7 47	8 36	10 37	12 3	2 43	5 9	7 17	8 17	10 12	...	...
Lewes	8 13	8 59	11 2	12 26	3 8	5 34	7 40	8 40	10 35	...	...
London Road	8 32	9 14	11 17	12 45	3 26	5 51	7 59	8 59	10 50	...	...
BRIGHTON (Central)	8 37	9 19	11 22	12 50	3 30	5 55	8 3	9 4	10 55	...	...

SUNDAYS— Brighton to Tunbridge Wells.

	a.m.	p.m.	
BRIGHTON (Central)	9 40	2 10	8 25
London Road	9 44	2 13	8 25
Lewes	10 3	2 32	8 49
UCKFIELD	10 25	2 55	9 10
CROWBOROUGH	10 43	3 12	9 28
Groombridge	10 59	3 26	9 42
TUNBRIDGE WELLS	11 4	3 33	9 49

Tunbridge Wells to Brighton.

	a.m.	p.m.	
TUNBRIDGE WELLS	7 5	5 0	7 25
Groombridge	7 11	5 6	7 31
CROWBOROUGH	7 26	5 22	7 46
UCKFIELD	7 42	5 39	8 3
Lewes	8 19	6 7	8 26
London Road	8 38	6 27	8 44
BRIGHTON (Central)	8 43	6 32	8 48

THE WIRE

The Camp Journal of the Signal Service Training Centre

Maresfield Park, Sussex

Vol. I.—No. 3

APRIL 29th, 1920

PRICE—FOURPENCE

Editor: G. E. PALIN, Sapper R.E.

Financial Secretary: C.S.M. W. BUTLER, R.E.

Adverts.: E. BROWN, Sapper R.E.

All Communications should be addressed to—

THE EDITOR, The Wire, Headquarters S.S.T.C., Maresfield Park, Sussex.

Cheques payable to Sgt.-Maj. W. Butler. Bankers: London County Westminster & Parr's Bank (Uckfield Branch)

EDITORIAL NOTES.

MY Editorial Notes for last month apparently gave considerable food for reflection to one or two of the "Transfers" (or so they describe themselves). One even went the length of informing me that I was not a gentleman, and quoted an eminent Catholic Cardinal's version of that high and principled estate. My remarks in March issue merely asserted the propensities of one "Transfer," but apparently the allusion fitted more than one. As I have neither the time nor the space to answer each one individually through the medium of these columns, let it suffice the vindictiveness of my attackers under "noms de plume" and innuendos that I myself am a "Transfer," proud of my present association with an honourable corps.

There are some prizes to be won this month, and I hope that everyone will avail himself of the chance of winning one. Whilst I am writing of prizes, I should like to bring to the notice of all Company representatives that a prize of 5/- will be offered monthly for the best Company Notes; and further, a prize of 5/- will be offered for the best topical article not exceeding 500 words, either in verse or in prose. The competitions will be judged by the Education Officer, and the Editor's decision will be final in every instance.

Our correspondents are reminded that "copy" must be accompanied by the SIGNATURE of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his bona fides. The use of a "nom de plume" or initials is left to the writer's discretion.

A great deal of controversy is prevalent in some circles, just now, on the question as to whether dancing is immoral or not. One chap even went the length of saying that "If anyone could conceive a quicker way of sending sinners to hell than by dancing, he should be granted free patent rights for his infernal ingenuity." Personally, I am remaining neutral when people express their opinions so vehemently; but I should like the opinions of other fellows in the Camp, so that the question can be decided by majority. All replies should reach the Editor by May 15th.

Fire.

By LIEUT.-COL. KADEN.

Translated from "Lille War Gazette," a weekly newspaper in German, issued by the Germans in Lille. March 3rd, 1915.

As children, many of us have played with it; some of us have seen an outbreak of fire. First, a small tongue-like flame appears; it grows in a devastating fury of heat. We out here in the field have seen more than enough of it.

But there is also the fire of joy, of sacred enthusiasm! It arose from sacrificial altars, from mountain heights of Germany, for on April 1st, just one hundred years ago, our country's greatest son was born. Let us celebrate this event in a manner deep, far-reaching, and mighty! Blood and iron!

Let every German, man or woman, young or old, find in his heart a Bismarck column, a pillar of fire, now in these days of storm and stress. Let this fire, enkindled in every German breast, be a fire of joy, of holiest enthusiasm. But let it be terrible, unfettered; let it carry horror and destruction! Call it HATE! Let no one come to you with "Love thine enemy!" We all have but one enemy—England! How long have we wooed her almost to the point of our own self-abasement! She would none of us, so leave to her the apostles of peace, the "no-war" disciples. The time has passed when we would do homage to everything English—our cousins that were!

"God punish England!" "May He punish her!" This is the greeting that now passes when Germans meet. The fire of this righteous hate is all aglow!

You men of Germany, from East and West, forced to shed your blood in the defence of your homeland through England's infamous hatred and envy of Germany's progress, feed the flame that burns in your souls. We have but one war-cry: "GOD PUNISH ENGLAND!" Hiss this to one another in the trenches, in the charge; hiss, as it were, the sound of licking flames.

Behold in every dead comrade a sacrifice forced upon you by this accursed people. Take ten-fold vengeance for each hero's death!

You German people at home, feed this fire of hate!

You mothers, engrave this in the hearts of the babes at your breasts!

You thousands of teachers, to whom millions of German children look up with eyes and hearts, teach HATE! unquenchable HATE!

You homes of German learning, pile up the fuel on this fire! Tell the nation that this hate is not un-German, that it is not poison for our people. Write in letters of fire the name of our bitterest enemy. You guardians of the truth, feed this sacred HATE!

You German fathers, lead your children up to the high hills of our homeland—at their feet our dear country bathed in sunshine. Your women and children shall starve; bestial, devilish conception. England wills it! Surely, all that is in you rises against such infamy!

Listen to the ceaseless song of the German forest; behold the fruitful fields, like rolling seas; then will

your love for this wondrous land find the right words—HATE, unquenchable HATE. Germany, Germany above all!

Let it be inculcated in your children and it will grow like a landslide, irresistible, from generation to generation.

You fathers, proclaim it aloud over the billowing fields, that the toiling peasant may hear you, that the birds of the forest may fly away with the message; into all the land that echoes from German cliffs, send it reverberating like the clanging of bells from tower to tower throughout the countryside: "HATE, HATE, the accursed English, HATE!"

You masters, carry the flame to your workshops; axe and hammer will fall the heavier when arms are nerved by this HATE.

You peasants, guard this flame, fan it anew in the hearts of your toilers, that the hand may rest heavy on the plough that throws up the soil of our homeland.

What Carthage was to Rome, England is to Germany. For us, as for Rome, it is a question of "to be or not to be." May our people find a faithful mentor like Cato. His "ceterum censeo, Carthaginem esse delendam" for us Germans means:

"GOD PUNISH ENGLAND."

N.B.—A copy of this newspaper was found on a German prisoner captured during the fighting at Neuve Chapelle. It is of interest as showing the hatred for Great Britain which is sedulously cultivated in Germany. This hatred is encouraged and fostered officially by every possible means.

If you want a Taxi

GO TO

"SCOTTIE"

ANY HOUR OF THE NIGHT OR DAY!

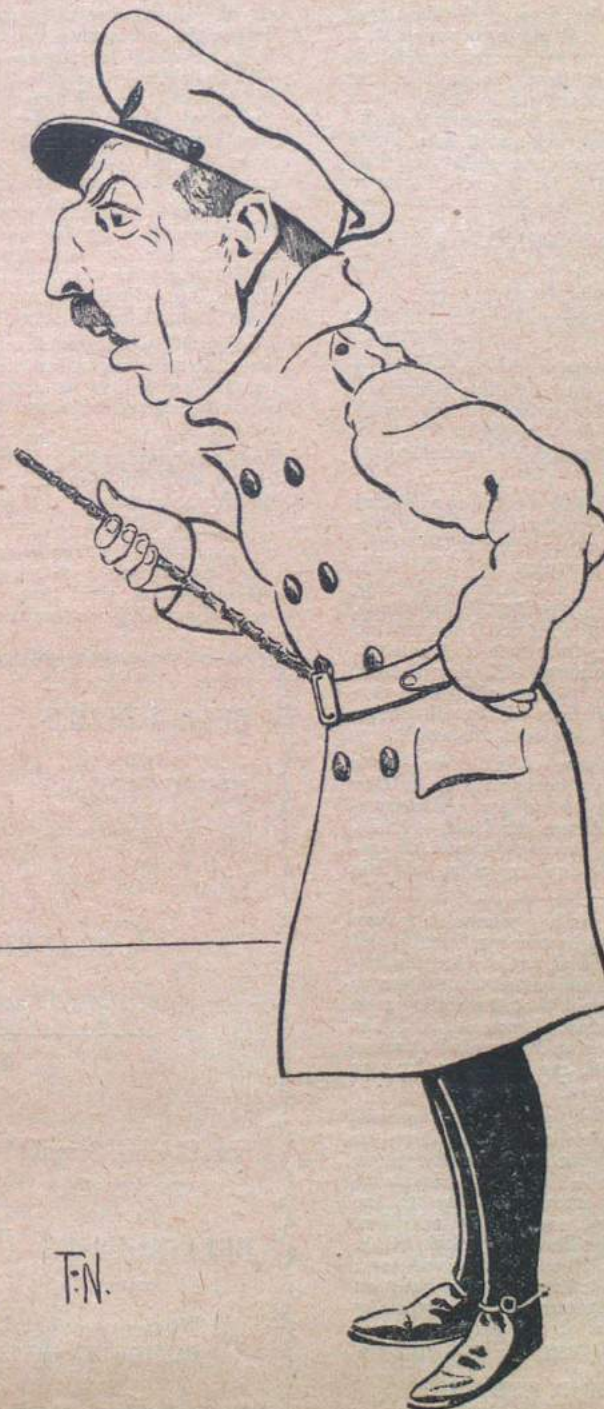
Parties taken for Outings.

"SCOTTIE"

(Late of Grenadier Guards)

"The Bodletts" Maresfield

"Who's Who" in the Camp.



R.E. Old Comrades Association

(Signals Branch)

It is desired to point out by means of this paper that the above Association is still going strong with a membership of approximately 4500 (increasing daily), amongst whom are many life members. It has a Labour Bureau, which has proved exceptionally useful to a great number of its members, who have been demobilised since the cessation of hostilities, and, as a guide to those members who are expecting to go into civilian life shortly, the letter printed in last month's issue is republished for general information:—

ROYAL ENGINEERS' OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION.

Patron—H.M. The King.

Horse Guards, S.W.1.
18/2/20.

We have been approached with a view to supplying ex-Royal Engineers on two large building schemes—(a) in Staffordshire, and the other (b) will eventually develop all over the country; but in (b) a School of Instruction will, in the first instance, be formed about fourteen miles outside London.

(a) is a definite scheme, and will consist of a factory in the motor industry, and a Garden City. It is estimated that the Factory will employ some 3000 hands, but the primary requirements are men for roads, rails, and construction of buildings. The houses are being built on one of the concrete or composite block systems, so that highly skilled workmen will not be essential. As a matter of fact, men will be trained to do the work, and will be paid while under training. When proficient, the standard rate will be paid, with an additional percentage for output. Accommodation will be obtainable (but not for families in the early stages of the work).

(b) runs somewhat on the lines of (a), though the Pise system of construction has been adopted. Men will be trained at the School of Instruction, and eventually sent to places where the houses are being erected. This is a scheme for ex-Service men only, and all employed must have served in one or other of His Majesty's Forces.

It is understood that, in both systems, any man with common sense would soon become proficient; and the schemes appear to afford good outlets for the unskilled men who can be trained and adapt themselves to the work. It must not be thought that the skilled men will not be wanted—for example, Foremen or Clerks of Works, Surveyors, etc., are actually wanted at once. All classes, skilled or unskilled, can apply, so long as candidates give full particulars of themselves.

We are informed that, in all probability, we will be asked from time to time for certain numbers—or units—of men, so if a candidate is not selected for one batch, he might probably come in the next. Lists with particulars will be submitted from this Office to the authorities concerned, who will make the selection. Applications addressed to: "The Secretary, R.E.O.C.A. Horse Guards, Whitehall, S.W.1." can be received now; and it is requested that those who are not already on the R.E. Civil Employment Register will give as many particulars as they possibly can of themselves, to save time and correspondence in having to ask ordinary questions.

(Signed) J. McB. ROBBINS,
Secretary.

One of the chief objects of the Association is to perpetuate the comradeship which has developed amongst all ranks since the commencement of the great European War. No man has donned the uniform without realising fully the meaning of comradeship. Many of you were unavoidably separated from your comrades during the war owing to wounds, sickness, etc., and it is by means of an Association of this magnitude that you are able to get into touch with them again. All W.O.s, N.C.O.s and men who are not already members are urged to join as soon as possible, for though you may never be in need of assistance yourself, you may often be in a position to assist another member who may be in less fortunate circumstances.

All ranks desiring information about the work of this Association, or desirous of enrolling as a member, are requested to communicate with Q.M.S. A. H. McGuire at the Sports Office, who will be only too pleased to attend to them. The subscriptions are: Yearly, 2s.; life membership, 30s.

Any Officer (irrespective of Regiment or Corps) who is not already a member of the Signal Service Association (Officers), but is desirous of becoming one, can obtain the necessary forms from the same source.

Any member who has not already done so, but is desirous of paying his subscription for 1920, is requested to call and pay this in as soon as possible to Q.M.S. McGuire.

I am asked by the Editor to contribute some notes, but I find there is so much to write about that my difficulty is to select that which is of most interest to the "Signal Branch" members. Perhaps I cannot do

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better than to briefly explain in these first notes one of the purposes of the Association, as, from many of the letters I receive, I get the impression that these are little known to many of the younger members.

An Association must needs be what its members make it, and in our first object, that of fostering *esprit de corps* amongst all ranks serving and retired, it is essential that each member, whatsoever be his rank in the Service, or his status in civil life, should cultivate this sentiment. Recently I had the privilege of listening to the conversation of a "globe trotter," a man who had been born to the soft things of life, but who, through circumstances, had chosen to roam the world and earn a living as best he could, and now at the age of fifty-four he is off to the East as a writer on one of the Packet Boats.

But one of the points which he made during the description of his varied life as a resident in all quarters of the globe, was the lack of real human comradeship amongst the people of the Old Country as compared with those of newer countries. "In this country," said he, "we are often called upon to lend a helping hand in the case of an individual who is down and out. We lend a hand perhaps to the extent of a shilling or so to a hard case met with on the street, but, too often, this help is simply considered a matter of moral duty, and the whole incident is devoid of anything which could be called comradeship, and is entirely soulless. In newer countries where men congregate and find themselves 'up against things,' there is a much different outlook in these matters, and help is asked and given more as a right and entirely in the spirit of comradeship."

He gave me many illustrations of the lack of the spirit of comradeship here as compared with its very real existence among our white brothers in other countries, and when I left him, the word "comrade" had quite a new meaning for me.

It is with this conversation still fresh in my memory that I make these suggestions to you, that a start be made at Maresfield and Crowborough by means of social gatherings of the members of the Signal Branch of the R.E.O.C.A. to develop on a much greater scale the spirit of comradeship which I know from experience already exists in the Signal Service. There are those at the stations mentioned, and others now in civilian life, who have done much good work in this direction, members of the committee of this branch. Those still at the Training Centre will, I feel sure, be as ready as ever to lead the way in organising local re-unions, smokers' meetings, or gatherings such as will bring the members together for mutual social enjoyment as comrades. There are still with you, I understand, R.S.M. Mephram, who did so much good work for us at Haynes Park—work done in such a way that it could only be prompted by real comradeship; Q.M.S. Shaw, and his friend McDonald who, quite unknown to many, attended at the Bedford Cinema night after night, simply inspired by the same spirit, and so helping to get together funds for the Branch, that help of a mutual kind would be forthcoming for comrades who are down and out. Then there is Q.M.S. McGuire, who has been such an active member of the committee, and who has enrolled so many members. R.S.M. Boulger and other members too numerous to mention, who understand the value of the Association, will, I am sure, set about organising some "Signal Branch" social life, but to get the best results, they must have the loyal support of members.

To these latter I would say, "Trot out your suggestions" to the comrades have mentioned, and then the branch will be a real live wire at the Centre. I learn that very fine work of this kind has been done at Aldershot, and real enjoyment has resulted, whilst incidentally the Aldershot Branch funds have benefitted, enabling that Branch to show some very practical examples of comradeship.

I would welcome a healthy rivalry in these gatherings 'twixt the two branches. It will give me the greatest pleasure to assist the local committee in any possible way if they will communicate, but at the moment my hands are too full to attempt to personally organise at the Centre social gatherings which will be better left to the committee on the spot. In response to the recent distribution of Annual Reports, 1920 subscriptions are rolling in.

In conclusion, I would thank the Editor of THE WIRE for his courtesy in extending to us an invitation to use its pages for our notes, and I desire to wish THE WIRE every success. Further, I hope the members of the branch will do all in their power to support this bright and crisp little journal.

Your servant and comrade,

EDWIN G. HONEYWILL, Hon. Sec.

96, Shoe Lane, London, E.C.4.

The Soldier's Encyclopædia.

DUD—The shell that didn't burst when everyone thought it would, and did when everyone thought it wouldn't. The expression is also applied to breakfast when it happens to be rissoles or fish-cakes (?).

DEVIL—The father of mules.

EDUCATION—The stunt for making silk purses out of sows' ears, or, in other words, teaching the Army to become polite.

EQUATOR—A menagerie lion running round the earth.

ENGINEER—Brains and brawn.

FARE—Three weeks' pay (provided you live in the North of England).

FABLE—A kind of excuse for overstaying leave. (Not applicable to the Signal Service).

GYMNASIUM—An institution designed to instil the laws of gravity into young minds.

HUT—Four sides and a roof for general utility, used for everything from a concert to a court-martial. See also "Sanatorium."

HORSE—The cavalryman's curse. Used extensively to make men agile. Only safe when afar off. Lives on hay, corn, and young recruits.

HUMAN BEING—A Civvy.

INK—A black (or red) fluid used to spread over Conduct sheets. Black is preferable; red is generally avoided as much as possible.

JUPITER PLUVIUS—The patron Saint of Maresfield.

KINK—The lineman's inheritance. There are usually about three to each pull-up.

Things We Want to Know.

When Egghead is going to learn dancing?
 What caused the epidemic of "marriage" among the roughriders?
 When the oldest "Rough" will get "Wed"?
 If K's new beat beats K? And if he will clean his boots in summer time or slow time?
 When the debt list so familiar to us poor sinners will finally disappear?
 Why the best players are never chosen to play in both Company and Depot matches?
 What do "D" Company think of the Hockey League?
 Who was the 101st (?) in "E" Company's Cross Country Run on March 25th?
 Where did Cain find his wife?
 When the troops will stop worrying the Pay Corporals after office hours?
 When we shall have serviettes in the Mess?
 Why a certain shop in Uckfield, which for the past two months has been displaying tempting lingerie, has suddenly filled its windows with babes' clothing? Anticipation?
 When are "D" Company going to supply washbasins for the use of the men?
 Should Dental Officers wear spurs?
 Who was the very respectable 2/Corporal who was seen passing "E" Company's stables with a well known Maresfield lady at midnight on the night of the Sussex Cup Final?
 Who is the N.C.O. in charge of "Shifters"?
 Who is the R.S.M. who took down the "Signals Colours" when they were losing 2-1, and supported Worthing in the Cup Final, and does this R.S.M. belong to Crowborough Camp?
 Who was the individual in the cross country race who ran it on a "Brandy Bottle"?
 Who is "Jonah"?
 Who is the gallant swain of Headquarters who goes out with a "Brighton governess," and has he bought her a ring?
 Is dancing immoral? If not, why not?
 Are red cabbages "green" grocery?
 Who was the N.C.O. in a certain Company, who marched his body to the Company Stores, and demanded a set of running kit, at 23.30 hours on the Sunday after the Worthing match?
 Who found the Sergeant's cape?
 Where did "Snowy" find his puttees, after a night out in Brighton?
 Is it a fact that "Scotland Yard," after a week's vain endeavour to find the owner of a bicycle left "lying around," made the startling discovery that it belonged to one of themselves?
 If the "Signals" really are proceeding to Wimbledon, and whether they are to be utilised as Underground traffic hustlers or waitresses in Lyons' cafes?
 Did the tall Corporal of "D" Company improve the N.C.O.'s Jazz Band by his efforts at the side drum (to the strains of the Guinness Fox Trot)

When is "D" Company Jazz Band to oblige in the Camp? It is rumoured that they always amuse Five Ashdown.

Is it true that "D" Company would like to play "E" Company at hockey again (providing the same referees attended who refereed the Final)?

What did the prominent hockey player say when he didn't get his regimental "Jimmie"? Will he mend his ways (on his play) in the future?

Who is Dorothy?

As Usual.

One mid winter's evening—the sun had gone down
 As I wended my way to the old "Rose and Crown":
 The same every evening, a seven-mile tramp—
 'Tis our greatest amusement at Crowborough Camp.

I'd walked umpteen miles, or it seemed so to me,
 When a charming young lady I chanced for to see,
 Peeping out from the folds of an old-fashioned gamp—
 For they must carry these things around Crowborough Camp.

She'd a nice shapely figure and cheeks like the rose,
 And was quite in the fashion for absence of clothes;
 I gazed at her there, till my eyes took the camp,
 'Twas the first girl I'd seen around Crowborough Camp.

Then calling her up—a succession of winks—
 I tracked her all over the Crowborough links:
 Up hill and down dale, and then through the swamp,
 More commonly known here as Crowborough Camp.

She turned and she twisted, she gave me no chance,
 While the rain came in torrents with visions of France,
 Till my spirits as well as my clobber grew damp—
 That's a usual occurrence at Crowborough Camp.

Now a less-knowing man would have stopped in despair,
 To see that young maid glide away as on air;
 But I stuck on her trail like a moth to a lamp—
 You've got to, to click up at Crowborough Camp.

An hour or two later, she beckoned to me,
 And smiling so sweetly, she said, "Let me see;"
 But the guard woke me up, 'twas a quarter to three—
 Dreams always end that way at the second T.B.

J. S. MITCHELL.

Tired.

It was a glorious afternoon, and Sapper Jones strolled into the park, feeling rather drowsy. He soon fell asleep on a bench near the entrance.

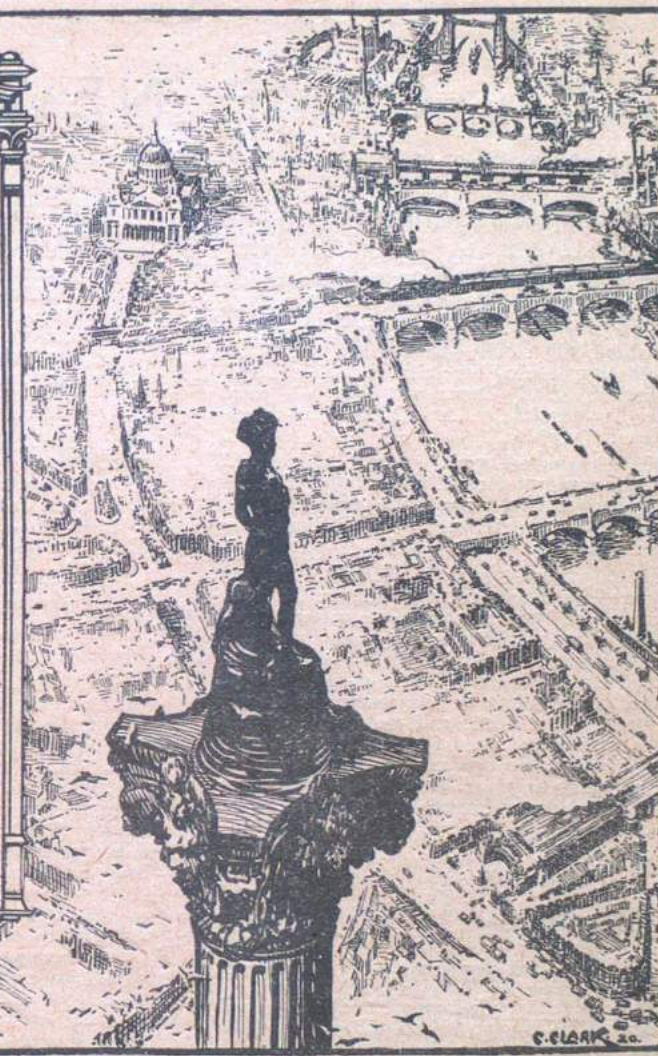
Darkness came on, and the keeper had locked up all other gates. On approaching the last one, he found Jones fast asleep. Shaking him roughly, he yelled: "Hi, wake up! I'm a going to lock the gates."

"All ri', guv'nor," came a drowsy voice, "don't slam it."

Father: "Gladys, who was visiting you last night?"

Gladys: "Only Ethel, dad!"

Father: "Well, tell Ethel she's left her pipe on the parlour mantelpiece!"



BIG THINGS of the WORLD

LONDON

Call it not merely a city—
 London is a crowd of cities. Its vastness embodies a London of the financier, the manufacturer, the politician, the journalist, the merchant.

LIKE the Metropolis "GREYS" are big, they are also as wholesome as moorland breezes. They are the most satisfying cigarettes you can buy—and the fullest value for money.

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 Manufactured by MAJOR DRAPKIN & CO
 LONDON
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CAMP NEWS

Headquarters Notes.

The inevitable has happened. The office cat is considerably indisposed at time of going to press, and is confined to her bed, which, by the way, is made up of one W.P.B. with waste paper complete, and a duster.

Another of our old chums has decided to risk his dinner by returning to civil life; this time it is Corpl. Stanbridge, more familiarly known as "Stan." We are sure that everyone who knew him will wish him "God-speed" in his new venture.

Wooers of the Goddess Terpsichore will be delighted to learn that our highly esteemed pianist, Corpl. Tomlinson, is staying with us for a while longer: a fact that will please the dancing fraternity both in the Junior and W.O.s and N.C.O.s Messes.

At the time of going to press, a billiard tournament is being arranged for Headquarter Staff. In the near future, H.Q. Staff will be challenging the various Companies to billiard tournaments, so they had better dig out all their old champions. While we are on the subject of sport, the opportunity is taken of informing all Companies that a cricket team will shortly be formed among the Headquarter Staff, and we fancy our projected prowess to such an extent that we here challenge any Company in the Training Centre. Fixtures should be arranged as early as possible. All correspondence on this subject should be addressed to Sapper E. Brown, Headquarters office.

EAVESDROPPER.

Company Notes.

"A" Company.

Now, what did I tell you last month? Didn't I say? Well! this is what I did say: "We shall surprise some of the Companies some day by winning a match." My words have come true. I am sure that this Company, or at least the four who were watching the game, will long remember the evening of April 7th, 1920, when our lads simply ran round "F" Company at football, and beat them by four goals to one.

Only think of it! "A" Company actually scoring four goals in one match, and it would have been more goals to us and one less to "F" if two things hadn't happened. First, one of our men (no names, no Brocks' benefit) stopped, with the ball at his toe and the goal at his mercy, to shout, "White! White! I know what they call you!" Secondly, our goalkeeper came behind to borrow a cigarette from me (the box was open, I might mention) just as "F" Company's centre forward took a blind kick at goal. But still, the fact remains that we won, and if there was another knock-out competition to be played, I know who I should back (it wouldn't be "A" Company).

We played "B" Company at hockey during the month, and I am not quite sure of the result, except that one Company scored nine goals, and it wasn't us.

Another game has found great favour with this Company of late. It is called "Isolation." I don't exactly know what the rules are, but it takes some time to play a game, and the players have their meals carried to them whilst the game is in progress. It seems to be very interesting, as two squads foreswore Easter leave to finish a round; and, as far as I know, they are still playing as I write. Although this game is only young, it is surprising how it has caught on.

By the way, talking of games, we hear from a very reliable source that the bootmaker in Maresfield village has had to indent for a fresh supply of Phillips' rubber soles since the Sussex Cup Final at Lewes; and I think if such an occasion again arose, the Railway Company should be asked to run a later train. It certainly seems a decent walk from Lewes to Uckfield, especially for N.C.O.s who are not feeling particularly fit.

GRANMAR.

"F" Company.

It is with considerable trepidation that "F" Company's notes for THE WIRE are penned this month. Never was the old adage about counting one's chickens, etc., more forcibly emphasised than in this case, and I am in a particularly unfortunate predicament.

To be perfectly honest, the whole of our space was to have been devoted to an exultation over winning the Hockey Shield. Alas! it was not to be. With all due sportsmanship, we can assert that we were exceedingly unlucky to lose. It was the extra time played to come to a definite conclusion that did it, and the pace could not be maintained. However, it was an excellent and keenly contested game; so here's congratulations to the winners.

We have also to bow down as far as Association is concerned. Fancy letting "A" Company beat us—and 4-1 at that. We are seriously thinking of taking up marbles, and issuing a general challenge. Any offers? Apart from the above-mentioned sports, nothing of startling interest has occurred during the last month, and general notes constitute a "nil return, please."

We are in a position to repudiate the rumour that a certain corporal of this Company has been offered a position, by Lord Derby, as O.C. Jockeys, on the said corporal's return to civil life. He assures us that the method at present employed to rout out jockeys at the unearthly hour of 05.30 would not be welcomed by the men he would have to associate with.

TRIUMPH.

Dear Old Lady (visiting convalescent soldier): "It seems so sad and wrong, to have given you that wicked rum ration before going into action. What could have been the reason?"

Convalescent Soldier (making it clear): "Well, it was just like this, ma'am. I saw a mouse get at a lad's rum one day, and it hadn't more than wetted its whiskers, when it sat up with 'em bristling, and squealed out, 'Where's that damn cat?'"

Crowborough Notes.

[From our own Special Correspondent.]

A very successful concert was given by the Officers, N.C.O.s and men of "X" Company in the Camp Theatre, Crowborough, on Tuesday evening, 16th ult., and, judging by the appreciation shown by the audience, proved an enormous success. The concert was a musical revue entitled "Bye-Products," produced by Lieut. R. T. O. Cary. The stage manager was Lieut. R. H. Hole, and the business manager, Corpl. Britton. The artistes consisted of Capt. Wills, Lieut. R. T. O. Cary, Lieut. T. A. R. Scott, Lieut. Beattie, Lieut. W. A. Scott, Lieut. Emerson, Sergt. A. M. S. Cardwill, Sapper Hawley, and Sapper Dunn.

The programme opened with "Product 1," a skit by Lieut. Cary and Sapper Hawley, which provided great amusement (especially the nose of Hawley), the cross talk being very clever. "Product 2," for a change, consisted of a drama in two spasms, entitled "The Eternal Triangle." The first spasm was presented as played by a first rate company, the second as played by a fourth-rate company in a fifth-rate town. Lieut. Cary as the bold, bad villain, Lieut. T. A. R. Scott as the injured husband, and Lieut. Beattie as the fickle-minded wife, proved an excellent combination.

"Product 3" consisted of a song by Sapper Dunn, entitled "If I might only come to thee," and the audience being insistent for an encore, Sapper Dunn kindly responded with "The kingdom within your eyes."

"Product 4" was a very amusing sketch entitled "Producing a revue in the Army," and caused great hilarity among the audience.

"Product 5" was termed "Odds and Ends," Sapper Hawley impersonating a lady juggler and a knock-about comedian. He also gave an excellent gymnastic display.

"Product 6" was the star turn of the evening, entitled "The Traitor," in three spasms. Col. Winkle, Commanding 10th Reserve Regt. Boys' Brigade, Capt. Woodbine of the uneasy conscience, Lieut. Beeswing of the easy conscience, the enchanting Myrtle, daughter of the aforesaid Colonel, the two subalterns, and James, the Mess waiter, kept the audience in a roar from beginning to end.

This is the first concert that we have had, and we hope that it will be speedily followed by similar ones.

"C" Company.

Since my last notes, nothing of very great interest has happened in the Company. Of course, the usual comings and goings have taken place. C.Q.M.S. F. Lewis left for Special Signal Company, Dublin, and we all wish him the best of luck in his new Company. In the "sporting" line we have done fairly well this month, winning the Inter-Company Cross Country event in the S.S.T.C., also having the winner and five others in the first nine in the S.S.T.C. individual cross country event, which means more points for the shield. (What say "E" Company now?)

"X" Company.

In the face of all adversity, men proceeding on Indian drafts, etc., we still manage to carry on fairly well in the sporting line.

The Soccer and Hockey Leagues take up most of our attention, and we are now thinking very seriously over the Knock-out Competition. We were victorious over "C" Company in the Hockey League (honours easy to "E" Company—Ed.), but we have been beaten by them at Soccer to make up for it. That match, by the way, is the only one we have lost.

We came through the first round of the Hockey Knock-out, but in the second round, the Fates, and other circumstances over which we have no control, combined to give our opponents a very lucky victory.

Stoutly led by the P.T. Staff, the Company supplied a large percentage of the 2nd Training Battalion Tug-of-War team which represented the Signal Service Training Centre at Colchester, where they put up an extremely good fight against the splendidly trained R.M.L.I. team, who were the winners of the competition.

F. W. H.

Rhine Signal Battalion Notes.

The Battalion has won the G.H.Q. League and Cup, with the following record: Played, 15; won, 15; goals for, 69; against, 7.

Taking all matches into consideration (including League matches), the record is: Played, 29; won, 28; lost 1; goals for, 109; against, 14. This is a very creditable record. The team was as follows: Lieut. Barry; C.Q.M.S. Anderson, Lieut. Ost; Sapper Walsh, Lieut. Allan, Sergt. Dyer; Sergt. Shepherd, Pioneer Reid, Sapper Dedman, Corpl. Howarth, Lieut. Land.

Information Bureau.

Soldiers leaving the Colours are required for the ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY. Pay: Constables, 70s. per week on appointment; additional for married men not accommodated in barracks. Pension after 25 years' approved service. For further particulars application should be made to R.I.C. Recruiting Officer, 20, Cranbourn St., Leicester Square, London, W., giving name, regimental number, Record Office, copy of birth certificate, Army discharge, and character.

There are vacancies in the CITY OF LONDON POLICE for suitable men on discharge from the Colours. Pay: 70s. per week on appointment. Pension: Maximum, £165 4s. 8d. per annum. For further particulars apply to the Commissioner of Police for the City of London (Candidates Dept.), 26, Old Jewry, E.C.

Latin Phrases Pipeclayed.

"Non Omnia Possumus Omnes"—All cannot do everything (not even a Sergeant-Major).
 "Totus Mundus Agit Histrionem"—All the world's a stage (but you needn't play at soldiering).
 "Vox et Praeterea Nihil"—A voice and nothing more (the Adjutant).
 "Vis a Tergo"—A propelling force from behind (females at the War Office).
 "Sic Transit Gloria Mundi"—So passes earthly glory (April 30th, 1920).
 "Malum Prohibitum"—Bad because prohibited (half the crimes in the Service).

Gleanings from Answers to a Test-Paper.

Care of Cells:—

1—Do not short circuit a cell too frequently, as this tends in time to shorten the life of a cell.

2—When handling a cell, take great care that you do not pull out or break off all the terminals.

3—If not kept in a perfectly dry place at a constant moderate temperature, cells will run down as time goes on.

4—Never allow water to remain on the tops of cells, as the cells will at once start to creep.

To Make an Inert Cell Active:—

Take out the plug in the bung-hole on the top, and immerse the cell in a bucket of water. When the cell has soaked up all the water it can, it will sink to the bottom of the bucket. Remove it, turn it upside down to remove all superfluous water, replace the cork in the hole provided, and dry the outside of the cell with a cloth. Allow to stand for fifteen hours in a cool dry place, then repeat the operation. After drying again, test with a voltmeter. It should read .04 of an ampere. If it does not do so, it is probably a dud cell.

Testing for a Fault in a Buried 12 Pair-Cable:—

The man in the office has two legs bunched on one terminal and his other terminal to earth. He makes a continuous buzz along the line until he is picked up by the lineman outside.

Lines in Contact.

This happens when cables are laid too closely together. The lines of force become very strong and get in contact with one another.

The Resistance of a Morse Key.

This means the resistance of a key to fair wear and tear, and is estimated by the time the key lasts from its first issue before becoming unserviceable. In the hands of an experienced operator the resistance is about five years (not reckoning night duty, Sunday duty, or Bank Holidays). In the hands of a tired learner the resistance is infinite when the Sergeant is out of the class-room. In the hands of an R.E. boy the resistance is fourteen seconds (if he carries a pair of pliers, or the football season is still on). A much trickier word than "resistance," and meaning the same thing, is "durability."

E.M.F.

This means "Early Morning Fatigues," and includes mainly: Potato washing (with scraping, too, on Sundays); cinder sifting; seventeen mile cross country runs; pendulating the plumb-bob (or swinging the lead, as it is sometimes called).

What is (a) a Conductor; (b) a Non-Conductor?

(a) This is a man or girl who stands at the back of buses or trams.

(b) This word is usually shortened to "Non-Com." or N.C.O. It means a man who wears any number of stripes (not counting good conduct stripes or chevrons) on either side of his tunic.

OHM's Law.

Means six years with the Colours and six with the Reserve.

March 27th, 1920.

I meant to write an epic round the Sussex Senior Cup
When we'd won it;

But the melancholy outcome so completely fed me up,
I haven't done it.

Yet though heroic metre would be wholly out of place
This sorry time,

There were various cheerful features I might pardonably
trace

In ragged rhyme.

"E" Battery, for instance, which in closely serried ranks
Upon the grass,

Pursued with open comment, or still more expressive
blanks,

Each kick and pass:

Until the men of Sussex, standing close behind in rows,
A spokesman found

Who, swaying very slightly, thus addressed himself to
those

Upon the ground:

"Damn you and every other R.E. Officer," he said

With gentle smile;

"I hope the other side will win, and all of you be dead
In little while."

They didn't sound like dying, as with one concerted roar
They yelled aloud:

"You've got it, boys! We—want—another—goal!
Come ON, the Corps!

Play UP, our crowd!"

The gentleman, though overwhelmed, still dauntless,
tried his strength

Towards the end,

By insisting to the General that in him he'd found at
length

A long-lost friend.

At half-time several young recruits, who started in to
kick

The ball about,

Were spotted by the constables, who soon grew very
sick—

They hurried out

To stop the shocking liberty, and scattered to the chase
Of one and all;

But since they found pursuit of no avail, to clear the
place

They bagged the ball!

Meanwhile between the teams, if merely choice of foot-
ball vest

Could win the day,

We had it—white and blue, with scarlet "Jim" upon
the breast,

Was more than gay.

But though the forwards' feet, like "Jim's," should
have been shod with wings,

They weren't at all;

And this, plus hesitation, wind, off-side, and other
things,

Produced the fall.

Nathless among our lads were many deeds of derring-do
And pretty work;

But Worthing chiefly scored because their chances—not
a few—

They didn't shirk.

So when next year our chance returns to meet them in
the fray,

We'll lay them low;

And this I categorically state, that we may say

We told them so.

JAY HOO.



BY APPOINTMENT

THE Goldsmiths and
Silversmiths Company
have the Finest Stock
in London of Presentation
Cups, Bowls and Trophies,
of which inspection is invited.
The Company are always
pleased to prepare Special
Designs (free of charge) if
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Monthly Arithmetical Competition.

FIRST PRIZE - - - 7/6.

SECOND PRIZE - - - 2/6.

Will be awarded for the neatest and clearest solutions of the problems given below.

Rules.

- 1—Each problem should be worked on one side only of a sheet of paper, with the full name, number, and rank of the competitor.
- 2—Only arithmetical methods will be accepted, and full working must be shown.
- 3—The decision of the O.C. School will be final, and solutions should be submitted by the 16th of May, 1920.
- 4—The prizes will not be awarded unless all problems are attempted, with at least three correct for First Prize, and two correct for the Second Prize.

Questions.

- 1—A beats B by ten yards, and C by 25 yards in a hundred yards race. How many yards start should B give C in a hundred yards race? (Maximum 20 marks).
- 2—A milkman buys milk at 5d. a quart, and adulterating it with water, sells it at 7d. a quart, thereby making a clear profit of 60 per cent. What percentage does the water form of the mixture sold? (Maximum 20 marks).
- 3—What is the present price of herrings per dozen when 5s. would purchase two dozen more if the price fell 1s. per gross. (Maximum 20 marks).
- 4—The prince ordered his treasurer to open the six chests. In the first two there were only sovereigns; in the second two only shillings; in the last two only pennies: a like number of coins being in each chest. "Divide the treasure equally among my guard," said the prince, "giving change to those who require it, and let their captain receive the portion of three men." "But, sir," replied the treasurer, "it may not be possible to divide the sum exactly; and, moreover, the captain has usually the portion of four men." The prince smiled. "Give the captain the portion of four men," said he, "and yet divide the sum equally." "Your Highness," began the treasurer. "Tut, tut," replied the prince, "it can be done whatever the amount of the treasure, and whether the captain has three portions or four." How many men were there in the guard? (Maximum 40 marks).

MONTHLY ARITHMETIC COMPETITION COUPON.

Name.....

Company.....

NOTE.—This Coupon must be filled in and attached to your Answer paper. If alternative solutions to any Question are sent in, they must be accompanied by a further Coupon.

Correspondence.

Dear Mr. Editor,—

Reference "Curious's" letter in your March issue. I have just returned from leave, and whilst at home, I asked my father (who has been a Sergeant-Major in the R.A.M.C.) if he could tell me the meaning of "Sloip Oipes." He informed me that it was a terrible disease which was only contracted by "Infantry" and a few other units, but never in the R.A.M.C., unless they were in uncivilised countries. I am afraid, Sir, he was pulling my leg, so perhaps some other reader will give the correct meaning.

Yours, etc.,

ROOKIE.

Dear Mr. Editor,—

Sir, reference the Tenth Commandment of a Signal Company, given in your last issue. May I point out that the Tenth Commandment of the R.A.S.C. is as follows: "Thou shalt not covet the motor bicycles of a Signal Company, nor the petrol, nor the oil for the use thereof; but thou shalt continue to use (for locomotion) the limbs provided by Nature, even though thy days "HAVE" been long in the "land of the living," and thy journeys be "beyond a joke."

Yours truly,

R.A.S.C.

Dear Editor—

Jim B— and me been keeping company since a year ago last tuesday, course I couldn't think of marrying him on his pay. They calls him a Sapper, but he says he don't get any more money for that. He tells me he's a batman since he come home from France. Is that higher than a captain? I don't suppose that it will be long before he's a general. I'm going to marry him then. Does a general get good pay, as we could not live on less than 30s. a week?

Yours truly,

SARAH JARVIS.

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MATLOCK.

15th January, 1920.

"I have had the Coat all through the War, and want to keep it, as it is in such good condition. It has never let me get wet during the whole time (four years), and I have had some soaking rains for days together."



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SPORTS NEWS.

Soccer.

Sussex Senior Cup Final.

The final of the Sussex Senior Cup took place at Lewes in the Dripping Pan, on March 27th, and that both teams were extremely popular was convincingly proved by the spectators present, who numbered 4500. The gate money taken amounted to £133. Owing to the nature of the ground everyone was able to get a fairly good view of the game, and a very hotly contested match was witnessed. The S.S.T.C. team were more or less favourites, though Worthing were known to be a thorough good Cup fighting team, having won it the

last time it was competed for, in 1914. The teams lined up under the referee (Mr. H. G. Cottrell) as under:—

S.S.T.C.: Goal, L/Corpl. Freeman; backs, L/Corpl. Barby and Sapper Turnbull; half-backs, Sapper Griffiths, Lieut. Talbot, and Sapper Finlay; forwards, Sapper Gresham, Corpl. Shenton, Sapper Sage, Sapper Fairclough, and Sergt. Carter.

Worthing: Goal, W. W. Lawrence; backs, G. Fruin and H. M. Westlake; half-backs, L. Manwaring, W. Palmer, and W. Scrase; forwards, H. Best, H. Norgette, E. Hanmore, P. Begent, and J. F. Leary.

As the game opened up it was noticed that Sage and Shenton were well marked and going to be carefully



The S.S.C.T. Football Team.

2/Corpl. Barby, Sapper Griffiths, Sapper Sage, L/Corpl. Freeman, Lieut. Talbot, Sapper Turnbull, Cpl. Squibb (Trainer), Spr. Gresham, Spr. Finlay, Cpl. Shenton, Spr. Fairclough, Sgt. Carter, C.S.M. Terry (Manager).

THE AFTER—HEROES.

*"We cannot all be heroes, and thrill a hemisphere
With some great daring venture, some deed that mocks at fear,
But we can fill a lifetime with kindly acts and true—
There's always noble service for noble souls to do."*

—C. A. MASON.

THEY have done their work "out there," these blinded men of St. Dunstan's. They have fought their fight. But there is greater, harder, truer heroism before them—an unceasing fight for the remainder of their lives. They have to "learn to be blind." To stoop and build up their lives with Kipling's "worn out Tools."

At St. Dunstan's we help them to their feet. Send each man once more into the world (after 8 to 12 months) a cheery, contented, independent citizen—able to earn a good living. And we look after each man—for life. The After-Care Branch watches and helps each man for life. This is where the great need for funds is indicated. For it is an expensive job. Read the following typical letter:—

L/Corpl. WILLIAM PETTIT,
1st King's Royal Rifles.
Joiner.

"Just about a year ago I removed to my present shop at 12, High Street, Harrow. The shop is close to the school. It has also the advantage of being in the main street. Here I do a very good trade in picture-framing and supplying various other articles to the boys of the school, as well as the residents of Harrow. My turnover for the past year has been £531 9s. 0½d. I estimate

my trade expenses to be about £303 13s. 9d., which leaves £227 15s. 3½d., or an average of about £4 7s. 7d. per week profit. I have also stock-in-hand to the value of £213 16s. 9d., being an increase on the stock I began the year with of £142 3s. 3d.

"I consider picture-framing the best work. I have lately, in addition to catering for the wants of the boys of the school, added to my stock-in-trade artists' materials and colours, and they are going. My work keeps me very busy, but I have been able to go in for singing as a recreation, and find much pleasure in it. My greatest difficulty during these two years has been my want of any previous business experience, and I think I may add my greatest asset has been a good wife, who has helped me very much in the business this last year."

Please help. Send what you feel justified in giving yourself. Whip round among the boys, officers and men, for a little each—to help the fallen brother-in-arms to his feet. Get up a "benefit"—write home to those you think can do this thing, and do it well. You know what a fine thing is this—you who have seen the spaciousness of Life and Death "out there"—you who have now a far truer sense of the Values than those at home can ever have.

Arthur Pearson.

Please address the Treasurer: THE BLINDED SOLDIERS' & SAILORS' CARE COMMITTEE
(Registered under the War Charities Act, 1916), St. Dunstan's, Regent's Park, London, N.W.1.

"I expect to pass through this world but once. If, therefore, there is any good thing which I can do, or any kindness I can show my fellow man, let me do it now. Let me not defer it, nor neglect it—for I shall not pass this way again."

watched by the opposing team. Three minutes from the start, Freeman saved, but the ball went to Hanmore, who netted, but was ruled offside. A few minutes later Freeman made another good save at the expense of a corner. Play then drifted toward the Worthing goal, Lawrence being kept fairly busy for a time, and the S.S.T.C. were twice within an ace of scoring. After thirty-five minutes' play, Worthing succeeded in scoring the first goal by Begent heading into the net. Half-time arrived with the score of 1 goal to nil for Worthing.

Early in the second half of the game, Best, Worthing's outside right, was carried off the field with a broken collar bone, through coming in violent contact with Turnbull. This left them at a disadvantage, but they put up a most determined fight. Ten minutes from the commencement of the second half, Fairclough got through on the wing, finishing up a thorough good run with an exceptionally fine low shot which defeated Lawrence and found its billet in the net. With honours equal, both sides made a determined struggle for supremacy, and though the S.S.T.C. team were continually harassing the Worthing defence, they were unable to penetrate it. Ten minutes before time, Barby kicking the ball out gave Worthing a corner, from which they managed to obtain the winning goal, Hanmore heading the ball into the net before Freeman could possibly reach it. Throughout the last few minutes of the game every endeavour was made to equalise, but without success, the whistle blowing with the score of 2 goals to 1 against us.

In conclusion, it would perhaps be interesting to note that the only time this Cup has been won by a military team was in 1896, when it was "carried off" by the Royal Irish Rifles.

A. H. M.

Inter-Company Knock-out.

68 Course v. "F" Coy. ... "F" Coy. won 5-3
29 Refresher v. "E" Coy. ... "E" Coy. won 6-2
"F" Coy. v. "A" Coy. ... "F" Coy. won 2-1
67 Course v. "D" Coy. ... "D" Coy. won 3-0

Inter-Company League.

Coy.	Played	Won	Lost	Dn.	For	Goals		Points
						For	Agst.	
E	9	8	1	0	22	6	...	16
D	9	6	3	0	19	13	...	12
C	10	5	4	1	30	17	...	11
B	7	4	3	0	13	14	...	8
F	9	2	6	1	12	25	...	5
A	10	1	9	0	11	29	...	2

Hockey.

Knock-out Competition Final.

The final of the above competition was played on Saturday, April 10th, on the Village Ground, a fair number of supporters of both teams being present, and by far the best game of the season was witnessed.

"E" Company opened up the attack and pressed heavily for the first fifteen minutes, when their play was rewarded with a splendid goal by Major Phillips, which gave "F's" custodian no chance, the ball being netted at a terrific speed about three feet from the ground. This somewhat roused "F" Company, who made every endeavour to equalise. After some brilliant play, the reward came through their centre-forward, who, taking the ball down the field in good style from the half-way line to within ten yards of goal, netted it with a well-directed shot, thus equalising. Half-time arrived with the score 1-1.

On resuming play, "F" Company again led off in brilliant style, their centre forward again making strong efforts to score. These were broken up by Barby, who played a good game. From a corner, "F" Company's centre forward obtained the ball, and in trying to net had the misfortune to hit the upright. "E" Company

A. L. LEACH

Cycle Engineer

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Impressions at the Inter-Company Hockey Final - April 10th

then broke away, and pressed in good style, Capt. Penny making a fine effort to score, but shooting wide. Again they pressed, the pace increasing, but their efforts to obtain the winning goal were broken up by McCormick, who played a brilliant game at left back. With both teams striving hard for supremacy the whistle blew full time, the score being 1-1.

EXTRA TIME.

Both teams set off at a very fast pace, "E" Company attacking. Their efforts, however, were continually broken up by McCormick, who appeared to be unbeatable. At the change over, "F" Company took up the running, missing a second goal by a narrow margin, their efforts being outplayed by "E" Company, who succeeded in taking the ball again down the field, ending up by Major Phillips making a drive for goal which went wide. A few minutes after, the whistle again went with the score still equal, 1-1.

FURTHER EXTRA TIME.

Again extra time was played, the whole of which was fast and extremely exciting, each team in turn doing its level best to outdo the opposing side. It was not until after the change that anything accrued, when Horsercroft, who had played a splendid game throughout, by a solo run from the wing succeeded in netting the

ball, which enabled "E" Company to retire as the victors, the whistle blowing shortly afterwards. The teams were very evenly matched, and both teams were deserving of great credit for the whole of their play.

After the match, Mrs. Godfrey Faussett, who was present throughout the game, presented medals to the teams (the winners' being silver, and the runners-up, bronze).

A. H. M.

Inter-Company League.

Coy.	Played	Won	Lost	Dn.	For	Goals		Points
						For	Agst.	
E	5	4	0	1	24	4	...	9
C	5	4	1	0	13	7	...	8
D	5	3	1	1	17	5	...	7
B	5	2	3	0	16	7	...	4
F	5	1	4	0	5	21	...	2
A	5	0	5	0	6	27	...	0

Inter-Company Knock-out.

67 Course v. "B" Coy. ... "B" Coy won 6-2
"A" Coy. v. "X" Coy. ... "X" Coy won 3-1
Admin. Coy. v. "E" Coy. ... "E" Coy won 3-2
"D" Coy. v. "Y" Coy. ... "D" Coy won 3-1
"C" Coy. v. "P" Coy. ... "C" Coy won 4-1
"B" Coy. v. "X" Coy. ... "B" Coy won 2-1
"E" Coy. v. "D" Coy. ... "E" Coy won 6-5
"F" Coy. v. "C" Coy. (semi-final) ... "F" Coy won 3-2
"B" Coy. v. "E" Coy. (semi-final) ... "E" Coy won 2-1
"E" Coy. v. "F" Coy. (final) ... "E" Coy won 2-1

Cross Country Running.

Cross Country Running is still going strong, and the S.S.T.C. entered two teams for the Eastern Command Inter-Unit Race on March 5th, at Chatham. Fifteen were allowed to run in each team, and twelve were counted in.

The course was about five miles, and was a very stiff one, ending with a stiff pull uphill. The 2nd Training Battalion Team, though not at full strength, did extremely well, and their position of fourth out of eleven teams reflects great credit on R.S.M. Nichol, L/Cpl. Maskell, and Cpl. Tester, who were responsible for training the team.

The 1st Training Battalion was seventh. The following was the order of finishing:—

1st T.B.		
Sapper Jones, "A" Company	...	10
L/Corpl. Clarke, "E" Company	...	24
Sapper Kirwan, "A" Company	...	39
Pioneer Garnham, "F" Company	...	71
Driver Ward, "E" Company	...	84
Pioneer Brown, "F" Company	...	85
Pioneer Halloran, "F" Company	...	88
Sapper Roberts, "F" Company	...	89
Pioneer Clarke, "F" Company	...	105
Driver Byrne, "E" Company	...	115
Pioneer Pearson, "A" Company	...	123
Driver Blundrer, "E" Company	...	129
2nd T.B.		
Sapper Masters, "X" Company	...	30
Lieut. Beattie, "B" Company	...	32
Pioneer Gent, "C" Company	...	56
Pioneer Simpson, "C" Company	...	58
Sapper Parry, "X" Company	...	59
L/Corpl. Lovelock, "B" Company	...	62
Pioneer Niblett, "B" Company	...	67
Pioneer Brandon, "B" Company	...	70
Sapper Gibson, "X" Company	...	74
Pioneer Halligan, "B" Company	...	81
Pioneer Newton, "C" Company	...	93
Sapper Fleet, "Y" Company	...	104

Sapper Jones, by virtue of finishing tenth, was chosen to run in the Army Inter-Unit Race at Camberley on March 16th, but he did not get placed in this race.

On Saturday, March 13th, we brought off the return run against Brighton and County Harriers at Crowborough, combined simultaneously with a run between 1st and 2nd Training Battalions.

The course was about four miles over the kind of country for which Crowborough is famous, and could

without exaggeration be called extremely difficult. The time of the first man (20 min. 38 sec.) was particularly fast for the course. The first ten men home were counted, and although Brighton were again victorious, we put up a very much better show than on the previous occasion when we met them. This was largely due to increased experience, and we effectively prevented them from packing.

The order of finishing is given below:—

BRIGHTON & COUNTY HARRIERS.

Preston	...	1
Newnham	...	2
Bannister	...	3
Whopham	...	4
Munford	...	6
Dyer	...	8
Errey	...	12
Sackson	...	13
Morgan	...	20
Richards	...	21
		90

S.S.T.C.

Lieut. Blakeney, "Y" Company	...	5
Clarke, "E" Company	...	7
Lieut. Beattie, "B" Company	...	9
Ursell, "F" Company	...	10
Simpson, "C" Company	...	11
Garnham, "F" Company	...	14
Nicholl, "C" Company	...	15
Hallam, "C" Company	...	16
Smith, "C" Company	...	17
Gradden, "Courses"	...	18
		122

The 2nd Training Battalion beat the 1st Training Battalion by 243 points to 316, counting twelve men home. After the race, all the teams were entertained to tea at the Soldiers' Club.

On Friday, March 19th, 1920, the 2nd Training Battalion had a five-mile Inter-Company Run. Unfortunately, the prowess of one of the Companies competing appeared to put the "wind up" the other Companies, as both "B" and "P" Companies scratched at the last minute, leaving the race between "C" and "X" Companies.

"C" Company won by 31 points to 78. 2/Corpl. Norman won easily by 300 yards in extremely fast time, and proved himself to be a runner of exceptional merit. The "C" Company mascot (Boy Kenneally), who is the

In Reply to Yours.

F. J. writes:—

I re-enlisted whilst in France for a further period of four years under Army Order 4 of 1919. Can I purchase my discharge, and what would be the amount required?—The opportunity of purchasing discharge has not yet been reopened.

R. J. P.—Your daily rate as a switchboard operator, Sapper Class III., after two years' service, should be 4s. 9d.

"Mac."—You can get all the gear you require by applying at the Sports Office.

"NEARLY CIVVY."—Join the Royal Engineers' Old Comrades Association. They will do more for you than the average Labour Exchange in the capacity you speak of.

"HARDY"—I cannot give any authentic explanation as to why "E" Company are not peeling their potatoes lately, unless it is because there have been fewer men on "Jankers."

C. J. P.—Take my advice and *don't*. It has been tried before, and it didn't work.

The Dud.

They found a harmless little dud,
Its noscap glittered bright,
The copper band was quite intact,
It gave them much delight.

Said Bill to Jack, "I'll get an axe
And break the copper band,
While you can screw the nose-cap off—
Such gifts are in demand."

So Bill he salvaged for an axe,
And Jack, a monkey wrench—
For each bethought him of the gift
Long due a comely wench.

Deep is the hole where once a dud
Lay resting safe and sound;
A little cross doth mark the spot
Where those two chums were found.

Take heed, all ye who seek to find
Some souvenir so rare,
And let a sleeping dud lie still,
Or write on it "Beware."

Army Life 1914-1919.

'Shun.

HESITA	— TION
ATTESTA	— TION
VACCINA	— TION
TAANSPORTA	— TION
VEXA	— TION
DEMOBILISA	— TION
JUBILA	— TION

smallest boy in the depot, ran an extremely plucky race, finishing twenty-fifth out of thirty-four runners, which was really an exceptionally fine performance considering the difficulties of the course. The following is the order of finishing:—

1, Norman, "C" Coy. (silver medal); 2, Lt. Beattie, "B" Coy. (silver medal); 3, Shadlow, "C" Coy. (bronze medal); 4, Jones, "X" Coy. (bronze medal); 5, Simpson, "C" Coy.; 6, Nicholl, "C" Coy.; 7, Hall, "C" Coy.; 8, Parry, "X" Coy.; 9, Kingston, "C" Coy.; 10, Rendle, "C" Coy.; 11, Sachett, "X" Coy.; 12, Gibson, "X" Coy.

The following have been awarded their Colours for the Signal Service Training Centre Running Team:—

R.S.M. Nichol (captain) and Sapper Simpson, "C" Coy.; Sapper Jones and Sapper Kirwan, "A" Coy.; Lieut. Beattie, "B" Coy.; L/Cpl. Clarke, "E" Coy.; Sapper Ursell and Sapper Garnham, "F" Coy.; Lieut. Blakeney, "P" Coy.; Sapper Masters, "X" Coy. Five Colours remain to be given.

Cup Final Aftermath.

First Sapper (on being informed that the Signals had lost)—"How did it happen, Jim?"

Jim—"Well, Billy, it's like this. Our boys showed t'other side how to play football; then t'other side showed our boys how to score. See?"

Scene: Rugby Football Match.

First Lady—"Whatever does that man wear those things over his ears for?"

Second Lady (who is trying to impress on her companion that she knows all about the game): "Oh, he wears those things so that he won't hear what the other players say when he kicks them."

Love's Labour Lost.

A certain professional footballer went to the Wild West to teach some Cowboys how to play the noble game. After a few lectures everyone was anxious to get on with it. Two sides were chosen and lined up ready to commence; suddenly it was discovered that the ball had "Gone West."

"Oh, never mind the ball," yelled the rival captains. "Let's get on with the game!"

A soldier was explaining the merits of his cycle to a comrade. Yes," said he, "it's a real racer, and an 'all-steel frame.'"

"Really," said his comrade, "and is the frame there?"

The soldier has since bought a canary!

RAILWAY TIME TABLE

SERVICE TO AND FROM LONDON.

LEAVE UCKFIELD	ARRIVE LONDON	LEAVE LONDON	ARRIVE UCKFIELD.
7.40 a.m. ...	9.40 a.m. Vic.	Vic. 5.18 a.m. ...	7.47 a.m.
8.32 ...	10. 0 L.B.	" 7.23 ...	10.37
8.49 ...	10.25 Vic.	" 9.10 ...	11.14
10.54 ...	12.33 p.m. "	" 11. 5 ...	12.50 p.m.
12.46 p.m. ...	3. 0 L.B.	" 12 0 noon ...	2.43
1.34 ...	3.51 Vic.	" 1.20 p.m. ...	3.50
4.40 ...	6.35 "	" 3.45 ...	5. 9
5.45 ...	8.22 "	L.B. 4.44 ...	6. 9
8. 7 ...	10.40 "	Vic. 4.50 ...	6.40
SUNDAYS.			
10.25 a.m. ...	1.35 p.m. Vic.	" 5. 5 ...	7.17
4.27 p.m. ...	6.42 "	" 5.48 ...	7.27
7.59 ...	9.49 "	" 6. 0 ...	7.31
		" 6. 0 ...	8.17
		" 8. 5 ...	10.12
SUNDAYS.			
		Vic. 8.50 a.m. ...	10.42 a.m.
		" 1.13 p.m. ...	4.19 p.m.
		" 2.30 ...	5.39
		" 7. 0 ...	9.30

SERVICE TO AND FROM BRIGHTON.

LEAVE UCKFIELD	ARRIVE BRIGHTON	LEAVE BRIGHTON	ARRIVE UCKFIELD
7.47 a.m. ...	8.37 a.m.	6.56 a.m. ...	7.40 a.m.
8.36 ...	9.19	8. 5 ...	8.49
10.37 ...	11.22	9.22 ...	10. 3
12. 3 p.m. ...	12.50 p.m.	10.20 ...	10.54
2.43 ...	3.30	12. 0 noon ...	12.46 p.m.
3.50 ...	4.50	1.38 p.m. ...	2.22
5. 9 ...	5.55	4.27 ...	5.11
6.41 ...	7.29	5.43 ...	6.25
7.17 ...	8. 3	6.19 ...	7.11
8.17 ...	9. 4	7.24 ...	8.10
10.12 ...	10.55	9. 5 ...	9.56
SUNDAYS.			
7.42 a.m. ...	8.43 a.m.	9.40 a.m. ...	10.25 a.m.
10.42 ...	11.34	2.10 p.m. ...	2.55 p.m.
5.39 p.m. ...	6.32 p.m.	8.25 ...	9.10
8. 3 ...	8.48		

Every care is taken in the compilation of this Time Table, but the Editor cannot accept responsibility for any inconvenience caused by unforeseen alterations in the Railway Company's service.

Please fill up and forward to the Editor, "THE WIRE," Headquarters S.S.T.C., Maresfield Park, Sussex.

Herewith I enclose.....value.....being subscription for.....numbers of THE WIRE.

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THE WIRE

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VOL. I.—No. 4

JUNE, 1920

PRICE—FOURPENCE

Editor: G. E. PALIN, Sapper R.E.

Financial Secretary: C.S.M. W. BUTLER, R.E.

Adverts.: E. BROWN, Sapper R.E.

All Communications should be addressed to—

THE EDITOR, The Wire, Headquarters S.S.T.C., Maresfield Park, Sussex.

Cheques payable to Sgt.-Maj. W. Butler. Bankers: London County Westminster & Parr's Bank (Uckfield Branch)

Editorial Notes.

THE MAGAZINE is beginning to make its presence known the world over. Sales abroad are steadily increasing, and the time is not far distant when Foreign Station Notes will appear with all due prominence in our pages. I would bring to the notice of all readers that a Sale and Exchange column would prove of service to those wishing to dispose of bicycles, etc. The charge for inserting an advertisement of that description would be 9d. per line (minimum 2 lines).

There are still a few back numbers of THE WIRE on hand. Anyone desirous of obtaining same should lose no time, as the supply is limited.

When the Magazine was first published (in February last), publication was unavoidably delayed until the latter end of the month, which perforce has been the case with subsequent issues. In order, however, to bring the date of publication as near as possible to the 1st of the month, the current (May) issue has been dated as the June number.

R.E. Old Comrades Association
Signals Branch

R.E. War Memorial Scholarships.

The Central Committee of the R.E.O.C.A. was recently asked to assist in forming a Committee to adjudicate upon applications for scholarships under the R.E. War Benefits Committee.

Aldershot has provided the representative for the Old Army, and London that of the New Army, whilst the T.F. representative is also a member of the Association—as, indeed, are nearly all the remainder of the Scholarship Committee.

The Committee is composed of: Chairman, The A.-A.-General, R. E.; a representative of the R.E. Charitable Fund; two representatives of the R.E.O.C.A. (one each, Old and New Armies); and a representative of the R.E. Territorials. Secretary: The Secretary R.E. Institute.

Particulars of the Scholarships are given in the following letter from the Secretary R.E. War Benefits Committee:—

R.E. WAR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS.

Applications for the following Educational Scholarships may now be sent to the Secretary R.E. War Benefits Committee, R.E. Institute, Chatham.

The Committee, in adjudicating upon these applications, will give primary consideration to the necessity of the case.

"A" Scholarships of £40 per annum, for children of Officers and other ranks of Royal Engineers, including Regulars, Special Reserve, Territorial Force, and New Army, who before the war were in a position to send their children to Public Schools, etc. Tenable between the ages of 10 and 18 years, the grants to be reviewed after four years. Ten scholarships at present available.

"B" Scholarships of £15 per annum, for children of Warrant Officers, N.C.O.'s, and men, to assist the children to go on to a Technical or Secondary School. Tenable between the ages of 13 and 16 years. Forty scholarships at present available.

"C" Kitchener Scholarships. At present limited to one of £40, and two of £15, under the same conditions as "A" and "B" respectively.

Applications to be considered in the first adjudication should be received by June 1st, 1920. Forms of application can be obtained from the Secretary.

RULES.

For the present, owing to the large number of casualties in the Great War, the issue of these Scholarships will be confined to children or dependants of Officers and other ranks, either killed in action, died of wounds, or disease contracted in the Service, or permanently disabled therein.

The first yearly instalment of the Scholarship will be paid to the candidate's parent or guardian as soon as its allotment has received the sanction of the R.E.

War Benefits Committee, and at the same time information will be given as to the number of years for which it has been decided that the scholarship shall continue. Within one year from the date of the first issue, the scholar's parent or guardian shall apply to the Secretary R.E. War Benefits Committee, for the next instalment, and so on from year to year, each such application being accompanied by a report from the master of the school at which the scholar is studying, on the progress, conduct, and regularity of attendance of the scholar during the past year.

The R.E. War Benefits Committee retains the power to refuse further instalments in case such reports are considered unsatisfactory. Notification should be made to the Secretary in case a scholar decides to discontinue his or her studies, and resigns the claim to further instalments. A change of school should be reported at the time that it is decided upon.

You are requested to give the greatest possible publicity to this Notice.

F. E. G. SKEY, Colonel,
Secretary R.E. War Benefits Committee.

Applications may be passed to the hon. secretary of the Signals Branch, who will give them immediate personal attention

War Memorial.

At the last meeting of the Central Committee of the Association, it was announced that an alteration in the proposals had been made. The Sites Committee of the Office of Works had now offered four sites in the Mall opposite Marlborough Gate; and it was understood that they were offered in the first place to the Cavalry, Artillery, Engineers, and Guards, and that the other three arms had accepted.

The original scheme, at Chatham, is meanwhile in abeyance, pending a decision upon this new proposal, which, although it involves an unique site, will probably entail an expense of perhaps £15,000. This amount is, of course, conjectural. It was the feeling of the Central Committee that efforts should be made to take advantage of this opportunity of placing the Corps Memorial in this excellent position.

Chatham will always be associated with the Corps, but it must be remembered that, during the war, the R.E. personnel was drawn from all parts of the Empire; hence the particular desirability of obtaining so worthy and central a site as that offered in the Mall.

Branch Progress.

Subscriptions have come in quite well of late, but there is yet room for improvement.

I received a very welcome letter from Sergt. A. H. McGuire this morning, in which he enclosed a list of some twenty new members, in addition to a number of "subs." for the current period. Only a busy hon. secretary knows the full value of active assistance of this character; and the Committeeman above mentioned has never flagged in his interest in the welfare of the Branch. To those members who find so little time in which to get a 2s. postal order, I would say: "See Sergt. McGuire, hand him your card and sub. for 1920, and he will do the rest."

Many cases of unemployment have received attention during the past weeks, and some with excellent results. I would add this word of advice, anent civil employment. Few know better than myself the difficulties to be faced in placing applicants in really remunerative employment at the moment. Certain action has recently been taken by the Central Committee of the R.E.O.C.A., which is expected to improve the outlook; but, for the nonce, I would say to the man who contemplates leaving the Service just because he is "fed-

up," and who has no definite prospect of a post in civilian life, "Look before you leap, and don't forsake the bone for the shadow"; for he will probably find that civil employment is as replete with pin-pricks as anything he has met with in the Service.

Matters are improving, though, and with the progress of building schemes, the outlook will be entirely different in a matter of twelve months.

Not the least of the difficulties of the Civil Employment Registry is that of finding accommodation for a man and his family in a locality where a vacancy exists; or if that accommodation be found, the cost is often such as to make fearful inroads upon his income.

Recent mails have brought me letters from C.S.M. Fiddes (Palestine), Pioneer G. W. Phillips (Constantinople), Pioneer Dennis Swanzy (Baghdad), H. G. Knowler (Port Elizabeth, South Africa), and W. J. Guest (late R.E. Signals) (Pretoria).

Others with the 3rd Lahore Div. Signals in Palestine are C.Q.M.S. C. Elliott, Sgt. H. Doman, 2/Cpl. Harris, Sapper Finley, Sergt. J. Reid, Sergt. A. E. Smith, Cpl. C. E. Compton, Cpl. M. H. Burton, and Sapper W. Watts, of Pulborough, Sussex.

The Signals Branch, which is expected shortly to become the Signal Service Association, is represented in every part of the globe.

Members who have difficulty in getting in touch with old comrades with whom they have soldiered, should send their friends' particulars to me, and I will leave no stone unturned in my efforts to "dig them up."

In writing to those comrades overseas, I now tell them about THE WIRE, as it is hoped ere long that this will be the official organ of our "Signals" Association.

Your servant and comrade,
EDWIN G. HONEYWILL, Hon. Sec.

If you want a Taxi

GO TO

"SCOTTIE"

ANY HOUR OF THE NIGHT OR DAY!

Parties taken for Outings.

"SCOTTIE"

(Late of Grenadier Guards)

"The Budletts" Maresfield

The Last Days of M400421.

M400421 (that was not its real number, but it will serve) was our electric light lorry, which had shed its kindly light in our Signal office without fail, from Arras to Italy and back again, through bombing raids and rum issues, through summer and winter, Ypres mud and Italian snow, war and armistice, until demobilization. It even won its way through demobilization regulations, and came with the Company cadre to England.

It was just twelve months ago when it received marching orders, while resting in its "park" (on the pavé in front of an estaminet in Charleroi), complete with a 3-kilo-watt lighting set plus appurtenances.

The remnant of the Company had been ordered to entrain for Antwerp, but the lorry proceeded by march route under its own power to that port, passing en route through Brussels, where the necessary (and regulation) midday halt was called. Antwerp was reached in the evening.

Perhaps it would be better to explain the situation at Antwerp, and the use the lorry was put to will be better appreciated.

Antwerp Camp was a hutment built on the sand at the docks, about three miles from the town. It was purely a demobilization camp, and absolutely the best we had ever been in overseas. Parades were few, and fatigues were almost non-existent. A battalion of Highlanders performed all camp duties. Meals were very good. Huts were lit by electricity, and "Lights out" sounded at 10.30 p.m.; but if one came in later, there was no objection to his switching them on while he undressed and got into bed. It is said that men absented themselves from embarkation in order to remain at that camp.

From two o'clock in the afternoon, a service of lorry buses ran from the camp at Antwerp to the town, and vice versa, at half-hour intervals; the last lorry leaving Antwerp at about 10.45 p.m. for the benefit of the troops who wished to visit the town.

It will be seen that, if a lorry carrying nominally twenty-five men left the camp every half-hour from two o'clock, there would be a few hundred spare files waiting to return about ten o'clock. Naturally, a man didn't wish to return to camp before that hour (unless he was "broke," which was quite possible, for beer was 1.50 francs a glass, other necessities were at armistice prices, and each had but a fortnight's pay to carry him home), so the returning buses between 10 and 11 p.m. were somewhat crowded.

This is where our lorry came in. By arrangement with the driver, M400421 was at a quiet rendezvous at a given time, and any man wearing the white and blue brassard was given a lift in comparative comfort back to camp. It is true that a certain amount of oil from the dynamo stuck on one's clobber, but that was preferable to the foreign matter one collected on the regular buses; and the majority of us only wanted our uniform for another twenty-eight days, anyway.

On the second day of our stay, the lorry was to take us for a "Cook's Tour," but that was knocked on the head, partly because the C.O. got to hear of the previous night's escapade, and partly because embarkation orders were received.

The lorry caused us much anxiety during embarkation. Besides ourselves, there were thirteen other

cadres, all with their transport, guns, and equipment, to be embarked on the same vessel; and we were the last to embark.

Our waggons presented no difficulty, for they were light enough to be lifted by the dockside cranes, which had a lifting capacity of but 2000 kilogrammes; but the lorry, complete with its 3-k.w. set, weighed about eight-and-a-half tons.

The head stevedore approached the electrician in charge of the lorry and demanded, in Flemish, "What about it?" The captain of the ship arrived on the spot, and enquired its weight. The electrician (who should have been a diplomat) pointed to the legend painted on the lorry's side: "Load not to exceed 3 tons."

The stevedore and the captain jumped to the conclusion that the weight of the outfit was not more than three tons; and although the stevedore would not take the bus on his crane, the ship's captain decided to rig one of his vessel's derricks, which was designed to lift five tons, and take her aboard.

The electrician, not caring to risk being left behind with his lorry should the derrick break down, collected a few of the lads and removed the dynamo from the lorry to lighten the load; and very soon ropes and chains were passed round her, and M400421 was lifted off Belgian soil.

After about five minutes' hoarse shouting and swearing on the part of Scotch engineers and Belgian labourers, the lorry was deposited on the vessel's deck, the dynamo at its side. There was nothing further to be done; so the Company filed aboard, and spent two days in doing nothing except eating, sleeping, and backing the lucky old mudhook.

Tilbury was reached in due course, and the services of a 50-ton crane were requisitioned to disembark the lorry; so those who expected to see the only workable crane on our berth buckle under the weight were disappointed.

The lorry arrived at Aldershot without further adventure, the driver and electrician being immediately demobbed. A few days later, orders for the disposal of M400421 were received, but there being no driver to take her to Slough, or wherever her destination was, she remained immobile a little longer.

During the period of waiting for a R.A.S.C. driver, Epsom Races happened to take place, so permission was obtained for a few of the N.C.O.s Mess to use the lorry for a last trip. The dynamo and fittings were removed, and seats fitted up, and the refreshments—liquid and solid—required for a day at the races were put on board. The services of a civilian driver were obtained, and at a convenient hour on Derby Day the lorry commenced her last service to the few remaining members of the Company.

The race course was duly reached without accident, and the civvy driver was left in charge of the lorry and refreshments, while the passengers went off to seek their fortunes.

The return journey was great. The passengers were elated, the civvy driver was mellow, and the refreshment hamper, though not actually empty, was considerably lightened.

After leaving the Downs, the driver espied a touring car a few hundred yards ahead, and attempted to pass it on the near side. The consequence was that

a few yards of paling were torn away along the road-side, without any damage however to the lorry.

The driver then realised that he was driving a lorry and not a racing car, so his driving became more sedate. Shortly afterwards, a bevy of damsels was observed gathered round a broken-down car. The lorry was pulled up, and the gallants on board enquired if they could be of service.

The damsels, who volunteered the information that they moved in theatrical circles as chorus ladies, promptly clamoured for a lift as far as Guildford, and the soldiers were only too pleased to accommodate them.

Now, the front seat of a W.D. lorry is not designed to carry five passengers, consequently the damsels had to get inside; and as the top of the tailboard was seven feet from the ground, and very greasy, the operation of getting in was only accomplished after much display of lingerie n'everything.

It is understood that the fair ones livened things up considerably, and by the time Guildford was reached the refreshment hamper was empty.

On arrival at Aldershot the lorry was driven into its shed, and the driver—who declared he had had the best day of his life, and was always willing to oblige in a similar capacity for a couple of Bradburys, plus his food—was dismissed.

The following morning a few of the previous day's passengers gathered around, cleared up the debris, settled debts, and voted M A 00421 a jolly old bus.

A few days later a non-sentimental Commo Corporal called, signed a receipt, and took her away.

BUNYAH.

BELLINGHAM'S **BELLINGHAM'S**
for for
LUNCHEONS **AFTERNOON**
both Hot and Cold ... **TEAS** ...

Central Hotel
High Street, Uckfield

For **CAKES** and **BELLINGHAM'S**
CONFECTIONERY
to **SUPPERS**
BELLINGHAM'S are
come **JUST A1**

¶ When you are really fed up with Camp.
COME TO BELLINGHAM'S!

The Recruit's A.B.C.

- A is for Army, and also for "Shun";
Buckle down to them both, and your training's begun.
- B is the Boots which will come out of store;
When you're down on your uppers, they'll issue some more.
- C is for Cheek, also Crimes and C.B.;
Keep off the first two, from the third you'll be free.
- D is for Duty—and won't you regret it
If, for any odd reason, you chance to forget it.
- E's Entertainments: each night you will find
At the Y.M.C.A. there is one of some kind.
- F is Fatigues, which you'll certainly earn
If you slack at your job and don't hustle to learn.
- G is the General—brass on his hat;
As you're bound to salute him, take notice of that.
- H is your Hut; if it's draughty or damp,
Don't grouse—you won't hit on a better in camp.
- I is Instruction, which happens all day;
When you've finished with that, you'll be earning your pay.
- J is for "Jim," honoured badge of the Sigs.;
The Soccer team wear it in red on their rigs.
- K is "The King." When to sing it you stand,
Get down to the business, and smother the band.
- L is for Leave, which you'll get if you're good,
Though seldom as much as you reckon you should.
- M is the M.O., who vets you, and knows
A malingering's tricks from his head to his toes.
- N's Number Nine, which he promptly provides
If there's anything wrong with your little insides.
- O is the Officers—broadly expressed,
You will swear by your own, and discount all the rest.
- P is the Padre, who'll give you a lift
If you get in a hole and are feeling adrift.
- Q is the "Quarter," who issues your kit,
And will want to know why if you're reckless with it.
- R is for Rations—the worth of the food
Depends upon whether the cooking is good.
- S is your Sergeant—you'll probably find
His comments of rather a personal kind.
- T is the Training he has to impart;
Your collar will cool when you get it by heart.
- U is for Uckfield, your post town, and rail;
The best thing the place can provide is the mail.
- V is the Value of Government Stores;
If you juggle with any, you'll have to show cause.
- W's for Warrants, which never expect;
They expired last month, and will not resurrect.
- X for EXtension of Service—some day
You'll gladly take on if you're getting good pay.
- "Why" is the question no soldier may ask
When ordered to deal with an unpleasant task.
- Z is just Zero—and that is the end;
Digest it at leisure, and prosper, my friend.

JAY HOO.

CAMP NEWS

Headquarters Notes.

Another of our number has "went." This time it is Sapper Le Boutillier, more familiarly known by his comrades as "Boot." Everyone who knew him regrets his departure, but wishes him every success in civilian life.

There is a big epidemic of "Instructor's throat" among the junior N.C.O.s. It was first thought to be a kind of subtle fever ravaging our ranks, but after soliciting information re the cause from one of the said junior N.C.O.s, I think his remarks about it will be better left unreported.

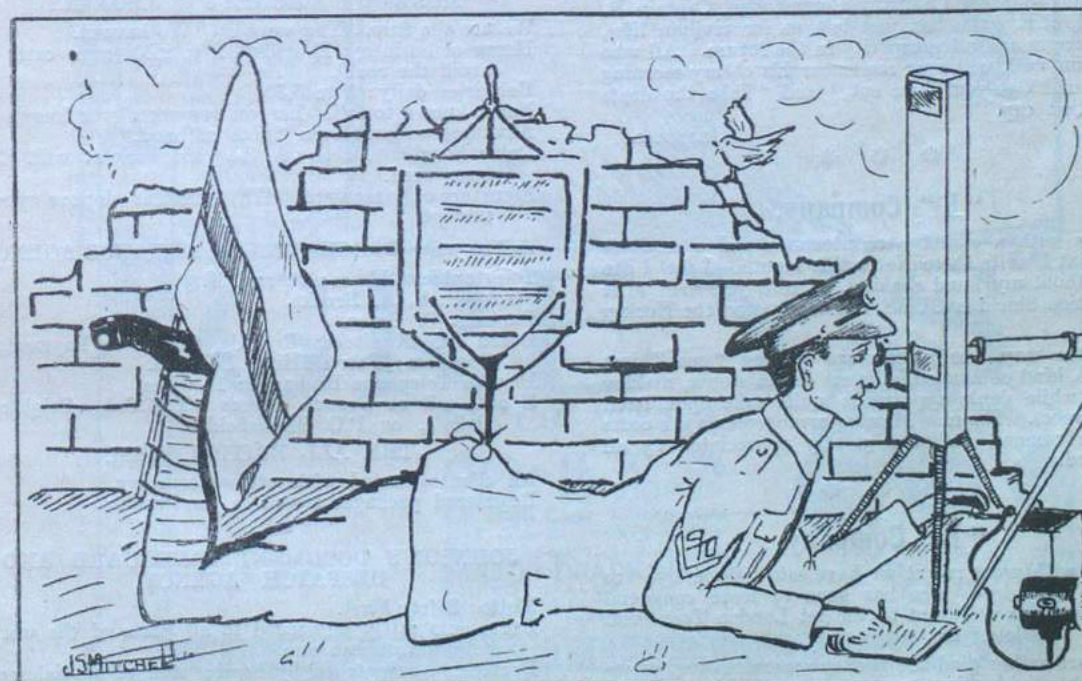
L/Corpl Gay has left the hospitable roof of the Documents Office, and has transferred to the Corps of Military Accountants, Chester. We wish him the best of luck!

Company Notes.

"A" Company.

To be or not to be. That was the question: Whether we were to be bottom of the Association League or not.

"Somme" Stunts—No. 1



That Central Visual Station.

as, "Why does a piece of string when it's wet?" or, "On which is the correct foot to give a party 'March Easy'?"

Perhaps if he has many prizes to pay out this month he will take my tip.

What's wrong with "Easie" and "The Don"? Why can't we have notes from them each month? I am sure "Easie" should be able to fill a column in telling how his Company won the Hockey and Association Leagues; and "The Don" another column in relating how "Turn-bull" beat "E" Company in the Knock-out Competition.

THE WIRE will never be the success we want it to be until we get sheaves of notes from each Company—and we certainly want it to be an acknowledged success by the time we become a Corps on our own, which, I believe, is now almost an accomplished fact.

Just a little story to illustrate how a soldier's conversation will often lead people astray. I happened to be travelling on the Underground Railway in London the other day [Lucky dog—Editor.] The compartment was rather crowded, but luckily I had a seat. Next to me were two dear old ladies, and standing in front of them two Tommies.

My destination chanced to be the same as that of the two old ladies. As the train stopped, they stood up, faced the two Tommies, and walked backwards out of the compartment. Thinking this rather a strange procedure, I asked them if they always alighted in that manner.

"Oh, no!" replied one, "but we overheard one of those soldiers say, 'When these two old birds gets up, we'll pinch their seats.'"

In closing these Notes, I am sure the whole of "A" Company, and many others in the Centre, will join me in wishing our old Company Commander, Captain R. Benfield, R.E. (who has just left us for civilian life), every success and all prosperity in the future. All who knew him well, will ever remember his cheery morning salutes of "Get your hair cut," and "Take the dents out of that cap."

GRANMAR.

"E" Company.

It is with a cheerful countenance and a sardonic smile that I write these Notes this month. I feel I can say, without my hand shaking, "I told you so!" The Association Shield is OURS, not to mention the Hockey Shield.

By the way, the stables are looking "posh" just now. A kind of Army List is set out in stones, making the erstwhile dank appearance quite take upon itself a new aspect. The new Messing arrangements are quite an improvement, and are greatly appreciated by all concerned.

"F" Company.

It is with great regret we have said "Good bye" to Lieut. W. Andrew, who has gone to more congenial employment, as Adjutant to the 1st London Territorial Staff. "Our loss," etc.

We are rather glad the hockey season is over, as we have lost our dashing centre forward, Lieut. E. A. Stoddard, who has gone forth to the ease of civilian life.

To take the place of the above, we welcome the advent of Lieuts. A. B. Jordan and J. McG. Young, and we trust they will uphold the sporting interest their predecessors encouraged and fostered.

The Cricket season, being yet in its youth, has given us small opportunity of judging what talent we possess in the Company, but we hope to be able to field a fairly strong all-round eleven.

We have always been led to believe that a "Triumph" motor cycle was a purely mechanical contrivance. A recent incident, however, seems to suggest that it possesses a brain with a certain intellect.

A motor cycle was seen endeavouring to reach the roadway from the Company office, with a certain respected officer accompanying.

Unfortunately, the driver of a 3-ton lorry was in a hurry for his lunch, and did not deign to make way for such an insignificant item as a motor cycle.

The said motor bike, nothing daunted, proceeded to try conclusions. As was to be expected, the lorry's superior weight told, and it floored its opponent in ten seconds.

The erstwhile rider, being somewhat surprised to find himself unhurt, and the engine still running, carefully put the gear into "free," and assisted the bus to its feet (figuratively speaking). It (the "mobike") resented this interference, and immediately placed itself into second gear. Observing the Cycle Repair Shop conveniently handy, it shot from the surprised owner's hands, and taking no notice of bolts and locks, pushed its way through the doors, finally coming to rest by the repair bench. No one could mistake the expression on its cylinder, which seemed to say—"Wait until I get my wheel repaired."

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If out, call at Branch Offices: Y.M.C.A., Brighton, Dolly's, or P.O. Maresfield.

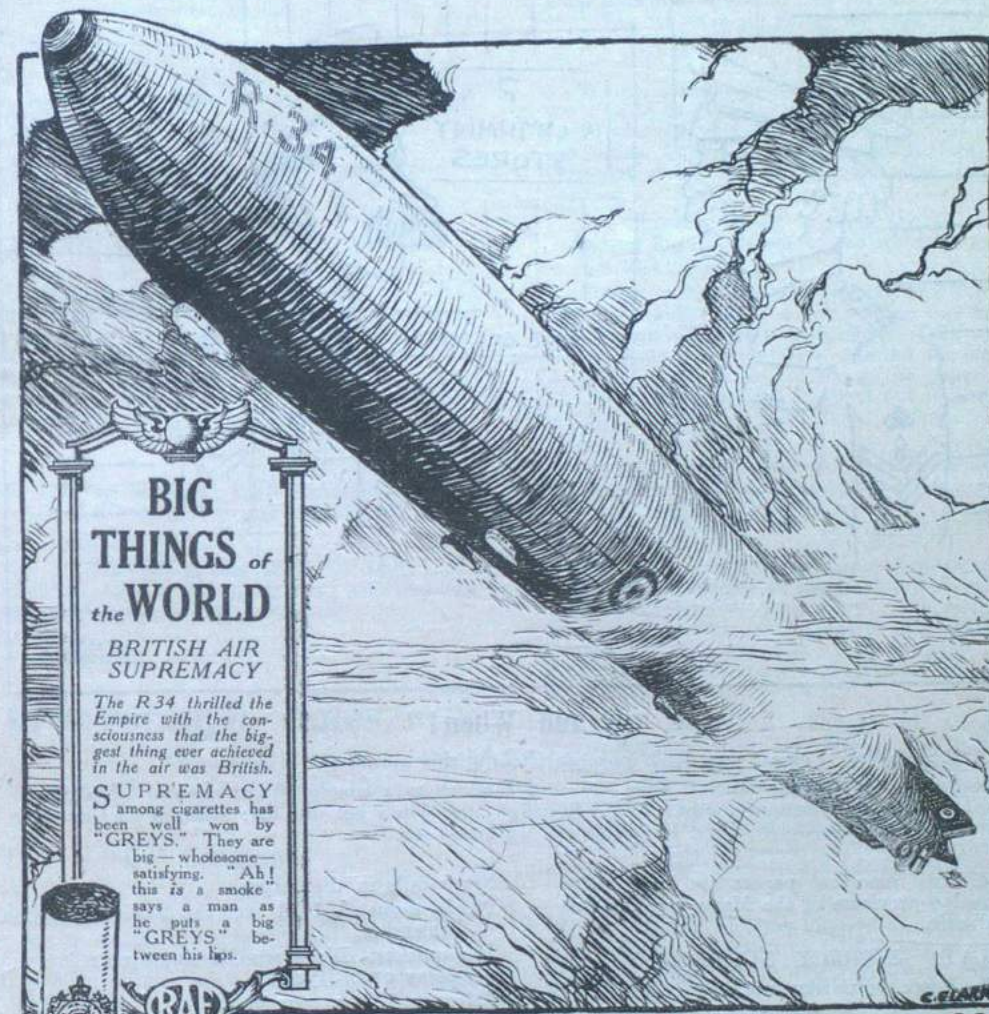
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Documents safely forwarded to all parts of the world with the utmost care.
Documents despatched by hand; staff of special messengers employed.

Continued on page 64.



BIG THINGS of the WORLD

BRITISH AIR SUPREMACY

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SUPREMACY among cigarettes has been well won by "GREYS." They are big—wholesome—satisfying. "Ah! this is a smoke says a man as he puts a big 'GREYS' between his lips."



"GREYS"

SILK CUT VIRGINIA

20 for 1/5 50 for 3/6 100 for 7/-

Of High Class Tobacconists and Stores everywhere
Manufactured by MAJOR DRAPKIN & CO
LONDON
Branch of the United Kingdom Tobacco Co. Ltd.



Actual Size Round, not Oval.

The BIG CIGARETTE with the Choice Flavour



"If and When!"

C.Q.M.S.:—"Well, Lomar, you don't look too cheerful this morning! What's up?"

Lance-Corpl.:—"Nothing much! I've just said farewell to a couple of crowns and 6/6 a day; the landlady wants another 5/- for her digs; the wife's got the 'flu; and I'm on Canteen duty to-night. However, I'm going to 'wait and see.'"

Carriage paid. All important papers are kept under the personal supervision of the Managing Director in special safe.

NO DELAY. SECRECY GUARANTEED.

Telegraphic Address: "Punishments."

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Apply for one of our famous "Leave applications."

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Category "E" a speciality.

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Accuracy guaranteed. Our celebrated "Pro Formas" speak for themselves. No delay.

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Motto: "Business before Pleasure."

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Insurance Office: Motor Cyclists' Training Centre, Maresfield.

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Partner: H. Hudson.

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The Mercury Lightning Despatch Delivery Company,
Maresfield Park.

Head Office: Hut 113 W.

Director: W. Willsher (Billy Willsher's son).

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Messages delivered any time during the day or night.

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If out, apply: Bed 4, Hut 113, or No. 5 Canteen.

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All enquiries re Allotments, Pay, Letters, etc., promptly dealt with.

No client leaves our firm dissatisfied.

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Telegraphic Address: "Smiles."

If out, call at Post Office, Maresfield, or Dolly's. If you find the Bank Manager, you will find the Managing Director of Grace Limited.

Crowborough Notes.

[From our own Special Correspondent.]

"C" Company.

The "Great Push"—sorry, Mr. Editor! I mean, the "Great Crash"—has taken place, and nearly all of us are once again, as the Sergeant-Major said (after a night out, and forgetting to take liver pills over-night), "As you were!" It is rather a shock, but at the same time, I think everyone will agree that it is best.

One of the most original expressions I ever heard was uttered recently in "C" Company's office. As is usual after pay parade, a crowd congregates in the office to see the Pay Corporal. This was so on the occasion referred to, when a storm was raging (of course, that's usual in Crowborough; yet it must be nice here in the summer), and a terrific clap of thunder was heard. Everyone was silent until a voice was heard: "This must be April 30th, and all the N.C.O.s have fallen at once."

Nothing else of great importance has happened except a sale of "Sam Brownes."

Sport, of course, is still going strong; and with the exception of a very heavy defeat in Hockey by "B" Company, to the tune of 10 goals to nil, I think we have done fairly well.

Football has now almost finished. We played Crowborough Village about a fortnight ago, and won by 12 goals to nil; and on the 29th we played "B" Company in the 2nd T.B. Competition, and won by 6-1, thereby becoming entitled to bronze medals.

Cricket has just started, but owing to the hilly nature of the ground at Crowborough, we have had great difficulty in getting any sort of a pitch to practise on. Now we have got going, we hope to do even better in the Leagues than our Hockey and Football teams did.

Tennis, here, is out of the question; and before we could get a court, some move or other would have happened—so the idea of having courts here has gone to the winds. The courts at Maresfield, however, having been put at our disposal, we are right away there for practice.

Our Shooting Range is going strong, and everyone is getting his eyes down to see what we can bring off in that direction.

Boxing in the Company and the 2nd T.B. is "catching on" wonderfully. A competition was held to select representatives to go to Aldershot. This went off very nicely, and good men were selected for that purpose. At the time of writing, I see in the paper that one of our representatives was knocked out in the first round of the first series. Hard luck, Jimmy! Better luck next time.

An open boxing competition was held at Tunbridge Wells on April 24th, to which we were invited to send as many representatives as possible. Four went—two from "X," one from "B," and one from "C."

Our men went through the preliminary rounds very easily—one could see at the start that they were going to cover themselves with glory. The civilian element there looked white and haggard, and did not seem as if they had had any sort of training; whilst, on the other hand, our soldiers were bronzed and as fit as we could make them.

Pioneer Baker ("X") and Pioneer Coughlin ("B") got to the final of the 9st. 6lbs., which was a splendid bout, the spectators testifying in the usual way. Baker won a hard but clean fight in the fourth round. It was a 3-round contest, but the pair fought so well that the judges and referee ordered an extra round, and in this Baker excelled himself, and won on points. Three cheers for the loser were most heartily given.

We were treated to another thrill when Pioneer Massey (of "C") fought Pioneer Waghorn (of "X") in the 10st. 6lb. competition. Sympathy at once went to Waghorn for the punishment which he took so splendidly. Each round was the same, and before the third round had gone very far, the referee very properly stopped the fight and gave the verdict to Massey. So we returned to Crowborough with two cups to our credit.

Our best wishes for a "bon voyage" and safe return to all N.C.O.s and men who left the Company this month on draft for "P" Company, and who have since started on their journey. May they never land in a country where the climate is anything like Crowborough!

Things We Want to Know.

When the hon. member for Buxted is going to finish dodging 1st Parades?

And how he will fare now he has only two?

How Darcy enjoyed his long rest on the Surrey hills?

If the officer who fell in the ditch has altered his "vocab."?

Who was after a Storeman's job and got disappointed?

Will he still be able to sing out "R.I."?

Monthly Arithmetical Competition.

FIRST PRIZE - - - 7/6.

SECOND PRIZE - - - 2/6.

Will be awarded for the neatest and clearest solutions of the problems given below.

Rules.

- 1—Each problem should be worked on one side only of a sheet of paper, with the full name, number, and rank of the competitor.
- 2—Only arithmetical methods will be accepted, and full working must be shown.
- 3—The decision of the O.C. School will be final, and solutions should be submitted by the 16th of May, 1920.
- 4—The prizes will not be awarded unless all problems are attempted, with at least three correct for First Prize, and two correct for the Second Prize.

Questions.

- 1—A man goes to market with 20 pence in his pocket. He has to buy 20 birds, viz., pigeons at 4d. each, larks at 1d. each, and sparrows at 1d. each. Find the number of each that he buys. (Maximum marks 25).
- 2—I have to catch a train. If I walk at the rate of 4 miles per hour I shall be 5 minutes too late, and if at the rate of 5 miles an hour I shall be 10 minutes too soon. How far have I to go? (Maximum marks 25).
- 3—A farmer hired a man for a year, and agreed to give him £64 and a horse. The man left at the end of 9 months, and received £30 and the horse. What was the horse worth? (Maximum marks 25).
- 4—A fish has a head 9in. long. The tail is as long as its head and half its back, and the fish has a back as long as head and tail together. What is the length of the fish? (Maximum marks 48).

The April Problems.

Winners.

First Prize—(3 correct) No. 314100 Sapper Bass, G. (E Company)

Second Prize—(2 correct) No. 23186 C.S.M. Keane, M. W. (B Company)

Solutions, by O.C. School.

- No. 1.—A can give B 10 yards in a 100 yards race.
- | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|----|---|---|-----|---|---|
| A | " | C | 25 | " | " | 100 | " | " |
| B | " | C | 15 | " | " | 90 | " | " |
| B | " | C | ? | " | " | 100 | " | " |
- $\therefore \frac{15 \times 100}{90} = 16\frac{2}{3}$ yards. Ans.
- No. 2.—Cost Price of Milk = 5d. a quart.
Selling Price of Mixture = 7d. a quart.
 $\frac{7 \times 100}{160} = 4\frac{3}{4}$ d. a quart.

Customer should have obtained milk costing 5d. a quart wholesale, but he only gets 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. of milk in a quart of mixture.

$$\therefore \frac{4\frac{3}{4}}{5} = \frac{9}{10} \text{ of quantity is milk.}$$

thus leaving $\frac{1}{10}$ " " water.
 $\therefore$ Percentage of water in a quart of mixture = $\frac{1}{10} \times 100 = 12\frac{1}{2}\%$.—Ans.

- No. 3.—If price falls 1d. a doz. the buyer gets 2 doz. more for 5/-
If price were 6d. a doz. the buyer would get 10 doz. for 5/-
If price were 5d. a doz. the buyer would get 12 doz. for 5/-

The conditions are thus fulfilled and the present price is 6d. a doz.—Ans.

- No. 4.—The least possible value of the sum to be divided is £2 : 2 : 2 (viz. one coin in each box).

Each share will represent one man, and the Captain will be represented by three or four shares, as the case may be.

Now the number of shares in the two cases differs by unity, and consequently the treasure must be divisible by two numbers which differ by unity.

$$£2 : 2 : 2 = 506 \text{ pence} = 2 \times 11 \times 23.$$

By inspection we see that the only two numbers which satisfy the conditions are 22 and 23.

In case i., where the Captain has 3 shares, there will be 22 shares, leaving 19 for the men.

In case ii., where the Captain has 4 shares, there will be 23 shares, leaving 19 for the men.

As one share represents one man, there will be 19 men in Guard.—Ans.

Notes, by O.C. School.

Before dealing with the problems, I would like to point out how very important it is that N.C.O.s and men should obtain the Army Education Certificates before July, 1921, when the new Scheme comes into force.

No man of ordinary intelligence need despair of obtaining the Third and Second Class Certificates, and also at least one group of the First Class, by July, 1921, if he will spend a few hours weekly at the work. To men who have left school for some years, the work at first must, in the very nature of things, be rather trying, but this feeling soon wears off.

Arithmetic seems to be the chief obstacle; therefore the very fact of *trying* to solve these monthly problems in THE WIRE will be of the greatest possible benefit, even if, at first, the results do not appear to be very satisfactory.

Examiners nowadays set nearly all questions in the form of problems which do not require much mechanical effort, but which do require a certain amount of thought. The solving of problems is a good deal "knack," but only practice gives the necessary mental alertness to see through the "plot" as prepared by the composer of the problems. No man who can solve THE WIRE problems need fear the arithmetic in Group I. of the First Class Certificate.

The first problem last month was quite easy, and no comment is necessary. In the second problem, it is necessary to note that besides legitimate profit the milkman obtains money by fraud, and it is to the latter

Continued on page 63.



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JEWELLERS TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING

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we look for the solution. What appears to the customer as milk costing 5d. a quart (the wholesale price of milk is generally known) is partly water—the milk portion only being worth 4½d., so that five-eighths of a penny is obtained by swindling, viz., one-eighth of the 5d., and from this the percentage is easily obtained.

The third problem may be solved in several ways, but I think the one shown in the Solutions is simple, and would be accepted by an Examiner.

The fourth problem was set at a Civil Service Examination over twenty years ago. It is easy, but the question must be read most carefully. The words of the Prince, "It can be so divided *whatever* the amount of the treasure," is the point to get hold of. The word "whatever" fastens us down to the fact that the treasure *must* be divisible in the way stated when it is the *least possible amount*, which is obviously when there is one coin in each box. From the data given, the treasure must be divisible into shares which in one case will be odd and in the other case will be even. A share is equal to one man, and either three or four shares will equal the Captain. It is fairly obvious that you must treat with shares, and leave the conversion into men until the end of the solution.

In conclusion, I would add that there were not many competitors last month, partly, I think, because at least one of the problems looked rather fearsome. After looking at the solutions, you will see how easily 7s. 6d. was earned.

Correspondence.

Dear Sir—I am forwarding to you this letter, which I picked up on the road in Crowborough district. Unable to trace the owner, I thought if you would insert it in your Journal, no doubt the owner would recognise it. If he applies for same, do not mention my name, as I do not want any reward. SAPPER NICKS.

[The letter is published for information.—Ed.]

"Dear Dad—I ave just been premeoted a larnce sergent, pade, substantial but it aint reely a premotion it ses in orders that it is kinsidered a arpointmente, which means that if i was ter punch my plertoon sergents nose, but i wouldnt do that becos ees bigger than me, but just think if i was ter do it well, my kermending ofiser would say Bert, you ceese to act as a Larnce Sergeant, i know you will be proude to ear of my last step towards beeing made a General (noosance) but deer dad don't break with all your bouzing pals just yet and tell rum not to trouble to shift into a bigger house until i get my next D.G.M. Your loving son, BERT."

Dear Sir—I have just finished reading my WIRE, and, of course, enjoyed the contents very much.

The 1st T.B. have a good number in their camp, and I'm not surprised to read that you have several old billiard champions whom you could "dig out."

Well, at this camp (Crowborough), we, too, have several "young 'uns" who could be "dug out," and I may say, beat a team of Maresfield billiard champions. Say a team of twelve men.

I would like to mention just one little point as to the sale of your "Paper." I bought one, and no fewer than nine people have asked to "just have a look at

it." Well, the "look" appears to be all the interest taken in it. Instead of buying one, they look at some one else's. I remain, yours truly, H. F.

Crowborough.

There's a spot on the map, though it's hard to be seen,
Enshrouded in hachures and patches of green;
While the roadways and by-paths with red contours
vie,

To puzzle and wander the map-reader's eye.

Sure, there's many a Signaller's face grows quite pale,
And paler, and paler, the smaller the scale:
And oftener than not he'll admit, with chagrin,
He's searched all the roadways in vain for an inn.

Now of grouching and moaning this camp's got its share;
It seems quite the thing to give feeling the air.
"Truth is stranger than fiction," great authors main-
tain,

So don't let's be Yankee, and see what we gain.

London's grimy and smoky, enveloped in mist,
So chills and slight ailments are hard to resist;
But at Crowborough, doctors admit that it's true,
The bracing hill air is sure proof against "Flu."

In the City, most travelling is done underground,
Where the sun never shines, no Nature is found;
So they look up from London with envious eye:
The smallest man here is 800 feet high.

Sure, the furze-dotted common and far-spreading trees,
The eyes of the atheist could not fail to please;
And the green spreading links would play quite a big
part

In touching the springs of an old Cookney's heart.

Then, in London, a stroll is entirely futile
With three hundred persons to half a square mile;
But in this little place it is quite the reverse,
Unsullied by hustlers and grabbing commerce.

Sure, there's bags of amusement and sports to be had,
"By-products" and pictures—they're not at all bad;
But we're all, in dull moments, inclined to opine
We're no better here than we were up the line.

J. S. MITCHELL.

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Four well worn brass and two cloth crowns for 1s. 6d;
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15th January, 1920.

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"good condition. It has never let me
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"years), and I have had some soaking
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SPORTS NEWS.

Officers and Men Entitled to Wear "Jimmies" for Season 1919-1920.

The Regimental "Jimmy" is a figure of Mercury with winged head and feet complete, red, emblazoned on field white. Intimate acquaintanceship with this exalted gentleman, the God of Speed, is denoted by the fact that he is known throughout the Signal Service as "Jim." The figure of Mercury is the device adopted by the Signal Service as the Regimental emblem.

RUGBY FOOTBALL—Capt. W. R. C. Penny, M.C., R.E., Capt. R. Vyvyan, Lieut. D. R. Kelly, N.I.H., Lieut. C. A. Murray, Lieut. R. H. R. Steward, Lieut. C. G. Cochrane, Lieut. B. E. C. Dixon, Lieut. D. C. Methuen, Lieut. A. S. Johnstone, Lieut. N. C. D. Brownjohn, F.S.M. E. G. Bowker, Sergt. J. Shaw, Sergt. L. N. Lewis, Pioneer D. J. R. Rosenberg, Pioneer K. W. C. Rosenberg.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL—Lieut. H. E. Talbot, 6th D.G., Sergt. A. C. Shenton, Corpl. A. A. Barby, L/Cpl. W. H. Freeman, Sapper R. Turnbull, Sapper W. Sage, Sergt. F. Carter, Sapper J. Finlay, Sapper J. Gresham, Sapper J. Fairclough, Sapper J. Griffiths.

HOCKEY—Bt. Major L. G. Phillips, M.C., Worc. Regt., Bt. Major J. R. Pinsent, D.S.O., R.E., Capt. J. A. S. Tillard, O.B.E., M.C., R.E., Lieut. H. T. S. King, R.E., Lieut. E. G. W. Pearce, Lieut. T. A. R. Scott, Lieut. S. Stoddard, O.B.E., Sergt. C. W. Dawson, Corpl. W. Spillman, L/Corpl. J. Bendry, Driver C. H. Horscroft.

RUNNING—Lieut. R. H. Beattie, Lieut. H. W. Blankeney, R.S.M. W. A. Nichol, L/Corpl. E. Gradden, L/Corpl. P. J. Clarke, Sapper F. A. Jones, Sapper W. Kirwan, Sapper T. Garnham, Sapper W. Masters, and Sapper A. Ursall.

Rules for Award of "Jimmies."

- 1—A "Jimmy" will not be awarded until an officer or man has played in five S.S.T.C. matches during the season. The actual playing in five matches does not in itself entitle a man to a "Jimmy" unless it has been awarded by the Captain.
- 2—"Jimmies" won in one season will not be worn the following season, except by the Captain and Vice-Captain, until they have again been won.
- 3—"Jimmies" will be awarded to members of a team by the Captain, after he has obtained the approval of his Sub-Committee.
- 4—The main Recreation Committee are empowered to withdraw a "Jimmy" if they have occasion to warn the holder more than once of foul play, or any foul action committed whilst actually taking part in any game.
- 5—Whenever a "Jimmy" is awarded, the Sub-Committee will notify the main Committee for purposes of record.

Soccer.

Association League Match, April 15th.

The above match, between "E" and "B" Companies, created much surprise, the "E" Company team up to this particular game having carried all before it. In this game, however, they received a complete Tin-Hat, much to their surprise and chagrin.

The teams lined up under the referee (Sapper Turnbull) at 16.00 hours, and from the commencement of the game, "B" Company took up the running in a succession of powerful attacks. After ten minutes' play, they were successful in obtaining their first goal, Tilford dribbling down the field, tricking "E" Company's defence, and with a well directed shot, netting the ball.

Shortly afterwards, "B" Company was awarded a penalty, the kick being taken by Tilford, who again succeeded in netting.

The play shortly after this began to get somewhat rough, "E" Company's blood being roused. 2/Corpl. Smith, whilst taking the ball down the wing, was tackled by "E" Company's right back, which resulted in Smith being taken off the field with a badly lacerated shin.

"E" Company now pressed heavily, "B" Company being at a disadvantage; and Shenton, receiving the ball, took it down the field, overcoming the opposing defence, and netted, thus opening the score for "E" Company. Although short-handed, "B" Company played a brilliant game; but five minutes from the interval, Shenton, receiving a pass from his outside left, easily netted, thus equalising—half time arriving with the score 2-2.

On the recommencement of play, "B" Company, facing a strong wind, made several strong attacks. Fifteen minutes after the resumption of play, brilliant work by Tilford enabled him to pass to Lieut. Allan, who succeeded in netting by a splendidly-placed shot just under the bar, giving "E" Company's goalie no chance to save.

Shortly after, "B" Company, still very persistent, again found the net, Lieut. Allan sweeping down the wing, overcoming the opposing defence, and with another well directed shot putting on their fourth goal.

2/Corpl. Smith now reappeared on the field, determined to assist his team in keeping their lead, but again had to retire. In spite of his absence, "B" Company still led the play; and, ten minutes from time, Tilford, again receiving the ball from his inside right, got a clear run through, with only the goalkeeper to beat. This he succeeded in doing, thus scoring the fifth goal for "B" Company.

This was the final goal scored, the whistle blowing a few minutes afterwards with the score of 5-2 in favour of "B" Company. On the run of the play, they thoroughly deserved their victory.

A. H. M.

Cross-Country Running.

The cross country running season was brought to a close with the Inter-Unit Run on March 25th, and the Individual Run on March 31st.

The Inter-Unit Run was held at Camp Hill, over a course of about 2½ miles, of which about half was on the road. Each Company ran separately, and had to count in one-third of its total strength. "C" Company proved fairly easy winners by more than one minute, for the reason that they were the only team which ran as a pack, the good runners staying behind to help the weaker ones along. Other Companies mostly relied on individual effort, with the result that those at the tail lost heart.

Result: 1, "C" Company, 21.10; 2, "A" 22.20; 3, Administrative, 22.47½; 4, "F," 24.27; 5, "E" and "B," each 24.40; 6, "D," 25.03.

The Individual Run was held at Crowborough, over a 6-mile course, starting and finishing at the Camp. There were 45 starters.

Result: 1, 2/Cpt. Noonan, "C" Company; 2, Sapper Shardlow, "C"; 3, Sapper Jones, "A"; 4, R.S.M. Nichol, "C"; 5, Sapper Garnham, "F"; 6, Sapper Norris, "D"; 7, Lieut. Courtenay Thompson, "C"; 8, Sapper Smith, "A"; 9th, Sapper Simpson, "C."

Cricket.

S.S.T.C. (Maresfield) v. R.E. (Aldershot).

The 1st XI. scored an easy victory over the R.E. team at Aldershot on Saturday, May 15th. By fairly level batting, S.S.T.C. compiled an aggregate of 160 runs, Driver Horscroft and Lieut.-Col. Mordaunt being top scorers. The latter supplemented his efforts with the bat by capturing four wickets, Corpl. Bellew taking the remainder. Driver Taylor and Col. Bell were the only two to reach double figures in the R.E. total of 61. Scores:—

S.S.T.C.—Lieut.-Col. O. C. Mordaunt, c Johnson b Firth, 25; Capt. R. E. Vyvyan, c Bell b Johnson, 10; Lieut. C. H. Beatty, c Stafford b Johnson, 1; Corpl. Bendry, st Young b Johnson, 14; Major J. R. Pinsent, b Addison, 6; Corpl. Nash, lbw b Firth, 12; Lieut. D. C. Methuen, lbw b Addison, 15; Lieut. W. Edes, b Addison, 12; Driver Horscroft, c Taylor b Firth, 28; Corpl. Downer, not out 10; Corpl. Bellew, c Bell b Johnson, 10; extras 17; Total 160.

R.E., (Aldershot)—Driver Taylor, b Bellew, 25; Lieut. McCarthy, lbw b Mordaunt, 2; Corpl. Lee, b Mordaunt, 3; Major Stafford, c and b Bellew, 4; Col. Addison, c Edes b Bellew, 8; Major Firth, c Vyvyan b Mordaunt, 3; Col. Bell, b Bellew, 10; Sapper Barrett, c Horscroft b Bellew, 0; Corpl. Johnson, c Horscroft b Mordaunt, 3; Lieut. Angwin, b Bellew, 1; Capt. Young, not out 0; extras 2; Total 61.

1st XI. Fixtures, 1920.

May—Sat. 29th—R.A.S.C., at Aldershot, 12.00.

June—Wed. 2nd—Hastings and St. Leonards, at Hastings, 11.30.

Thurs. 3rd—R.F.A., at Brighton, 1.30.

Sat. 5th—Battle, at Home, 12.00.

Wed. 9th—R.E., Chatham, at Chatham, 12.00.

Fri. 18th—Eastbourne, at Eastbourne, 11.30.

Sat. 19th—Cryptics, at Home, 12.00.

Thurs. 24th—Inter-Battalion (1), at Home, 2.15.

Wed. 30th—Cox and Co., at Norwood Park, 11.15.

July—Wed. 7th—Bexhill, at Bexhill, 11.30.

Wed. 15th—Inter-Battalion (2), at Home, 2.15.

Sat. 17th—Tunbridge Wells, at Tunbridge Wells, 2.0

Sat. 24th—Southdown Hunt, at Ringmer, 12.00.

Thurs. 29th—Inter-Battalion (3), at Home, 2.15.

Sat. 31st—Mr. F. H. Gresson's XI., at Crowborough, 1.30.

Aug.—Mon. 2nd—Tunbridge Wells, at Tunbridge Wells 11.30.

Wed. 4th, Thurs. 5th—Sussex Martlets, at Hove, 11.30

Wed. 18th—Battle, at Battle, 12.00.

Sat. 21st—R.E., Chatham, at Home, 12.00.

Wed. 25th, Thurs. 26th—Sussex Martlets, at Lewes, 11.30

Sept.—Sat. 4th—Lewes Priory, at Lewes, 11.30.

2nd XI. Fixtures, 1920.

May—Sat. 29th—Isfield, at Maresfield, 2.30.

June—Wed. 2nd—Hartfield, at Hartfield, 2.30.

Wed. 9th—Crowborough, at Maresfield, 2.30.

Wed. 16th—Maresfield, at Maresfield, 2.30.

Wed. 30th—Lindfield, at Maresfield, 2.30.

July—Wed. 7th—Maresfield, at Maresfield, 2.30.

Wed. 14th—Crowborough, at Crowborough, 2.30.

Sat. 17th—Isfield, at Isfield, 2.30.

Wed. 21st—Uckfield, at Maresfield, 2.30.

Wed. 28th—Lindfield, at Lindfield, 2.30.

Sat. 31st—Cuckfield, at Cuckfield, 2.30.

Aug.—Wed. 4th—Hailsham, at Hailsham, 11.30.

Sat. 14th—Maresfield, at Maresfield, 2.30.

Wed. 18th—Hartfield, at Maresfield, 2.30.

Wed. 25th—Haywards Heath, at Haywards H. 2.30.

Sat. 28th—Buxted, at Buxted, 2.30.

Sept.—Wed. 1st—Crowborough, at Maresfield, 2.30.

Wed. 8th—Uckfield, at Uckfield, 2.30.

The Soldier's Encyclopædia.

LEAVE—An occasional occurrence when the Powers are genially inclined.

LIVER—The poor unfortunate organ that makes all the difference between Two days C.B. and a remand for the Colonel.

LOGIC—An old "sweat's" argument.

MUFTI—The soldier's camouflage.

MARCHING ORDER—A strain on the mind in preparation, and a strain on the body in accomplishment.

MULE—A child of the Devil.

N.A.C. BEER—A kind of Canteen arrangement.

NOTICE—That paper you "did not read" on enlistment.

N.C.O.—An abbreviation of the Latin "Nemine Contradicente Optimates" meaning "Men in the highest position without opposition."

OFFICE—The abode of the Staff employed and others. "Staff" is also a pseudonym for "perpetual motion."

ORDERLY—A runner. It is also used as a prefix to "Room," sometimes referred to as the "High Jump."

RAILWAY TIME TABLE

SERVICE TO AND FROM LONDON.

LEAVE UCKFIELD	ARRIVE LONDON	LEAVE LONDON	ARRIVE UCKFIELD.
7.40 a.m. ...	9.40 a.m. Vic.	Vic. 5.18 a.m. ...	7.47 a.m.
8.32 ...	10. 0 L.B.	" 7.23 ...	10.37
8.49 ...	10.25 Vic.	" 9.10 ...	11.14
10.54 ...	12.33 p.m. "	" 11. 5 ...	12.50 p.m.
12.46 p.m. ...	3. 0 L.B.	" 12. 0 noon ...	2.43
1.34 ...	3.51 Vic.	" 1.20 p.m. ...	3.50
4.40 ...	6.35 "	" 3.45 ...	5. 9
5.45 ...	8.22 "	L.B. 4.44 ...	6. 9
8. 7 ...	10.40 "	Vic. 4.50 ...	6.40
SUNDAYS.		" 5. 5 ...	7.17
10.25 a.m. ...	1.35 p.m. Vic.	" 5.48 ...	7.27
4.27 p.m. ...	6.42 "	" 6. 0 ...	7.31
7.59 ...	9.49 "	" 6. 0 ...	8.17
		" 8. 5 ...	10.12
		SUNDAYS.	
		Vic. 8.50 a.m. ...	10.42 a.m.
		" 1.13 p.m. ...	4.19 p.m.
		" 2.30 ...	5.39
		" 7. 0 ...	9.30

SERVICE TO AND FROM BRIGHTON.

LEAVE UCKFIELD	ARRIVE BRIGHTON	LEAVE BRIGHTON	ARRIVE UCKFIELD
7.47 a.m. ...	8.37 a.m.	6.56 a.m. ...	7.40 a.m.
8.36 ...	9.19	8. 5 ...	8.49
10.37 ...	11.22	9.22 ...	10. 8
12. 3 p.m. ...	12.50 p.m.	10.20 ...	10.54
2.43 ...	3.30	12. 0 noon ...	12.46 p.m.
3.50 ...	4.50	1.38 p.m. ...	2.22
5. 9 ...	5.55	4.27 ...	5.11
6.41 ...	7.29	5.43 ...	6.25
7.17 ...	8. 3	6.19 ...	7.11
8.17 ...	9. 4	7.24 ...	8.10
10.12 ...	10.55	9. 5 ...	9.56
SUNDAYS.		SUNDAYS.	
7.42 a.m. ...	8.43 a.m.	9.40 a.m. ...	10.25 a.m.
10.42 ...	11.34	2.10 p.m. ...	2.55 p.m.
5.39 p.m. ...	6.32 p.m.	8.25 ...	9.10
8. 3 ...	8.48		

Every care is taken in the compilation of this Time Table, but the Editor cannot accept responsibility for any inconvenience caused by unforeseen alterations in the Railway Company's service.

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THE WIRE

The Camp Journal of the Signal Service Training Centre

VOL. 1.—No. 5

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Financial Secretary: C.S.M. W. BUTLER, R.E.

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R.E.O.C.A. Notes.

Corps of Signals.

This is, I understand, to be our title; anyhow, it was thus that the coming new arm of the Service was referred to at an extremely useful meeting of representatives of the Signal Service Association and Signals Branch, R.E.O.C.A., recently held at Horse Guards, Whitehall, London.

As is generally known to members, the inception of the S.S.A. and the Signals Branch, R.E.O.C.A., was necessarily a temporary measure, as at the time there were difficulties in the way of forming one Association, the chief of these being that whereas the majority of "other ranks," serving with Signals, are Royal Engineers, the officers are drawn from many regiments. The R.E.O.C.A. has existed for a number of years, and so it was ruled that "R.E. Signals" must take advantage of this existing association. The officers were in different case, hence it was possible to form an association for them under the title of Signal Service Association. The arrangement, however, was only to be a temporary measure: the real and ultimate object being to fuse the two concerns into one "Signals Association" directly the separation of Signals from the Corps of Royal Engineers took place.

We all know that this separation has been mooted, on and off, for a very long time, and there are some who express their doubts as to the new corps ever coming into being; but to these I would say, have patience and console yourselves with the following:

Conference of S.S.A. & Signals Branch R.E.O.C.A. Committees.

The occasion of the meeting was the authorisation of the separation of Signals from their parent, the Corps of Royal Engineers.

Brigadier-General Godfrey Faussett, our president, was in the chair, and very ably outlined the present position of the S.S.A. and Signals Branch, R.E.O.C.A.; and he reminded the meeting that it was the intention that these two temporary institutions are to become one association upon the formation of the Corps of Signals.

The new corps is now authorised, and we are awaiting the publication of the Royal Warrant, which is

expected during the month. Hence it would be necessary that we have in readiness a working policy for the proposed Signals Association.

Points requiring consideration would be:—

- 1—The effective representation of members at all the important centres in this country and at stations abroad.
- 2—The formation of branches at these centres and the establishment of honorary secretaries.
- 3—Meetings of a Central Committee in London, such Committee to be representative of the whole membership.
- 4—The question of a journal or journals for the corps.
- 5—The establishment of a charitable fund, a corps institute and library, employment bureau, and election of sub-committees to deal with the work involved.

Arising out of (2), it was thought that in many cases the T.A. Signal Companies would be in a position to afford accommodation at their headquarters in London and the various provincial centres, and representatives were asked to gather information on this point.

The question of "journals" gave rise to a useful discussion upon the subject, cases being made out for a combined journal—one that would provide light reading and also technical matter of an advanced nature; and also for two journals, one such as THE WIRE, and another to be devoted solely to technical articles. Expense is by no means the least consideration, and to produce a journal, or journals, as the case may be, with technical diagrams, would involve publication at a price doubtfully within the means of all. The case for separate journals was very well made out by Major A. A. Jayne, and found many supporters.

The meeting was unanimously in favour of the policy suggested by the chairman upon the subject of placing the proposed charitable fund, etc. (see 5 above) within and under the management of the Association. I know from experience the delay involved in dealing with cases when they have to be submitted from an Association headquarters to those of a separate body. Duplication of work and delay is inevitable.

It was very gratifying to find our president so keenly aware of the value of an "employment bureau," and from the general interest in this all important section of the work of a successful Association, it is felt that this branch of the activities of the new Association will constitute a real live wire.

The Signal Corps Badge next came up for discussion, and there appeared to be a general desire for our little god "Jim" to surround himself with an oval and perch upon the front of the caps of all concerned.

"Jim" and his wings inspired much brilliant discussion, and a suggestion by our president that "Wings" would be an appropriate "Regimental March" for the Corps of Signals if the parent Corps of Royal Engineers could be persuaded to pass it on as a parting love gift.

The name of the new Association next received attention, and there appeared to be a desire for brevity—although one dissident was in favour of "Corps of Signals Old Comrades' Association" (and telegrams such a price, too).

"Signals Association" found favour, and "Signals O.C.A." was mooted.

The above matters having received due consideration, it was unanimously agreed that, upon receipt of the Royal Warrant inaugurating the new corps, a similar meeting be convened to give effect to the policy outlined.

It was decided that such meeting be a committee of thirty, composed of twelve members of the present Signal Service Association (Officers) and eighteen members of the Signals Branch, R.E.O.C.A. (other ranks), and that the honorary secretary of the Signals Branch be authorised to co-opt the additional members required to provide the eighteen representatives of that branch.

The next meeting would be held in London upon the receipt of the Royal Warrant incepting the Corps of Signals, and due notice, with a copy of the agenda, would be posted to representatives.

The undermentioned represented the Signals Branch at the meeting: R.S.M. C. Mephram, R.E.; R.S.M. H. W. Boulger, D.C.M., M.C., R.E.; Sergt A. H. McGuire, M.M., R.E.; Q.M.S. A. E. Shaw, R.E.; Mr. G. O. Wood, late C.S.M., R.E.; C.S.M. E. G. Honeywill, R.E. (hon. sec.).

It was hoped to have had present one or two sappers of the original Branch Committee, but I am informed that owing to short notice, it was not possible to locate them. However, no efforts will be spared to make the next meeting as perfectly representative in character as possible. Those who attended from Maresfield are all members who have *done* things for the movement, and from a very intimate acquaintance with them I know how intensely interested they are in the social welfare of all—from Driver Jones in the stables, to Sergt.-Major Topdog in the N.C.O. Mess.

Central Committee Meeting, R.E.O.C.A. (June).

Among other items on the agenda, the matter of the collapse of Section (a) of the recently described Building Scheme was dealt with.

The scheme was one in which a motor industry firm had arranged to build a garden city and extend the existing W.D. factory. Unfortunately, however, prior to clinching the purchase of the site, a higher offer was made by Messrs. Crosse and Blackwell, who intend to develop the factory without the attendant garden city.

Other sites are, however, being sought by the motor firm, who are anxious to employ solely ex-R.E. labour, and so applicants for employment under this part of the scheme are asked to await developments.

The matter of the small number of vacancies notified to the employment bureau was reported by the secretary, and after discussion it was decided to engage upon an advertising campaign with a view of bringing to the

notice of employers the ability of the Association to supply all classes of men for vacancies.

It was reported that a circular letter recently circulated in India by the Engineer-in-Chief, had resulted in a very considerable response. (In this connection I would add that the Signals Branch has shared in the consequent increase of membership).

Several cases of assistance came under notice, and again the worth of a "Regimental Association" was apparent.

R.E. Calendar Committee.

The undermentioned extract from the minutes of the previous Central Committee meeting may prove of interest to those who knew Sergt Sidney Robbins, of "B" Depot orderly room fame, at Bedford.

"The secretary reported that the Committee had been appointed, and the first meeting was held on the 15th of April. Mr. S. R. Robbins (late Sergeant, Signals), Q.M.S. Walshaw, and Q.M.S. Davies were the members. Q.M.S. Walshaw then said they had met as stated, and went through the preliminaries. It was more a question of talking over the general design, and a rough outline of what would best suit.

"Mr Robbins—who appears to be an expert artist—is getting out an original design. They had practically decided it should be a three-colour production, and Mr. Robbins had undertaken to get out a colour scheme.

"The question of quotations for reproduction had been discussed, and it had been decided to introduce this, if possible, but not to the extent of the proposal at the general meeting. That was impossible in a calendar with a somewhat limited production. Gen. Sir George Scott-Moncrieff said it was pleasing to note a start had been made."

Branch Progress.

Further members have joined during the past month—Palestine, India, and Maresfield being the biggest contributors. A hearty welcome is extended to them all.

Applications for employment have not been so numerous, but those that have been received have been successfully dealt with.

Subscriptions roll in very tardily, but there has been a Bank Holiday recently. However, for the sake of 2s. per year it is difficult to imagine a member allowing his membership to lapse, and I exhort the tardy ones to see the local representative with card and money complete.

Your servant and comrade,

EDWIN G. HONEYWILL,
Hon. Secretary.

THIS MONTH'S "BOOM."

Thanks to our many contributors, we have this month sent our Printers so much "copy" for THE WIRE, that they suggested making a Double Number of this issue. That, however, was out of the question, and we have had to be content with an extra leaf. Several articles already in type are unavoidably held over till our next issue.

The Time Table, by the way, has been extended, and we hope that this page will now satisfy our Crowborough friends in the matter of "bunk decorations."



BIG THINGS of the WORLD

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CAMP NEWS

1st Training Battalion Gossip.

Introduction.

The Editor having kindly placed space in THE WIRE at my disposal each month, I shall have pleasure in contributing therein a little chronicle of the doings of the 1st Training Battalion of this Centre.

I am sure the Editor will pardon a little friendly criticism of his magazine on my part, but one cannot help observing that the last number showed a marked falling off in the matter of outside contributions from the members of this camp. Further, the humorous side of our life here at Maresfield is somewhat lacking from its pages.

I am quite aware, from personal experience, that the Editor of a magazine such as THE WIRE has a long uphill climb ere he can look down on his paper and say that it is forging ahead and firmly established; and it is only with the continued support of the literary and artistic members of the Centre, that he can hope for success in that respect.

Taking into consideration the large number of recruits passing through the Centre, THE WIRE should command a ready and good circulation, providing as it does, the "missing link" between the new soldier and the friends he has left behind at home.

I sincerely trust, therefore, that a little more personal interest will be extended to the magazine by the boys of the Centre in order to make it something to be proud of.

The King's Birthday.

An imposing ceremony took place in connection with the official celebration of the King's birthday at Maresfield Park Camp on Saturday, June 5th last. The Battalion paraded in the Park and stood at the salute while the S.S.T.C. Band played the National Anthem and the Battalion Trumpeters sounded the Royal Salute. Three rousing cheers were then given for the King, after which the Companies marched past the Union Jack, the salute being taken by Brig.-Gen. E. G. Godfrey-Faussett, C.B., C.M.G., commanding the Centre. The remainder of the day was afterwards observed as a holiday throughout the Camp.

Junior N.C.O.'s "Smoker."

Judging from the large attendance at a smoking concert held at the Junior N.C.O.'s Mess on June 1st, it would seem evident that this Mess has recently taken over a new lease of life. When the writer looked in during the evening he found the "esprit de corps" very much to the fore. The Mess Room had been artistically decorated with bunting, and a capital programme had been arranged by the recently elected committee under the able direction of Corpl. R. Price, and to whom the success of the evening's proceedings was mainly due. I am afraid space will not permit of my reporting the programme at length, but suffice to say that some capital songs were given by the members

during the evening. However, I must make mention of the musical items rendered by the newly-formed "D" Company "Symphony Orchestra" (who certainly aspire to a better title than that of the common "Jazz Band") and whose selections were much appreciated. When this band becomes a little more augmented I am afraid the S.S.T.C. Band will have to look to its laurels.

I understand that the Committee anticipate holding a summer char-a-banc outing in the near future, and this proposal, I feel sure, will attract a considerable number of its members.

The Perfect Soldier.

There is a general idea that the perfect soldier is the man with the big chest and the smart salute; the man who can shoot well, use a bayonet to advantage, and drill like an automaton during his career on the barrack square.

From the writer's point of view, however, this, like most general ideas, is absurdly incomplete, for the perfect soldier—and I refer especially to the Royal Engineer—is much more than a man who knows his drill.

To start with, he must be capable, when doing a Guard, of recognising the Orderly Officer at a distance of anything up to one mile. He must arise from an empty table at the Mess when waiting for his dinner to come along and tell the same officer he has "no complaints." He must be able to apply "Blanco" to the grips of his breeches without rotting the stitches by too frequent application. He must sit tight on his horse when taking the jumps with folded arms without giving a thought to breaking his neck. He must not look to Heaven when on parade but to his front, even if a stray wasp is nibbling his nose. He must not use obscene language when called upon to do Guard for the third time in a week. He should always be cheerful and carry a smiling countenance as if he "had not a care in the world" in accordance with those recruiting posters issued last year, and so on.

If he can conscientiously carry out a few of the items I have enumerated above, then a special medal should be struck for "The Perfect Soldier."

The Prisoner's Dinner.

An amusing incident took place a few days ago at our Battalion Headquarters. A cook's mate from one of the Companies was bringing down a prisoner's dinner when he called in at the clerk's office to enquire where the Detention Room was situated. On being directed by one of the staff that it was a little higher up the road, you may judge of our surprise on seeing him politely knock at the Commanding Officer's private door and straightway enter with the dinner. He had evidently mistaken the iron-barred windows of the C.O.'s office for the "abode of detention." However, I may add that the dinner eventually did reach the prisoner for whom it was intended, and the cook's mate did not "mark time" later in the day.

Found in Camp.

On this page I give a reproduction of a photograph recently found in camp. It is regretted that this photo was not "Found on the Battlefield," and at the time when the ever-ready Press would have given it greater publicity than these columns. The writer will be pleased to present a hundred Players' cigarettes to the rightful owner as a small acknowledgment of his pluck if he will be good enough to come forward.



FOUND IN CAMP.
"Somebody's Darling."

"The Dashing Scarlet."

No doubt a good many of our readers have been interested in the recent correspondence in the London papers relating to the re-clothing of the Army in its pre-war attire. As members of His Majesty's Forces ourselves, we must naturally remain neutral on the question, but one cannot help overhearing the varied expressions the matter has called forth from the ranks. Everyone must admit that the dashing scarlet tunic of days gone by was a fine attraction and advertisement for the Army, especially as far as the girls were concerned, but any of our old soldiers will tell you that one had to make up for all the swank on returning to barracks, especially when coming in contact with the rain, and when the cleaning-up process commenced. Moreover, when the "posh" uniform was in use, its owners were housed in spotless barracks, whereas now, well, just picture to yourself the said uniform stacked neatly on our hutment shelves, and the sordid state it would get into before night, especially should we "winter" again at glorious Maresfield. We are consoled by the announcement that it would take five years to fit the Army again with the new togs, so until our good friends the N.A.C.B. give us the tip of its advent by stocking a mountain of cleaning kits, I prefer to sit tight like the old soldier, and "wait and see."

Camp Gardens.

Thanks to the amateur gardeners in attempting to convert Maresfield Camp into a brighter resort than that pictured by one of the artists in the first number of THE WIRE. The gardens around the Camp are now revealing the result of their efforts. "E" Company deserves some little compliment on the manner in which it has laid out its Lines, while the flower gardens outside the Battalion Headquarters are also worthy of mention. It is a pity that arrangements could not have been made with a view to the holding of a "Camp Flower Show," similar to those held at Bedford Depot a few years ago, for gardening is a healthy hobby, and a little competition amongst its devotees would have worked wonders in the Camp.

The "Ford" Taxi.

One of the camp taxi drivers got into a fearful rage the other evening with a breakdown to his car, which, needless to mention, was a "poor old Ford." The incident has prompted the following, which I respectfully dedicate to the unfortunate driver in question: "The Ford is my car—I shall not want another. It maketh me lie down in wet places. It soileth my soul. It leadeth me into deep waters. It leadeth me in the path of ridicule for its name sake. It prepareth a breakdown for me in the presence of my enemies. Yea, though I run through the valleys, I am towed up the hills. It anointeth my face with oil, its tank runneth over. Surely to goodness if this thing followeth me all the days of my life, I shall return to the Army for ever."

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"SCOTTIE"

(Late of Grenadier Guards)

"The Budletts" Maresfield

Company Notes.

"A" Company.

I'm afraid these notes have been left a bit too late to be anything great this month. What with Company sports and camp sports, and sweating on top line for the S.S.T.C. sports to come, my time has been pretty well taken up. Our Company sports were carried out on the 8th June, and were a great success, thanks to the willing assistance of all officers and other ranks. I think the honours of this went to C.S.M. Nolan, who was mainly responsible for the organisation of the sports and tea arrangements. He had a big job on, but, ably backed up by Sergt. Parrett and his merry band of cooks, and one or two able helpers, he managed everything admirably, as all who were present can testify.

The sports in themselves were quite up to standard, some fine finishes being seen. I think the best race of the day was the $\frac{1}{4}$ -mile, when Sergt. Grant, after running about thirty yards behind the first two practically the whole of the distance, came up in the last eighty yards and was only beaten by inches for first place by Sapper Morrison (hard lines, Nellie, but better luck next time). The three best athletes proved to be Sergt. Selby, who won the 220 yards and $\frac{1}{4}$ -mile, was second in the mile, and third in the $\frac{1}{2}$ -mile; Corpl. Hailes, who won the high jump, putting the shot, and long jump; and L/Cpl White, who won the hurdle race and 100 yards, and was second in the 220 yards. These three athletes won silver medals presented by our Company Commander, Capt. A. Phayre-Mudge, O.B.E.

Whilst I am talking of sports, I must not forget to thank Major Phillips, M.C., O.C. "E" Company, who kindly allowed Capt. Bray and his band of roughs, who were well led by "Stingo," to give us a grand display of horsemanship, which was greatly appreciated by all present; also to thank Sergt. McDonald and his band of funny men, who kept the ball rolling in the comedy line the whole afternoon (Dirty Dicks).

We haven't anything to brag about in the cricket line this month, as we were pretty badly beaten by the Administrative Company (Courses Battalion), who no doubt remembered the licking we gave them at football last season. Talking of cricket, Mr. Editor, what about that team of Head Quarters Staff who are longing for a game with us. Trot them out when you like, and we will give you your revenge.

GRANMAR.

* * *

"F" Company.

We regret that in last month's notes we omitted to comment on the departure of R.M.S. Rodwell, to the Wessex Divisional Signals, Exeter. He leaves behind many pleasant memories, and we wish him every success in his more congenial task.

The Company Sports on Thursday, June 3rd, proved an entire success, and some interesting and keenly contested events were witnessed. Pride of place goes to Sapper Cormack, who won the 100 yards in the excellent time of 10 $\frac{1}{5}$ secs., in addition to carrying off several other events.

Our first cricket match proved rather disastrous—"E" Company winning by an innings and a comfortable margin. However, having in view the composition of "E" Company's team, we have nothing to be ashamed of.

Whilst on the subject, perhaps it will not be out of place to comment on this matter. With all due regard

to the ruling of the Sports Committee, we think we are voicing the opinion of all Companies, that the fact of one Company being able to field an eleven composed almost entirely of regimental players does endless harm to the sporting element and spirit of competition amongst Companies which we are endeavouring to foster.

It tends to turn what otherwise might be a sporting event into a complete farce, and played with the only objective of merely fulfilling the League engagement.

Whilst having "E" Company in mind, although we thoroughly appreciate the fact of their being in possession of some highly trained animals, and give them credit for it, we were not aware of the degree of intellect that some of them apparently possess. Of course, if they (the horses) do take an interest in motor cycles, all well and good, but will the individuals responsible kindly see that they enter the bays in the orthodox manner, and not, by means of a G.S. waggon attached, batter down the end of the said bays to obtain machines.

We are wondering whether "Granmar's" remarks last month will evoke any reply from "The Don." If he ("The Don") pleads lack of time may we offer the suggestion that the time taken in a journey to Brighton offers an excellent opportunity for compiling notes. As a matter of fact, we could have written a novel during the leisure time the L.B. and S.C.R. has on several occasions provided us with.

Having just had the honour of performing a guard recalls the following recent incident in the camp: The Sergeant of the guard did not feel any too happy regarding the qualifications of his men, and used every available opportunity to din into them as to what to do when the Orderly Officer paid his visit. In due course the said officer arrived, but the sentry paid no attention, upon which the following colloquy took place:

O.O.: "Don't you know who I am?"

Sentry: "No."

O.O.: "I'm the Orderly Officer."

Sentry (confidentially): "Look 'ere, mate. You 'op orl while you're safe. This 'ere blanky Sergeant 'as been lookin' fer you orl day."

DOUGLAS TRIUMPH.

NOTICES.

The O.C. 5th Divisional Signal Co., R.E., Curragh Camp, wishes to get into touch with all N.C.O.s and men who proceeded overseas with the 5th Divisional Signal Co., or its first reinforcement, in August, 1914. Will those concerned please communicate their names and addresses (private or military), and also those of ex-members who have left the Service (if known) to Lieut. Merchant, "C" Company, 2nd Training Battalion, Crowborough?

£5 reward will be paid to any person who will give such information as will lead to the discovery of the person who stole a Lagonda Car from the officers' stables on the night of 15th/16th June, 1920.

Special to Next Month's "Wire."

"The Trials of Editing and Publishing a Trench Journal in France during the War" (illustrated), by Corpl. E. Freeman, R.E., late Editor "Switchboard," the largest B.E.F. magazine published in France.



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Crowborough Notes.

[From our own Special Correspondent.]

"C" Company.

Summer has at last arrived in Crowborough. After all the discussion about Crowborough being "a nice spot in the summer," we find the prophets are correct, and we are all looking forward to a sojourn during these next few glorious months in "Little Brighton."

Sport here, I think, has now reached a high state both for enthusiasm and proficiency. During the last month we have had our Company sports, three rifle meetings, innumerable inter-Platoon cricket matches, and one inter-Company, v "D." A goodly number of officers, N.C.O.s and men have played either in trial matches for 1st or 2nd Teams of S.S.T.C., also 2nd T.B., and they have fared fairly well. Boxing competitions have taken place, the Company doing well. Tennis has begun, and all the budding aspirants are getting their eyes down for the "All England Championship!" And, sandwiched between this, we have music from morning till night from our "By Products," and it is the urgent desire and wish of "C" Company in particular, that one of these days they will try the proverbial "Regimental Sock," especially after "Lights Out," as the old saying that music hath charms to soothe the savage breast is making drunkards of us all.

A passing note. Will N.C.O.s and men of "C" Company please note that the bunk labelled "Medical Hut" does not issue aspirin tablets. Also, Mr. Editor, we should like to see a time table (reference last page of THE WIRE) with Crowborough shown on it. It would make a convenient decoration for the walls of bunks and barrack rooms, and at the same time serve as an advertisement for THE WIRE. Whenever any Company wants any "tips" for the Derby, Oaks, Two Hundred Guineas, and in fact, any classic, please phone "C" Company. Thousands of pounds must have been won and lost (more lost, I am afraid) in this Company on the Derby. We received the result by Wireless, and when all the watchers heard "Spion Kop," a glad expression spread over their countenances and a deep sigh of relief—similar to being warned for a Marching Order parade at 5 a.m. Shouts, in fact yells, of "I told you so," rent the air. And now, any tips required? "our terms are reasonable."

And now a bit about Sport. A Battalion Shoot took place on May 31st, and proved a very keen and interesting event, "C" Company winning by the narrow margin of 2, "B" being the runners-up. On May 27th we had a shoot with the Crowborough Club, and lost by 124, also losing the return match on June 2nd by 4. The civilians shot with their own rifles with all sorts of fancy sights, and we with the Service rifle, so after all we did not do so badly. The next time we make the conditions, and a few "4 seconds exposure" will alter the aspect.

Cricket is going splendidly, except that not enough practice can be got on account of scarcity of bats and balls. Our match with "D" Company was very nice indeed—a glorious day and a glorious wicket. "D" Company batted first, and were all out for 96, which seemed a forlorn hope; but, thanks to the spirit, we soon put "paid" to that score, winning nicely by 3 wickets and 15 runs. Our boys played Uckfield Grammar School on June 2nd, at Crowborough, and lost by 6 runs. It was a very good game, and showed that we have some cricketers for the 1st and 2nd Teams later on.

Our Company Sports were held on May 27th. Being favoured with a fine day and plenty of entrants, the sport was fast and furious, especially the funny men, who stood on a form taking everything and not giving anything in return. Some very good times were done, which will prove interesting at the Main Sports, especially when everyone sees who it is makes the time. The said individual, whilst at Maresfield, was credited with having once upon a time beaten a snail in a two-inch scratch race. We were rather disappointed at not being able to see our half-miler at his best, but we all hope that before the S.S.T.C. Sports his ankle will be better, and that his old form will have returned. All sportsmen will agree how very galling it is to crock up when in a race and going well. Perhaps the results of our sports will interest readers of THE WIRE:—

Results of Sports.

100 Yards Final—1 Cpl Dawson; 2 Capt Tillard; 3 Sergt Clark. Time 10 2/5 secs.

One Mile—1 Cpl Noonan; 2 Pioneer Kingston; 3 Pioneer Gent. Time, 5 min. 18 1/5 secs.

Sack Race—1 Pioneer Pitt; 2 Pioneer Oxley.

Putting the Shot—1 Sergt Clark; 2 Cpl Bartlett; 3 Cpl Daw. Distance, 32ft. 6in.

Tug of War—1 No. 3 Platoon; 2 H.Q. Platoon.

Quarter Mile, Open—1 Q.M.S. Finmore; 2 Sapper Fairclough; 3 Pioneer Adams. Time, 58 3/5 secs.

Wheelbarrow Race—1 Nichol and O'Brien; 2 Litchfield and Eisele.

Long Jump—1 Sergt Clark; 2 Cpl Maskell; 3 Cpl Dawson. Distance, 18ft. 4 1/2 ins.

Half Mile Cycle Race—1 Pioneer Clayton; 2 Pioneer Gent; 3 Cpl Speller.

Boys' (Senior) 100 Yards—1 Boy Murphy; 2 Boy Mathew; 3 Boy Feaver. Time, 12 secs.

Boys' (Junior) 100 Yards—1 Boy Brunton; 2 Boy Knight; 3 Boy Collins. Time, 13 1/5 sec.

Relay Race—1 H.Q. Platoon; 2 No. 3 Platoon; 3 No. 4 Platoon. Time 1 min. 51 3/5 secs.

High Jump—1 Boy Murphy; 2 Cpl Bartlett; 3 Pioneer Daniels. Height, 5ft. 4in.

Half Mile—1 Cpl Noonan; 2 Pioneer Massey; 3 Pioneer Jeffers. Time, 2 min. 26 2/5 secs.

Pickaback Wrestling—1 Hickey and Pitt; 2 Fry and Potter; 3 Allen and Wilcox; 4 Pronger and Kenneally.

Five-Legged Race—1 Potter's Team; 2 Lacey's Team.

Walking Race—1 Pioneer Massey; 2 Cpl Bartlett; 3 Pioneer Oxley. Time, 1min. 48 1/5 sec.

Three Miles—1 Sapper Shardlow; 2 Cpl Noonan; 3 Pioneer Gent.

It would, Mr. Editor, reflect discredit on me were I to close my contribution without congratulating our Officers upon their abilities!—sporting, of course, for any ability pertaining to instruction is entirely superficial, and when possessed by an officer is anti-beneficial—lending itself to immediate suppression.

At our Company Sports, how they shone, these Officers! The O.C. saved them from a "spoon" by obtaining second prize in the 100 yards. Jolly good man! The "Sparks" Officer, too, proved exceptionally athletic by entering the 100 yards and Long Jump, merely to lower the banner of a poor insignificant Corporal chap! So much did he "opine his chances" that he backed himself to win. (Has the money been paid yet, Chrissie?) The O. i/c W/T Preparatory School

officialated excellently with the pistol, but might I presume to remind him that competitors can be returned to the starting point for "getting off too soon." An admonitory lecture afterwards does not affect the best runners one whit—except for the tendency to promote promiscuous mirth. As "Shottists," they again distinguished themselves by being not more than 30 points behind a dud team drawn from the N.C.O.s, who turned out merely to pacify their superiors. What a good job it was that the promoted ones' best team did not oblige. Time does not permit of a recherche of other sporting instincts, but one has merely to mention horses and cricket to designate how wide a sphere is embraced by them. No less than three "pipped" ones watched matches, and one was known to have had a bob each way on a Derby non-runner (Savings Bank System).

Things We Want to Know.

Why No. 1 Platoon got the wind up when challenged to a return footer match by No. 3 Platoon?

What a certain ex-Marconi operator thought when told by the W/T Officer that Marconi operators usually managed to make themselves a general nuisance?

Is it correct that a certain W/T Instructor slept with Bangay for four years?

If "C" Company's junior N.C.O.s are not looking extremely well since feeding with the men after the "Great Smash"?

Does being a vegetarian and eating a dandelion make N.C.O.s furious?

Where our sprinter learnt his snake-like movements?

GAIETY THEATRE CROWBOROUGH CAMP.

Don't miss the New Gaiety Production,

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at 8 p.m. on

FRIDAY, JULY 2nd,

TUESDAY, JULY 6th,

THURSDAY, JULY 8th.

PRICES AS USUAL.

And who taught him the screw cannons?

Why was the clothing indent sent to R.P., Chatham? Was it to relieve the enormous strain placed on our office staff?

Who is "Dripping"? Does he dance, and can he run?

Who was the man who said to the parson in Tunbridge Wells, "Me old Mate"?

Comradeships of the Great War.

Since the war is now some little way behind us, and in the minds of the thoughtless nearly forgotten, we can look back with regret to those comradeships that we formed in trench and billet—regret in many cases tinged with pain when we think of our cheery friends lying under a few feet of soil on some Macedonian hillside, on the slopes above Suva Bay, or maybe in some valley of that most desolate place of all desolation—the Somme.

These comradeships were formed in many strange lands and as is usual in that great leveller War—which has as little respect for the lordly chateau as for the peasant's cottage—amongst all classes. The reasons, too, were in many cases as strange as the places, for often two totally divergent characters were the strongest pals in the Platoon. Usually, however, it was the old standard by which men have measured men from times eternal, that ability to stand up to hard knocks with a smiling face and clear eyes, that standard that gives one the feeling that one's chum will stand by one through thick and thin.

In life in the trenches, too, from ulterior motives, one is far more comfortable with a real comrade than with a mere sharer of a dug-out. Who gives up an hour's precious sleep to make hot cocoa over a smoky candle? One's chum always—the dug-out sharer sometimes. Since the war one realises how much those smiling faces used to mean to one, and how much they are missed in civilian life. In civilian life, too, one feels that the faces one sees around are strangers, whereas in the army we owned acquaintanceship with a battalion, friendship by companies, and real comrades by—no, it is there we fail, for the real comrades are to be counted on the fingers of one hand: those that stood the test of time and trouble, shared our secret joys and pains, until perhaps they got that devoutly desired "Blighty," or, perhaps we got out on the back of the trench and dug a hole for the mortal remains of that man we had been glad to clasp by the hand and call friend. Then we felt the real ache, and wondered if our turn was next—didn't very much mind if it was—blew our noses, and carried on.

Now one realises what is meant by the Regimental Re-union dinner, how much it means to all of us, and what the Army really stood for—the greatest comradeship the world has ever known, the freemasonry of Khaki.

F. SIMMONDS.

"P" Company.

A Cure for Insomnia.

Hearing I could not sleep, my pal Sapper Court gave me an infallible cure. For the benefit of readers who may also suffer from sleeplessness, I pass it on.

"Get three ration biscuits," said he, "soak them in water for a couple of hours, bake in a slow oven, spread jam on top, and eat immediately before going to bed, with a pint of hot new milk."

I got to sleep as soon as I put my head on the pillow, and was enjoying the R.E. Show "By-Products" immensely, when a clown bounded into the tent and lifting the centre pole carried it sky high, and the audience, artistes, scenery, etc., with it. I gazed up in astonishment as I saw the lot being carried into space beyond the clouds. Q.M.S. King then tapped me on the shoulder and placed me under "close arrest," as he said that I, being in charge at the door, should not have let the clown in. I was about to explain when a tiger sprang out from the bushes and made straight for us. We ran off together, and the scene changed from Crowborough to Piccadilly. I suggested as we ran along, to go in opposite directions, and each take a sporting chance, as it could only follow one of us. He agreed, and ran towards Leicester Square and I made for Oxford Street. Half way up Regent Street I summoned enough pluck to look round and see which of us the tiger was following. To my utter dismay, it was me. As my legs gradually gave way, it was fast gaining on me. Anyhow, I managed to gain the lift in Oxford Circus Tube Station, and the gates closed just as the tiger (which had now turned into a bull with huge horns) came snorting up. I almost fell to the floor with weakness when the lift began to descend.

Something had gone wrong, for we went down at a most alarming speed, and finally crashed at the bottom. I picked myself up from the debris, made for the platform, and asked the stationmaster what time I could get to Crowborough as I was for dental treatment at 09.00 hours next morning. "Your train went 500 years ago," said he, as he calmly took an engine, folded it up and put it in his waistcoat pocket. I turned away and met Sapper White walking along with his head under his arm. As I looked the face spoke to me, though it was quite detached from the shoulders. He said he wanted to sell it, as he was "broke," and could do with a pint before the N.A.C.B. closed. I was about to negotiate with him, when the dragon on which I was riding slipped out of its skin and left me floating in mid air. In the distance I could see an aeroplane, and not caring about the black cross on it, which I could discern quite easily, I shouted at the top of my voice for it to come and save me. The man who sleeps in the Stores with me then woke me up and told me I was keeping the whole camp awake with my shouting and groaning.

I struck a match, looked at my watch, and found I'd been asleep exactly twenty-five minutes.

"X" Company.

"By-Products."

Once more our budding band of Amateur Amusement Merchants have displayed their "humbly" successful conquest of the art of burlesque, in the second edition of "By-Products (Unlimited)" on Wednesday, May 19th.

The management (Lieut. R. T. O. Cary) risked a "Laurette Taylor" debacle—or worse—by producing, forty-eight hours before the original date, in honour of the departure of the late Band of Hope to the regions of Bolshies and Pyramids, regardless of imperfect rehearsals, and even the leading lady's plea of "no props."

Our R.T.O. is a hard man, but always full of apology, as the opening product invariably proves. This time the interruption was from the "Gods," in the shape of "George" (Sapper Needham), with considerable success as the "complete ruffian."

After some excellent patter—the irresistible "Two" chortled "a la Tucker"—"I've got my Captain working for me now." The explosive nature of the "cross-talk"

of our "Author-Actor-Manager" was almost real throughout the play (and even at rehearsals).

"Mistakes will happen" was a good piece of "burlesque within burlesque," and needed all the skill of the cast to produce the correct impression. Lieut. R. H. Hole "at very short notice" ably took the part of "the Actor"; whilst Capt. O. S. D. Wills (led astray by his car) nearly caused a tragedy of production by failing to appear in time.

The mainspring of the Product was again the patter between "The Two," with a background of noisy but cleverly-clumsy scene-shifters (Sappers Norman and Salvatoria), while the "artiste," Miss Flighty (Lieut. C. H. Beattie) butted in according to plan.

That amateur jazzist (Lieut. Courtney-Thompson)—a product in himself, but ably assisted by the pianist (Sapper Thorogood)—showed what could be done with two hands and a foot, or drums, cymbals, and other gadgets, "with or without light." The novelty of this highly-efficient performance was keenly appreciated.

In Product 4, Sapper Needham gave a delightful character sketch of the "Ole Bill" type (not as per programme), in his own version of "Fragments from France." Much applause was found necessary, after which Sapper Salvatoria followed on with a ballad.

"Two's Company" opened with George (now a waiter)—very "matabele"—chatting away to a table for two. Enter his co-humorist as a dude, and then the lights went out (it would appear that the D.O.R.E. Staff are not so entirely devoid of humour as one has previously supposed). After five minutes' darkness, filled with the declarations of the dude that he was passionately fond of things generally and "Black outs" in particular, together with noble noises by the band, the lights took pity on the audience, and so supper proceeded.

The meal was conspicuous by the absence of anything to eat, except a fascinating "chick" and realistic fish that bowed to the "stalls"—with several other imaginary dishes and amusing situations provoked by the fertile brain of George—to the annoyance of the blase couple (Lieuts. Beattie and Cary), who were robbed of their supper and tête-a-tête by a waiters' strike and George's perpetual presence.

More songs followed, commencing with another proposal to the lady of the piece by our dude, who was more successful this time, and so got let in for a song and dance—"You know what I mean."

Sappers Needham and Salvatoria again obliged with solo turns, the Product being neatly finished by a very good rendering of "You'd be surprised" by the A.A.M.

The Finale, Product 7 (full caste)—"The Squire's Revenge," in three settings—was a masterpiece of burlesque, starting with George (who is willing to give lessons to Company gardeners—at a price) causing flowers to bloom with hypnotic power. The plot (a perfectly good one) evokes curses and the usual villainous stock-in-trade (culled from Lenin) as used by all the best arch-villains such as Sir Wrigley Spearmint (R.T.O.) and his bright satellites—the inimitable George and that other good ruffian (Sapper Norman).

The hero (Sapper Salvatoria, equipped for tropics by Q.M.S. "P" Company), after effecting the dramatic rescue of his heroine (B.T. again) with several good upper-cuts (rehearsed no doubt in "X" Company gym.) for the edification of Sir Wrigley, succumbs later to the gentle touch of George, who further does in the woman (Lieut. Hôle) and child (N.I.V.) of the cast, who get a very short innings.

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(Ladies' and Gentlemen's).

The plot then thickened so rapidly that beads of moisture trickled from every brow. (We understand that O. i/c Wireless is providing electric fans at next production.—ED.)

The night watchman (Capt. S. O. S. Wills, well made up) at "Take it or leave it Railway Station" is softly dealt with, and removed by our rough two. The heroine is bound to the railway lines in full view of her lover, who is tied to a convenient "raspberry bush" hard by.

The signal falls! The 1079 express is seen slowly approaching. The curtain finally descends on the heroine's rescue and the villain's discomfiture.

Unrehearsed humour was added to the curtain call by the heroine's anger (Lieut. Beattie). The hero would persist in poking "her" in the eye with his shrubbery. Long live "By-Products."

Boxing.

The Inter-Company Boxing Tournament was held on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 25th and 26th May, and was a huge success and well patronised. The results were as follows:—

Featherweights—Sapper F. Richardson ("X" Coy.) defeated Sapper Potter ("C" Coy.) on points. Sapper Wells ("X") forced Sapper Rhodes ("P") to retire in first round. Sapper F. Richardson ("X") defeated Spr. Wells ("X") on points.

Lightweights—Sapper A. Richardson ("X") forced Cpl. E. Owen ("X") to retire in the first round. Sapper Longhurst ("X") knocked out Sapper Dowse ("C") in first round. Sapper Longhurst ("X") knocked out Spr. Prescott ("B") in the first round. Sapper A. Richardson ("X") defeated Sapper Rice ("B") on points.

Welterweights—Sapper M. O'Rourke ("X") forced Sapper Hammett ("X") to retire in the first round.

Featherweights (Semi Final)—Sapper F. Richardson ("X") forced Sapper Ball ("B") to retire after two extra rounds had been ordered.

Lightweights (Semi Final)—Sapper A. Richardson ("X") defeated Sapper Best ("B") on points after two extra rounds had been ordered. Sapper Judge ("P") beat Sapper Longhurst ("X") on points in a fast bout.

Welterweights (Semi Final)—Sapper M. O'Rourke ("X") forced Sapper Jackson ("C") to retire as the loser on points in a hard hitting fight.

Featherweights (Final)—Sapper F. Richardson ("X") cleverly outpointed Sapper Wrenshaw ("B") in a clean crisp three rounds. Richardson's well-timed left earned him the victory, and he is a very promising lad.

Lightweights (Final)—Sapper A. Richardson lost a very stiff contest to Sapper Judge ("P"). It is the honest opinion of the critics that Judge is one of the cleanest and most scientific boxers that the 2nd T.B. can turn out at his weight.

Welterweights (Final)—Sapper M. O'Rourke ("X") fought Sapper Bristowe ("B") and in the first round was easily winning, but owing to punishment he received (and took well), he was forced to retire without fighting back, sustaining a damaged left hand. "Paddy" (as he is known among his acquaintances) is really a marvel to be able to put up such a good fight at the age of 42, with twenty years' arduous military service to his credit, and should show the recruits of to-day how army life can keep a man fit and well.

During the evening, Lieut. W. A. Scott fought Lieut. C. H. Beattie ("B") for two rounds, and a draw was given as the verdict, great enthusiasm being aroused.

A "Battle Royal," with five competitors, resulted in a very hard-hitting and wild swinging affray; and after the ring floor had been suitably covered red, a draw was given to the last two occupants.

Major E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., K.O.Y. L.I., talked to the lads on the furthering of "esprit de corps" in the 2nd T.B., and said how pleased he was to find such a great number of sportsmen amongst the new faces in Crowborough—and so wound up an enjoyable two days of real sport appreciated by all.

Billiards.

A match was played at the Crowborough Conservative Club on Wednesday, June 2nd, between Mr. P. Walters (Crowborough) and Sapper Fryer ("X" Coy., S.S.T.C.). The latter won the game (500 up) by 130 points. A collection on behalf of the St. Dunstan Fund for Blinded Soldiers and Sailors amounted to £4.

Things We Want to Know.

If a certain Lieutenant at Crowborough much prefers putting more finish into his Jazzing than his brother officer at boxing?

The name of the junior N.C.O. of this Company who is an authority on the new procedure of "swearing."

Who is the Sports Officer in Crowborough who has been recommended to apply for "leave" to do duty by way of a change?

The name of the racing enthusiast in Crowborough?

And what did he say to the individual who "tipped" Kentish Cob?

F. W. HOLLAND.

Aldershot Notes.

Engineer Week.

The opening event of R.E. Week was the annual sports held on Saturday, the 5th June. The corps recreation ground was ablaze with colour, and presented a gay and picturesque appearance.

The corps band from Chatham, under Lieut. H. Neville Flux, rendered some excellent music during the carrying out of the sports programme, and also added another dash of colour in their scarlet tunics.

The success of the sports amply repaid those who were responsible for the excellent arrangements and accommodation.

The greater part of the mounted events were decided during the week, leaving only two or three events to be dealt with on Saturday's programme. The most important of these was the section tent pegging, which was won in fine style by the R.E. Section.

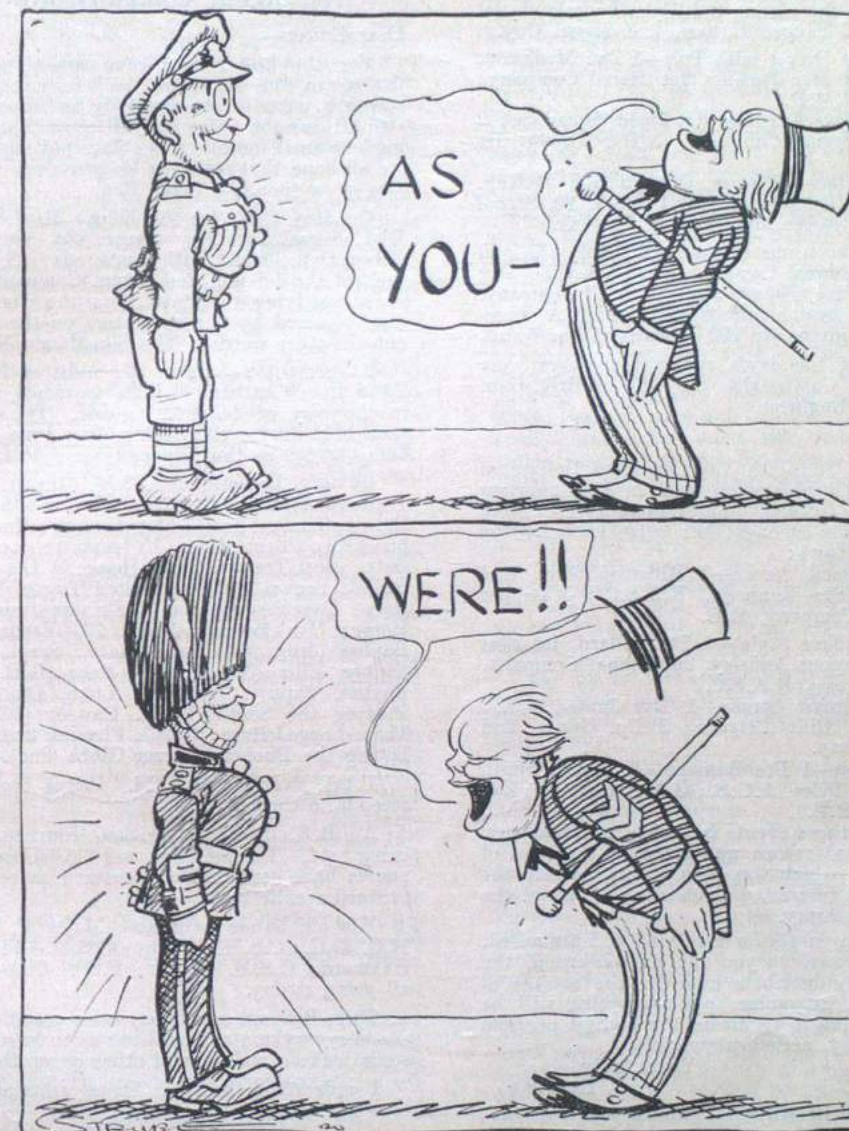
It was a great day for the corps tent peggers, who effected three carries and a draw in the first run, eclipsing this performance in their final run by carrying all four pegs.

The Signal units were well represented in the numerous events, and were successful in carrying off a good issue of prizes. In the following list of results, I have only dealt with those events in which the Signal units took part:—

Dummy Thrusting—1 Sgt Brock, R.M.D.; 2 S.M.Q.S. Harris, 1st Field Squadron; 3 C.Q.M.S. Brown, 1st Signal Company.

Driving Competition (for the Beresford Trophy)—1 R.M. Depot; 2 2nd Signal Company.

"Seeing Red."



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Best Turned-out Junior N.C.O. or Sapper—1 L/Cpl Simon, 1st Field Squadron; 2 L/Cpl Sunderland, 1st Field Squadron; 3 Sapper Hutton, 2nd Signal Coy.

Best Turned-out Driver with Pair—1 Dvr Medhurst, 1st Signal Coy.; 2 Dvr Perkins, 1st Signal Company; 3 Dvr Cathcart, R.M.D.

V.C. Race—1 Dvr Greaves, 1st Field Squadron; 2 Cpl Penfold, 1st Signal Company; 3 Dvr Taylor, 1st Field Squadron.

Three-Legged Race—1 Dvrs. Coward and McKay, R.M.D.; 2 L/Cpl Fleming and Cpl Penfold, 1st Signal Company; 3 Dvrs Roger and Doherty, R.M.D.

R.E. Relay Race (teams of four: 220, 220, 440, and 880 yards)—1 1st Signal Company (Sergeant Bayliss, Dvr Phillips, Sapper Limb, Sapper Ellis); 2 "A" Company, R.M.D. Only two teams ran: Cpl Pollard, "A" Company's half-miler, giving up 220 yards from the finish.

At the close of the day's sports the prizes were presented by Mrs. Cartwright, the wife of Brig.-Gen. Cartwright, Chief Engineer.

Swimming.

On Wednesday, June 9th, the Command Individual Swimming Championships were held in Headquarters Swimming Baths. Signal unit representatives were again very prominent amongst the prize winners, the results being as follows:

Two Lengths Back Stroke—1 Rifleman Giles, 2nd Rifle Brigade; 2 Pte Kennedy, R.A.S.C.; 3 Sapper Hay, 2nd Signal Company, R.E.

Three Lengths (Free Style)—1 Pte Pollard, 1st East Lancs. Regt.; 2 Sapper Audsley, 2nd Signal Company, R.E.; 3 Dvr Johnson, R.A.S.C.

Two Lengths Breast Stroke—1 Dvr James, R.E.; 2 Rifleman Evens, Rifle Brigade; 3 Cpl Genge, 2nd Div. Signal Company.

Diving for Plates—1 Pte Ramage, A. and S. Highlanders; 2 C.S.M. Tyler, A.G.S.; 3 Dvr Coleman, 2nd Signal Company, R.E.

The above are those events in which we took part, showing that a good return was given by the boys of the 2nd Company, which was highly deserved for the way in which they interested themselves in one of the finest sports in the Army.

In concluding my notes for this edition, I am asked, dear Editor, to forward to you and all concerned, the best wishes of all subscribers here for the success of THE WIRE, and a guarantee that everything will be done towards helping it to attain the highest possible sphere in the Army periodical world.

Yours truly,
PERPOLE.

Things We Want to Know.

If all the Sappers have gone where flies go in the wintertime?

Are hiccups the echoes of departed spirits?

If Sapper B. recovered his half-a-crown from the baths? And did he consider the prize he won a good return for the loss?

The name of the certain Sergeant who eats his kipper like a boy playing a mouth organ?

What the taxi driver said when a certain C.S.M. offered him two identity discs in payment for a four-mile ride?

Notice.

Will the soldier who took a set of billiard balls from the N.A.C.B. hut at C. please call for the table as soon as possible, as we have no further use for it?

1st Signal Company R.E. Notes.

Dear Editor—

For the first time I have something to chronicle. Owing to the fact that we are more or less cadre strength, notes must necessarily be few and far between, still I think the following will show that, notwithstanding our small numbers, we have not done too bad, and we all hope that when we do grow up, the results will also grow (not like Peter Pan).

On May 21st, for the King's Review, a composite Divl. Signal Company turned out, consisting of one Cable Detachment with limbered G.S. waggon from each of the 1st and 2nd Signal Companies, and it was very gratifying to all to hear the complimentary remarks passed by the spectators on the excellent turn-out; in other words, "The Signals absolutely shone."

At present we are in the midst of R.E. Week, the Band from Chatham in Reds providing us with a treat in the way of delightful music. The Annual Sports were held during the week ending June 5th, the results being as far as this Company is concerned:—

Dummy Thrusting: C.S.M. Brown (3rd). Best Turned-out Pair with Driver: Dvr Medhurst (1st); Dvr Perkins (2nd). Best Light Draught Horse: Dvr Gribben (3rd). Best Rider, 15 hands or over: Dvr Seaton (1st). Best Trained Troop Horse, W.O.s and Sergeants: C.S.M. Brown (3rd). Mounted Tug of War (2nd). V.C. Race: Dvr Penfold (2nd). Drivers Jumping with Led Horse: Dvr Perkins (2nd). 100 Yards Race: Sgt. Bayliss (3rd). 440 Yards Race: Sgt. Bayliss (1st); Sapper Ellis (3rd). Relay Race (R.E. units) Sgt. Bayliss, Sappers Ellis and Limb, Dvr Phillips (1st). Putting the Shot: C.S.M. Cawsey (30ft. lin.) (3rd). Three-Legged Race: L/Cpls Fleming and Penfold (2nd). Tilting the Bucket: Driver Gibbs (2nd).

Total Events open: 34. Prizes won: 4 firsts, 5 seconds, 6 thirds.

An R.E. inter-unit Cricket Tournament is shortly being held. The 1st, 2nd, and "A" Corps Signal Companies have combined and entered as one team. Will forward results later.

The old hands here are: Major C. W. M. Firth, M.C., O.C.; C.S.M. Cawsey; C.S.M. Chidgey; C.Q.M.S. Hayward; C.S.M. Brown; F.S.S. Churchill—who are all going strong.

Chip, Brownie and Shoe have got allotmentitis, and are busy working out fractions as to how many cabbage seeds make a radish, and other queer things.

I understand the other Signal units are also sending on some notes.

MERCURY.

Territorial Force Notes.

Glasgow Royal Engineer Units.

The above mentioned units of the Territorial Force, consisting of the 1st (Glasgow) Heavy Bridging Coy., R.E. (T.), 1st (Scottish) Corps Signal Coy., R.E. (T.), and Lowland Divisional Signals, R.E. (T.), commenced recruiting on April 12th. The County Association started an energetic recruiting campaign; posters, etc., were posted on all the tram cars and in prominent positions around the city, which resulted in a fair influx of recruits for the time being, keeping the Permanent

Staff rather busy. Unfortunately, the pressure did not last long, but nevertheless, we manage to keep getting a fair number of recruits of a good type, thereby keeping on a par with the other units in the city. Recruiting will, I believe, go much faster when the winter months arrive, men for the time being holding back on account of having more or less mapped out their plans for the summer. At any rate, we hope to have the units up to numbers approaching the authorised establishment by the end of the year.

I append hereunder a list of the Officers Commanding, Adjutants, and the Permanent Staff of the units: C.R.E. Lowland Div., Col. C. L. Spencer, C.B.E., D.S.O., R.E.T. 1st Glasgow Heavy Bridging Coy., R.E. (T.), commanded by Major J. D. Allan, D.S.O., R.E. (T.); C.S.M. Permanent Staff, C.S.M. W. J. George, R.E. 1st Scottish Corps Signal Coy., R.E. (T.), commanded by Lieut. Col. J. C. M. Kerr, D.S.O., R.E. (T.); Permanent Staff, Sgt. H. J. Taylor, R.E., Sgt. W. H. Horner, R.E., and Sgt. F. Donovan, R.E. Lowland Divl. Signals, commanded by Major J. D. Murdoch, M.C., T.D., R.E. (T.); Adjutant, Lieut. R. Lishman, D.C.M., R.B.; Permanent Staff, C.S.M. F. H. J. Coates, R.E., C.Q.M.S. J. T. McWilliams, R.E., and Sgt. A. H. McGuire, M.M., R.E.

C.S.M. "Pete" Ewald joined us for temporary duty, remaining with us for about three weeks, when he was ordered to report to Middlesex T.F. Association, Victoria Street, S.W. We ultimately heard he had been posted to Eastbourne (lucky chap). We hope he succeeded in spotting the winner of the Derby. (I should like to inform "Pete" through the medium of these columns that his green hat is being carefully attended to in the meantime).

It may be well to mention to any prospective member of the Permanent Staff (particularly those who are married), that it would be as well if they did not bring their wives with them until they have first been here and had a look round. Owing to the house shortage, it is somewhat difficult to get apartments, either furnished or unfurnished.

The Divl. Signal Company have been awarded the distinction of wearing a patch of Highland tartan below the shoulder strap. They were nearly awarded the distinction of wearing a kilt (will C.S.M. Nolan please note).

There are many old members of the Signal Service living in Glasgow whom we hope to be in touch with in the near future through the medium of the R.E.O. C.A. (Signals Branch), under the secretaryship of ex-C.S.M. McMaisters, who is making an energetic move to get the Glasgow Branch in good working order.

H. J. TAYLOR, Sgt. R.E.

* * *

Wessex Divisional Signal Company.

We are down here in a little corner of the West Countree, and we call ourselves the "Sparks." We have passed through many phases since we started in 1908, as a Telegraph Company, known as the Wessex Divisional Telegraph Company. The strength in those days was about 35; later on it became something nearing 60. During the six years we tried to keep in touch with our "Regular" friends, and at our annual dinners we usually had with us two N.C.O.s from the Mess at Aldershot. Sergeants Wade, Bowker, Gallagher, etc., have visited us from time to time.

One year we sent a Cable detachment to take part in the Army Autumn Manœuvres, and in the succeeding year we went as a Company (complete) to the manœuvres held around Cambridge.

Our first instructor was Budge, who was succeeded by Rodwell. We paddled along, doing our best to learn our job, until that awful war broke out. We then had to decide whether we would "throw our lot in" right away, or "wait and see." We chose the former, and in November of 1914, we found ourselves with the 27th Division—a division composed of Regulars. We felt exceedingly proud to be the first Territorial Divisional Signal Company, to go to France complete—and with a Regular Division, too!

I won't occupy a lot of space in this nice little magazine by telling you what we have done, etc. We, of course, "proceeded" in the usual Army manner to France in December, 1914. After taking a hand in the second battle for "Wipers," we sought a quieter front at Armentieres, relieving the "Shiny Sixths." After that we relieved the French at Mericourt-sur-Somme, and in December, 1915, found ourselves at Marcellles, ready to embark for Serbia, as we then thought. However, our destination was Salonika. There we sweated and slogged in that nasty climate; chipped the rocks to get our rough poles down for overhead lines, and had all sorts of schemes to practice on for pushing the old Bulgar back. Oh, that climate, with its inoculations, fevers, mosquitoes, every kind of creeping thing that lives; the dust, the thirst and the lack of means to quench it, etc., etc. But I'll leave it at that for the present.

The Bulgar was eventually pushed back; the Wessex Signals then migrated to the Black Sea coast, and like the line of that well known refrain, "we gradually faded away."

A period of slumber has since then elapsed, and here we find ourselves again, the old firm, the Wessex Divl. Signal Company, back in our own old drill hall, where we have our good old friend Rodwell "carying on" as if nothing had happened. We always liked Rodwell—he's just the man for Territorials—and we are glad he managed to get down West with us once again. Since he came, the pace has quickened. Old members are rejoining. The Club—formerly a great feature of our organisation—has been revived, and we are looking forward with confidence to the future.

If any news of the "Terriers" is interesting to our friends in the S.S.T.C., we hope to be able to get a little corner of THE WIRE now and again. Perhaps it sounds rather Irish to say a corner of the wire. We had better put it "the end of the wire now and again." (Please, Mr. Editor, pardon the West Country wit, or rather, alleged wit. We are only simple country lads here, you know).

THE WIRE is read with interest by us: it is a link which will bind us to our brothers, "The Regulars." Personally, I have found it exceedingly interesting to read the names of people I know so well.

Now, we really have the R.E. spirit here in these parts (there is also a club with some, too—got me?) and if any of our friends from the S.S.T.C. come this way they will find someone at home at the Priory, Colleton Crescent, Exeter. Later on, if you can accept, I will give you a few more jottings, but like West Country folk, we have a certain inborn modesty with us, and we blush to see our names in print.

I am known as

OLD SPARK.

Monthly Arithmetical and Literary Competitions.

Arithmetic.

First Prize - - - 7/6

Second Prize - - - 2/6

Will be awarded for the neatest and clearest solutions of the problems given below.

Rules.

- 1—Each problem should be worked on one side only of a sheet of paper, with the full name, number, and rank of the competitor.
- 2—Only arithmetical methods will be accepted, and full working must be shown.
- 3—The decision of the O.C. School will be final, and solutions should be submitted by the 16th July, 1920.
- 4—The prizes will not be awarded unless all problems are attempted, with at least three correct for First Prize, and two correct for the Second Prize.

Questions.

- 1—A draper bought some ties at 1½d. each, an even number of blouses at 10/- each, and some costumes at £3 each. In buying a total of 400 of these, he spent £85 4s. 10½d. Find the number of each that he bought.
- 2—Two men and five boys are employed on a piece of work, and they do half of it in six days. After this, one man and one boy more are put on, and one-fifth more work is done in three days. How many more men must be put on that the whole work may be completed in one day more?
- 3—A, B and C have altogether £25. B has twice as much as A, and the difference between A's and C's share is 16s. 4d. (C's share is less than A's). Find the share of each.
- 4—A courtyard is 97.29 feet long and 47.61 feet broad, and it is to be paved with square tiles of uniform size. What is the size of the largest tile that can be used, and how many tiles will be required?

The June Problems.

Winners.

First Prize—(all correct) No. 62521 Sapper E. A. Dixon (A Company).

Second Prize—(all correct) No. 613727 Pioneer R. D. Pearson (C Company, Crowborough Camp).

Solutions, by O.C. School.

No. 1—Deal with the highest-priced bird first.

There must be less than 4 and more than 2 pigeons, or the conditions will not be fulfilled
∴ there must be 3 pigeons.

The man has now 8d. left to buy 17 birds (larks and sparrows). He must buy an even number of sparrows, or there will be an odd farthing in the total cost.

As a trial number, take 2 sparrows at ½d. = 1d.
leaving 15 larks at ½d. = 7½d.

The cost of 17 birds = 8d. and the conditions are thus fulfilled.

From the above we see that the man bought 3 pigeons, 15 larks and 2 sparrows.—Ans.

NOTE.—If, in the trial, 2 sparrows had not given the desired result, other even numbers of sparrows would have been tried.

No. 2—The total difference in time at the different rates of walking = 15 minutes.

A mile at 4 miles an hour takes 15 minutes.

" " 5 " " " 12 "

∴ 3 minutes' difference in time occurs in journey of 1 mile.

∴ 15 minutes' difference in time occurs in journey of 5 miles.

5 miles.—Ans.

No. 3—In 12 months man earns horse + £64.

In 9 " " " horse + £30.

∴ In 3 " " " £34

∴ In 12 " " " £136.

As the man earns £64 in cash during the year it follows that the cost of horse is £136 - £64 = £72 Ans.

No. 4—The Tail = 9 inches + half back.

Back = 9 inches + half back + 9 inches.

∴ Back = 18 inches + half back

∴ Half back = 18 inches.

∴ Back = 36 inches.

Tail = 9 inches + half back = 27 inches.

Head = 9 inches.

∴ Length of fish = 36 + 27 + 9 = 72 inches.—Ans.

Notes, by O.C. School.

Owing to an error, the number of marks shown as allotted to the last problem was 48; this should have read 25 marks.

The scope of the Monthly Competition has now been widened in order that those of a literary turn of mind may have, at least, an equal opportunity with the mathematically minded. Both parts of the Competition are of equal importance to those men desirous of obtaining Army Education Certificates.

With regard to the Arithmetical Competition last month, I would say that a mere statement of the correct answer is not sufficient evidence of reasoning powers. The competitor who wrote against one result, "Can't show any system—only pencil and patience," will understand that, although he obtained the correct answer, he would have secured more marks, and probably a prize, if he had given a reason for his answer.

Considerable difficulty was experienced in awarding the prizes, as so many men obtained the correct results; and eventually it fell to the first problem to be the deciding factor.

Nearly everyone gave the correct answer, but only two competitors gave a logical solution, and, taking everything else into consideration, one of the two was awarded the first prize.

There are certain types of problems which are solved by purely common sense methods allied to what is sometimes called "organised trial," and the first problem is of that character.

I would point out that algebraical solutions of these purely arithmetical tests are not admissible.

It is not proposed to make any further comments on last month's solutions, as they are self-explanatory.

With regard to the Essay, competitors are advised to read up a little local history. They will find that a world-renowned historian was buried within a few miles of the Camp; that important battles were fought in the neighbourhood; and that almost within a stone's throw of Maresfield, a certain famous baron rested his forces preparatory to fighting a battle which had far-reaching results on the constitution of this country. The main idea of the essay, which should not exceed four hundred words, is to stimulate an interest in local history and geography. Arrangements may be made for the publication of the best essay.

In conclusion, I would say that there was a great increase in the number of competitors last month, and I was glad to see that Crowborough had become interested in the competition.

Literary.

Prize - - - Five Shillings

Rules.

- 1—Essay not to exceed 400 words.
- 2—Style, matter and punctuation will be taken into consideration when marking the paper.
- 3—Essay may be written in pencil.

Essay:—"Our Local Surroundings."

CRICKET RESULTS.

S.S.T.C. v. Eastbourne.

At Eastbourne, May 22nd. Eastbourne won on 1st innings by 25 runs.

S.S.T.C.—1st Innings—Lieut. C. A. Bridgland b Vogler 1; Lieut. N. H. Edes c Youngman b Gurney 3; Capt R. E. Vyvyan lbw b Vogler 1; Lieut J. N. Whitworth b Vogler 4; L/Cpl Bendry b Wagener 14; Lieut D. C. Methuen b Vogler 10; Lieut-Col O. C. Mordaunt not out 19; Maj. J. R. Pinsent lbw b Vogler 0; Driver Horscroft b Wagener 3; L/Cpl Downer b Wagener 0; L/Cpl Bellew c Gurney b Vogler 0; extras 12—Total 67

2nd Innings—Lieut. Col. Mordaunt c Vogler b Whyman 0; Lieut Bridgland not out 44; Capt Vyvyan not out 30; extras 3—Total (for 1 wicket) 82.

EASTBOURNE, 1st Innings.—A. J. Youngman b Mordaunt 0; F. Hawley c Bellew b Horscroft 8; S. Stafford lbw b Horscroft 1; A. E. Vogler lbw b Mordaunt 10; C. G. May b Horscroft 11; W. J. Jacobs b Mordaunt 0; A. Whyman c Bellew b Mordaunt 31; F. G. Wagener st Downer b Edes 4; S. J. Gurney lbw b Mordaunt 1; E. G. Jacobs b Mordaunt 8; E. W. Hayward not out 1; extras 17—Total 92.

2nd Innings—Hayward lbw b Bendry 50; Youngman b Edes 17; Hawley c Bellew b Pinsent 13; Stafford not out 37; extras 12—Total (for 3 wks., declared) 129.

S.S.T.C. v. Maresfield.

At Maresfield, May 28th. S.S.T.C. won by 70 runs.

S.S.T.C.—Lieut. Col. O. C. Mordaunt c Tidy b Chatfield 1; Lieut. C. A. Bridgland c Nash b Ford 8; Capt. R. E. Vyvyan c and b Cosham 57; L/Cpl Bendry c Tidy b Chatfield 22; Lieut D. C. Methuen b Nash 2; Major J. R. Pinsent b Nash 3; Lieut. N. H. Edes c Beattie b Tidy 4; Major L. G. Phillips c Kemp b Tidy 8; Dvr Horscroft not out 13; L/Cpl Downer c Clarke b Tidy 4; L/Cpl Bellew b Ford 12; extras 18—Total 152.

MARESFIELD—A. E. Cosham st Downer b Mordaunt 16; Lieut. C. H. Beattie run out 5; A. E. Tidy b Horscroft 1; G. Chatfield c Downer b Mordaunt 0; F. Clarke c Methuen b Mordaunt 2; B. Baker not out 41; L/Cpl Nash b Mordaunt 7; Lieut W. Kemp c Vyvyan b Mordaunt 6; P. Hazelden c and b Edes 0; F. Chatfield st Downer b Edes 0; B. Ford b Edes 2; extras 2—Total 82.

S.S.T.C. v. R.A.S.C. (Aldershot).

At Aldershot, May 29th. S.S.T.C. won by 145 runs.

R.A.S.C.—Lieut. Col. E. H. Fitzherbert st Downer b Mordaunt 5; Lieut. Col. R. B. Airy b Mordaunt 5; S.S.M. Wren lbw b Bellew 30; Capt. N. H. Williams, c Bellew b Mordaunt 10; S.S.M. Morrison c Bellew b Mordaunt 0; Capt. F. S. Wolfe st Downer b Mordaunt 4; Major P. N. Vyvyan b Mordaunt 0; S.S.M. Griffiths c and b Mordaunt 2; Lieut. P. S. MacDerment c Mordaunt b Bellew 1; Lieut. P. J. F. Bouverie-Brine not out 1; S.S.M. Elliott c Downer b Bellew 0; extras 8—Total 66.

S.S.T.C.—Lieut. C. A. Bridgland c Airy b Morrison 24; Dvr Horscroft c Griffiths b Morrison 14; Capt. R. E. Vyvyan b Morrison 20; L/Cpl Bendry c Vyvyan b Elliott 0; Lieut. D. C. Methuen c Airy b Morrison 27; Major J. R. Pinsent b Wolfe 47; Lieut. N. H. Edes c and b Wolfe 16; Lieut. Col. O. C. Mordaunt c Morrison b Wolfe 30; Major L. G. Phillips c Griffiths b Wolfe 22; L/Cpl Downer not out 3; L/Cpl Bellew c Morrison b Wolfe 2; extras 6—Total 211.

S.S.T.C. v. Hastings.

At Hastings, June 2nd. S.S.T.C. won by 217 runs.

S.S.T.C.—Lieut. C. A. Bridgland c Broughton b Wisden 30; Dvr Horscroft lbw b Bruce 45; Capt. R. E. Vyvyan c Young b Carson 86; L/Cpl Bendry b Wisden 20; Lieut. D. C. Methuen st Beaver b Phillips 117; L/Cpl Nash c Young b Bruce 22; Lieut. N. H. Edes b Bruce 7; Lieut. Col. O. C. Mordaunt b Young 12; Major L. G. Phillips not out 0; extras 37—Total (for 8 wickets, declared) 377.

HASTINGS—R. Beaver b Mordaunt 1; W. W. Bruce b Horscroft 40; A. S. Wisden c Downer by Phillips 36; A. D. Broughton not out 29; J. Young b Horscroft 12; J. Mather b Phillips 1; E. E. Fox b Bellew 11; H. Phillips c Phillips b Mordaunt 11; R. Dawson b Bellew 0; J. Carson b Mordaunt 4; P. Butcher run out 5; extras 10—Total 160.

S.S.T.C. v. Royal Engineers (Chatham).

At Chatham, June 9th. S.S.T.C. won by 74 runs.

S.S.T.C.—Lieut. C. A. Bridgland b Pank 7; Driver Horscroft b Pank 0; Capt R. E. Vyvyan lbw b Pank 4; L/Cpl Bendry b Coxwell-Rogers 17; Lieut. D. C. Methuen c Denning b Coxwell-Rogers 40; Major J. R. Pinsent c Reid b Pank 0; Lieut. Col. O. C. Mordaunt c Parsons b Turner 44; Lieut. N. H. Edes st Godsall b Pank 0; Major L. G. Phillips c Pank b Coxwell-Rogers 10; L/Cpl Downer b Coxwell-Rogers 0; L/Cpl Bellew not out 12; extras 19—Total 153

R.E.—Capt. R. D. Pank run out 0; Capt. H. A. J. Parsons c and b Mordaunt 5; Lieut. R. M. A. Welchman c Horscroft b Mordaunt 1; Lieut. N. Coxwell-Rogers c Bendry b Bellew 13; Major R. M. Scobie c and b Mordaunt 0; Major R. B. Godsall c Bendry b Bellew 0; Capt. G. F. Reid st Downer b Mordaunt 20; Lieut. W. S. Wise run out 0; Capt. A. J. Ransford not out 30; Lieut. F. R. Turner c Pinsent b Mordaunt 7; Major B. C. Denning b Horscroft 0; extras 3—Total 79.

RAILWAY SERVICE—TO AND FROM LONDON.

Leave UCKFIELD	CROWBORO.	ARR. LONDON	Leave LONDON.	CROWBORO.	ARR. UCKFIELD
7.38 a.m. ...	7.57 a.m. ...	9.40 a.m. Vic.	Vic. 5.20 a.m. ...	7.29 a.m. ...	7.47 a.m.
8.27 ...	8.44 ...	10. 5 L.B.	" 7.23 ...	10.21 ...	10.37
8.49 ...	9.10 ...	10.30 Vic.	" 9.10 ...	11. 3 ...	11.19
10.54 ...	11.11 ...	1.33 p.m. "	" 11. 5 ...	1. 2 p.m. ...	1.18 p.m.
12.46 p.m. ...	1. 5 p.m. ...	3.25 L.B.	" 11.55 ...	2.27 ...	2.45
1.34 ...	1.50 ...	4.12 Vic.	" *1.25 p.m. ...	3.34 ...	3.50
4.10 ...	4.27 ...	6.18 "	" 3.45 ...	5.28 ...	5.46
4.38 ...	4.55 ...	6.29 "	L.B. 4.44 ...	5.59 ...	6.14
5.45 ...	6. 0 ...	8. 5 "	Vic. 4.50 ...	6.28 ...	6.45
6. 0 ...	6.15 ...	8.29 "	" 5. 5 ...	7. 1 ...	7.17
8. 5 ...	8.25 ...	10.36 "	" *5.48 ...	8. 0 ...	8.17
SUNDAYS.			" 6. 3 ...	7.20 ...	7.35
7.59 p.m. ...	8.18 p.m. ...	10. 9 p.m. Vic.	" 6. 3 ...	8. 0 ...	8.17
			" 7.15 ...	9.55 ...	10.12
			" 8. 5 ...	10.10 ...	10.25
			SUNDAYS.		
			Vic. 8.35 a.m. ...	10.53 a.m. ...	11.10 a.m.
			" 6.45 p.m. ...	9.14 p.m. ...	9.30 p.m.

TO AND FROM BRIGHTON.

Leave CROWBORO.	UCKFIELD.	ARR. BRIGHTON	Leave BRIGHTON.	UCKFIELD.	ARR. CROWBORO
7.29 a.m. ...	7.47 a.m. ...	8.37 a.m.	6.55 a.m. ...	7.38 a.m. ...	7.57 a.m.
8.20 ...	8.36 ...	9.19	8. 5 ...	8.49 ...	9.10
10.21 ...	10.37 ...	11.22	9.22 ...	10. 4 ...	10.23
11.46 ...	12. 3 p.m. ...	12.50 p.m.	10.20 ...	10.54 ...	11.11
2.27 p.m. ...	2.45 ...	3.30	12. 0 noon ...	12.46 p.m. ...	1. 5 p.m.
— ...	4. 0 ...	4.50	1.38 p.m. ...	2.22 ...	2.40
*4.57 ...	*5.14 ...	6. 0	2.53 ...	3.50 ...	—
5.28 ...	5.46 ...	6.35	4.27* ...	5.11 ...	5.30
6.28 ...	6.45 ...	7.33	5.43 ...	6.25 ...	6.43
7. 1 ...	7.17 ...	8. 3	6.19 ...	7.11 ...	7.30
8. 0 ...	8.17 ...	9. 4	7.20 ...	8. 5 ...	8.25
9.55 ...	10.12 ...	10.55	9. 5 ...	9.56 ...	10.14
SUNDAYS.			SUNDAYS.		
7.26 a.m. ...	7.42 a.m. ...	8.45 a.m.	9.40 a.m. ...	10.25 a.m. ...	10.43 a.m.
10.53 ...	11.10 ...	11.55	2.10 p.m. ...	2.55 p.m. ...	3.12 p.m.
5. 8 p.m. ...	5.27 p.m. ...	6.21 p.m.	7.15 ...	7.59 ...	8.18
7.46 ...	8. 3 ...	8.48	8.25 ...	9.10 ...	9.28

* Saturdays only.

AUTO-CAR SERVICE between TUNBRIDGE WELLS, CROWBOROUGH, UCKFIELD, LEWES, BRIGHTON, EASTBOURNE, Etc.

	WEEK-DAYS.	SUNDAYS.
Tunbridge Wells (Auto Centre) ...	10. 0	2. 0
Crowborough (Golf Links) ...	10.50	2.50
Uckfield (Station) ...	11.30	3.30
Lewes (County Hall) ...	12.10	4.10
Brighton (Aquarium) ...	12.50	4.50
Eastbourne (Pevensey Road) ...	1.20	5.20
Sunday service shortly		
Eastbourne (Pevensey Road) ...	—	9.30
Brighton (Aquarium) ...	—	10. 0
Lewes (County Hall) ...	—	10.40
Uckfield (Station) ...	—	11.30
Crowborough (Golf Links) ...	8.45	12.10
Tunbridge Wells (Auto Centre) ...	9.35	1. 0
Change Cars at Uckfield.		
FARES (Single)—From Tun. Wells to Crowborough, 1/4; Uckfield, 2/6; Lewes, 4/-; Brighton, 5/-; Eastbourne, 5/6		

Every care is taken in the compilation of these Time Tables, but the Editor cannot accept responsibility for any inconvenience caused by unforeseen alterations in the respective Services.

THE WIRE

The Camp Journal of the Signal Service Training Centre

VOL. I.—No. 6

AUGUST, 1920

PRICE—SIXPENCE

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Editorial Notes.

The Magazine has now been enlarged to provide space for the innumerable contributions received. Those of a reasoning turn of mind will readily understand that this cannot be done without considerable additional expense; and any one of you with a knowledge of the greatly enhanced prices prevalent in the printing trade, will appreciate the risk that is being run, and the dangers besetting the path of the promoters of this little Journal.

Every effort is being made to cater for the tastes of all—from the highest commissioned rank to the latest joined recruit. THE WIRE is your Journal, and shortly, when the unit becomes officially "The Corps of Signals," it will be your Corps Journal—and, I hope, something to be proud of. Buy your copy, every one, and help the Journal to take its rightful place in the foremost ranks of Regimental Magazines.

It is very gratifying to see how the sales at Crowborough are increasing month by month. For this, thanks are mainly due to the untiring efforts of Capt. Wills and Lieut. Hole, and their band of indefatigable representatives, who have made up their minds that, as far as Crowborough is concerned, THE WIRE is to be a success.

The 1st Training Battalion is surely setting an excellent example in the matter of interesting Centre Notes, and it is hoped that the Companies will soon come to the fore and supply their share. As far as Maresfield is concerned, "A" and "F" Companies are the mainstay in this direction. "D" and "E" Companies evidently lack good representatives with a taste for scribbling. See to it, ye men of "Don" and "Eddy," that you and yours are represented in future numbers of the Magazine.

A Committee of Ways and Means is now being formed, to give to you all the maximum amount of interesting reading for your monthly "nimble tanner"; and it is hoped that by this means, the quietly-disposed literary talent will be awakened and brought to the light of day for the benefit of others. The Committee is as follows: Bt.-Major L. G. Phillips, M.C., R.E. (President); Capt. R. E. Vyvyan, M.C., Worcester Regt.; Capt. J. A. S. Tillard, O.B.E., M.C., R.E.;

Capt. O. S. D. Wills, Norfolk Regt.; Lieut. R. T. O. Cary, M.B.E.; and C.S.M. Nolan, R.E. ("A" Coy.).

A final word! There appears to be some little difficulty at Crowborough as to where prospective members of the R.E.O.C.A. (Signals Branch) should apply for membership.

For the benefit of those who have already asked, and for others in the future, let me say that, if you put a 2s. Postal Order and a small note bearing your name and address in an envelope, and send it to me, I will see that a membership card, shewing fully paid-up subscription for one year, is sent to you by return of post.

The R.E.O.C.A. is the Association each and every one of you should support, because it is in your interests to do so.

I remain,

Your Servant and Comrade,
THE EDITOR.

Royal Warrant.

Corps of Signals.

GEORGE R.I.

WHEREAS We deem it expedient to authorise the formation of a Corps to be entitled "Corps of Signals";

OUR WILL AND PLEASURE is that the Corps of Signals shall be deemed to be a Corps for the purpose of the Army Act, and that the words "Corps of Signals" shall be inserted in Our Warrant of 7th July, 1916, defining the expression "Corps."

OUR FURTHER WILL AND PLEASURE is that the rates of pay for officers, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Corps of Signals shall be as provided in the Schedule attached to this our Warrant.

Given at Our Court at St. James's, this 28th day of June, 1920, in the 11th year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command,

WINSTON S. CHURCHILL.

SCHEDULE.

OFFICERS.

1. The rates of pay shall be those provided in Table I. of Army Order 324 of 1919.

2. In addition, signal pay shall be issuable at the rates and under the conditions shown below.

3. Rates— Per day.
Colonel, employed on technical duties... 8s.

(This does not include any appointment the sole function of which is the administration of personnel).

Lieutenant-Colonel	...	...	7s.
Major	...	...	5s.
Captain	...	...	3s.
Lieutenant	...	...	2s.
2nd Lieutenant	...	...	2s.

4. Officers appointed, seconded, or attached for duty to the Corps of Signals after the date of this Warrant, to be eligible for signal pay must, except as laid down in paragraphs 5 and 6 below, have qualified in the examination for Associate Member of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, and signal pay will be issuable on the production of a certificate from that Institution that the officer has qualified in their examination or holds qualifications that the Institution accept as exempting from the examination.

5. Officers who prior to their appointment, seconding, or attachment for duty to the Corps of Signals have qualified and drawn engineer pay or corps pay, under the conditions of Army Order 324 of 1919, in their own arms of the service will be eligible for signal pay without any further qualification.

6. (a) Engineer pay at the rates provided in Table V. of Army Order 324 of 1919 will be issuable to officers who were seconded or attached for duty to the Signal Service on 13th September, 1919, and who had up to that date drawn the old rates of engineer pay. Such officers, on being posted to the Corps of Signals, will be eligible to draw signal pay in the place of engineer pay without any further qualification.

(b) Officers who, having returned to their regiments prior to 13th September, 1919, after being seconded or attached for duty to the Signal Service for a period of not less than 2 years, are appointed or again seconded or attached for duty to the Corps of Signals will be eligible on joining the corps to draw signal pay without any further qualification.

7. Command pay will be admissible at the same rates and under the same conditions as apply to the Royal Engineers.

OTHER RANKS.

8. The rates of pay of warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men will be those provided in Army Order 325 of 1919, the Corps of Signals being added to the corps therein mentioned.

Corps of Signals.

1. With reference to Army Order 275 of 1920, the Corps of Signals will consist of such Signal units, Royal Engineers, as are now in existence, those of the additional personnel now serving with the Signal Service, Royal Engineers, who wish, and are accepted, for transfer, and such other Signal units as may hereafter be formed.

2. The establishment of the corps as regards officers, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men will be notified in due course.

3. The officers required for duty with the corps will consist of—

(a) Officers on the permanent establishment.

(b) Officers of other arms of the Service seconded to the Corps of Signals to complete the number required additional to the permanent establishment (see Note.)

4. Officers on the permanent establishment will mainly comprise the higher ranks and will be promoted to fill vacancies in the permanent establishment.

5. As regards 3 (b), officers desirous of being seconded to the Corps of Signals must normally have 3 years' commissioned service before being seconded and will, if selected, serve for a period of 4 years in the Corps of Signals. At the end of this period each officer will return to his own arm of the Service and will not normally be seconded for a second tour of duty with the Corps of Signals until after promotion to captain and/or 3 years' service with his own unit.

6. At the end of the second period of seconding to the Corps of Signals an officer may be given the choice, should a vacancy exist, of transferring permanently to that corps or returning to his own arm of the Service. Should, however, he wish to be transferred and is considered suitable, but no vacancy exist, his name will be placed on a list to be kept for this purpose, and selections may be made from this list as vacancies occur. A few officers who are desirous of being seconded to the Corps of Signals for a third tour of duty, after a further period of service with their own arm of the Service will, if selected, be permitted to do so.

A major of infantry or cavalry attached for duty to the corps shall return to his regiment 1 year before he is likely to be considered for promotion to lieutenant-colonel, in accordance with Article 58 of the Pay Warrant.

7. Seconded officers will receive promotion in their own corps and not in the Corps of Signals.

8. Officers on the permanent establishment and seconded officers will take seniority in the corps according to their substantive rank.

9. If an officer is promoted in his own arm of the Service during a tour of duty with the Corps of Signals he will normally return to duty with his own arm, unless he is desirous of, and is selected for, transfer to the permanent establishment of the corps.

10. To complete the initial establishment of the corps, officers now serving in the Signal Service, Royal Engineers, may have the option of transferring to the Corps of Signals provided vacancies exist in the permanent establishment of the corps, and they are accepted for such transfer. Officers for whom no such vacancies exist, but who are wanted to complete the number required with the corps, may continue to be seconded from their own arms of the Service provided they have not already been seconded for more than 4 years. Those who have already been seconded for 4 years may be seconded for a further period not exceeding 2 years from the date of this Order.

11. The tenure of the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the Corps will be four years for the purpose of Article 307 (3) of the Pay Warrant.

12. The Council of the Institution of Electrical Engineers has agreed to conduct examinations on the



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theory and practice of the electrical subjects forming part of the initial course for officers held at the Signal Training Centre, and to regard officers who qualify in these examinations as having qualified in the examinations for Associate Member of the Institution and to issue certificates accordingly.

13. To provide the numbers required on the formation of the corps, those warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men who are now serving with the Signal Service, Royal Engineers, and wish for transfer, will be transferred from their present corps to the Corps of Signals provided vacancies exist in the permanent establishment of the corps. Warrant officers and non-commissioned officers will be transferred in their present permanent rank.

14. The ranks and appointments of the corps will be—

Warrant officer, Class I.—Sergeant-major.
Warrant officer, Class II.—Quartermaster-sergeant, company or squadron sergeant-major.
Company or squadron quartermaster-sergeant.
Sergeant.
Lance-sergeant.
Corporal.
Lance-corporal.
Signalman.

15. The promotion of warrant officers and non-commissioned officers will be carried out by the Officer i/c Records on a roster common to the whole corps.

16. Instructions as regards the formation of a Record Office will be issued later, but until such instructions are issued, the Officer i/c Royal Engineer Records will continue to keep the records of the corps as hitherto.

17. Messrs. Sir C. R. McGrigor, Bt., & Co. will be the Army Agents for officers of the corps. The accounts of other ranks will be kept by the Regimental Paymaster, Chatham.

[Note.—Throughout this Army Order "attached for duty" should be substituted for "seconded" in the case of officers above the rank of captain, and those belonging to arms of the Service from which officers cannot be seconded, e.g., Royal Engineers.]

By Command of the Army Council,
H. J. CREEDY.

FOR SALE.—1920 "TRIUMPH" COMBINATION, with GRINLAY Super Side-Car; spring wheels. All wheels fitted with polished aluminium seamless discs, with enamelled mauve centres to match the side-car. Side-car has spring luggage grid and petrol carrier, a luggage locker under seat and another in front of carriage, map pocket, 2 F.R.S. electric side and tail lamps with accumulators, finished mauve with polished aluminium panel. The outfit is complete with P. and H. large acetylene head lamp, Lucas rear lamp set, Lucas nickel-plated horn, and full range of tools and spares, including spare cover strapped under chassis, and as new. Price £185. For further particulars, and appointments to view, ring up Crowborough Signal Office.

Nellie (relating her experiences to a friend, after a certain town had been bombarded): "Ethel, it was simply awful. Had that shell landed two yards nearer I would have been blown into 'maternity.'" And she wondered why Ethel smiled.

R.E.O.C.A. Notes.

Signals Branch.

The New Association.

Last month I endeavoured to console those who despaired of the "Corps of Signals" ever coming into being, by an optimistic note which is now proved to have been justified. The Royal Warrant authorising the new arm of the Service is now published, and its contents well known to all interested.

Now, at last, we can proceed to realise the purpose for which we started the "Signals Branch" R.E.O.C.A., i.e., a starting point from which, at the right moment, we should proceed to the formation of a much more comprehensive Association for the Corps of Signals.

The moment has now arrived, and, with the enthusiastic support and help of all those who have taken an interest in the Old Comrade movement, it is hoped to launch an Association for the Corps of Signals which shall be a tremendous success from its inception; an Association built on comradeship and mutual help, with branches in every centre where serving and ex-Signalmen do gather, and which will provide a medium for periodical re-unions of all ranks.

Employment for ex-the-Service must be specially catered for, and in addition to appeals to employers, every member must consider it his solemn duty to promptly bring to the notice of the Headquarters Secretary or his Branch Secretary any post which he knows to be vacant.

I have said before, that an Association is what its members make it. After some twelve years' experience of the people known as "Signals," I do not hesitate to say we have the right type of members to make our own Association the real live concern which is desired.

Branches must be numerous if we are to be of the best service to one another, and I hope that Signalmen in every town of importance in the kingdom, and every station abroad, will take the earliest opportunity of expressing their desire to form a Branch of the Corps of Signals Association (or whatever our name may be) at the town or station in which they are situated.

Some ground work in this direction has already been done. Exeter promises to be the first in the field—if not beaten by Aldershot. Bedford is stirring, as are also Newcastle, Colchester, and Glasgow. Birmingham, Manchester, Southampton, Liverpool, and other of our large towns have been tackled, but it is a question of finding the "spark to ignite the fuse." The right man in each place will be found in due course, and from the ever-keen interest of Training Centre members I'm sure we shall not be lacking in the matter of an enthusiastic start in the formation of our Branches.

Bir Salem, in Palestine, bids fair to provide the first Overseas Branch. C.S.M. Fiddes has many keen supporters, and has again added to the roll of members this month.

The formation of the new Association will be undertaken by a Central Committee, which will meet in London shortly. This Committee—representative of all ranks—will be called upon to frame the future policy of the Association. Much good can be done by members and potential members, who have ideas which they think would benefit the Association if incorporated

in its rules and objects, if they will communicate such suggestions to the Committee meeting from the Training Centre, or for that matter from any other Centre. (THE WIRE is now probably well known to Signalmen throughout the kingdom).

But good representatives are required from other towns—Plymouth, Portsmouth, Cardiff, Belfast, Edinburgh, Nottingham, Chester, etc.; and should this catch the eye of people interested, and who are prepared to represent such Centres upon the Central Committee, it would be of very real value to me if they would send me a line to Shoe Lane, stating their willingness to undertake the representation. (Return fares to London will be paid.)

It is desired that, as far as possible, the members constituting the Central Committee be prepared to act as hon. secretaries for the Branches at the Centres which they will represent.

Some of our old D.R. Sergeants must have a little time which they could devote to this good work; and as a Branch will shine according to its degree of social life, it is difficult to think of a better type around which to form a Branch.

I recently received a letter from one of the late D.R. Sergeants, simply glowing with that wonderful sporting spirit of comradeship which seemed to be part of the make-up of the type which stood us in such good stead in the early days of the late war. It is much too good a letter to file away without passing on a couple of extracts to the readers of THE WIRE:—

"Guess you are like the rest of us in missing the joys of eating, sleeping, sharing the oases and deserts, scrourging, sweating, freezing, swearing, gambling, drinking, etc., etc., with men. Men of their words and with guts mostly—fellows who stood by a pal—slept in his arms for warmth—stole his polish and fags, broke him to the wide at pontoon, did his work when he was sick and not an M.O.'s baby—and vanished, *après la guerre*, out of his ken."

"With reference to a credit balance of 14s., after covering life membership subscription from cheque, I would be glad if you would give this to the first 'pip-emma' fellow who is out of a berth and hard put to, or anyone who has seen service whom you know wants one or two good meals."

I will not presume to comment on the foregoing except to say that it expresses something which a soldier feels and understands. A feeling, too, which it is not easy to express in words: *Esprit de corps*, comradeship, if you will, it matters not—but, as long as we have members like the writer of the above letter, the Association will flourish and more than justify its existence.

To the man who says, "What is the good of the Association to me?"—and there are a few such funny people—I would add that the writer of the above is a man of independent means, and yet the Association can give him something, i.e., the means of keeping in touch with his old comrades. He was present last year at the Royal Engineers O.C.A. re-union dinner, and travelled six hundred miles to get there. He anticipates the next "pukka feed," and hopes to meet more of his old comrades.

I think the 14s. above mentioned is already booked, for this morning I have had a visit from one of ours: Down-and-out—discharged, disability pension of 24s. per week—telegraphist by trade—some years in South America with a Cable Company, prior to 1914—Company will not take him back because he is neurasthenic. It is hoped to get him temporary employment, and his

case is being taken up with a view to speeding up his return to South America, which is his desire. By the way, he is not a member of the Association, but—well, he soldiered with Signals, and he's "down and out."

Employment.

During the month I have had some correspondence with the British Insulated and Helsby Cables, Limited, a firm which in the autumn expects to be requiring a number of linesmen for fitting up poles, and running and binding in of overhead wires, on electric power transmission lines in various parts of the country.

The final letter from the "Contract Manager" with the firm is as follows: "Thank you for your letter of 13th. We hope, in the autumn, to be applying to you for men."

Full rates of pay prevailing in the districts concerned will be paid by this firm to the right men. Applicants for posts with this firm may submit names and particulars to this office, where they will be listed pending the firm's demands in the autumn.

A few ex-R.E. Foremen of Works will be required early next spring in connection with the erection of Colonial memorials in France and Belgium. A number of road-makers and labourers will also be required. Particulars on application.

Progress of Signals Branch R.E.O.C.A.

Further members have joined during the month, the greater number being from S.S.T.C., Glasgow, Palestine and Mesopotamia.

There are still a lot of subscriptions outstanding for 1920. I am hoping that all members concerned will rally to the flag of the new Association with a resolve to pay dues regularly.

This is all I have time for this month. In the next issue I hope to be able to give some details of the "Foundation" Meeting of the new Corps Association.

Your Servant and Comrade,
EDWIN G. HONEYWILL, Hon. Sec.

96, Shoe Lane, Fleet Street,
London, E.C.4.

First Rookie—"Have you heard anything about Sergt. Helio having an accident?"
Second Ditto—"No, why?"
First Rookie—"Well, I heard two N.C.O.s talking about him, and one of them said, 'He came down with a bump, and he's been moaning ever since.'"

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CAMP NEWS

Headquarters Notes.

A certain clerk in Headquarters would like to know if F. C. S. from Aberdeen (now demobbed) is aware of the fact that the transfer of Pioneer R—, which he so cleverly effected in February, is still the subject of current correspondence caused by the presumably inadvertent insertion of five words on the wrong page of the Postings Book.

Old chums would be pleased to hear from F. C. S., especially "Ack, Pip, F."

1st Training Battalion Gossip.

Melba "Tapped" at Maresfield.

Thanks to the enterprise of *The Daily Mail*, and the excellent arrangements made by Sergt. Chadfield at Maresfield Camp, a large audience of troops, who had assembled for the occasion in the spacious Y.M.C.A. Recreation Hall, had the unique experience of listening to the glorious voice of Dame Nellie Melba by wireless telephony on the 15th June last. The latest valve receiving apparatus at the disposal of the Centre was brought into operation, including a resonant amplifier to which had been attached a large trumpet, so that the singer was heard quite plainly in all parts of the room.

After the famous *prima donna* had been introduced by the Marconi operator, the sounds of a piano arose, and very soon Dame Melba was heard singing "Home Sweet Home," which somewhat astonished the silent audience by its clearness. Two songs followed, in Italian and French, but, owing to a little atmospheric trouble at this stage, they were not quite so audible as the "old favourite." The rendering of the National Anthem, which brought this wonderful concert to a close, was heard to much better advantage.

The experiment was a great success, and we look to Sergt. Chadfield to maintain our link with the Wireless world, so that we may have the pleasure of participating in its future wonderful development. Such entertainments as this deserve every encouragement, as they go a long way in relieving the monotony of our camp life.

"D.O.R.A."?

The well known game of "house" in Camps has lately been suppressed. Obviously the authorities consider the "housing question" a far too serious matter to be played with.

Camera Club.

With a view to stimulating a little more interest in photography, the numerous "snapshotters" of the Camp have recently formed themselves into a Camera Club, the first meeting of which recently took place at the Garrison Schools. Capt. Holdsworth, R.A.S.C., presided over a large attendance, and briefly outlined the objects of the Club—which include the procuring

of photographic goods at wholesale prices; the provision of a dark room and laboratory for the use of its members; and the arranging of country rambles and outings. Amateur photography, from the writer's point of view, has always been rather an expensive hobby, especially in these days when high prices predominate, so that the Club will fill a long-felt want in providing that necessary assistance required by the amateur anxious to turn out results with the "professional touch." Sapper F. Smith, who has charge of the arrangements, will be pleased to supply particulars of membership, etc., to all those interested.

Rats!

A professional rat catcher paid us a visit a few days ago, but, owing to the good work done by the stray and regimental dogs of the Camp, his services were scarcely required. Perhaps the next thing we shall hear is that our canine friends have opened a local branch of the "Terrier" Association!

A Tribute from Le Havre.

The citizens of Le Havre have recently presented to the Signal Service several fine engravings, as a small appreciation of the excellent work done by this Corps during the late war. The engravings, which are suitably inscribed, have been framed and hung in the Officers', Sergeants', and Corporals' Messes, and are much admired. Such tokens as these have been somewhat few and far between; and we tender our best thanks to the good folks of Le Havre for giving what we hope will be the forerunner of similar souvenirs from other towns and villages of France and Belgium, where the "Blue and White Band" excelled themselves in the vital and arduous work of maintaining the lines of communication from trench to base.

"After-War" Arithmetic.

Some figurehead sent to the Press, the other day, the startling news that, after careful calculation, he had discovered that 395 shells were expended to kill one man during the war. He omitted to mention that one, only, was sufficient to "put the wind up" him.

Great Victory Exhibition.

The Imperial War Museum and Great Victory Exhibition, now being held at the Crystal Palace, is well worth a visit, and members of the Camp, when proceeding on leave, will be well rewarded if they can find time to spend a few hours at the Palace. The Exhibition is a national collection of those wonderful things which helped in the painful spelling of "Victory" in the Great War, and the Palace is filled to overflowing with trophies and the terrific instruments used in the great struggle. Our comrades of the war will be quite at home among the vast display of war photographs which the authorities have collected.

The Signal Service is well represented in the North-east Gallery, where Signal equipment and stores, Wireless instruments, etc., abound galore.



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JEWELLERS TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING

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The Eastern Question.

I recently received an interesting epistle from one of our boys who went out to Constantinople in December last. Judging from the tone of his letter, there must be a sugar shortage over there, too, for his account of the land of "Turkish delight" is not a very glowing one. In view of the recent events in Constantinople, no doubt the Turks are enquiring, "Who is the Boss-for-us?"

The Roughriders.

I must really find space this month to congratulate the Roughriders of "E" Company on their fine display at the recent Battalion Sports; in fact, the general opinion of the spectators appears to have been that their brilliant performance was the "star turn" of the afternoon, and highly reflected on their training under Captain Bray. As an observer remarked, "It was quite equal to any first class circus performance." I am afraid the majority of us have always looked upon the Roughriders as one of those "cushy" throngs, but after their recent *début*, well—our opinion has been reversed.

AMPLIFIER.

Company Notes.

"A" Company.

Time seems to fly these days. Why, it seems only a few days ago that I was racking my brains to think of a few lines for last month's number—and now I am on the same stunt again.

"A" Company is really a dull unit to write notes for. Nothing out of the ordinary ever seems to happen, except that occasionally we manage to win a cricket match, which, by the way, happened when we defeated the "By-Products" Company from Crowboro' by 50 runs. I'm afraid, though, that our opponents were not quite at full strength, as their Dramatic Comedian (George) was not in the team.

Tennis is going strong in the Company just now, but our team can never manage to get on the winning side. We played two matches this month against "Admin" and "C" Companies, and lost both. However, we keep smiling, and hope our luck will soon change. Of course, the trouble in the Company—or, might I say, "this Company's misfortune," in any game—is, that we cannot keep the same men together long enough for them to get going as a team.

What I mean is this: A recruit joins the Company; he turns out to be an ex-professional at something or other (we do get genuine ones sometimes); and as soon as he passes off the square, away he goes to his Trade Company, where he anchors. At least, he would if I happened to be O.C. of a Trade Company (some hopes), and I rather think in most cases he does.

In last month's 1st Signal Company Notes, I saw two names that seemed familiar to me; I refer to Sergt Bayliss and Driver Penfold. Are they ex-G.D. men? If so, "Nellie" says "Cloggy" must have lost weight since they last met, for him to figure so prominently in the sprints.

The Editor will be pleased to hear that we have our old friend the "Company Reformer's" brother in the Company now.

A man walked into the Company Office the other day and asked "How could he send home a Celebration Allowance?" He happened to put the question to our

"Returns" Clerk, who was in the midst of the weekly "Prophecy" Return, so you can guess the answer he got. About five minutes later, another rolled in and asked for his ration allowance whilst in detention. I did not quite understand the answer he got, but he reported sick the following morning with "defective earsight" (?)

Oh, ye gods, we do find 'em!

GRAMMAR.

"D" Company.

"At last!" did you say? The "Don" has this time managed to make itself heard.

In view of our recent successes at cricket and tennis, I am wondering if "Grammar" and "Douglas Triumph" realise that our motto is "Deeds, not words."

Unfortunately, I have not had the pleasure of journeying to Brighton very often lately, as our friend "Douglas Triumph" suggested last month, so I am very much afraid my novel has not been commenced. ("People in glass houses," you know).

There was a universal gasp of despair amongst the sporting elements of the Company when a notice appeared in the Commandant's Orders, to the effect that Major Pinsent, D.S.O., was transferred to "E" Company; but to our joy, the order was cancelled—the Major still remains with us, and has helped us to win both cricket matches and tennis tournaments.

We are going strong at cricket just now, having won three matches in succession, due chiefly to two very useful contributions of 53 not out and 47 by Major Pinsent.

We are hoping that "Eddy" Company will find time to give us another match. We cannot go so far as to say that we think we should beat them, but we feel

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"SCOTTIE"

(Late of Grenadier Guards)

"The Budletts" Maresfield

Crowborough Notes.

"C" Company.

Thanks, Mr. Editor, for the inclusion of Crowboro' in the Time Table of July's issue; it has saved many threepences which otherwise would have been spent in buying Time Tables (hence the milk in the coconut—I'm sorry: I mean, hence the increase in the sale of THE WIRE).

Sport is still going very strong in the Company. At cricket we have done very well, adding yet another victory to our credit by vanquishing "Ack" Company on June 21st, though not by a very great margin, it's true. It was a very good game, and a nice day. "A" Company batted first, and went down like ninepins before Sapper Harvey. He took the third and fourth wickets with successive balls, and a little later on performed the "hat trick" on wickets 7, 8 and 9. He had the remarkable analysis of 8 wickets for 11 runs, and "A's" innings closed for 41.

Eynott and Green gave "C" a capital start, and passed the "A" total before being separated. We declared our innings just before time at 106 for nine wickets. Eynott scored 30, Green 24, and Sergt Clark 22. "A" Company entertained us very well indeed, and were it possible, we should very much like to return the compliment.

On June 29th we played "E" Company, and got our first whacking. Another good game; and but for one or two bits of bad luck in the field, it would have been a much closer finish.

"C" were without their proper Captain (Sergt. Andrews), and Sapper McDowell was in hospital. "E" Company were at full strength, having specially fetched back L/Cpl Bellew from leave to do his bit, so they told us. (Windy, eh?)

We put "E" in first, but they gave us more exercise than we bargained for: 129 were on the board before their fourth wicket fell, yet all were out for 146, and for the first time this season. Sergt. Clark took 5 wickets for 28, and Lieut. Walker 4 for 49.

"C" Company were entertained to tea very well—yea, verily, too well, for our tenth wicket went at 81, when Boy Walker slogged the last ball from Major Phillips into Sergt Shenton's hands. Eynott had contributed a splendid 25, but no one else managed to stay against the Major, L/Cpl Bellew, and Horscroft, except Daniels, who added 12 before he was bowled off his pads.

By the way, "F" Company grouched last month about "E" Company and regimental players. Poor old "F" Company, diddums hurtums? An innings odd is a whacking, but cheer up! for we haven't played you yet. Does the Education Officer teach your reporter English comp? If so, why do you think you voice the opinion of all Companies, when "all" would include "E" and "C" and every other Company as well as "F"? and it's only your grouse (or your pigeon), isn't it?

There is hardly need to give in detail the results as far as this Company is concerned in the S.S.T.C. Sports. Everyone more or less saw what was going on, and how the points for "C" Company were going up in leaps and bounds. Suffice it to say that whole-heartedness goes a long way in winning a shield.

that we can give them a much better game than the previous one.

"F" Company managed to beat us at water polo by three goals, but, of course, it was only a friendly, and we hadn't our best team out (swank!)

Things We Want to Know.

When are "D" Company going to get another "M" on their typewriter?
Who is the "M" wallah?

"G" Company (Wireless).

With apologies to the Author of "Hiawatha."

On the fourteenth day of July,
On a clear bright day in summer,
In the Leap Year nineteen-twenty,
There was born another Comp'ny,
Grandchild of the S.S.T.C.,
Offspring of the Second T.B.;
In the renovated "Five Lines,"
Nigh unto the place of Boxing,
Born as EVE was born of ADAM,
(Yes, the better-half it may be!)
Plucked from out the living body
Of the strong and doughty "C" Company.
And the T.B., most forethoughtful,
Gave a name unto his offspring,
Months before its birth he gave it,
(After several alterations,
From "CC" to "Y," and so on)
Called it "G."

For "Great," for "Glorious"?
No! But just because "G" follows
In alphabetical order
After "F." *Verb. sapienti.*

Second T.B., eager father,
Chose its trade—its high vocation
Ere "G" mewed and puked in cradle,
And apprenticed it to Wireless
(To the throng of awful experts
Who do scatter Morse out broadcast,
Dots and dashes, words and numbers,
"R"s and "X"s, "Viks" and "Eddies,"
To JAMAICA, HONOLULU,
BUENOS AYRES, MELBOURNE, KANDY,
PERNAMBUCO—Yea, Mars even!)
That it might learn "mast-erection,"
Sketch "electrons" (plan and section),
Use words like "rectification,"
"Heterodyne" and "radiation,"
"Valves" and "spark-gaps," "amplifiers,"
"Couplings," "earth-mats," "aerial-wires."
[Verily, this man would never
Finish, if I did not sever
Thus his string of fine expressions—
(Editor, WIRE)]

So "G" Company came into being,
And its brothers' hearts did flutter
Like the brown oak-leaves in Autumn,
Like the leaves that flutter wildly,
Hanging o'er the Brook called Jarvis,
In the valley by the station.
And the Child doth grow and flourish
Like a young Ammeter-reading,
When two loosely-coupled circuits—
Circuits of a valve-transmitter,
Of a small five-hundred-watt—
Glide into a perfect tuning.
Even so "G" Company doth flourish.

GREEK.

(Should anyone interested in trophies and medals wish to while away a week-end, a visit to "C" Company Office Silver Exhibition would prove interesting).

And again, in No. 4 Area Sports, how they shone—those R.E. S(ecret) S(ervice) Training Centre chaps (proper dark horses!).

In the Eastern Command Sports, this Company did splendidly: Cpl Clarke winning the half-mile, Boy Murphy 3rd in the hurdles, and 4th in the high jump, Cpl Noonan and Sapper Shardlow 3rd and 4th in the mile, Boy Matthews 4th in the Boys' 220 yards, and Capt. Tillard 4th in the 100 yards flat race.

By the time these notes appear in print, we suppose our sister Company, "G.", will be *au fait accompli*. But for the next few months we still have their sporting talent (of which there is a goodly amount) at our disposal, and we hope that all will still show the same amount of keenness as heretofore.

In reading the report of the Old Comrades' Association, we noticed that the names of representatives from the 2nd T.B. were very conspicuous by their absence. May we, through the medium of this journal, ask, now that the Association has become a living body, that representatives for the 2nd T.B. be included on Committees. The results would, I am sure, be worth the experiment.

Things We Want to Know.

Who is the individual who borrowed a mack? And where did it fit him?

And if the said individual thought he was doing a good turn by brushing it whilst it was wet instead of using a sponge?

Also what he said when he met his own mack. (on somebody else's back) in a dark road at 23.00 hours the same night?

Who is the ex-Boy who, having soared to the dizzy height of A/L/Cpl (unpaid), thought his position would be jeopardised by sweeping out his bed? And has he moved into a larger house yet?

More Selections from Answers to a Test Paper.

- 1—To find the Polarity of an electro-magnet, place the hand on the wire if a bar magnet, and whatever direction your thumb points, it denotes North. If a horse shoe magnet, lay it on the table with the open end away from you, then the left leg is the North Pole.
- 2—A.F.C. 2128 is the new type of message-form. Once it was 7 by 5 ins.; it has now been cut down, coloured buff, and it is only smooth on the top side. It is sometimes called A.F. 000, or "four by two."
- 3—Impedance means impeding or hindering the sending of a message. It may be a dusty key, a shorted cell, a bad earth, a complete dis, or a sick headache, but it is usually a dud operator at the distant end.
- 4—If you have no earth-pin, water the ground and push the D.iii. in the mud. The bottom of the box is made of pure platinum, which is quite a good earth.
- 5—When connecting up cells in series, tie the positive terminals of each to the negatives on each side of it. To do it in parallel, see that the sides of the cells are parallel to the walls or edges of the room or table on which the cells are placed. (Note: the tyings must be tied tight).

6—To test a galvanometer, unfasten the brass pieces behind, join the two top knobs to a cell in parallel, and the clock finger should spin round right-handed. Untie the wire, and join the left hand bottom knob to the right hand top knob. The finger will move slowly until it points due east. Then the galvo is good.

* * *

"P" Company.

We were very sorry to lose Capt Trench as Company Commander, but we heartily welcome Capt. Allan. We are glad to say that Capt. Trench is making good progress after his unfortunate motor-bike accident.

As usual, the *personnel* of the Company has been rapidly changing, owing to the departure of various drafts. This makes it really difficult to put up good sports performances. We hope, however, to ship at football in the coming season.

A Company Sports Meeting was held on the Crowborough Recreation Ground on June 23rd, when some pretty good talent was shewn.

We are making efforts in the Cricket and Tennis Leagues, but up to the present the goddess Fortune has not exactly smiled on us.

Some good boxers have been passing into and (alas!) out of the Company. Still, we have got a useful team for the forthcoming competition at Crowborough.

The Gaiety Theatre.

The New Cinema.

By the time these notes appear, the new Cinema in the Gaiety Theatre will be an established fact. A few remarks about it, therefore, should not come amiss.

Firstly, the Cinema is open on Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, the performances commencing at 8 p.m. Monthly season tickets are obtainable at the Signal Office. The seating in the theatre will shortly be improved by the provision of arm chairs in the higher-priced parts of the building. The pictures are carefully chosen, and are the best obtainable. They are projected by a "Powers" high-power machine from behind a semi-transparent screen—a very finely-defined picture being the result.

In conclusion, I am asked to state that the management will always be glad to receive suggestions from their patrons. These should be handed in at the Signal Office.

"San Fairy Ann"—A New Revue.

The indefatigable Gaiety Company produced yet another *revue* at the theatre last month. This time the production was called "San Fairy Ann,"—probably a tribute to the dainty leading lady; or is the title French?

The show as a whole was even better than its predecessors, comedy and light humour largely taking the place of the old burlesques.

We first find ourselves in the study of a revue writer who can't think of ideas for his new production, and we feel unusually sympathetic with this poor man because, worse still, he can't get actors.

His friends offer him no encouragement, but by accident he summons infernal aid. Theatrical people

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MATLOCK.

15th January, 1920.

"I have had the Coat all through the War, and want to keep it, as it is in such good condition. It has never let me get wet during the whole time (four years), and I have had some soaking rains for days together."



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appear in his room by magic, and neatly-written ideas, liberally scattered from the ceiling, nearly swamp him; and from this moment his success is assured. This made an amusing and original opening for the production.

Lieut. Cary as a revue writer, a supposed burglar, a quaint figure as a capped and gowned professor entirely devoid of any sense of humour, as a much-heckled motorist, as a youth who insists on calling himself "Clarence awfully Vere," and finally, as an unwilling entrant for the Snatchweight Championship of Jarvis Brook, played with a finish and subtlety which exceeded anything we have seen him display before. His fun is irresistible, and the audience was not slow in telling him so.

Lieut. Beattie's bright-eyed damsel was as bewitching as ever, and even more ravishingly dressed than usual. Though a severe trial to her beau, particularly in "Seaside Amusements," and to a lesser extent in "Squared," one agrees with him that it was worth it. A remarkably good performance.

Unfortunately we only saw Captain Wills for ten minutes, though in that time he negotiated the part of a country vicar with humour and discretion.

Sapper Needham had less to do than in "By-Products," but he made good in "When I get my Bolshevik blood up," and in a George Formby song, "Did you see the crowds in Piccadilly?" As usual, his low comedy work in cross talk (this time with Sapper McVittie) deserved every laugh it evoked.

There are several new members in the Company. Of these, Lieut. Bathe and R.S.M. Nichol sang delightfully. These musical interludes proved a valuable addition to the programme, and we hope to hear more of them in the future.

Private Olive, too, in his delivery of Mathias' dream from "The Bells," and of Sydney Carton's speech in the Trial Scene from "The Only Way," shewed a dramatic power which at once gripped the audience. His effects are good, too, particularly the crowd (off) in his second episode. He also took several minor parts effectively, and his Lyceum experience should be valuable to the Company.

Another newcomer, Sapper McVittie (also with professional experience), did a very difficult clog dance with complete nonchalance. An encore to this was loudly demanded. He also took the part of the insulted man in his cross talk with Sapper Needham. In this, his stage surprise at Sapper Needham's remarks was only equalled by his genuine horror at the latter's Scotch accent. Sapper McVittie also took two small parts with distinction.

Sergt. Scrivens, appearing as the Evil One, made an imposing figure in the first scene.

Sapper Callegari, another newcomer, was most professional as Beefy Brutus, the Tooting Terror. We regretted not having seen him earlier in the evening, but I understand that he doubles the part with the very necessary role of a scene shifter.

Yeoman service was also rendered behind the scenes by Sappers Walker, Mead, and Law.

The theatre was packed, and the reception enthusiastic; and a table loaded with attractive refreshments (provided by the N.A.C.B.) was a "front of the house" innovation which was much appreciated.

FIRSTNIGHTER.

Aldershot Notes.

1st Signal Company R.E.

Owing to a sudden changing-over of the 1st and 2nd Signal Companies, I have now the pleasure of writing on behalf of the former. I am not yet in possession of full particulars regarding the change, but I understand that from July 14th, the 1st Company automatically became the 2nd, and *vice versa*. In consequence, my notes have got rather pulled to pieces, and until we settle down to a proper state of working, I must do my best with what is directly at hand.

The Company is still very weak in numbers, and it is a puzzle to find suitable matter inside our little circle; and as I do not care to poach on other people's preserves, the following are the few items I have collected for this issue.

Cricket.

A long spell of bad weather has made cricket here impossible, and several matches which were to have been played had to be abandoned owing to rain.

It is a regrettable fact that the Company have experienced great difficulty in finding opponents this season, apparently through the local teams booking up their dates very early in the year. And now, of course, the boys are saying, "Roll on, Football."

GAIETY THEATRE

CROWBOROUGH CAMP.

Be Sure not to miss the New Gaiety
Production:

'What, again?'

In Active Preparation.

FOR THE DATE OF PRODUCTION SEE
THE PLAY BILLS.

Personal.

C.S.M. "Barney" Sharp, C.Q.M.S. Winter, Sergt. Vickery, and Staff-Sergt. Brown, are still with us, and all are "in the pink." They each wish to be remembered to old friends at Maresfield, and send their combined good wishes for the success of the Journal.

Sapper Hatton, who is shortly leaving us to go on the Reserve, is desirous of pointing out to all whom it may interest, that matches will be obtainable from him, at one penny per box, outside New Street Station, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 9 p.m. "Thanking you in anticipation of your future patronage."

Things We Want to Know.

If Sapper Oldroyd was asked for the loan of a shilling? And did he get up and sing to the Company, "I wonder what it feels like to be poor"?

The name of the L/Sergeant who put his riding whip in bed and then stuck himself in the corner all night?

If Sapper Reaney lives in front of the local cemetery when at home?

And why he sent a postcard to a pal stating that he was "d— near dead"?

If Sam Mayo has ever rowed on the Basingstoke Canal at Aldershot?

And if so, why ask the destination of Flies at any time?

If Pat Collins will kindly reserve a special set of roundabouts at the next local fair?

And will the reader please guess who for?

PERPOLE.

2nd Signal Company R.E.

At midnight, on 13th/14th July, we closed down as the 1st and re-appeared as the 2nd Signal Company. It sounds like a juggling trick, but it's quite easy, although the Paymaster thinks differently.

In the first round of the Inter-Unit Cricket Tournament, the combined Signals team had a walk-over, our opponents scratching. The draw for the second round is out, and we are up against the hot stuff, but we will do our best.

The Aldershot Command Horse Show takes place on the 20th, 21st and 22nd of July. We have entries in the following events, and, needless to say, hope to secure some prizes:—1. Troop Horses (open); 2. Troop Horses, R.E. and R.A.S.C.; 3. Light Draught in hand; 4. Heavy Draught in hand; 5. Light Draught teams of four.

MERCURY.

Rhine Signal Battalion Notes.

The Signal Battalion cricket team is carrying all before it. The first match (v. 1st Battn. D.L.I.) was lost, but since then we have had fourteen successive victories.

In the Cricket League, we have scored 18 points (a "possible" so far), and just half the matches are over. The match v. Rhineland Commission was rather odd. We batted first and scored 407 for 8 wickets (Major Cobb 118, retired; Lieut. Barry 81 retired; Lieut. Jones 69 retired); Rhine Commission all out 58. The 2nd XI. has only lost one match out of six.

BATTING AVERAGES.

Up to and including July 12th.

	Innings	Runs	Not Out	Highest Score	Average
Major Cobb	13	546	1	118*	45.5
Lieut. Jones	17	447	5	114*	37.25
Lieut. Barry	16	480	1	93	32.00
Lieut. Jennings	13	344	2	69	31.27
Capt. Mathew	11	238	2	57*	26.35
Capt. Totterdell	7	111	1	75	18.5
R.S.M. Anderson	13	198	1	35	16.5
Sergt. Hoad	8	102	1	37	14.6
Col. Yates	12	128	2	37*	12.8
Boy Saunders	7	29	2	9*	5.8
Sapper Madeley	9	37	2	19*	5.3
Sapper Tidmarsh	2	7	2	4*	

* Not out.

BOWLING AVERAGES.

	Wickets	Runs	Average
Lieut. Barry	80	426	5.32
Boy Saunders	50	300	6.00

We had some very successful Mounted Sports on July 5th. I regret that I cannot find a *Cologne Post* account to enclose.

The prospects of the Battalion football team are bright. Sapper Hall will probably get into the side as outside left, but we are looking to the S.S.T.C. to send some really good men as reinforcements to take the places of six or seven of last year's invincible side.

F. R. Cobb, Major.

38th (Divl. Signal) Company, India.

NORTH WEST FRONTIER.

It was with pleasure we received No. 2 of the Magazine; in fact, its receipt caused not a little excitement amongst the handful of Britishers in this, "The Last Post of the Empire." This was the first issue to come our way, and its pages were eagerly scanned and passed by all as merry and bright, and subscriptions were not long in rolling in. We wish it every success, and venture to suggest that if all would follow the example of the start we have made, the Magazine should soon become even a serious rival of "London Opinion," which from your pages appears to be the idea of one critic.

Our Company is situated in the hilly wilds of Waziristan, where there are no dental parades or week-end passes (ex-"Z" Company wallahs, kindly note). One often starts the day intending to do the work of two men at least, and finds at the end of the day that he has exceeded the task of half a dozen. Of course, that will not last for ever, for we hope to be reinforced with some of the new arrivals.

Our little war having almost fizzled out, we are now in permanent summer camp, 4000 feet above sea, temperature only 104 in the shade, and miles from anywhere. Camels are our only means of transport (except, of course, the ubiquitous mule), and the sight of a motor car would give us eye-shock for a week.

For communication purposes out here, we find helios useful, but for "sitting down warfare" the telegraph still holds top position, assisted by Wireless. Intending residents in the Signals should not neglect their "visual," for the individual who can turn his hand to more than one job should do well.

Before the Striking Force Headquarters broke up recently, our Company was honoured by a visit on parade of the Column Commander, General Skeen, who could not speak too highly of our doings during the last

six months (also spoken in Hindustani for the information of the Indian ranks). The name of the 38th Signal Company now rings up and down the land to a chorus of approval of its efforts, which must be a satisfaction to those at home as well as all out here.

Those who missed our draft will surely be sorry, when they arrive by the next available boat, to find our little show nearly ended, and then to read the following, which I have culled from an Indian newspaper:—

"The 38th Divisional Signal Company, upon whom the brunt of the work in the enemy country falls, aided by an efficient Wireless installation, keeps communication going along the 'long, long trail,' and though this branch of the Service is one that is not frequently mentioned in despatches, its arduous duties are always gratefully remembered."

Something of a tonic in that, clearing away the "something to be tolerated" idea of our existence.

A few suggestions from some of the boys with reference to the Magazine are forwarded separately, also subscriptions.

Hereunder are the names of a number of the lads. Now is the chance for anyone wishing to write to a lonely soldier (no gramophones or cricket sets, please, although camels can carry same): Monty, Jack Haines, Joe Sweeting, Tug Wilson, Smudger Smith, Bob Birch, Sappers Crompton, Connor, Sergeant, W. H., Bennett (32677), Ranford, Douglas, Bob Singleton, Mick Hogan. There are many others in the various Sections and "Posts" from whom I hope to receive an occasional "news" note to forward to you.

Again wishing you an increasing circulation.

Supt.

Special Signal Company, Dublin.

MARLBOROUGH BARRACKS.

Owing to the large drafts arriving from Crowboro', and the business of distributing them all over this "disthreshful country," my notes for this month will be very short; it is hoped, however, that in the near future, when we get into stride, and know exactly where we are, our notes will be more extended.

Sport, this year, has been neglected, owing to the shortage of men during the football season, and the turmoil during the first part of the cricket season; but still, we live in hopes of a few games before the season ends. We have heaps of gear, and splendid ground for cricket and tennis, and every encouragement is given to the men by catering for all fancies.

During the past month we lost two of our chums, C.Q.M.S. Calderwood and Sergt J. Young ("Brigham") both of them having donned "civvies."

It might interest "C" Company (Crowborough) to learn that Sergt Lewis has settled down and would be loath to leave us, as he has put on weight since his arrival.

We are glad to see our O.C. (Major Walsh, D.S.O., M.C.) back again, and to know that he has recovered from his recent operation.

Things We Want to Know.

What is the name of the N.C.O. at Belfast who has been engaged seventeen times since his transfer from Dublin?

Is it a fact that the Orderly N.C.O. at Crowborough has to get up in the night if any of his men wish to leave the room?

Territorial Force Notes.

Glasgow Royal Engineer Units.

Your copies of THE WIRE for July duly received, with the usual result: The Staff immediately stop work to devour its pages. It is regretted that up to the present we have been unable to place larger orders with you for copies of this "Typical Signal Journal," but no doubt later, when our ranks have swelled somewhat, we will possibly be able to start a campaign.

Recruiting is going rather slowly just now, owing to the arrival of the holiday season, with the Fair commencing on July 17th, consequently the thought uppermost in the minds of would-be recruits is, "Which is the best spot to settle."

Our portly old friend Donovan has been gathered up and deposited in Aberdeen for duty. Needless to say, we miss his diminutive figure very much.

Another recent arrival at this Headquarters for duty with the Permanent Staff is No. 314029 Sergt. F. C. Heath (from the 38th Company, R.E.), who is posted to the Heavy Bridging Company for duty. Consequently, our worthy friend George will not feel quite so lonely as hitherto.

The whole of the Staff has been exceptionally busy of late in straightening out the pay account of our worthy Sergeant-Major (John) "caes," whilst the Adjutant, I understand, has recently had to undergo special medical treatment for his wrist, due to appending his signature to so many queries. However, we hope to unravel the mystery ultimately.

It will be interesting to those who were associated with the 5th Signal Company to know that we have run across a few of its old members up here, such as Sapper Thompson (operator) and 2/Cpl Rozario and Sapper McGuigan (linemen); also old Mac (B.S.M. McIntosh), who was chief clerk to C.R.A. 5th Division. Other well-known characters who occasionally look us up are our old friends the late C.Q.M.S. McDonald and Sergt. Jock Gardiner (of Wrest Park and Bedford "A" fame). (Will C.S.M.'s Scott and Nolan please note?)

A. H. M.

Wessex Divisional Signal Company.

We blushed considerably on seeing our names in print in the last issue of THE WIRE, and our blushes increase now that the Editor, like Oliver Twist, has asked for "more." We cannot, however, refuse the kind and flattering invitation, so once again we sit down to put together a few notes of the doings "down West."

First of all, we ought to offer you our congratulations, Mr. Editor, on the excellence of the recent numbers. To several of us here, they have been full of interest. We saw names of many we have met from time to time, both at home and abroad, during the past five years, and now that THE WIRE is so firmly established, we shall eagerly look forward to its arrival each month.

As to ourselves and the Territorial movement, we are, like our friends "beyond the Tweed," getting a fair number of recruits of a good type. We number over 30 at the present moment, and each week brings along a few more. It was somewhat unfortunate that the old T.F. units were allowed to die away, because

it is an uphill job to "get going" again. However, with the true spirit of our forefathers, we are setting about our task with determination; and with the advent of "The Corps of Signals," we shall soon get to know what the Powers-that-be want us to produce for a Peace Establishment.

Major W. G. Michelmore, D.S.O., M.C., commands our unit. He was O.C. Signals 58th Division, until wounded on the Somme in 1917, and after his return to France in 1918, he commanded the 19th Signals (the 58th Div. Signals was our second-line Territorial Company). Capt. Murray, R.I.F., recently joined us from the S.S.T.C. as Adjutant. I mentioned R.S.M. Rodwell in my last month's notes. He is assisted on the P.S. by C.M.S. Lavers.

So far, we have neither clothes nor stores, but no doubt our nakedness will soon be remedied.

Friends of our R.S.M. will no doubt read with pleasure of his latest form of recreation. He is indulging in one of the most ancient occupations of the human race—gardening. The grounds surrounding the H.Q. (The Priory) have, in the mere twinkling of an eye, been transformed from a veritable jungle into a smiling kitchen garden. Surely the God of Speed—"Jimmy" of the Signals—has been bestowing his magic here.

The change, or rather the transformation, came about with lightning swiftness, and I have it from an eye witness, who, after an absence of just a week, was astounded to note the alteration.

He told me how he saw the little leaves of borecole (curled greens) oscillating gently in the light breezes; then, casting his eye further along, he spied beans—

yes, they were pushing their stalks heavenwards as fast almost as the brand that Jack got in exchange for his mother's cow, and by means of which he succeeded in mounting to the giant's castle.

Then came a space of some yards, and the visitor, thinking that it was reserved for some particular project, remarked quite innocently, "What are you putting in here?"

"Putting in?" was the rejoinder, "why, they're up!"

"Up! Where?" was the soft interrogative.

"Now, you just glide your eye along the level of the ground. You'd better get down in a prone position. Now close your left, and open the right wide. Can't you see 'em? Spuds, Murphys, Pommies de Terre, call 'em what you like, but they're there! Wonderful soil! Marvellous climate! Any orders for seedlings next year?"

If our Company thrives like Roddy's potatoes, well, we shall be pleased! More anon.

OLD SPARK.

The Trials of Editing and Publishing a Trench Journal during the War.

BY CORPORAL E. FREEMAN, R.E.

In the War Section of the British Museum will be found an interesting collection of Trench Journals and periodicals which made their appearance among the troops in France and the East during the Great War. In the majority of cases, these periodicals were edited and published by amateur journalists of the rank and file.

The first arrivals in France during 1915-1916 were the "Buzzer," "Gaspar," and "Switchboard," which were being run as Divisional magazines. The "Gaspar," I am sorry to say, gasped its last in Bethune about October, 1916, having met an untimely end owing to lack of support; so that the "Buzzer" and "Switchboard" were left to struggle along with the inimitable Tommy, fighting, as it were, for their very existence.

Towards the end of the war, most of the Base Depots, large hospitals, and a number of Divisions, were publishing their own magazines, and our Eastern friends will never tire of praising the merits of their "Balkan News."

This article being chiefly concerned with the "Switchboard" Magazine, the story of its career may no doubt interest many readers of THE WIRE, which, by the way, has the advantage of publication in normal times.

The editor of a Trench Journal had a thousand-and-one obstacles to contend with, chief of which were lack of financial and official support, the terrible blue pencil of numerous censors, transport and distribution arrangements, bad debts, etc.

It was in December, 1915, that the writer received a copy of the "Buzzer," a magazine run by the 49th (?) Divisional Signal Company, and chiefly made up with borrowed "copy," drawings, etc., from home periodicals, and which was published at 2d. per copy. As there was considerable room for improvement in this paper, the idea occurred to the writer to publish our

'Ye Olde King's Head'

Hotel———Uckfield

(Under New Management)

LUNCHEONS

... TEAS ...

APARTMENTS

FLOWERS CUT. CYCLES STORED.

T. HODGE, Proprietor.



"Switchboard" Head Office and Staff—Bouzin-court (Somme) 1916.

own Divisional journal on more up-to-date lines, and at the popular price of one penny, embodying in it original news, stories, and drawings from the men actually at the Front.

At this time I was with the 32nd Divisional Signal Company, stationed at Senlis (Somme); so, after obtaining the necessary permission of the G.O.C., and with the help of a few of our office staff, arrangements were soon made to launch our magazine under the title of "The Switchboard." A small syndicate was formed, and shares were issued at 5 francs per member among the Signal Company, with the result that we commenced publication with a capital of 100 francs, which was a little fortune in those days when our fortnightly pay totalled some 15 francs.

A few leaflets printed in Amiens, announcing the advent of the magazine, were carefully circulated around the neighbourhood, and very soon the "copy," etc., commenced rolling in.

But what an assortment it was! I think our contributors must have been under the impression that anything would be accepted, with the result that sketches copied from current English magazines, and jokes, etc.—many as old as the South African War—rained upon us, together with a sheaf of "moans" about "So-and-so's Sergeant-Major" and the like, which were naturally to be expected.

A decent selection was made and prepared for the printers, but it was at this stage that our first difficulties commenced. Several printers in Amiens were asked to undertake the work, but their prices were so excessive that the copies would have cost 8d. each had the order been placed with them, and the contract was eventually given to an English firm of publishers.

The censoring of the "copy" now arose, and the following procedure had to be carried out. The matter (in triplicate) was first submitted through the O.C. Signal Company to the G.O.C., then passed on to Army Headquarters, again on to Base Censor, and from thence to the Press Bureau, London, by which office it was finally approved and returned to the editor. The average time taken in passing through so many hands was something like six to seven weeks, so that, to cover the delay, we had to "go to press" some two months in advance!

Our first order with the printers was for 1000 copies, and on June 30th, 1916, when the writer was attached to the 97th Infantry Brigade (then lying at Bouzin-court), three huge bales of magazines were suddenly "dumped" upon him, some twelve hours prior to the big advance of July 1st, on the Somme, which was timed to take place at dawn.

Nothing daunted, however, and with the help of a few volunteers, the papers were transferred to an empty barn close by, and each "runner" from the Brigade Office that night carried with him a hundred copies for distribution to the boys in the line, by whom they were eagerly bought up.

In the meantime, the editor and his helpers were working the billets in the villages around, so that by the time our guns had ceased the following morning, only fifty copies of the first edition remained on our hands. Unfortunately, on the day of the big push, a great many of our boys were taken prisoners, so that the German Intelligence Staff on the other side had the satisfaction of reading our magazine on practically the day of its publication.

(To be continued).

Monthly Arithmetical and Literary Competitions.

Arithmetic.

First Prize - - - 7/6
Second Prize - - - 2/6

Will be awarded for the neatest and clearest solutions of the problems given below.

Rules.

- 1—Each problem should be worked on one side only of a sheet of paper, with the full name, number, and rank of the competitor.
- 2—Only arithmetical methods will be accepted, and full working must be shown.
- 3—The decision of the O.C. School will be final, and solutions should be submitted by the 16th August, 1920.
- 4—The prizes will not be awarded unless all problems are attempted, with at least three correct for First Prize, and two correct for the Second Prize.

Questions.

- 1—If a third-class passenger pays at the rate of 1d. a mile and a first-class passenger at the rate of 1d. a minute, what will be paid altogether by 60 third-class passengers and 20 first-class passengers travelling for 10 hours at 30 miles an hour?
- 2—A market woman bought a certain number of eggs at 4 for 3d., and sold them at the rate of 5 for 4d., by which she made a profit of 2s. How many eggs did she buy, and at what price should she have sold them per dozen to have gained 7½d. per score?
- 3—A bought 3/17ths of a number of articles at a certain price per article for £790 2s. 6d., and B 4/11ths of the remainder at a price per article 10 per cent. less than that paid by A. What sum did B pay for the articles he bought?
- 4—A quadrangle is 50 feet long by 40 feet broad: it is crossed in each direction by a path 10 feet broad, and the remainder has to be turfed. How many strips of turf, each 1½ feet long and 6 inches broad, will be required?

The July Problems.

Winners.

First Prize—(3 correct) No. 314000 Sapper G. Bass (E Company).

Second Prize—(3 correct) No. 625267 Sapper W. Kay (C Company).

Solutions, by O.C. School.

No. 1—An even number of blouses at 10/- each would cost an exact number of pounds.

A number of costumes at £3 each would cost an exact number of pounds.

From this it follows that the 4/10s., at any rate, would be spent in purchasing 39 ties, leaving 361 articles costing £85.

From above it will be seen that if a further purchase of ties were made, not less than a pound's worth, viz., 160 ties may be bought.

Suppose 160 ties were bought out of £85, this would leave 361 - 160 = 201 articles to cost £84.

It will be seen that, even if blouses were bought, too much money would be spent, so that another pound must be spent on ties, leaving 201 - 160 = 41 articles to cost £83.

It now follows that a lesser number than 39 + 160 + 160 ties = 359 cannot be bought, for if another pound's worth were bought we should have too many articles, consequently the number of ties bought must = 359 ties.

We now have 41 articles costing £83 to be divided between blouses and costumes.

If the draper had bought 41 blouses he would have spent only £20 10s., thus leaving £62 10s. unspent.

By buying a blouse in place of a costume, £2 10s. less is spent.

Number of costumes bought = $\frac{£62/10}{£2/10} = 25$ costumes

Number of blouses bought would = 16 blouses.
359 ties, 16 blouses, 25 costumes.—Ans.

No. 2—(a) $2M + 5B$ do $\frac{1}{12}$ of work in 1 day.

(b) $3M + 6B$ do $\frac{1}{8}$ " " "

(a) $\times 6 = 12M + 30B$ do $\frac{1}{2}$ of work in 1 day.

(b) $\times 5 = 15M + 30B$ do $\frac{5}{8}$ " " "

(a) - (b) = $3M$ do $\frac{1}{8}$ " " "

$\therefore 1M$ does $\frac{1}{24}$ " " "

Work already done = $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{5}{8}$
thus leaving $\frac{3}{8}$ to complete.

$3M + 6B$ do $\frac{1}{8}$ in 1 day thus leaving $\frac{1}{8}$ for extra men
Now 1 man does $\frac{1}{24}$ of work in 1 day.

$\therefore$ to do $\frac{1}{8}$ of work in 1 day = $\frac{1}{8} \div \frac{1}{24} = 3$ men.—Ans.

No. 3— $A + B + C = £25$.

$\therefore A + 2A + A = 16/4 = £25$.

$\therefore 4A = 16/4 = £25 + 16/4$.

$\therefore A = £25 \text{ 16s. 4d.}$

$\frac{1}{4} = £6 \text{ 9s. 1d.}$

$A = £6 \text{ 9 1}$
 $B = £12 \text{ 18 2}$
 $C = £5 \text{ 12 9}$ } Ans.

No. 4—Square tiles of uniform size are used, therefore each side of a tile must divide exactly into each side of the courtyard. The conditions are that the largest tile possible is to be used, and consequently the greatest number divisible into 97.29 and 47.61 is required.

Viz., the G.C.M. which = 2.07.

$\therefore$ Size of each tile = $(2.07)^2 = 4.2849$ sq. feet.—Ans.

Area of courtyard 97.29 $\times$ 47.61

and No. of tiles = $\frac{4.2849}{4.2849} = 1081$ tiles.—Ans.

Notes, by O.C. School.

It is regretted that, owing to an error in the book from which it was taken, the second problem set last month was impossible of solution. Those who tried the problem would see that when 1 man and 1 boy more were employed, that actually less work was done. Apart from this error, the problem itself was not worded as clearly as it might have been.

The "one-fifth more in 3 days" should evidently have been "one-third more in 3 days." I may add that the problem was attempted by two competitors, who evidently suspected a trap in the wording of the problem, and consequently read into it something which was not there.

There were no competitors in the "Essay" competition, possibly due to the difficulty of obtaining information.

A choice of subjects is given this month, and it is hoped this competition will prove of interest.

Literary.

Prize - - - Five Shillings

Rules.

- 1—Essay not to exceed 400 words.
- 2—Style, matter and punctuation will be taken into consideration when marking the paper.
- 3—Essay may be written in pencil.

Essay.

- 1—"Methods of Warfare: Ancient or Modern"; or
- 2—"Prohibition"; or
- 3—"A description of your favourite book."

Overheard in the Barrack Room.

Time: 11 p.m.

Jimmy: Hello, Alf! I see you have returned. Have you enjoyed yourself?

Alf. (throwing himself on one side of the bed, with a sigh of relief): Yus! I've 'ad a blinkin' fine time, but no more blinkin' 'otels fer me. Give me the old bungalow.

Jimmy: Why! what's the trouble, old bean?

Alf.: Well, it's like this. Me and my mate was in L— for the weekend, and 'e ses ter me, "Alf, we'll 'ave an awfully ripplin' time this weekend. Let us stay at the Alexandra 'Otel and be posh." Of course, I ups and ses yus, strait away, and in we walks, jest like a pair o' dooks. Of cors, my mate 'Arry, he's ust to 'otels and sech like, and 'e goes straightway and 'angs 'is 'at up hon the 'ooks, but I plonked mine on the blinkin table, not thinking like. Ses I to 'Arry, "Lumme, we are right in with the swells now, aint we?" and you should 'ave 'eard 'Arry talk well orf, and mi, 'ow those swells did look at us. They were 'avin soop and stuff, and as my pal ses, it was really amewsin to see 'em eat, a spoonful of soop and then a corf and a nibble at a bit o' toast, and they wipes their mouths with a white thing, and starts corfing all over agen. After a bit, the waitress brort some greenstuff and tomatatoes mixed with vinegar.

Jimmy: You mean "Salad."

Alf.: Yus, thet's it! and some bread and butter which 'Arry 'ad hordered. So we started eatin, me watchin' 'Arry to see which knife 'e used, cos there was two of 'em. 'Arry soon got torkin to the swells, oo sed they were acters, so 'e ses, posh like, "Ho! we har hon a toor rahnd the world," and then the acter bloke give 'im a cawd. I forgit wat name 'Arry called it, and as 'Arry 'adnt got one to giv 'im, he borrowed a Y.M.C.A. envelope orf o' me, and writ 'is name and address on it, and give it to 'im. 'Arry ses to 'im, "I suppose you find it 'ard to git a livin' on the boards nowadays." I arst 'Arry wat 'e meant by the boards. "Ho! thet's the Serciety term fer 'The Stage'" Then we went to kip. The chap oo took us ter our room arst us if we'd like a jar. I didn't know what a jar was, but I sed I wasn't 'avin enny.

Jimmy: Perhaps he meant "Hot water bottle."

Alf.: I dunno! Lumme, but it was worth eighteen bob to 'ave a kip like that. Umpteen sheets and oojars. Anyway, we went to sleep, and wen we woke up in the mornin', someone was knockin' at the door. 'Arry ses ter me, "Op aht, Alf, I believe its gunfire." So up I 'ops and opens the door, and found it was blinkin' 'ot water fer washing. Wen I went ter wash, I fahnd aht 'Arry 'ad been thirsty in the night, and 'ad drunk all the cold water, which they 'ave in those big jug things, so we sat on the bed and waited fer the water ter cool, afore we could wash. Then he put 'is boots ahtside, but I wasn't 'avin enny. I 'ad lost things like that afore. Then we rolls dahn to break-fast. "Tarble der 'ote," as 'Arry ses, and the old jossers oo we saw at supper the night afore were sittin' there. A waitress brort the bakin and eggs rahnd ter give ter me. I didn't know which side she was coming, and as I swung rahnd I knocked 'em aht o' 'er 'and, so she 'ad to fetch some more. She give all the tea and things ter 'Arry, so I didn't know whether ter dish it aht or no, so I waited ter see wat the lidy did oppersite, yer knows I 'ates dishing grub aht. There was two knives there, one big un and a little un, I was watching 'Arry ter see wat one 'e used, and 'e picked up the little un, and I did the same, but I notised the old jossor on the other side was usin' the big un, so I does the same, droppin' the other wen no one was lookin'. 'Arry, he gits old of the rooty and slashes a lump orf, hugging the bread agen 'is chest. Somehow, after I'd eaten my slice of bread, I felt too ashamed to arst the old jossor to pass some more, so I eat the rest of the eggs and bakin without it, managing ter git the yeller in my mouth with my knife wen no one was lookin. After breakfast, I ses, "Come on aht, 'Arry, no more blinkin' 'otels fer me. Geas I'm 'avin' a ninepenny doss next time." (Barrack room roars with laughter).

Gruff Voice from outside: Stop that—now, will yer!!!

Pioneer Filbert was out on station work. Lying on his back, with his tunic thrown open, he was paying little heed to the distant station. The distant station, by the way, had been desperately calling him for twenty minutes, when an insignificant mosquito caused Fil to turn his head and incidentally to bring his line of sight on to an overworked Lucas. Listlessly he lifted his foot and pressed the key in answer to the call, just as the Corporal got within noticing distance.

"Well," he said, "of all the blinkin' types of laziness, that's the limit. If you can show me a lazier trick than that, I'll give you a dollar."

"Put it in my hat," said Fil; "I'll get it when I rise."

SPORTS NEWS.

Cricket Results.

S.S.T.C. v. Eastbourne.

At Eastbourne, on June 18th. Eastbourne won by 13 runs.

S.S.T.C.—1st Innings: Lieut. C. A. Bridgland 2; Dvr Horscroft 13; Capt. R. E. Vyvyan 10; L/Cpl Bendry 9; Lieut. D. C. Methuen 26; Major Pinsent 0; Lieut. W. A. Kemp 0; L/Cpl Downer 1; L/Cpl Bellew not out 1; Extras 5—Total 81. Second Innings: Lieut. C. A. Bridgland not out 42; Dvr Horscroft 23; Capt. R. E. Vyvyan 0; L/Cpl Bendry 10; Lt. D. C. Methuen not out 33—Total (for 3 wks) 108.

EASTBOURNE—W. J. Jacobs 22; E. W. Haywood 13; Capt. B. H. Matheson 0; A. C. Brewett 33; G. H. Metcalfe 0; E. C. Chase 6; R. C. Thurgar 6; E. G. Jacobs 1; C. W. Robinson 2; A. E. Vogler 8; F. G. Wagner not out 1; Extras 2—Total 94.

S.S.T.C. v. Cryptics.

At Maresfield, on June 19th. Match drawn.

S.S.T.C.—Lieut. C. A. Bridgland 76; Driver Horscroft 0; Capt. R. E. Vyvyan 3; L/Cpl Bendry 8; Lieut. D. C. Methuen 13; Major J. R. Pinsent 13; Major L. G. Phillips 21; Lieut. W. A. Kemp 6; L/Cpl Bellew 2; Lieut. Col. O. C. Mordaunt not out 4; L/Cpl Downer 5; Extras 13—Total 164.

CRYPTICS—W. A. Darlington 18; R. J. K. Fenton 11; D. L. Cox 9; T. P. Norris 0; C. H. Popham 26; D. S. Branson 1; R. G. Vincent 0; C. H. Campbell not out 34; H. G. Reese not out 5; Extras 10—Total (for 7 wks) 102.

S.S.T.C. v. Cox & Co. C.C.

At Norwood, on June 30th. Cox and Co. won by 76 runs.

S.S.T.C.—Lieut. C. A. Bridgland 2; Dvr Horscroft 2; Capt. R. E. Vyvyan 0; L/Cpl Bendry 4; W. H. Back 4; Lieut. D. C. Methuen 4; Major L. G. Phillips 3; Major J. R. Pinsent 1; Lieut. Col. Mordaunt 16; Sapper Organ 11; L/Cpl Bellew not out 4; Extras 14—Total 65.

COX & CO.—H. O. Bloomfield 5; E. W. Spall 1; F. C. Holland 44; T. J. Wheeler 23; G. A. Ellis 1; H. W. Wheeler 1; H. Todd 0; C. E. Spall 6; N. H. Mount 32; W. C. Garton 11; H. M. Scaife not out 8; Extras 9—Total 141.

Inter-Company Cricket League.

Results up to July 16th.

Company	Played	Won	Lost	Points
"E" Company	5	5	0	10
"C" Company	5	4	1	8
Administrative Coy.	3	3	0	6
"D" Company	5	3	2	6
"A" Company	4	2	2	4
"F" Company	4	1	3	2
"P" Company	3	1	2	2
"B" Company	5	1	4	2
"X" Company	6	0	6	0

Inter-Company Tennis Tournament.

Results at time of going to press.
Each set counts one point to the winner.

June 21st—"B" Coy. 8 pts.; "A" Coy. 7 pts.
June 22nd—"D" Coy. 14 pts.; "C" Coy. 1 pt.
June 25th—"F" Coy. 10 pts.; "E" Coy. 5 pts.
June 28th—"P" Coy. 15 pts.; "X" Coy. nil.
June 29th—Administrative Coy. 12 pts.; "A" Coy. 3.
July 2nd—"D" Coy. 14 pts.; "E" Coy. 1 pt.
July 9th—"D" Coy. 15 pts.; "B" Coy. nil.
July 12th—"E" Coy. 10 pts.; "X" Coy. 5 pts.

S.S.T.C. Athletic Sports.

At Maresfield on June 16th.

Relay Race, 6 furlongs (Final)—1, "E" Coy.; 2, "C" Coy.; 3, "A" Coy.
Hurdle Race, 120 yards (Final)—1, Lieut. Willis; 2, Boy Murphy; 3, Sapper Turnbull.
Wheelbarrow Race, 50 yards (Final)—1, Sappers Nibbett and Richardson; 2, Sergt Nichol and Boy O'Brien; 3, L/Cpl Blundred and Dvr Peel.
Relay Race, 1 mile (Final)—1, "C" Coy.; 2, "E" Coy.; 3, "A" Coy.
Putting the Shot (Final)—1, Sapper Griffin; 2, Sapper Mallins; 3, Sergt Clarke.
Flat Race, 1 mile (Final) for Enlisted Boys—1, Boy Matthews; 2, Boy Solly; 3, Boy Feaver.
Flat Race, 100 yards (Final) Officers—1, Lt. Talbot; 2, Capt. Tillard; 3, Lieut. King.
Sack Race, 80 yards (Final)—1, Sapper Blundred; 2, Sergt Adams; 3, Sapper Pitt.
Flat Race, 1 mile (Final)—1, Q.M.S. Finmore; 2, L/Cpl Clarke; 3, Sapper Cayley.
Pillow Fight over Water (Final)—1, L/Cpl Foote; 2, Dvr Robinson; 3, Pioneer Saunders.
Children's Race, 100 yards (Boys)—1, Cosham; 2, Collins; 3, Colbourne.
Children's Race, 80 yards (Girls)—1, Nellie Curd; 2, Annie Norman; 3, Daisy Harrison.
Flat Race, 100 yards (Final)—1, Capt. Tillard; 2, Q.M.S. Finmore; 3, L/Cpl Smith.
Five-Legged Race, 80 yards (Final) Teams of 4—1, "C" Coy.; 2, "D" Coy.; 3, "A" Coy.
Flat Race, 1 mile (Final) Teams of 3—1, "C" Coy.; 2, "E" Coy.; 3, "X" Coy.
High Jump (Final)—1, Boy Murphy ("C"); 2, Sapper McCusker ("D"); 3, Sapper Daniels ("C").
Women's Race, 100 yards—1, Mrs. Clark; 2, Mrs. Norman; 3, Mrs. Rousseau.
Tug of War (Final) Teams of 8—"X" Coy. beat "D" Coy. 1st Team.
Relay Race, All Ranks (Final), Teams of 6—1, Capt. Tillard ("C"); 2, Lieut. Talbot ("E"); 3, Lieut. Hurst ("A").
Boat Race (Final) Teams of 8 and a coxswain—1, "A" Coy.; 2, "X" Coy.; 3, "E" Coy.
Veterans' Race, 100 yards—1, Sergt. Tyler; 2, Sapper King; 3, Corpl Speller.

Band Race, 100 yards—1. Sapper Tidswell; 2. Sapper Turnbull; 3. Sergt Sharpley.
Flat Race, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile (Final)—1. Q.M.S. Finmore; 2. F.S.M. Bowker; 3. L/Cpl Smith.
Tug of War, 110 st. (Final)—"X" Coy. beat "E" Coy.
Tug of War, 120 st. (Final)—"X" Coy. beat "E" Coy.

* * *

South-Eastern Area Sports.

These were held at Shorncliffe on June 23rd. Each Battalion of the S.S.T.C. had to enter separately, and full teams for the running events were put in by the 1st and 2nd Training Battalions, the latter, in addition, entering a team for each weight of the Tug of War. Lieut. Willis was the only representative of Courses Battalion.

The result was an overwhelming victory for the S.S.T.C., as we carried off no fewer than seven 1sts, four 2nds, and five 3rds, out of fourteen events. Both Tug of War teams were successful, in spite of the fact that each team had to pull three times; and great credit is due to R.S.M. Waterhouse for the vast amount of work he put into the training of the teams.

The best individual performance was that of Lieut. Willis, who won two 1sts and a 2nd. The only real disaster occurred to the 2nd Training Battalion relay team, which led—except for one brief lapse—until 220 yards from the finish, and was only defeated owing to the final quarter-miler getting a severe stitch which, in spite of a very gallant effort, lost him the race. The full results were:—

100 Yards—Capt Tillard (2nd T.B.) 3.
 $\frac{1}{4}$ Mile—L/Cpl Smith (2nd T.B.) 1.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ Mile—L/Cpl Clarke (2nd T.B.) 3.
1 Mile—L/Cpl Noonan (2nd T.B.) 2; Sapper Shardlaw (2nd T.B.) 3.
3 Miles—Sapper Cottrell (1st T.B.) 3.
High Jump—Lieut Willis (Courses) 1; Boy Murphy (2nd T.B.) 2.
Long Jump—Lieut Willis (Courses) 1.
Hurdles—Boy Murphy (2nd T.B.) 1; Lieut Willis (Courses) 2; Sapper Turnbull (1st T.B.) 3.
Boys' 220 yards—Boy Matthews (2nd T.B.) 1.
Tug of War—110 stone, 2nd T.B. 1; Catch Weights, 2nd T.B., 1.

The 2nd Training Battalion teams went to Shorncliffe by motor bus, and all competitors were put up for the night by the M.G.C.

* * *

Command Sports.

Fresh from our victories at the Area Sports, every one went down to the Command Sports at Woolwich on July 6th, full of confidence and determination to repeat their successes.

As far as the running was concerned, this confidence proved to be thoroughly justified, as we obtained four 1sts, one 2nd, and three 3rds, no competitor being lower than 4th—a most creditable result, considering that it is our first year.

Again the honours of the day went to Lieut. Willis, who carried off three 1sts—an exceptionally good performance, taking into consideration the state of the ground. L/Cpl Clarke must also be mentioned for running two exceedingly well-judged $\frac{1}{4}$ -miles; likewise Sapper Cottrell for his very plucky effort in the 3 miles.

Unfortunately, where our hopes were highest, there they were doomed to disappointment. Both Tug-of-war teams were defeated in the finals. No disgrace rests on them for the disaster; in fact, both teams must be warmly congratulated on their extraordinary keenness, and on the great fight they put up against overwhelming odds. The Light-Weights were beaten by the R.E. (Chatham), who were, if possible, even better trained than our men, and had a very clever method of pulling, for which our men were not prepared. The Catch-Weights were beaten by the R.A. (Shoeburyness), which—considering the state of the ground, and the fact that the Gunners were at least 15 stone heavier than our team—is not to be wondered at.

All the competitors were entertained by the R.A. for the night, and, except for the appalling weather conditions, had no cause for complaint. Results:—

$\frac{1}{4}$ Mile—L/Cpl Smith (2nd T.B.) 3.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ Mile—L/Cpl Clark (2nd T.B.) 1.
1 Mile—Corpl Noonan (2nd T.B.) 3.
3 Miles—Sapper Cottrell (1st T.B.) 2.
High Jump—Lieut Willis (Courses) 1.
Long Jump—Lieut Willis (Courses) 1.
Hurdles—Lieut Willis (Courses) 1; Boy Murphy (2nd T.B.) 3.

Correspondence.

"P" Company, Crowborough.

Dear Editor—

Knowing our splendid little journal is always keen to obtain interesting facts, perhaps it would be of interest to you to know that a Corporal of His Majesty's Corps of Engineers did run 100 yards (on grass) in the extraordinary time of 9 $\frac{1}{5}$ secs. (as per stop watch). Upon this being made known to the multitude, divers remarks could be heard, such as: Air balls or bubbles? (M) all? etc., whatever these remarks may mean.

The watch, we find on good authority, like Mr. Bottomley's (Nulli Secundus) was a reliable one (see Ingersoll). Perhaps the summer time had something to do with it, or the heat of a June day.

England is calling for athletes to keep her end up in the forthcoming Olympic Games at Antwerp. With a little more talent like this in our distinguished corps, England need have no fear. I timed a chum over 100 yards with a five rupee stop watch, made in "Bombcutta." Upon my telling him the time he straightway subsided into a deep sleep; temp. 105.5° Fahr.

He made me promise by Allah's eyebrow not to tell the record to any man, not even my own parents, who like American yarns for their elasticity.

If men were deceivers ever, it's about time stop watches of doubtful category came into their own.

Really, Sir, looking round, one finds many humorous people in this corps. "The Sussex Highlands" certainly agree with the troops.

If we had Tom Webster down here we should be complete.

Trusting this finds you sitting up taking nourishment—if not before reading this, you will after.

Yours truly,

CRUIKSTICK.

"To Cæsar that which is Cæsar's;
To the W.P. Basket it's own."

THE WIRE

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Editorial Notes.

The sales of *THE WIRE* are steadily increasing, and further copies are being sent abroad in consequence of the existence of the Magazine becoming known throughout the Empire. Old familiar names of comrades in remote quarters are brought to notice in the various contributed Notes, bringing to mind many happy acquaintances before and during the war. The sole object of the Magazine is to keep comrades in touch one with the other, although, in some instances, divided by seas and continents. There is the Association, too, and those of "ours" who leave the placid waters of Colour Service for the turmoil of the civilian whirlpool will be able to reflect upon the happy times spent, and the friendships created, whilst participants in the greatest Freemasonry of all—*KHAKI*—through the medium of *THE WIRE*.

* * *

Our Crowborough supporters have again surpassed themselves in the matter of sales. "Advance" seems to be their motto, and they apparently mean to carry it out to the letter.

* * *

Company Notes were better last month, but, with two Companies at least, they could be a good deal better. Where are the thousand-and-one humorous incidents that could be expounded by the "High Rip Gang"? What about the "Chronicles of a Young Soldier in Brighton"? What "Price" that for a subject? Quite a "don" idea—eh, what? I would undertake writing Company Notes myself for some of the refractory ones, but I am not quite sure of the "Bolshie" element.

* * *

It is the intention of the Committee of the Old Comrades' Association to open up its social side in this Camp shortly, and to that end it is desired that all intending members get enrolled as soon as possible. A representative attends each evening in the reading room of the Y.M.C.A. for that purpose, between the hours of 17.30 and 18.30. The latest report on the work of the Association appears elsewhere.

Suggestions and designs are invited for the new cover of *THE WIRE*. Designs should embody the words "Corps of Signals" and "The Wire," leaving space for dating, etc. One guinea will be paid to the contributor of the design adopted. Drawings should be submitted to this office by September 16th.

How We Won the War in "Mespot"; or, Behind the Scenes in Bygone Days.

Extracts from carbon-copies of the 2nd Indian Corps Signal-Master's messages, purloined from the W.P.B. in February, 1917, and now translated for the first time into the vulgar tongue:—

- (1) "Phone-line to G.H.Q. broken at 4.20 p.m."
- (2) "Communication with G.H.Q. re-established at 4.30 p.m. on new phone-line."

On February 11th, 1917, a Turkish "5.9" battery at Sannaiyat dropped several shells between the Corps Signal office and Kharab village, which completely annihilated all telegraph and telephone air-lines in the vicinity of the Kite Balloon jugah (1). Communication with G.H.Q. ceased abruptly. It was 4.20 p.m.

A message (No. 1 above) was sent out ek-dum (2) by the Signal-Master to the Corps Staff, and at the same time doosra (3) orderly bore a message jeldywallah (4) to Sergt. YZ of the Signal Company's Mussulman Cable Section. Sergt. YZ leaped out of bed, divested himself of his lemon-coloured silk pyjamas, did a few simple Müller jerks, shaved, bathed, dressed, broke two boot laces, said fervent prayers in Hottentot, and had fallen in No. 1 Detachment at their horse lines by 4.21 p.m.

As the second-hand of the Signal Office cuckoo-clock ticked over 4.22 p.m., six mules were hooked into a cable-gharry (5), Sergt. YZ and his cable-hands were already mounted.

At 4.23 p.m., Corpl. K., having been called to the Signal Office from the polo-ground, where he was in the middle of a hot chukker (6), had joined the old G.H.Q. phone-lead from the Exchange on to the end of Sergt. YZ's D5 cable. The gallant Sergeant blew four biting

blasts in quick succession on his taxi whistle; his team and waggon went straight through the anti-Buddhu (7) barbed wire camp fence at the gallop, and made a bee-line for the nearest bridge over the Tigris, down at Kharab village, six miles away.

And they did move. I am told it was a sight to see that cable waggon bounce, and I can quite believe it.

Some mules were observed to be much faster on their pins at the gallop than others. The centre-lead khuchars (8) in some miraculous manner got up between and then ahead of the two leaders, who gradually performed an outwards about-turn, and thereafter galloped backwards, facing the astonished (9) wheelers.

Cable-hand No. 4, a hoary-headed Lance Naik (10), perched on the trail, was having the time of his life. As the detachment passed over Thorny Nullah (11), he got some priceless biffs on the buttocks, and later on was heard to vow that in the next war he would be a conscientious objector, or stay on munitions.

No. 3 was displaying remarkable gymnastic ability. After the first pull, by which he set the cable-drum spinning, he never again touched D5 during the run, except to join the end of the cable on each drum in series with the next for duty. This he was able to perform without having the waggon slowed down, by means of the newly invented "attachment, snap-spring, with swivel, insulated, at the gallop, numbers 5, for the use of, Mark D5*", invented in his spare time by the mystery (12), and patented in India by the senior bhisti's (13) father. All the same, Sergt. YZ said that No. 3 had to hang on by the skin of his teeth, and indeed, the Assistant Surgeon assured me that he found the man's gums next morning were very sore and inflamed, though at the time, not having heard of the great feat performed by this Cable Detachment, he fancied that local irritation had been caused by the gnawing of ration biscuits.

The day was quite hot and dry, and fine clayey dust lay on an average 14½ inches deep around the camp of the Cavalry Brigade, just beyond that hallowed acre where the Kite Balloons slumber to this day. The troopers swear that at 4.25 p.m. of the 11th they saw a huge grey serpent with a small black head suddenly appear from the West. On each side of its face rolled two blazing orbs, and from its mouth quivered a quadruply-forked tongue, with three pairs of great tadpole-like excrescences flickering along it. The dark head passed their camp, the cavalymen say, with a blasting whizz like a Mesopotamian hailstorm, but the gigantic body of the reptile twisted and twirled and trailed behind like a string of newly-painted coaches on a North-Western express emerging from the tunnel at Tring—absolutely three-quarters of a mile of it.

I suggested to one of the troopers that his fearsome beast might have been our cable waggon with its dust-cloud following, but at that he became annoyed with an exceeding great annoyance, and threatened to immerse me in Father Tigris, explaining with quite unnecessary violence that whereas one Indian-pattern Army Transport cart, pushed by a draby (14) and pulled by two paralysed piebald mules at the walk, would raise such a dust that every man in their camp had it half an inch thick on his clothes and boots and body and face, and in his eyes and nose and ears and mouth, this phantom brontosaurus did not leave the least speck of dust on the brownish liquid in the Colonel's cup, as he sat at tea with his wife and children on the lawn outside the Brigade Camp, gazing spellbound on the monstrous creature, and murmuring low his oft-repeated swear.

Sergt. YZ told me that the high speed of revolution of the cable-drums generated such a quantity of static electricity in the earth circuit of the waggon, that every time all four wheels bounced clear of the ground, sparks up to and including a length of 6ft. 5in. passed from the wheel tyres to earth, accompanied by such a crash as used to come to the ears of the easeful angler, sitting on the verge of the Tigris at sunset, dreaming of home and a breakfast of bloaters, when the monitors began to do their bit from behind Sandy Ridge.

Down the ramp, across the bridge, while the pontoons rocked and swayed like fat Chi-Chi (15) bints (16) at a Biculla (17) ball, up the other side, then "Dyner art" (18), and away to G.H.Q. Signal duftah (19), where it was early closing day, and the "Soup" was mounting his push-bike in a hurry, to be in time for a tripe and onion feast with his missis at the village café. While the Exchange operator gazed open-mouthed, in awe and amazement, as on the spectre of his first wife's mother. Sergt. YZ put the bared end of the cable on to No. 1 terminal of their Exchange, plugged in, gave a fierce ring-up, said "G.H.Q. new phone-line through O.K." and rang off. It was just 4.30 p.m.

The news was sent straightway to the Staff, who immediately returned a message of ungrudging praise: "Well done, Signals!"

Happiness then reigned supreme in the Corps Camp—the General was immediately granted the V.C., all members of the Corps Staff the D.S.O., all the Company Officers the M.C., Sergt. YZ the Distinguished Flying Cross, and each man in the detachment a Jubilee mug.

[NOTE.—Some cynics affirm that the "new" phone-line mentioned in No. 2 extract from the Signal-Master's messages was merely a spare line kept for use in an emergency; but our readers, having perused the foregoing *truthful* version of the actual happenings, will be able to confute any such pessimistic and disparaging suggestions.—EDITOR.]

Explanation of Urdu Words and Phrases.

1. Jugah—Place.
2. Ek-dum—Immediately (literally, one breath).
3. Doosra—A second; another.
4. Jeldy-wallah—Quickly.
5. Gharry—Waggon.
6. Chukker—A "round" (of polo).
7. Buddhu—Arab.
8. Khuchars—Mules.
9. Astonied—(Biblical) astonished.
10. Lance-Naik—Appointment in the Native Army corresponding to the British "Lance Corporal."
11. Nullah—Dyke or ditch, or irrigation channel; in this case about 18ft. wide and 12ft. deep, and overgrown with camel-thorn.
12. Mystery—Native wood or metal-worker.
13. Bhisti—Water carrier.
14. Draby—Low-class Indian driver.
15. Chi-Chi—Half-caste (from Urdu "chi! chi!" or "hush! hush!")
16. Bint—(Arabic) woman.
17. Biculla—A quarter in Bombay.
18. Dyner art—Go to the right (literally, "right hand.")
19. Duftah—Office.

Are you fed up? There's no need to be if you read page 117.

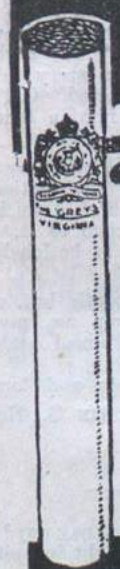


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R.E.O.C.A. Notes.

Signals Branch.

The Signals Branch Notes will not be lengthy this month, for the Editor has caught me napping. A wire from him to-day asks for my contribution by return—and a wire from the Editor of THE WIRE must be respected.

I was happy to learn from R.S.M. Boulger that a room had been set aside for O.C.A. business at Maresfield. Similar tidings from Crowborough would be equally welcome—and that reminds me: a good representative (or representatives) is required for that centre. There are many members at the Station, and a couple of good leaders would do much to help. May I suggest that a local meeting be called with a view to forming a sub-committee to administer Association matters at Crowborough Camp? I would be glad to hear from any member who is willing to act as representative.

Adverting to the matter of an O.C.A. room, it is my ambition to see social clubs brought into being at all centres, where members may meet and elaborate summer and winter programmes of sports and pastimes, for mutual recreation and enjoyment.

In a military centre such as the S.T.C., sport is already well catered for; but such interests as would be afforded by a camera club, a library, a rambling club (please don't misunderstand me), a cycling club, or similar ones which the foregoing will suggest, would prove both pleasant and instructive. I was for a long period, in the old days, a member of a camera club, and recall with pleasure many interesting hours spent in trying to beat the professional.

Apart from this, there is an economic side to the matter. Hence, to make photography a really interesting pursuit, an enlarging lantern is essential—and a good one at that. For an individual to purchase this apparatus, the expense is considerable, but distributed over the membership of a club, the cost is not felt. And then there is the convenience of a properly-arranged dark-room, with its red and canary-coloured lighting, its ample washing troughs and dish racks, and the many minor fittings which make the pastime of "painting with light" a progressively interesting study.

With the versatile and resourceful Signaller, the making and fixing of the fittings would not constitute any difficulty, and should not entail much expense.

A Ramblers Club is a *sine qua non* in connection with the camera club—and cameras may be taken on cycles.

I know from experience the pleasure to be obtained from such pursuits; and as it is one of the Association's objects to provide means for the social well-being of its members, I make no apology for this modest endeavour to point the way.

R.E.O.C.A. Annual Dinner.

At the Central Committee Meeting of the R.E.O.C.A., this month, preliminary arrangements were made for the holding of the annual re-union and dinner.

The Secretary informs me that he has arranged for the function to be held at The Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London, W.C., on Saturday, Oct. 16th, at 6 p.m. The Annual General Meeting will be held at the same place at 3 p.m. on the same day. At the time of writing, the price of tickets is not decided, but

it will not be less than 11s. 6d. (I doubt if it will be more). In any case, everything will be of the best, and the hall in which dinner will be served is the finest of its kind in London.

I sent notices of this event to representatives at the S.T.C., with a suggestion that a dinner ticket club be started forthwith, to enable members to provide for the expenses by easy weekly instalments. By this means I hope to see a really good crowd present from Maresfield and Crowborough. It is an event not to be missed, and there is ample opportunity for a "long yarn" between old comrades. I anticipate the pleasure of meeting many old soldier friends whom I would not otherwise be able to meet. Just a word by the way: the re-union dinner is for *all* members of the R.E.O.C.A.—for Generals and Drivers, Captains and Sappers, Pioneers and Colonels. It is the event in the year which symbolises the spirit of comradeship existing between all those who "soldiered" in the Royal Engineers.

I have a letter this month from M.S.S. H. W. Genge, at Karaman. He thanks me for THE WIRE received, and says he and several others will become subscribers. He promises to send me a line each month, but cannot promise much of interest, as he appears to be (from his view point) leading a life of little varied interest. To quote from his letter: "We go months without anything happening. This place is nothing but rock and sand, and we are only ten white men in all. Our days are made up of a little work, lots of reading, tennis in the evening, swimming and fishing. We have about fifty yards of water enclosed with iron stakes on account of the sharks. Before the Pilgrim season set in, we were able to borrow a launch and get across to the mainland for some gazelle shooting—this is good sport, but calls for quick shooting and much craft to get in a shot at all. The Section keeps in good health, with the exception of 'prickly heat,' which one has nearly all the summer. I've had a slight touch of fever, but am O.K. now."

Sapper W. J. Leonard (quite a recruit—22 years' service) writes from Kantara, Egypt, and assures me that "the sands of the desert" do not "grow cold." He expects to be at the Training Centre at the end of the year. He says nasty things about the "Gippos," and their penchant for pulling down bays of wire. His O.C., Lieut. Wiles (of whom our old soldier friend writes in glowing terms) is, I am sorry to learn, in hospital; a speedy recovery is expected. Old comrades, Archibald and Fleet, join with him in sending good wishes to us at home.

With the development of the Wireless by the Corps of Signals, we shall soon have many parties of "Old Comrades" leading the "Crusoe" life. I am inclined to think there are advantages attached to it. Karaman may be lonely: it is also possible to be lonely in Fleet Street.

I am granted furlough for a month, but, until some good comrade comes along to help me, my furlough must be spent in Shoe Lane—no mixed bathing here! Any offer?

Your Servant and Comrade,

EDWIN G. HONEYWILL.

95 Shoe Lane, Fleet Street,
London, E.C.4.

Does your cash run out before next pay day? A novel way of keeping merry and bright in spite of it is explained on page 117.



THE Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Company have the Finest Stock in London of Presentation Cups, Bowls and Trophies, of which inspection is invited. The Company are always pleased to prepare Special Designs (free of charge) if desired. Selections of articles can be sent for approval at the Company's risk and expense. Illustrated Catalogue sent Post Free.

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CAMP NEWS

1st Training Battalion Gossip.

Foreword.

In the previous two numbers of THE WIRE, the writer has contributed to this page under the *nom de plume* of "AMPLIFIER," but for several reasons, and with a view to obtaining any little items of news for insertion under above heading, I have decided in future to chronicle under my own name. I should be glad, therefore, if readers would kindly acquaint me of any function, personal pars, etc., in connection with the Battalion, so that same may be reviewed and served up in these columns. All communications should be addressed: Corpl. E. Freeman, 1st Training Battalion Office, Maresfield Park Camp.

Gymkhana.

The first gymkhana of the Training Centre held at Maresfield Park Camp took place on Wednesday, July 28th, but unfortunately the meteorological conditions were far from favourable, with the result that the visitors' "gate" was rather poor. Those who did brave the elements, and thought naught of getting soaked, were well rewarded by a good afternoon's sport, for a capital programme had been arranged by the Sports Committee.

Among the many attractions were fine exhibitions of jumping and tent pegging; trick or "stunt" riding by the Motor Cyclists of "F" Company, whose display was exceptionally clever; wrestling on horseback by "E" Company; vaulting exhibition by the "Rough-riders"; athletic display by "A" Company's selected; and last, but not least, a Wild West drama, introducing an attack on the Deadwood coach by a tribe of Redskins, which concluded with a thrilling rescue by the Cowboys. This Wild West show was the "star" turn of the afternoon, and much trouble and patience had been taken by the members participating therein to give the exhibition as realistic a touch as possible by the hiring of Indian equipment and the necessary paraphernalia, also the providing of blank ammunition for rifles and revolvers.

Corpl Allen (Bogey) of "F" Company, was responsible for a great deal of amusement with his Tank, which made a stately "crawl" of the grounds (escorted by several of the clowns during the afternoon).

Refreshments and teas were provided on the field for the members of the Sergeants' and Corporals' Messes, whilst the troops were also entertained to tea in a large marquee through the efforts of the Messing Officer, Lieut. H. F. Smith, R.E.

Sub Rosa.

What's the meaning of the rumour going around the Camp, with regard to a certain young Canteen lady's visit to Brighton on a recent Sunday? Everyone seems to have seen her there, but that is as far as the story goes. It is sincerely hoped that the damsel in question was not chased from the sea by Councillor Clark, of "immoral bathing costume" fame. Could someone enlighten us?

Gone, but Not Forgotten.

This month I am sorry to record the loss to the Signals of Sergeant H. James (Jimmy), whose transfer to the Corps of Military Accountants took place at the end of July. "Jimmy" was a notable figure in the Battalion, having held the position of Chief Clerk at the Battalion Orderly Room since the Signals transferred to Maresfield Park. He was an ardent worker in running the Sergeants' Mess, and his untiring services will be greatly missed.

It was at Bedford "C" Depot, towards the end of 1917, that the writer first came in contact with Sergt. James, and where at that time he held the role of "Director of Army Signals" at the Practice Signal Offices installed there. Although "Jimmy" was subject to an occasional "moan," he was one of the best, and ever ready to extend the helping hand to any one in difficulty; and the numerous friends he has left behind at Maresfield wish him every success in his latest venture.

Union Jack Club.

Now that many of the soldiers' institutions and hostels, which were opened up in London during the war, are becoming extinct, troops now visiting or passing through the Metropolis on leave are finding it rather difficult to obtain necessary accommodation. The Union Jack Club, situated close to Waterloo Station, is one of our best permanent institutions, and the excellent facilities which it affords are open to all branches of the Service.

During the war some thousands of our comrades were accommodated at the Club, and now that we have returned to peace time conditions again, the management appeal to all troops to make this Club their rendezvous when in London. A feature of the Union Jack Club has always been the provision for the soldier or sailor of something better than the war-time sixpenny "doss" or "kipdown" which many of us had to contend with; and the private and well-equipped cubicles of the hostel at most reasonable terms are one of its leading attractions. Rooms at the Club may be booked for week-ends, etc., on written application to the Secretary a few days in advance, and members are advised to adopt this procedure with a view to avoiding any disappointment in the way of accommodation. R.S.M. H. W. Boulger, of Battalion Orderly Room, has recently been appointed representative of the 1st Training Battalion for the Club, and will be pleased to receive any suggestions, or complaints, for the benefit of the institution.

Well Done, Maresfield.

I am pleased to note in the current issue of "John Bull" an acknowledgment of "Collection at gymkhana held at Signal Service Training Centre, Maresfield Park, per G. S. W., of £6" for that journal's "Greatest of These" Fund. Considering the state of the weather at our gymkhana, the organiser of the collection deserves congratulations on such an achievement.

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Also Books of Three 3d. Tickets ... 8d.
Three 6d. Tickets ... 1/4

Also Books of Three 9d. Tickets ... 2/-
Three 1/- Tickets ... 2/8

Obtainable at Company Pay Tables, and throughout the week at the Signal Office, until half-an-hour before the commencement of each performance.

The Gaiety Theatre, No. 3 Lines, Crowborough Camp

See also page 122.

War Savings Certificates.

A branch of the War Savings Association has recently been formed at Maresfield Park Camp, of which R.S.M. Boulger (1st Training Battalion Office) has been appointed hon. secretary. The objects of the Association, and the benefits to be derived in the purchase of Savings Certificates by the small investor, have been fully explained to the troops by the officers of the respective Companies, and well backed up by an attractive display of posters, etc., around the Camp.

A member, on joining the Association, is issued a subscription book, which contains a record of his weekly payments, amount of cash withdrawn, and amount standing to his credit. When the full amount of a certificate value 15s. 6d. has been paid in, a certificate is issued to him, and his subscription book debited accordingly. All money received by the Company collectors is handed in each week to the Secretary, who in turn takes the whole of the subscriptions and exchanges same for certificates. As interest on these certificates commences from the date of purchase, the first member subscribing 15s. 6d. in his subscription book reaps the benefit of the interest already started, although he is not in possession of a certificate on that date.

An excellent start has been made by this Battalion, but it is hoped that many more members will enrol during the next few months and take advantage of the scheme, as it is a far better investment than depositing one's savings in the Post Office Bank, where the commission offered is not more than 2½ per cent.

All members wishing to join the Association should make application to their respective Pay Corporals after pay parade on any Thursday. The Corporals will be

pleased to supply further particulars and open an account for them.

"San Fairy Ann" at Maresfield.

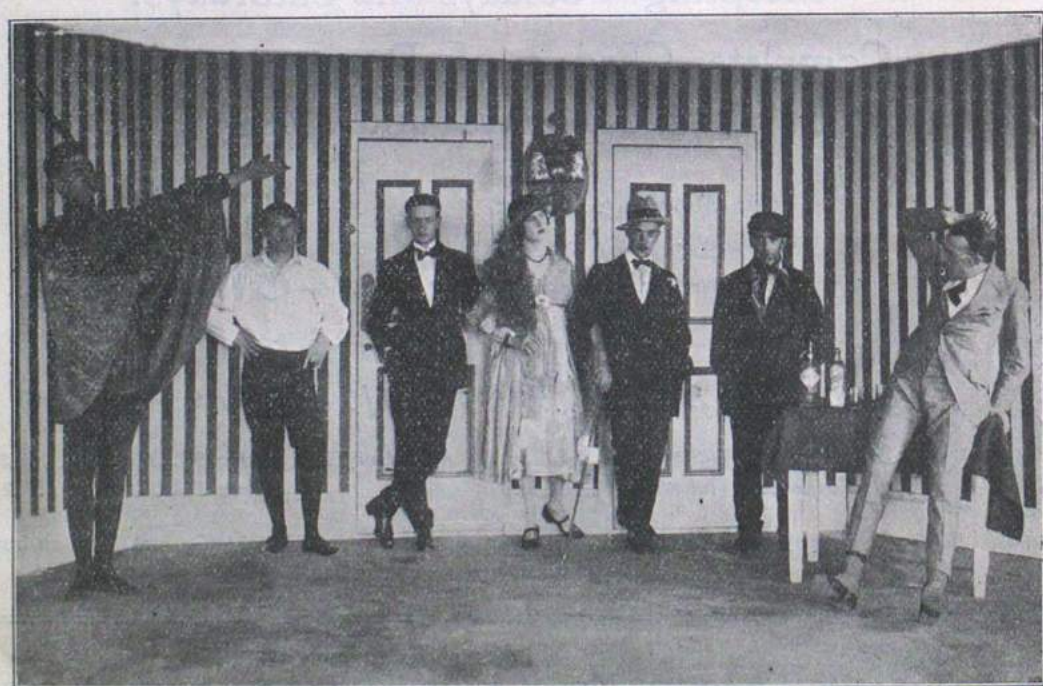
The Gaiety Company from Crowborough Camp, with their latest revue, "San Fairy Ann," paid us a visit for two nights on August 12th and 13th, when their production drew crowded houses at each performance.

Although the plot was well written and arranged, I am afraid it was not quite up to general expectation, lacking, as it did, the necessary "swing" which is essential to a successful revue.

In the opening part, Sergt. Scrivens made a very fine Mephistopheles; Lieut. Carey was quite at home in the part of a Revue Writer, while Sapper McVittie as His Friend was no mean actor. The impersonation of the Leading Lady by Lieut. Beattie was somewhat overdone on the masculine side, but this rôle is always a difficult one and requires much practice ere the "dainty touch" is finally acquired. The songs given by R.S.M. Nichol were much appreciated, whilst Sergt. Clive's delivery of Sydney Catton's appeal to the mob, from "A Tale of Two Cities," was dramatically rendered, and he fairly carried the audience with him to the end. Lieut. Beattie as the Lady of the Boudoir was here seen to much better advantage.

In "Post Bellum," the rev. gentleman was cleverly undertaken by Sapper Hasler, while the sporting drama, "Squared," evoked roars of laughter.

On the whole, the production was not at all a bad one, and I trust its members will forgive my little friendly criticism; but I am sure that, with a little more tuning-up in their productions, the Gaiety Company will excel themselves in the near future, and we look forward to their paying us a return visit.



"Devil's Work." By R.T.O. Carey & Co., Ltd.

[EDITORIAL NOTE.—In all justice to the producers of the show, it should be remembered that they were performing on a strange stage without previous rehearsal; also, necessary improvisation in the caste at the last moment meant a rather trying time for the management; but I think that all who saw the show will agree with me when I say, "We hope to see more of the Gaiety Company."]

Company Notes.

"A" Company.

First of all, congratulations to "The Don" on his first effort for months. Keep it up, "Don"! you will find that writing Company Notes gets quite interesting as you continue.

What a glorious day we had for the gymkhana! It must have been a great disappointment to all who had given their time and labour in organising a fine show, to see the weather turn round on them at the last moment. However, in spite of all, it proved to be a success.

I arrived just in time to see the "P.T." squad come doubling into the arena. How smart they all looked! Anyone could have told at a glance to which Company they belonged, even had they not been labelled. They were quite a credit to their instructors, who must have worked very hard indeed to get them to perfection. P.T. was not the only thing that this Company shone in, for Sergt. Sharpley, D.C.M., pulled off the open tent-pegging, which shows we have some talent.

Talking about talent—what about our water polo team? Played 3 matches; won 3; goals for 21; against, nil. Not bad for the "Nursery," eh? We should have won another match, but after our third victory of 7-0, a certain Company scratched, and gave us the points rather than run the risk of catching a cold (in more senses than one).

At cricket we have nothing to boast about. We had such a nice licking saved up for "F" Company, but something went wrong in the end, and they licked us by 3 wickets. "D" Company we hardly expected to beat, although they were under strength when they played us, Major Pinsent being an absentee. We scored 66, and then got five of their wickets down for 40, but their tail wagged well, and in the end they scored 122—and once again we finished second.

GRANMAR.

BIRTHS.—On August 4th, at Hut 54, the Company office cat, of two daughters and a son. Any offers of adoption?

"G" Company.

Owing to the delay in the forming of this Company, it was impossible to complete any script for the last issue. I thank the correspondent of "C" (our sister) Company, for the inclusion of our "being" in his notes.

We are now going strongly, and, with the association of instruction and sport, every development pertaining to a new Company is progressing satisfactorily. Perfected organisation ensures that the most efficient of Wireless operators will be despatched upon the conclusion of a course; and as that consummation will be

adequate justification for our existence, need anything further be said upon the subject?

In order to demonstrate their enthusiasm, the students recently volunteered to labour until 5 p.m. The O.C., in an endeavour to appease this extraordinary thirst for knowledge, concurred—the consequence of which is that we ("pro bono publico") work for an hour after all the other Companies have ceased.

It is most pleasing to record that, within a fortnight of our inception we were the possessors of a "pot," having won the 2nd T.B. Novices' Boxing Cup. "B" was the only Company which looked like "pipping" us—they eventually accumulating 31 points to our 32.

"C" still depend upon us to assist in the defeat of their cricket opponents. Two matches have been played recently—one against Courses, and the other versus "P" Company. My confrere in "C" will, without doubt, write upon these matches, so there will be no necessity for me to do so. One thought occurs, though—and that is "what hopes had any of these folk against a combination such as is formed by the amalgamation of the 'Key Punchers'?"

At "rugger" we anticipate having quite a good time, for a very handy team has had some splendid practice games recently.

Crowborough requested us to pit a team against them at "soccer" last Saturday, in order that new talent might be tested. We took advantage of the opportunity thus offered, and after a very sporty game, the result was "nil all." What a pity it is that we have no ground at Crowborough, for, under the prevailing circumstances in which we are forced to play, the lads naturally lose heart.

Things We Want to Know.

Who was the "G" Company drill expert who, instead of giving the command "Right Turn" gave "Right Incline" (trusting that our proverbial echo would return from the valley and thereby complete the movement)?

Does Tarzan live in the valley? If not, who is responsible for his "bull-ape's bellow" which is heard so often by night coming from the direction "Half-right," and which frightens the cows? Does he bare—and beat—his chest?

Who was it who felt the effects of the August wet week-end as late as Tuesday?

Why, and how, did Headquarters lose the inter-Platoon Billiard Tournament?

A. L. LEACH Cycle Engineer

Car for Hire. Cycles for Hire. Accessories.
REPAIRS a Speciality. Personal Supervision.

23, RINGLES CROSS
UCKFIELD.

Camera Club.

A Camera Club has been formed in the Camp, and a dark room and fittings provided for the use of members. A course of lectures in photography is now in progress at Garrison School, Room 20. Any N.C.O. or man wishing to join the Club should apply for particulars to Corpl. A. Robertson, "D" Company.

Bank Holiday Dance.

On August 2nd, "The Musketeers" (who are holding a series of select Saturday evening dances at the Drill Hall, Uckfield) celebrated the holiday by organising a very successful fancy dress ball in the above hall.

At 7.30 p.m., at the commencement of the first waltz (rendered by that well known musician, Sergt. A. J. Tomlinson), some seventy people were present, which number had increased to 150 two hours later. Many of these were in fancy dress—though in this respect the fairer sex predominated—which, combined with the grand display of bunting, etc., made a very picturesque setting.

Mr. Kellow Webb, the well known dancing teacher of Heathfield, kindly acted as judge at the fancy dress parade, and was admirably assisted by Mrs. Steele and Mrs. Wallace, both local ladies. The first and second ladies' prizes were awarded to Miss Ivy Miller (representing an Aeroplane) and Mrs. W. Warr (representing a Bohemian Gipsy) respectively. The two prizes for gentlemen went to L/Corpls. R. McCafferty and W. Warr, who were both arrayed as Cowboys, though the former's costume was considered by the judges to be the more complete in detail. The prize for the most original costume was taken by Miss M. Saunders, who looked very well in a dress depicting a "House to be Let or Sold."

At the conclusion of the prize giving by Mrs. Steele, thanks were voted to the Committee, and the ball continued. It was a rather tired, though happy, band of pleasure seekers who occupied the floor for the last dance at 3 a.m.

Conundrums.

- Q.—Where does the "message pad"?
- A.—Wherever the "receiver leads."
- Q.—Why couldn't the "lamp stand"?
- A.—Because it saw the "key spring."
- Q.—Why didn't the "wind stay"?
- A.—Because it saw the "earth return."
- Q.—What did the "night screen"?
- A.—The procedure used in "pair working"?
- Q.—Why did the "copper wire"?
- A.—Because he saw the "crook stick."
- Q.—Why did the "pre-amble"?
- A.—Because it easily had the "key beat."
- Q.—Why was the "terminal board"?
- A.—Because it saw the "station work."
- And now that you've got the idea,
What were the "pliers, side-cutting"?

J. S. M.

There is one place where it is NOT raining. See page 117.

Crowborough Notes.

"C" Company.

Since the sale of the August number of THE WIRE, several members of this Company have offered suggestions for a new cover of the magazine, and I think the best has been that a replica of the glorious picture, "Through," be used, in place of the advertisement and subscription rates, which would make the Magazine really artistic and, in the opinion of a good many, increase the sale (although the little journal is well on the way to fame now, and is eagerly looked for on the day of issue).

We were all very pleased to hear that our old friends in the "Special" on the Irish Front had not forgotten us, and that no casualties had occurred on our immediate front. "That's right, Lew, drink plenty of water and walk slow, and your shadow will never grow less."

Since writing my last Notes, we have had our ranks very much depleted by the formation of "G" Company, and we miss the "Sparks" that helped to cause the "Continuous Wave" of sport very much. We congratulate them most heartily on their start, only being a few days old when they won their first Cup, and with eggs at 4d. each!

We had the pleasure of playing "G" in their first game of cricket, and, of course, well—nuff said, it enabled us to find fresh talent which we very soon put to good use to put the (Weston)house brake on A.C.C.B.

We have not much to record this month as regards sport. We played one cricket match with Administrative Company, Courses Battalion, and registered yet another victory. The match had to be postponed several times owing to bad weather, etc., and on the day selected it looked very doubtful if we should be able to play without rain, but the Weather Clerk put on his best behaviour, and we had a fairly nice day.

Administrative Company were put in first, and the wickets fell fairly quickly under the bowling of Pioneer Harvey and Sergt. Clark, until Lieut. Methuen came in, and then things livened up considerably as regards leather chasing. Lieut. Methuen contributed 65 in as many minutes, hitting several 6's until he was caught in the long field. The remaining wickets soon fell, the score being 118.

"C" Company then commenced to wipe that score off. Eynott and Sergt. Dawson stood some time endeavouring to the best of their ability to kill the bowling until Dawson was out lbw. Pioneer Harvey next came out early, as did Sapper Eynott, with the score at less than 50. Lieut. Walker was the next to come out, with the score only changed about 6, being caught in the slips. Sergt. Clark was the next partner for Sapper McDowell, who was keeping his end up wonderfully, and the runs began to come pretty freely. Sergt. Clark was caught when he had scored 27. Sergt. Andrews went in, and very soon the score of Administrative Company was passed, 30 being scored by him in a very short time—he contributed a couple of 6's. Sapper McDowell kept his wicket up, scoring 30. After scoring 121 we declared, thus winning by 5 wickets after a very good game.

We did not do exceptionally well in the boxing competition, the reason being that nearly all our boxers have been transferred to "G" Company, who, by the

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SPORTS,
AND
MILITARY
COATS



“*Aquascutum*”

By Appointment to H.M. the King

100 REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.

Sole Makers of the World-Renowned Pure Wool and Weatherproof "AQUASCUTUM" COATS
Weatherproof Specialists for over Half-a-Century.

"AQUASCUTUM" is as Weatherproof as Science and the Technical Knowledge of over 50 Years can make it.

MATLOCK.

15th January, 1920.

"I have had the Coat all through the War, and want to keep it, as it is in such good condition. It has never let me get wet during the whole time (four years), and I have had some soaking rains for days together."

Lt.-Col. R.E.B. writes:

ARMY OF THE BLACK SEA.

26/7/20.

"Dear Mr. Gould.—The Breeches arrived yesterday, and are excellent—as usual. Many thanks."



AQUASCUTUM "FIELD" COAT.

J. W. GOULD & SONS

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(Ladies' and Gentlemen's).

way, won the Cup. Very great credit is due to those who did enter for the Company, the spirit with which they fought being splendid.

Re the payment of commission for the sale of THE WIRE, may I suggest that the whole of the money that would be paid to representatives be sent to St. Dunstan's, and the acknowledgment of how much each Company representative was responsible for put in each month's issue, together with the receipt from St. Dunstan's for the whole amount. Perhaps, Mr. Editor, other Company representatives would send their opinions.

Things We Want to Know.

If we have moved into a larger house, or scrubbed out yet?

How is the man, now on "registration" duty, who used to send the cash distribution to the G.P.O.? and whether he is still pushing them back at 4d. a pint?

"P" Company.

The Company is once again filling up after the reduction in strength caused by the Egyptian and Black Sea drafts, which left for overseas towards the end of July. With numbers so low, it has been rather difficult to make much show in inter-Company athletics, but we hope shortly to see better days.

A mysterious leakage of water has been experienced in the Camp during the recent spell of warm weather. It is suggested that if all water were excluded from the Sergeants' Mess, the leakage might be discovered.

Things We Want to Know.

Who fell off the car?

Who originated the phrase used in the Sergeants' Mess, "Are you bowled, or have you lost your teeth"?

What the senior N.C.O. said when the golf ball betrayed his hiding place?

Was he looking for mushrooms?

KWEER ORH.

The Gaiety Theatre.

The Cinema has been progressing by leaps and bounds. So loyally is it supported that we are able to obtain the latest and most up-to-date productions. Selecting a few at random, I find "Hell Morgan's Girl" for Sept. 2nd; "Out of the Night" for Sept. 9th; "The Heart of Wetona" (with Norma Talmadge) on Sept. 13th; "The Auction of Souls" on Sept. 16th; "A Son of David" (the great boxing film) on Sept. 27th; and Mary Pickford in "Daddy Longlegs" on Sept. 30th. There is a performance at 6.30 every night excepting Tuesdays and Saturdays, and a complete change of programme on Sundays, Mondays and Thursdays.

On Thursday, Sept. 16th, there will be three performances of "The Auction of Souls," commencing at 2, 5 and 8 p.m. respectively, and most of the seats in the house will be bookable. The box office for these performances will be open on Monday, Sept. 6th, at the Signal Office.

GAIETY THEATRE



CROWBOROUGH CAMP.

"WHAT, AGAIN?"

The New Revue.

The Best Show in Sussex: Sparkling Humour—Roaring Farce—Bright Music—
Pretty Dresses—Sumptuous Staging.

SEE PLAYBILLS FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS.

BOOK EARLY—Box Office is now open at the Signal Office. Telephone—Crowboro' 184 (4 lines).

"The Auction of Souls" can only be kept one day, and consequently, a fresh programme will be seen on the Friday and Sunday following.

A special 15-episode serial film, "Who is No. 1?" has also been booked; and the first instalment, "The Flaming Cross," will be shown on Monday, August 30th, and Wednesday, Sept. 1st. A further episode will be presented each week.

An innovation has been the provision of books of three tickets (sufficient to see the week's pictures) at reduced prices. These books are on sale on pay days at all Company pay tables, and also throughout the week at the Signal Office, until half an hour before the commencement of each show.

In conclusion, don't forget that if you're fed up (except on Tuesdays and Saturdays) there is no better tonic than a visit to the old Gaiety.

Rhine Signal Battalion Notes.

Lieut.-Col. A. St. J. Yates, O.B.E., M.C., has given up command of the Battalion, to take up the appointment of C.S.O. recently vacated by Col. Newbiggin, C.M.G., D.S.O. Major F. R. Cobb, M.C., is at present in command of the Battalion.

The Battalion has topped the Cricket League with the following result: Played 18; won 18; points 36 (a "possible.") This brings us into the semi-final, and we hope the final. The other three Leagues have not yet finished their matches, but it appears likely that we shall have to meet either the 2nd Black Watch, G.H.Q., C.A.C., Inniskilling Dragoons, 1st Royal Sussex Regiment, or the 2nd Loyal North Lancs. Regiment.

In friendly matches we have beaten the Royal West Kent Regiment, 3rd Middlesex Regiment, Inniskilling Dragoons, and the 4th Worcestershire Regiment, our only defeat being from the 1st D.L.I. in the first match of the season.

Unfortunately, Lieut. M. V. Jones, M.C., has just been demobilised, and as he has been our most reliable bat, he will be badly missed in our championship games.

Apparently we are hot favourites for the Cup, but "there's many a slip," and cricket is a funny game!

Since the Battalion was formed (about eleven months ago) the following is its record in cricket, football, and hockey:—

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost
Cricket	26	25	0	1
.. 2nd XI.	10	9	0	1
Football	39	35	1	3
.. 2nd XI.	14	10	2	2
.. 3rd XI.	10	6	1	3
Hockey	17	9	2	6

The Battalion has won the G.H.Q. League and the Rhine Army League at football, and the G.H.Q. League at cricket. We were second in the Rhine Army cross-country, which event, by the same token, we hope to pull off on September 4th.

There have been several winners in the noble art of self-defence, Sergt. Dyer and Sapper Hamlin having won the light weights and bantam weights, and Sapper Stapleton and Boy Langley, etc., have been runners-up in their respective weights.

The Battalion is now in the throes of musketry, and on the whole is shooting splendidly; but we hope there

will be no need to advance until some of them have had a bit more practice!

All this "buk" is not to tell you "what fine fellers we are," but to let you know that the Signal Corps is already making itself felt in a foreign country, and also to impress on anyone who is keen on sport that we understand a draft will shortly be coming to Cologne. Our losses through demobilisation have been serious, and the S.S.T.C. is our only hope (get away, Horace! I shall not put in the word "some"! if we are to continue to hold our own in football, cricket, hockey, cross-country, etc.

RHINELANDER.

Territorial Force Notes.

Glasgow R.E. Units.

Members of the Corps will regret to hear that Lieut. Col. J. A. Rose, T.D., R.E. (T.) has retired. He will be remembered by all as the popular Commanding Officer of the Hitchin Signal Depot, which depot he commanded through the period of the late war. All good wishes for his future go out to him from all members and ex-members of the Glasgow R.E. units.

Congratulations to Capt. and Adj. R. Lishman on his appointment to that rank. Congratulations also to Sergt. and Mrs. A. H. McGuire on the birth of a son.

Recruiting for the units is still less brisk than we should like to see it, although several good men have joined during the past few days. We hope to make better progress now that the Fair holidays are practically over.

The R.A.O.C. have been bombarding us with clothing and accoutrements during the week, and Headquarters are beginning to look quite business-like.

With reference to the copy of Royal Warrant (published in THE WIRE), making the Corps of Signals a separate unit. This has been read with interest by all, and needless to say with a certain amount of regret at having to renounce the title of Royal Engineers; but, nevertheless, the best of friends must part, so here is success to the Corps of Signals—and may they prove a worthy offspring of the famous Corps of the Royal Engineers.

H. J. T.

Wessex Divisional Signal Company.

There is not an abundance of news from these parts for publication in this month's issue, but our strength has now increased to over fifty, and we have prospects of a further big increase in the autumn.

A very high honour was recently conferred upon our Company in connection with the presentation of Colours to the various Battalions of the Devon Regiment, and silver bugles to Territorial units, etc. The ceremony took place at the Higher Barracks, Exeter, on July 28th, in the presence of the Lord Lieutenant of the County (the Earl of Fortescue), Major-Gen. Sir George Bullock, the Mayor and Sheriff of Exeter, and a large number of distinguished naval, military, and county people.

A silver bugle was handed to the Wessex Divisional Signal Company, R.E., Territorial Force, with an inscription: "In proud remembrance of the Great War—

France 1914-1915; Salonika 1915-1919." The bugle was received from the hands of the Lord Lieutenant by Lieut. J. W. Western, on behalf of Major W. G. Michelmores, D.S.O., M.C. (Officer Commanding the new Wessex Signals).

After the presentation of the colours and bugles, there was a march through the main streets of the ancient and loyal city to the cathedral for the dedication service.

At the Company Headquarters, during the evening, the bugle was formally handed over to Major Michelmores as O.C. Company, and a very pleasant time was spent.

Those assembled consisted mainly of "young hands" who are to carry on the good work which the "old hands" started. The old Company gained a good reputation during the war, and one point which must never be forgotten is that it was *ready* when war broke out. The new Company will always be reminded of this fact, so that should such a crisis ever arise again, they also would be found ready.

Some may perhaps think we are "blowing our trumpet" rather loudly, but the writer is one who has followed the Territorial movement right from its infancy, and feels not a small amount of pride in knowing that a certain measure of success has crowned the career of the old Company known as the 27th Signals.

OLD SPARK.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

[Items for publication under this heading should be addressed to The Editor, THE WIRE, Headquarters, Signal Training Centre, Maresfield, Sussex.]

Births.

- To the wife of A. 343789 A/C.Q.M.S. A. Gadsby, a daughter. Born at Crowborough on July 25th, 1920.
- To the wife of 619767 Sapper R. Aldershaw, a son (Robert). Born at Manchester on July 19th, 1920.
- To the wife of 314226 Pioneer S. E. Russell, a son (George Edgar). Born at Uckfield on Aug. 15th, 1920.
- To the wife of 345944 Sapper F. Clarke, a daughter (Kathleen). Born at Marylebone on July 9th, 1920.
- To the wife of 314658 Cpl. E. Downer, a son (Edward Albert). Born at Bedford on July 27th, 1920.

Marriages.

- 24543 T/C.S.M. A. J. Parker, to Olive Pratt, at Houghton Regis, on June 29th, 1920.
- 623980 Pioneer F. Tucker, to Lucy Kate Gaunt, at Gillingham, on July 14th, 1920.
- 24750 Sapper R. H. Collyer, to Ethel Florence Stevens, at Southampton, on February 13th, 1920.
- 24233 A/Corpl. R. Davies, to Alice Emma Smith, at Dean, on December 26th, 1919.
- 344301 Sapper W. Peat, to Annie Rooker, at Leeds, on July 24th, 1920.
- 344581 Sapper W. G. Jeffreys, to Lillie Florence Benjafield, at Lambeth, on August 5th, 1920.
- 624540 Sapper E. Metcalf, to Gladys Mary Scholfield, at Rotherham, on July 31st, 1920.
- 14958 T/Sergt. H. C. Daniels, to Iris Mildred Penelhurst at Midsomer Norton, on July 20th, 1920.
- 624704 Sapper S. E. Butt, to Dorothy Martha Williams, at Ryde, on August 7th, 1920.

Passive Resistance.

The scene is laid in Co. Clare, in midsummer, 19—well, a long time ago—when a few units of the British Army were indulging in what is known as summer training, and, in the early morning of the day in question, had just returned to camp from a three days' Signal Exercise.

The day was Thursday, and as Friday was our pay day, the amount of coin of the realm available for circulation was very small.

We had unharnessed our horses, and watered and fed them, the Sappers had put away the gear; and by dinner time the camp was once more in shipshape order, and we were at liberty to take a dip in the briny, or sleep, until evening stables.

It was just after dinner that the financial crisis was felt, for those were the pre-Pussyfoot days (when the pop and bun wallahs were in the minority, and when a pint of Ind Coope's or a bottle of Guinness was almost a necessity to remove the taste of the "shackles" from one's palate), and there was not the wherewithal to purchase even half-a-pint per man. However, we occupied the Canteen and mortgaged part of our next week's pay.

Proposals for passing away the evening were put forward, and a smoking concert, with free beer, was the favourite.

Well, a committee was formed, and the Sergeant-Major (in his absence) was unanimously elected President. The programme was arranged, and at evening stables a deputation approached the Sergeant-Major, laid the scheme before him, and requested that he would take the chair at 7 p.m., and be kind enough to mention to the C.O. that an allowance of beer would be acceptable.

The Sergeant-Major was charmed with the idea, and opined things would be O.K. The committee therefore proceeded with the illumination (Begie lamps and small limes), and transferred the easiest chairs from the N.C.O.s Mess, and all went well except that the Canteen Manager would not hand over the beer without written authority.

Seven p.m. arrived, and the S.M. took the chair, and discovered that the Canteen was almost empty. The services of the Orderly Corporal and the Canteen Orderly were requisitioned, and out they went to round up the audience. The enthusiasm for the concert, which was very marked during the dinner hour, seemed to have fizzled out; and a clue to the apparent lack of interest was given by the Chief Cook, who intimated to the Orderly Corporal that if there was no free beer, there would be no audience.

As by 7.30 p.m. the audience had only been augmented by one (who ordered a bottle of pop and a pen'orth of Garibaldi's), the S.M., as president of the committee, who expected the officers to arrive at any moment, thought it time to get a move on and produce an enthusiastic audience. He went to the Officers' Mess, delivered an eloquent address on the thirst-producing effect of three-day schemes, and the harassing effect of hot days and cold fourpenny on the pocket, and was rewarded with authority to tap two barrels.

The words "free beer" went round the camp, and within five minutes the Canteen tent was crowded to "standing room only," and then began one of the best concerts ever organised by Signal units.

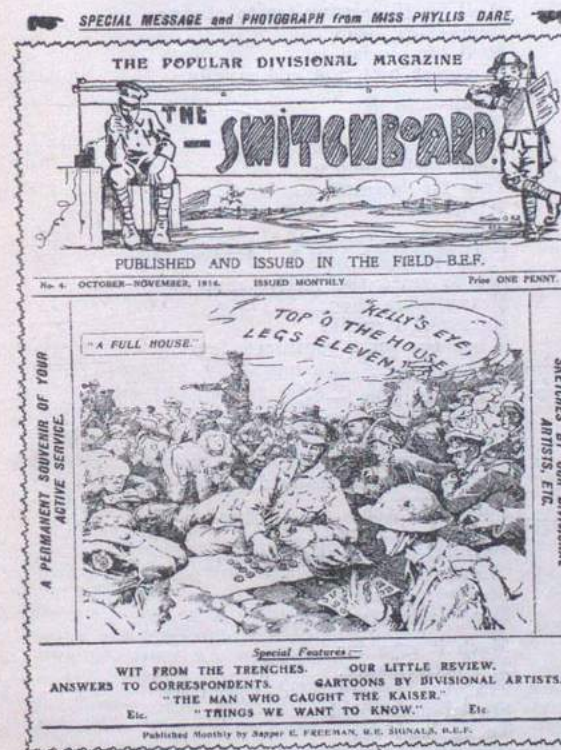
BUNYAH.

The Trials of Editing and Publishing a Trench Journal during the War.

By CORPORAL E. FREEMAN, R.E.

[Continued.]

The reception given by the boys in the Field to the first number of "The Switchboard" far exceeded my expectations, and removed any doubt as to the future of the magazine. Judging from the letters of appreciation and contributions received, it had evidently caught on, and preparations were pushed forward with a view to dealing with a larger and wider circulation.



Our order for the next number was accordingly increased to 3000 copies, and arrangements made with all the neighbouring Y.M.C.A. Huts and B.E.F. Canteens to take a supply each month, on sale or return. Attractive posters were also designed and displayed over a wide area.

Owing to the fact that so many troops of outside Divisions were supporting and contributing to the magazine, it was decided not to confine the contents to the 32nd Division alone, so that subsequent numbers were boomed as "The Leading Trench Journal of the B.E.F." This turned out to be a good "scoop" on our part, for agents were soon fixed up in some sixteen Divisions in France, so that "The Switchboard" very soon jumped into prominence along the entire front. I may here mention that the magazine was printed on pink paper, and was generally referred to in the Line as the "Pink 'Un."

The second number was published in the town of Bethune, under somewhat quieter conditions than those experienced on the Somme, for our Division had in the meantime trekked northwards and taken up a position on the La Bassée sector. Here we managed to rig up quite a decent little editorial den in a vacant house, and during our three months' stay we were fortunate in securing the services of several professional black-and-white artists, whose work was speedily transferred to the pages of the magazine.

It was the writer's idea to illustrate the magazine as much as possible, and during a big boxing contest in the large municipal theatre at Bethune, on October 4th, 1915, three of our staff artists were specially engaged in sketching prominent incidents of the fight—so that, in the following number, we were able to present to our readers a full page report of the contest accompanied by a large combination drawing.

At this stage, further difficulty arose respecting the censoring of the magazine, for many of the boys were sending their copies home as souvenirs. Of course, the majority of these went through in the old familiar green envelopes, but many were stopped by the Base Censor and returned to the senders. However, a nicely-worded epistle to this mysterious gentleman (in which it was explained that each number of the magazine published had already passed through his department, in its embryo state, en route for the Press Bureau, London) had the desired effect, and "The Switchboard" was henceforth granted a free passage to "Blighty" as a souvenir from the land of turmoil. This "hold-up" gave us a fine advertisement, for future numbers were headed "The Magazine You Can Send Home."

During our stay in Bethune, the Germans developed a habit of bombarding the square in the centre of the town every evening and early morning, with an occasional outbreak in the daytime. Thus it came to pass that one Tuesday morning, when the civilian market in the square was in full swing, several 12in. shells fell in the vicinity, causing tremendous damage and consternation among the market people, many of whom were killed and wounded.

One of our artists happened to be near the spot at the time, and, not being of the "windy" type, quickly committed the scene in rough outline to his notebook. The result was that, on the following morning, he appeared at the office with a large finished-off drawing depicting the terrible scene in the square on the previous day, and on which he had been working all night.

Unfortunately, the "copy" for the next number of the magazine had already passed through the usual routine of censoring, and had been forwarded to the printers in London some four days previous. As I was most anxious to get this special drawing in our next number, if possible, the only way was to get it personally delivered in London; and with that object in view, I hunted around for someone proceeding on leave that night.

After much trouble, an A.S.C. driver was discovered who was leaving almost immediately for London, and for the usual consideration (I think the venture cost me twenty francs) the precious drawing was packed around him under his cardigan jacket, and he was sent on his way, with instructions to get it through to our printers.

Four days later, I received a letter from my worthy friend to the effect that he had taken the drawing to the Press Bureau, who, after complaining of the loose manner in which he was offering it for approval, duly marked it with their approval stamp, and handed it

back to him, without even looking into the drawing itself. He then posted it to the printers.

Of course, had this particular drawing been offered for censoring with our other "copy," it would never have got through, and our magazine would very likely have been "placed out of bounds." As soon as we heard that this drawing had reached our printers safely, and was appearing in the next number, an extra 5000 copies were ordered.

The number containing the drawing of "Bethune Market Square under Bombardment" was published a fortnight later, and our agents in the town were fairly overwhelmed with orders from the civilian population, who sent their copies to friends in all parts of France.

So great was the demand for this special number that one of our agents, who was on the Graves Registration Unit in Bethune, disposed of no less than 1850 copies in the streets and estaminets in one single evening; and even this would not have been his record if the military police had not taken him into their hands for creating a disturbance.

Next morning, the writer himself was pulled up before the Commanding Officer, on a complaint being received from the Town Major of Bethune to the effect that the town had been "painted red" with the accursed magazine the day before, and could steps be taken to prevent a repetition occurring? I was let off with a severe caution, having promised to discontinue the sale of "The Switchboard" in the public streets in future.

(To be concluded).

If you want a Taxi

GO TO

"SCOTTIE"

ANY HOUR OF THE NIGHT OR DAY!

Parties taken for Outings.

"SCOTTIE"

(Late of Grenadier Guards)

"The Budletts" Maresfield

Mounted Gymkhana, July 28th.

Months of planning
And of practice,
Splendid effort altogether;
But the style was
Cramped immensely
By the execrable weather.

Scores of sporting
Maiden entries,
Worked off in the weeks preceding;
Many croppers
And adventures
Thinned the ranks of those succeeding.

Thus the heats were,
For spectators,
Well worth missing tea to study:
Item—Tich, who
Shed his burden
In a spot both wet and muddy.

Items—lots of
Other horses,
Trying it on random riders,
Made each jump a
Trap for laughter,
Whether favourites or outsiders.

High indeed the
Final standard,
Set to grace the festive show:—
Heavy were the
Horsemen's spirits
When the glass continued low.

None the less—oh!
Welcome omen!—
The auspicious morn was sunny;
But alas! the
Weather-clerk was
Quite determined to be funny.

For about the
Time of starting
He released a gentle shower,
Which developed
Steady pressure
Every saturated hour.

Much it says for
The performance,
That the waterproofed spectators
Stayed undaunted
To applaud the
Contests of the record-breakers.

Spite of greasy
Ground, and arduous
Wrestling with fractious horses—
Yea! and skidding
Motor-cycles—
All the sportsmen stayed the courses.

But the only
Bookie present
Should have made a pretty penny,
Since the favourite
For the Jumping
Simply was not having any.

In the Wild West
Show, the picnic
(Harassed by a parson-body)
As the rain put
Out their fire,
Lost the comfort of a toddy.

But the fiercely
Painted savage,
Coming down in hordes, engendered
For their health a
Warm encounter,
Realistically rendered.

Thus and thus the
Sport proceeded,
And the audience sat throughout it,
Showing plainly
Their approval—
Not the slightest doubt about it.

Finally the
General's lady
Handed out the cups and prizes,
Through the drizzle
Still preserving
Smiles of undiminished sizes.

And a maiden
Who was present,
Summing up with wisdom sappy,
Said—expressing
General feeling:
"Though unhappy, I am HAPPY!"

JAY HOO.

Scarlet and Gold?

An imaginary conversation between Mr. Winston Churchill and the ex-Kaiser.

The Handley-Page aeroplane volplaned gracefully down with a silenced engine, and made a perfect landing.

Mr. Churchill, as he climbed out, heaved a deep sigh of relief. He had been crossing on a special mission to Berlin, and, owing to engine trouble, had been forced to descend.

The aeroplane rested in a clearing within a walled park. Through the trees Mr. Churchill could see the walls of what appeared to be a castle. Having removed his heavy flying kit, and smoothed the creases from his gorgeous military uniform, he started to walk towards the building, leaving the mechanic and pilot at work repairing the engine.

He had not proceeded far when a man with grey hair and beard came running from the trees, crying out excitedly, "Ach Himmel, my deliverers, is it not, yes?"

Mr. Churchill, in one glance, recognised with a shock that the man before him was none other than the ex-Kaiser. "I'm afraid," said Mr. Churchill in his best Parliamentary tone, "that the answer is in the negative."

The ex-Kaiser had by this time approached near enough to recognise Mr. Churchill by the extraordinary fit of his hat and the brilliance of his attire.

"Ah," said the ex-Kaiser, extending his hand, "it is my good friend Churchill, is it not? I am surprised and delighted to see you."

Mr. Churchill ignored the hand, beyond noticing the indications of extremely hard manual labour thereon, no doubt, he thought, caused by either tearing up pieces of paper or chopping down huge red currant trees. Acknowledging the greeting with a slight inclination of the head (to bow would probably have meant disarranging his head-gear or becoming entangled with his sword, which weapon he carried in accordance

with Flight Orders), Mr. Churchill requested the use of a room in which to rest pending the repair of the engine.

"Delighted, my friend," said the ex-Kaiser. "Consider the castle at your disposal."

Slowly, and in dignified silence, they walked towards the building. Breaking the silence at last, the ex-Kaiser said: "Judging from the reports in the best papers, you do not seem to be very happy in England, my friend. Of course, had England won the war instead of those cursed Americans, Gott strafe them, all would have been well, eh?"

"My dear sir," replied Mr. Churchill, "please do not discuss such trivial matters as our post-war position. That is of minor importance at present."

"Ach, yes, my friend. Zo?" replied the ex-Kaiser. "The League of Nations, perhaps? That President Wilson seems to have you all by 'the short hairs,' as you say. Yes, no?"

"No, my friend," replied Mr. Churchill, "I am concerned with a matter of most vital importance to our great nation."

"Zo," said the ex-Kaiser, "that is indeed interesting. And what engages you so considerably, as it were?"

"Look at me, sir," replied Mr. Churchill, halting in his martial stride and striking a Robey-esque attitude; "does my apparel convey nothing to you?"

"Ach yes, of course," replied the ex-Kaiser, "why did it not strike me before. You have resigned your position, and are conducting an aerial circus, eh? No? What then? I am at a loss."

"Such levity from a man in your position is, to say the least, most unedifying," replied Mr. Churchill. "Probably it's the seclusion. No, sir! I, Winston Churchill, am about to rehabilitate our contemptible little Army with habiliments worthy of them (and their present rates of pay—*sotto voce*). I am about to re-establish the glory of scarlet and gold, my friend. You look astonished! May I ask why? Does not your own soul yearn for all the glories of a resplendent and brilliant Army?"

"Ach yes," replied the ex-Kaiser, "but can you, as a nation, afford it?"

"Poof," said Mr. Churchill, "the expense is of small moment."

"Zo," said the ex-Kaiser; "I was for the moment forgetting the huge sums of money my poor down-trodden Fatherland is paying to you. But even so, is it not puerile to clothe your Army in SCARLET? Why, even I—I, my friend, never aspired to that."

"You seem to have wandered from the point," said Mr. Churchill, and much of the warmth had gone from his voice; "I am not asking your opinion in the matter. I am stating what is going to happen definitely."

"Zo," replied the ex-Kaiser. "I can remember, once, in the long ago, before ALL my Generals betrayed me, saying some such thing about conquering the world. And now I am kicked out of it. Ach!!! Take care, my friend. In the words of the English, Gott for ever strafe them, 'you are asking for it.'"

At that moment, the mechanic ran up and reported that the engine was again running smoothly, and that the flight could be resumed.

After admonishing the mechanic for not having his sword at the correct angle, Mr. Churchill turned to the ex-Kaiser and, with a frigid bow, turned smartly left-about, hooked his spurs, and stumbled away towards the aeroplane, leaving the ex-Kaiser with what certainly looked like a very amused expression on his otherwise haggard countenance.

H. V. R. F.

Monthly Arithmetical and Literary Competitions.

Arithmetic.

First Prize - - - 7/6
Second Prize - - - 2/6

Will be awarded for the neatest and clearest solutions of the problems given below.

Rules.

- 1.—Each problem should be worked on one side only of a sheet of paper, with the full name, number, and rank of the competitor.
- 2.—Only arithmetical methods will be accepted, and full working must be shown.
- 3.—The decision of the O.C. School will be final, and solutions should be submitted by the 16th Sept., 1920.
- 4.—The prizes will not be awarded unless all problems are attempted, with at least three correct for First Prize, and two correct for the Second Prize.

Questions.

- 1.—If 3 articles are sold for the cost price of 4, what is the rate of gain per cent.?
- 2.—A man stakes his property in four successive ventures. In the first he loses 40 per cent., in each of the others he gains 20 per cent. What percentage of profit remains on his original outlay?
- 3.—In one of the battles of the Great War the strength of the Allies was $\frac{3}{5}$ ths of the strength of the enemy, and the former's loss was $\frac{11}{15}$ ths of the latter's. The number of survivors in the enemy's force being 20,000, twice as many as in ours, what was the original strength of the forces engaged?
- 4.—A body of troops, 1296 strong, excluding officers, can be formed into a complete hollow square 12 deep all round, giving ample room in the centre for the officers. Under this formation, how many men would there be in the front rank on the face of the square outside all round it?

Winners of the August Prizes.

First Prize—(4 correct) No. 625596 Sapper H. Orr (A Company).
Second Prize—(4 correct) No. 312602 L/Cpl. F. Betteridge (B Company).
Highly Commended—
No. 314100 Sapper G. Bass (E Company).
No. 625267 Sapper W. Kay (C Company).
No. 619535 Sapper H. Ring (E Company).

Solutions, by O.C. School.

No. 1—20 first-class passengers travelling for 10 hours
 $10 \times 60 \times 20$
pay ————— = £50
240
60 third-class passengers travelling 300 miles pay
 300×60
————— = £75
240
Total = £125—Ans.

No. 2—(a) Cost price of 4 eggs = 3 pence.

Selling price of 4 eggs = $3\frac{1}{2}$ pence.

Profit on 4 eggs = $\frac{1}{2}$ penny.

No. of eggs sold when profit is $\frac{1}{2}$ penny = 4 eggs.

No. of eggs sold when profit is 1 penny = 4×5

No. of eggs sold when profit is 24 pence
= $4 \times 5 \times 24$

= 480 eggs—Ans. (a)

(b) Cost price of 20 eggs = 15 pence.

Selling price of 20 eggs = $22\frac{1}{2}$ pence.

$22\frac{1}{2} \times 12 = 27$

∴ Selling price of 12 eggs = $\frac{20}{2} = 10$

13½ pence—Ans. (b)

No. 3—A gave £790½ for $\frac{3}{17}$ of a number of articles.

B gave ? for $\frac{1\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{4}{17} = \frac{5}{17}}$ of same number of articles.

Cost of whole number of articles at A's price =
 $790\frac{1}{2} \times 17$

3

Cost of whole number of articles at B's price =
 $790\frac{1}{2} \times 17 = 90$

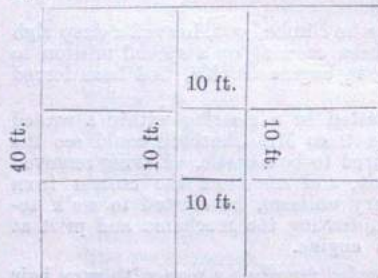
$\frac{3}{100} \times 90$

∴ Cost of $\frac{5}{17}$ number of articles actually bought by
 $790\frac{1}{2} \times 17 = 90$

$B = \frac{3}{100} \times 90 = 27$

= £1206 : 14 : 8½—Ans.

No. 4— 50 ft.



Area of quadrangle
= $40 \times 50 = 2000$
square feet.

Area of paths = $90 \times 10 = 900$ sq.
feet.

The square 10×10 ,
where the paths
cross, is used for
both paths and
consequently
the amount of

land used for the paths is $900 - 100 = 800$ sq. feet.

∴ Area of quadrangle to be turfed = $2000 - 800 = 1200$ square feet.

Now area of one strip of turf = $\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{8}$ sq. foot.

∴ Number of strips of turf = $\frac{1200}{\frac{3}{8}} = 1600$ —Ans.

Notes, by O.C. School.

Some of the competitors, last month, submitted correct answers to all the problems, but only two or three showed quite clearly how the answers were obtained.

The third and fourth questions set this month are taken from the "A" Paper of questions set for the First Class Army Certificate Examination held in July. They are quite good problems, but appear to be rather above the average degree of difficulty when compared with the questions set at previous examinations, and were more difficult than the problems in the alternative "B" Paper set at the same examination.

The candidates at Maresfield, who regularly attended the voluntary classes, were rather fortunate in having previously written essays on two of the three subjects given in the Essay Paper.

A little more interest is being taken in the Essay Competition; but all candidates for First Class Certificates will be well advised to take an interest in both competitions.

Literary.

Prize - - - Five Shillings

Rules.

- 1.—Essay not to exceed 400 words.
- 2.—Style, matter and punctuation will be taken into consideration when marking the paper.
- 3.—Essay may be written in pencil.

Essay.

1. "Discontentment is more often caused by our wishes than by our wants"; or
2. "There is no place like home"; or
3. "Modern inventions are making the world smaller."

Winner of the August Prize.

No. 314100 Sapper G. Bass (E Company).

Commended—No. 619535 Sapper H. Ring (E Company).

'Ye Olde King's Head'

Hotel—Uckfield

(Under New Management)

LUNCHEONS

... TEAS ...

APARTMENTS

FLOWERS CUT. CYCLES STORED.

T. HODGE, Proprietor.

SPORTS NEWS.

Cricket.

Aug. 3rd—"X" Company v. Administrative Company.
"X" won (points given by Administrative Coy.)

Aug. 3rd—"D" Company v. "A" Company. "D" won
by 62 runs.

Aug. 5th—"P" Company v. "B" Company. "B" won
by 21 runs.

Aug. 5th—"D" Company v. "X" Company. "D" won
by 32 runs.

Aug. 6th—Administrative Company v. "B" Company.
"B" won by 5 wickets and 19 runs.

Aug. 6th—"P" Company v. "C" Company. "C" won
by 15 runs.

Inter-Company Cricket League (up-to-date).

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
"E" Company ...	6	6	0	0	12
"C" Company ...	7	6	1	0	12
"D" Company ...	6	4	2	0	8
"F" Company ...	7	4	3	0	8
"A" Company ...	7	3	4	0	6
Admin. Coy. ...	4	2	2	0	4
"B" Company ...	7	2	5	0	4
"P" Company ...	7	1	6	0	2
"X" Company ...	7	1	6	0	2

Tennis.

Aug. 6th—"E" Coy. 12 points; "B" Coy. 3 points.

Aug. 10th—"E" Coy. 9 points; "P" Coy. 6 points.

Aug. 12th—"D" Coy. 9 points; "X" Coy. 6 points.

Inter-Company Tennis League (up-to-date).

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
"D" Company ...	5	5	0	0	70
Admin. Coy. ...	5	5	0	0	59
"E" Company ...	5	3	2	0	36
"F" Company ...	4	2	2	0	30
"C" Company ...	4	2	2	0	26
"P" Company ...	3	1	2	0	23
"B" Company ...	5	1	4	0	18
"A" Company ...	4	0	4	0	16
"X" Company ...	3	0	3	0	8

Water Polo.

Aug. 5th—"C" Coy. 4 pts.; Administrative Coy. nil.

Aug. 5th—"B" Coy. v. "D" Coy. "B" won (points given).

Aug. 5th—"A" Coy. 7 pts.; "F" Coy. nil.

Aug. 6th—"A" Coy. v. "X" Coy. "A" won (points given).

Aug. 6th—"E" Coy. 5 points; "B" Coy. nil.

Aug. 9th—"A" Coy. 6 points; "E" Coy. 1 pt.

Aug. 9th—Admin. Coy. v. "X" Coy. Admin. Coy.
won (points given).

Aug. 10th—"A" Coy. 8 points; "B" Coy. nil.
Aug. 10th—"E" Coy. v. "D" Coy. "E" Coy. won
(points given).

Inter-Company Water Polo League (up-to-date).

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
"A" Company ...	4	4	0	0	8
"E" Company ...	4	4	0	0	8
"F" Company ...	3	2	1	0	4
"D" Company ...	2	1	1	0	2
"C" Company ...	2	1	1	0	2
"P" Company ...	1	0	1	0	0
Admin. Coy. ...	2	0	2	0	0
"B" Company ...	2	0	2	0	0
"X" Company ...	4	0	4	0	0

My Pal.

How often we long for the good old days to return; but alas! they are beyond recall. Nevertheless, we can always retain the memories of those happy bygone times.

Years ago, I fell in love with one of the dearest pals I've ever met, and I will now briefly relate how we parted.

When the great war-cloud burst, I, like many others filled with enthusiasm, rushed off and joined the Colours, never thinking of the hardships, possibly never giving a real thought as to the why's and wherefor's—but simply because I was British, and was filled with a something that urged me on.

Maybe, now, I would go easier. Still, it has been proved times without number, in spite of all our grouching and grumbling, and our eagerness to be "demobbed," that, if the Old Country ever sent out the S.O.S., we would all rush off again, just as eagerly as if it was our first trip.

After passing through the many varied stages of a "Rookie," I at last found myself detailed for the riding school—and it was there that I first met Henry.

I shall never forget our brief introduction, for from the first I knew we were going to be pals. Somehow I was almost disgusted to think that poor old Henry spent most of his time in or about the stables, though certainly that was the one place he was really born for.

We had our good times, in spite of all this; and I shall never forget how, after the day's work was done, I would go and drag my pal from the stables, and then out in the country we would go. How we enjoyed these rambles—they were real bits of heaven.

At last I was posted to a new Company, and soon I was out abroad. No more happy days for me! How I missed the quiet lanes where, when Henry and I were tired, we would rest amongst the sweet grass or under the shade of some old tree. Usually I would stretch myself out and enjoy my pipe, but Henry always stood, and he simply abhorred tobacco.

Had he been a girl, well, you might have guessed the sequel, for he loved me as truly as any woman will ever do. His big wistful eyes would be turned to me whenever I spoke, and he was always ready to agree to almost any proposal I would make.

Our parting was bitter, for I was filled with grief, and the thought that was uppermost in my mind was that I'd never again see my pal.

Fate was kind, for, after being parted for two years, I was posted to a new Company—and judge my surprise, there I found Henry! The gods had decreed that I should wear "one pip," but, in spite of this, old Henry recognised me as soon as I spoke.

Ours was a happy re-union, and on the quiet we used to go over all the old days.

I soon discovered that real active service had made my old pal irritable, for, unlike the old days, he would now flare up at the least thing.

After several violent outbursts of temper, I began to think that the less we saw of each other the better, and there and then I spoke to my C.O. regarding his conduct. We parted!

Several weeks after, I was on duty as Orderly Officer, and a complaint was brought to me that Henry had been seen kicking a comrade in the stables, and he had also refused to have his hair cut.

My temper was roused, and I was fully determined to let Henry see that such games as these must be stopped. I resolved to visit the stables, and put my foot down on Henry's little game.

I arrived there just in time to find that the hair-cutting was being forcibly applied, for several stalwarts had seized poor old Henry, and, in spite of his many protests, he was being severely cropped.

I little thought that I was to receive a shock that day, but I did—for just as I reached the angry mob, I heard my groom remark: "Well, if my bloke doesn't get rid of this d—d old mare, I'm chucking it."

Alas for me! my pal of old had been masquerading under false colours, for never until that day did I know that Henry was *not* a horse, but a mare—and a real "blood" at that!

VIC.

Scene: Barrack square at Woolwich.

Time: 3.30 p.m. Friday.

A melancholy and slow-moving band of Gunners were on Coal Fatigue, each man carrying on his shoulder a tub of coal weighing about a hundredweight.

Gunner O'Flayherty, the tail man of the party, watches for his opportunity, then slinks away hurriedly with his bucket towards his barrack-room.

The Corporal in charge sees him, and hails him: "Hi! Where the hell do you think you're going with that coal? It's for the Officers' Mess!"

O'Flayherty (innocently): "Phwat coal, corpler?"

Corporal: "The coal in your bucket, you fool."

O'Flayherty (still more innocently): "Phwat bucket are yez talking of, corpler?"

Corporal: "The bucket on your shoulder, you ruddy galoot!"

O'Flayherty (staring, apparently stupefied, at the bucket which he still holds on his shoulder): "Well, by the holy powers, I wonder who put that there, now!"

Don't walk two miles in the rain to see life! See it in comfort (*vide* page 117).

THE WIRE

The Magazine of the Signal Training Centre

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Editorial Notes.

THE Magazine is going to press this month from temporary offices in Shoe Lane, Fleet Street, where the surroundings are a little more congenial than they are at Maresfield.

I am hoping that the various Company representatives will give a fillip to the Training Centre Notes for the future, because it is desired to make the Corps Magazine a bumper one.

The benefit performance of "San Fairy Ann" at the Gaiety Theatre, Crowborough, was a decided success. The theatre was packed, and the Gaiety Company surpassed themselves with a real, roaring show. New songs and dances were introduced for the occasion, and were keenly appreciated by the audience. Once again I tender my heartiest thanks to Lieut. R. T. O. Cary, Lieut. R. H. Hole, and all members of the Gaiety Company, for their indefatigable efforts on behalf of THE WIRE.

Sales are steadily increasing, but many more copies must be sold before we can hope to reduce the price. If 75 per cent. of the men in the Training Centre would each purchase a copy every month, the price of the Magazine could easily be brought down again to 4d., at which it was first sold. Annual subscribers are welcomed, in which case the copies will be sent direct and under cover.

Yours faithfully,
THE EDITOR,

An Interlude.

We—that is, the Signal Detachment—were taking part in the operations before Ypres during November, 1917, and were heartily fed up. Our principal centres of activity were the test points located in the "pill-boxes" which sprang into fame under the names of Clapham Junction, Glencorse Wood, Fitzclarence Farm, and Tor Top, and the weather was—as usual. We were muddy and dirty, and our occasional reliefs only meant

that we withdrew to Dickebusche for a couple of days to get a change of underclothing and a bath, and while there suffered the nerve-racking attentions of H.E. shells by day and bombing aeroplanes by night, without the protection afforded by our smelly dugouts. Verily, the rest (?) was "no bon."

About five o'clock one morning, when our morale was at its lowest, our Section Officer and Sergt. F., besides their customary air of assurance and liberal tot of buckshee rum, brought us a rumour (how we loved those rumours from Don Ack!) that we were to be withdrawn and sent for a prolonged rest. Another rumour was that several Divisions were going to Italy, and by process of putting two and two together, we came to the conclusion that Italy would probably be our destination.

We were relieved in due course, and left that pestilential sector (as it happened, for the last time), and marched by easy stages to a quiet peaceful area about St. Omer, where we overhauled gear and removed mud from our garments and wagons, and smartened ourselves up to the high standard usually attained by our little crowd.

A few days passed quietly, and stronger rumours of a move to Italy passed round, but there was no sign that we were for entrainment for anywhere; on the contrary, orders were received that we were to continue our march to the St. Pol area, and the pessimists promptly concluded that we were booked for action in the Somme district.

About November 20th we arrived at a little village near St. Pol, and found that all gear which could not be transported on our own wagons had to be handed over—and our stock of souvenirs and spare kit had to be jettisoned. Good horses were received for any duds we had, and extra warm clothing was received; and it was explained to us that all these preparations were normal, and that there was no foundation for the rumours that we were bound for Italy. For the same "normal" reasons, a reserve of nine days' rations and forage was issued, and men were recalled from leave.

On November 28th we marched to Tinquies, where we entrained at 6 p.m., in the rain. On our train we were not at all uncomfortable, and travelling with us were the Headquarters of Divisional Artillery and one Section of the 121st Battery R.F.A.

We steamed out at 8 p.m., and all went well until we arrived near Mont St. Eloi, where it was noticed that the rear half of our train was missing, and investigation by the engine-driver—a member (with a Scottish accent) of the R.O.D.—showed that a coupling of the officers' coach had broken. After half-an-hour's delay, the rear half of the train appeared, being pushed along by the second engine. The train, less the officers' carriage (the officers having been transferred to a wagon which bore the legend "8 chevaux—40 hommes"), was coupled up, and we continued on our way. The rain had ceased, and the night was moonlit, so we had an opportunity of seeing, as we thought for the last time, the towers on Mont St. Eloi, and the church surmounted by the leaning figure of the Virgin at Albert, and parts of the devastated Somme battlefield.

Longeau was reached in the early hours of the morning of the 29th, but we only halted long enough to have a fresh coach for the officers coupled on. We slept till the outskirts of Paris were reached, and a halt of a few minutes at a small station gave us the opportunity of watering the horses and obtaining sufficient water for ablution purposes.

The railway journey gave us complete relaxation. Our only duties were looking after the horses and keeping ourselves clean. The railway transport people had arranged a series of halting places, where halts of an hour were to be made to enable meals to be cooked, horses to be watered, etc.; but owing to the late running of the train, or the humour of the transportation people, the *haltes repas* happened generally about 2 a.m., when everybody was too somnolent to take advantage of them, or the engine-driver seized the extra hour to make up his lost time. On other occasions, at stations where we were not expected to halt, the signals would be against us for perhaps an hour, but we could not make arrangements for watering the horses or preparing our own food on such occasions, owing to the uncertainty of the duration of the halt. During these irregular halts we managed to shave, wash, and perform other necessary duties; but as some of these latter could not be performed on the railway line, the unexpected starting of the train caused great excitement and embarrassment on more than one occasion.

The first day's journey was not particularly interesting, and we passed through such places as Troyes, Dijon, and Lyons, where we improved our French by conversing with the local troops and inhabitants, and endeavoured to purchase maps of the country and Italian conversation books.

The second day was much more interesting. When we awoke on the morning of the 30th, we were in Marseilles, and during the hour's halt tended the horses, cleaned ourselves, and took breakfast. Our route lay along the Mediterranean coast, except for a few miles when we went inland *via* Toulon, and it proved very interesting, for the scenery and warmth were quite a contrast to our recent experiences at Ypres.

It was not until we had crossed the frontier, early on the morning of December 2nd, that any difference in the behaviour of the civilian population was noted. On the French side we were greeted as a matter of course, but on the Italian side the enthusiasm of the people was only equalled by the scenes we witnessed during our advance into Belgium in 1914.

During our journey along the Riviera, our steam engines were replaced by electric tractors, which were so quick at moving off that several of our members (accustomed to the gentler ways of the steam engines,

and not realising that there was some "pep" behind electricity) lost the train, and were seen sprinting along the sleepers until a curve hid them from sight. They caught us up, by travelling on a following train, at Genoa.

We halted for about fifteen minutes at Savona, and an accommodating Field Cashier was ready to change our money into Italian currency. We were gratified to find that a French franc bought one-and-a-third Italian lire, and wished that we had had a bigger pay day before leaving France. One of our officers nearly lost the train here. It was a pleasant sight to see the bettabled Major breaking sprint records along the railway track, and the cheers which greeted him as he was hauled into the last horse truck by two grinning Drivers were good to hear.

We arrived at Genoa on Sunday afternoon, and found two troop trains already in the station; and ours added to the congestion. All Genoa—at least, most of the feminine part of it—was on the platform to greet us, to stick flags and flowers in our uniforms, and to ply us with chocolates, etc. The station refreshment bars were placed at our disposal by the Italian Red Cross Society, and all drinks were free (at that time there were no orders in force in Italy prohibiting the sale of spirits). Some of the lads went large on the cognac—villainous stuff—and after a few applications of the glass, one was heard to remark to a comrade that he didn't know a word of Italian before then, but he could now say "carissima mia." I don't think he could say that, even, when we left the place.

From Genoa the travelling became much slower, and as we ascended the hills the air became decidedly cooler, so that we were pleased to get into our despised goatskin waistcoats.

December 4th went by rather uninterestingly. The lads' money was beginning to run low, and the red wine of the country—"dragon's blood," the sergeant called it—did not slake one's thirst, but rather aggravated it. Hence a few red "D's."

We halted at Lenago, and found that we were to detain at once; and as we were rather bored with the journey, we got a move on. We had only to march that evening to a neighbouring field, where our Captain had already fixed up the horselines and billets. We had little opportunity of going about the town that night, for it was eight o'clock before the gear was stowed away. We were in a curious dilemma. Not one of us could speak Italian, and none of the locals could speak English, and very few could manage French, even up to our poor standard. Therefore we had to substitute a cinema language, and on the whole got on very well, especially when it was seen that we were willing to pay for what purchases we made. (It appeared that neither the French nor the Italian troops paid for anything during that retirement; they evidently worked on the idea that what they did not take to-day, the Austrians would to-morrow).

We all enjoyed a thorough night's rest, free from vibration, rose about seven o'clock in the morning, packed up, and prepared to march. At ten o'clock we moved off, our destination being Albaredo, nine miles distant. The weather was cold but delightful.

Corporal Martin was sent on ahead, billeting. His knowledge of Italian was weak, but he was good at driving a bargain, and had a "way" with the ladies. By the time we arrived, he had everything fixed up. It was he who introduced "Wrigley's" to the youngsters of Albaredo. Being billeted amongst the civilians, we

began to enlarge our vocabularies; but on the whole we still had the idea that we were in France, and it came more natural to us to use "trench" French than the King's English—consequently the locals were under the impression that such expressions as "na poo," "no bon," etc., were quite good English.

The following day we marched to Arcole, three miles away, and there we remained for some days. While there, news began to circulate, and we heard fuller particulars of the battle of Cambrai, and how its effects prevented the remainder of our Division entraining, so that we had gone on to Italy almost alone. The remainder of the Division began to arrive about a fortnight later.

We received orders to march to Brendola the following day. We set out, but when half way there a Despatch Rider brought orders that we were to reverse and go back to Arcole.

On December 10th we again set out for Brendola, and completed the march without incident. At Brendola our billets were not frightfully good. The horses had to remain out of doors; the nights were bitterly cold, and snow was on the ground; and we were all accommodated in a large cowshed, in one end of which were several families of refugees—each family with about five children.

We only expected to be there for one night. The next day we marched again, but on arriving at Vicenza, we received orders to go back, as our proposed billeting area was already occupied by another British Division. We therefore remained at Brendola until the 13th. Our Captain gave us local leave, and a few of us took the opportunity of lorry-jumping to Vicenza—a large town. We met several surprises during our visits, amongst them being the fact that eggs and oranges were sold by weight—the former commodity working out at a cost of three farthings each. The price soon went up, though. One of our number discovered that figs were cheap, so he bought and ate two kilograms. The result was more than humorous.

We marched to Colza on the 15th, and settled in rather comfortably. We had been paid, so fraternization was easy. During our stay at that place, heavy falls of snow took place, and the nights were very cold.

We moved on again on the 19th to Levada, a distance of 28 miles. The last six or seven miles were accomplished in the dark, without incident, despite bad maps and very third-rate roads. On reaching our destination, we settled down in the grounds and outhouses of a large villa. There was ample room for us all, and all the horses were again under cover. The next day was spent in recovering from the long march.

Christmas was approaching, and the Staff gave us a lorry with which to go to Padua to purchase the necessary seasonable fare.

The Divisional Canteen shared out its profits, so, with very little addition from our pockets, we were enabled to have a first-rate Christmas Day. Our dinner took place at 7 p.m., and some of our officers, including the Brigadier and the Signal Officer, called on us in the time-honoured way, and the compliments of the season were exchanged. After the dinner, a very good concert was held, the Italian interpreter varying the programme with songs and reminiscences of his labours with a hokey-pokey barrow in Portsmouth.

Soon after Christmas, rumours that we were to go into the line got about, and a few of us were sent up into the mountains about Asiago to acquaint ourselves with the lie of the country, and to see how the Italians ran their communications. We spent a happy time

there. We came back each night to Bassano, in the valley, where we were accommodated in a large but very cold house.

Each day we climbed the mountains to about 6000 feet, and by the end of our week's stay had become quite proficient in the use of alpenstocks and grapines (iron spikes fixed under one's boots). A favourite method of ascending mountain slopes was to grasp the tail of a passing mule (these animals could climb at a good three miles an hour along muletracks), and be towed. At the top of each muletrack was an alberge (Anglicé, "pub.") in a truly strategic position, and for twopence one could quaff about a pint (depending upon the number of dents in the measure) of red wine. During the day the atmosphere was very hot, so the necessity of some form of liquid refreshment can easily be imagined.

After our mountaineering stunts, we returned to Levada, only to learn that we were not to go into the line in the mountains, but were to take over a sector from two Italian Divisions on the river Piave. As we had been away from a war for nearly two months, we looked forward to "going in" again with enthusiasm.

It was on the night of the 26th-27th January that the relief was completed, and a few days previously we had been roaming over the area putting our telephones and gear in position.

Our headquarters were in the little village of Visnadello, a few miles north of the old fortified town of Treviso, and for the few days we were there, we spent a decent time. There was plenty of work to do, so we were happy. Billets were good, and the weather was pleasant, and the pessimists said it was too good to last. We hadn't been in position a week before a shell, the first of many, arrived. Preparations for a change were made, and Villorba (a mile-and-a-half further back) was selected for the new headquarters, to which we moved on February 4th. The Austrians put up a fair-sized "hate" on the morning of our departure, one shell entering the upper room of the Signal Office and causing a certain amount of discomfiture to the Wireless Officer who happened to be there. We got away without any casualties.

During February the nights were delightfully clear, and—moon or no moon—the Austrian bombing aeroplanes visited us nightly and bombed the area, making special efforts to get at Treviso; but, owing to a terrific barrage put up by the Italians, very few bombs were dropped in the town. Our permanent lines were damaged night after night, but our casualties in men were few.

Our period in the line was rather uneventful, and, as the Austrians seemed content to leave us alone, a raid on a large scale was projected by our side, and much laying of cables and building of battle headquarters resulted. However, as the river—the shingly bed of which was our "no man's land"—rose considerably a couple of days before the time arranged for the attack, the raid was abandoned. Close upon this disappointment came rumours that we were to be taken out of the line, and on March 16th definite orders to hand over to the Italian Divisions were received.

We withdrew to Levada, and while there were given to understand that we were to move up to the mountains; but other rumours were in the air, for we heard of the great German advance in France, and began to wonder if we were for another railway journey.

On March 24th, a Sunday, we marched to Campo d'Arsego, and were comfortably billeted, and that evening heard the news that we were to entrain for France shortly. For some reasons we were sorry, and for

others we were glad. We had spent a delightful winter in Italy, free from mud and discomfort, but we felt rather out of the war, and most of us were looking forward to excitement.

On March 26th we marched to Montegald, where we remained until our entraining day. The weather had changed to rain, and as our horses were in the open, they were not quite so comfortable as they had been.

After a few days' wait, during which we drew rations and forage for the journey, we marched to the entraining station at Pojana on April 2nd, and found a small-sized train awaiting our large-sized detachment; the consequence was that we had to pack up like sardines.

The train made good progress, and by the evening of the 3rd we were at Genoa—in the rain—without the acclamation we met on our journey up. Our journey along the Riviera was very pleasant, and at Cannes we had a *halte repas* of two hours' duration, during which many of us took the opportunity of a dip in the Mediterranean. From Cannes to Paris we were very bored. The country looked depressing, and the train crawled along. At Paris we entered once more the war zone. Big Bertha had evidently been busy, for there were sandbagged shelters at frequent intervals along the railway line, and the stations had the appearance of fortresses.

Amiens produced our real excitement. Owing to the shelling of the town which was going on, our train was switched through a loop along the outskirts of the town; and while ascending a steep gradient, a coupling broke and the rear half of the train began to run back on to a train which was following us two hundred yards behind. A passenger coach which happened to be on the runaway half was equipped with a hand brake. This was applied, and the train was brought to a standstill less than fifty yards from the following train. The coupling was patched up, and we went on to Mondicourt, where we detrained. It was very depressing. Rain was coming down in torrents, and there were poor facilities for unloading. To add to our troubles, the station platform subsided beneath the weight of our lorry. However, we were clear of the station within two hours, and marched to Luchaux, where we awaited orders to take up our position to help stem the oncoming German tide.

BUNYAH.

Medal Presentation.

Brigadier-General E. G. Godfrey-Faussett, C.B., C.M.G., presented the following medals at Maresfield Park Camp, on Sunday, August 22nd, 1920:—

28883 Sapper (A/Sgt.) W. H. Gaffney, 30th Div. Signal Company, R.E., awarded D.C.M. (vide *London Gazette* of 1st January, 1919). "He has taken part in every action in which the Brigade has been engaged since 1915, including Givenchy, June, 1915; Loos, September, 1915; Somme, July and October, 1916; Arras, April, 1917; Flanders, July-August, 1917; St. Quentin, March, 1918; Kemmel, August-Sept., 1918. During the operations west of St. Quentin, in March, 1918, he especially showed gallantry and devotion to duty, and it was almost entirely due to his efforts that communication was kept with battalions under heavy fire under difficult circumstances."

Corpl. W. H. Gaffney also received the M.M. and 1914-15 Star.

	17424 Sapper F. G. Morris—M.M. and Bar
	8704 T/C.S.M. A. H. Ealey—M.S.M., and 1914 Star
	32659 L/Sergt. N. E. Legg—M.S.M.
	A/1021 Staff-Sgt. W. Mousley—M.S.M.
(39923)	254381 L/Sergt. A. Bell—1914 Star
	24051 Sapper D. M. Barry—1914 Star
(17798)	343943 Driver G. Bateman—1914 Star
(23 I.U.L.)	314619 L/Cpl. A. Brunning—1914 Star
(21548)	343865 Driver J. S. Cranham—1914 Star
	20448 Sapper W. Cayley—1914 Star
(22148)	343867 Sapper F. C. Callegari—1914 Star
	15568 L/Sergt. J. W. Dowty—1914 Star
	21736 M.S.Sergt. A. Dickinson—1914 Star
(23131)	343853 Sergt. F. Doust—1914 Star
	24233 A/Cpl. R. Davis—1914 Star
	15935 Sapper G. Edwards—1914 Star
(18920)	602216 Driver C. Fulcher—1914 Star
(7550)	314174 Sergt. N. W. J. Grant—1914 Star
(23174)	343928 Corpl. J. Gordon—1914 Star
	9960 Sergt. J. Gordon—1914 Star
	22534 L/Sergt. F. Harrington—1914 Star
	23539 Sergt. E. H. R. Hayter—1914 Star
	14921 Sapper A. J. Hankins—1914 Star
	23819 Sapper R. J. W. Hodges—1914 Star
(L/7080)	601980 Sergt. J. Jackson—1914 Star
	3176 Q.M.S. H. J. Jones—1914 Star
	23292 C.Q.M.S. L. C. King—1914 Star
(8176)	314328 Spr. F. J. Ketteringham—1914 Star
	15522 F.S.Sergt. W. Lloyd—1914 Star
(7764)	30122 Sergt. J. Lyons—1914 Star
(18303)	602175 L/Cpl. F. E. Morgan—1914 Star
(22541)	602177 Driver A. Norman—1914 Star
	23457 Sapper T. Phelan—1914 Star
(22458)	314293 Sapper J. Price—1914 Star
	24543 R.S.M. A. J. Parker—1914 Star
(4994)	314240 L/Cpl. H. G. Roberts—1914 Star
	18848 Sergt. A. Ramsay—1914 Star
	25560 Sapper L. C. Rousseau—1914 Star
	12813 C.Q.M.S. H. Skinner—1914 Star
(23548)	344812 Sergt. E. J. Sandys—1914 Star
	25919 L/Cpl. A. Smith—1914 Star
(24159)	344908 Pioneer W. A. Shepard—1914 Star
	23150 Sergt. E. J. Setterfield—1914 Star
	23424 C.Q.M.S. W. Stevenson—1914 Star
	17958 Sergt. R. Spalding—1914 Star
(10890)	314198 Cpl. G. Shoebridge—1914 Star
	14144 L/Sergt. E. J. Sandy—1914 Star
	10023 Sergt. E. Tozer—1914 Star
(10369)	206982 L/Corpl. R. Turnbull—1914 Star
	15067 C.S.M. A. S. Turner—1914 Star
	20605 Sergt. G. W. Trott—1914 Star
(21377)	602224 L/Sergt. G. E. Watts—1914 Star
	38554 Sapper A. J. Anthony—1914-15 Star
	36197 Sapper R. J. Butler—1914-15 Star
(25471)	314799 Sapper W. F. Cobley—1914-15 Star
(40086)	624308 Sapper F. Chester—1914-15 Star
	26019 Driver H. Diggins—1914-15 Star
(48484)	602223 Sapper P. R. Dailly—1914-15 Star
	24556 L/Cpl. A. C. Dixon—1914-15 Star
(28255)	28691 A/Cpl. A. C. Griffin—1914-15 Star
	624680 Spr. V. J. H. L. Gilchrist—1914-15 Star
(57802)	619504 Corpl. P. W. Hurn—1914-15 Star
	20551 Corpl. W. H. Hore—1914-15 Star
(29519)	624874 Sapper J. McVittie—1914-15 Star
(46337)	619553 L/Sergt. R. Newbury—1914-15 Star
	34990 L/Sergt. F. Purdue—1914-15 Star
(66612)	624724 Sapper F. C. Smith—1914-15 Star

Note.—The numbers inserted in parentheses are old Regimental Nos.



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CAMP NEWS

Headquarters Notes.

At last a lead has been given to those tardy swains of the Staff who journey to the suburbs of Maresfield—in "civies," bow-wow!—trying to captivate the hearts of all the fair damsels, by the action of one "George," a lad of Devon (glorious Devon), who entered his name on the roll of benedicts on the 15th of September, after receiving a slight coercion in the shape of an Army Order.

The Staff join in wishing him and his every happiness in the new venture, and trust that his troubles, if any, may be small ones.

The secrecy of this momentous occasion, which was well kept, most certainly warrants "George's" position as a confidential clerk. His favourite saying, which will be recalled by all, is extremely appropriate to this occasion, and is well worth quoting: "Do you know, chums," his deep bass voice would ring throughout the office, "it's a clever man who 'bax' a winner—and gets her."

TED.

1st Training Battalion Gossip.

Is Maresfield Going Dry?

During the past few weeks, there has been an alarming reduction in the quantity of beer and intoxicants consumed in the Camp Messes and Canteens, which has given rise to much speculation as to the cause of such a sudden reformation. Even our old "sweats" are to be found passing the open door of the wet canteen, and seeking solace in a cup of tea; whilst cases of drunkenness in the Camp are now very few and far between.

Of course, temperance in its way is all very well, but I should be sorry to see the day when the British Army goes dry, and is held up by Mr. "Pussyfoot" as the crowning achievement of his silent campaign in this country. On the other hand, perhaps the *quality* of the beer which our friends the N.A.C.B. have been serving out to us lately has been a deciding factor in this going "on the tack" mystery; if so, then the solution is laid bare.

From information received, I am given to understand that the said "dryness" has not as yet affected the Officers' Mess (?)

Those German Souvenirs.

The recent appearance of two heavy German guns, camouflaged in all their war paint, on the main drive of the Camp, has given the place quite a garrison touch, and they have attracted much attention, especially among the recruits. Of course, rumour has it that these particular guns were captured by the Signal Service, but I am afraid that this is going a little too far in the matter of "Signal" trophies. When the Camp is eventually re-modelled, we trust the guns in question will be given a permanent resting-place in a more conspicuous position than that of guarding the "Doc's" office, which they are doing at present.

Corporals' Mess.

A very successful and well-attended dance was held at this Mess on Wednesday evening, September 7th. Commencing at 20.30 hours, dancing was kept up until midnight, under the direction of Corpl. G. Price, who kindly acted as M.C., whilst Sergt. Tomlinson was the accompanist.

The room had been given quite a gay appearance with flags and bunting, and the ladies retiring-room drew forth much admiration from the fair visitors.

The dance was adjudged by all present to be the best yet given at the Mess, and it is the intention of the writer (who had charge of the arrangements) to hold these dances every fortnight in future, conducted on the same lines. A charge of one shilling is made to members dancing, entitling them to bring a lady friend; and this amount goes towards the cost of providing refreshments at the interval.

Thanks to the P.R.I., we are now in possession of a handsome new clock, which fills a long-felt want at the Mess. I have also to acknowledge the receipt from Mr. Lane (the Camp photographer) of a fine enlargement of the Mess, which he has kindly presented to it.

The Monthly "Howler."

One of our budding Lance-Corporals, in charge of the Quartermaster's Guard, somewhat overstepped himself the other evening, for, on checking his Guard Report the following morning, the same was found to read as follows:—

"I took over COCOA Order Boards," and "Each man of the Guard received a cup of hot OIOO during the night."

I am afraid the Lance-Corporal must have received a cup of something more substantial than OIOO when he made out the report, or perhaps he was referring to XXX?

What's Yer Number?

I understand that the new Army numbers allotted to the Signals commence at 2,303,001, and that the re-numbering will shortly come into operation under Army Order No. 338 of 1920. Also, on good authority, I hear that several of our Pay N.C.O.'s have taken up a short course of "Pelmanism" in anticipation of its advent.

It is not quite clear at the moment as to whether the new numbers will take the place of the present regimental ones, but, in any case, I presume our identity discs will be enlarged accordingly.

Items in Brief.

Congratulations to a "certain" officer of the Battalion who pulled off a "certain" sweep the other day.

In reply to numerous enquiries, the charge for a private cubicle at the Union Jack Club is 1s. 9d. per day, but bookings should be made in advance to "Comptroller, Union Jack Club," 91a, Waterloo Road,

London, S.E.1. All ranks of this Depot are *ipso facto* members of the Club.

One of our recruits complained the other day of getting too much "spotted dick" in the menu. We suggest that our Messing Officer changes its name to "Striped Richard."

Someone informed me the other morning that he had discovered his sergeant reading "The Daily Herald." Now don't write to "John Bull" about it, my boy, because he may have only been interested in "gee-gees."

E. FREEMAN, Corpl. R.E.

Company Notes.

"A" Company.

We have finished our cricket fixtures, but, as yet, have not started football, except for a few practice games.

Talking about cricket, it was once more left to "A" Company to create a record. In our last match, we got "E" Company out for 80 (the lowest score they had made), and finished up winners by 12 runs (being the first Company to beat them). The match finished in quite exciting style. When our last man went in to face the bowling of Bellew (of 1st XI. fame), we still wanted two runs to win. Everything hung on whether Bellew sent down a straight one. As it happened, he sent down one a bit on the "off," and our man hit it for 2, and our captain nearly broke the high jump record in his excitement.

I think we shall win the Water Polo League with a few goals to spare. We have won seven matches, with only one goal against us, and have to play "C" Company again to complete our programme.

"C" won by three goals to *nil* after a scrappy but hardfought game; we protested, with the result that the match has to be re-played. This will have taken place before these notes are printed—but, I hope, in a better spirit—and may the best team win.

We have had very hard lines in the Depot Boxing Championship, finishing second to "E" Company, several of our men having to retire with sprains on the final night; but all credit is due to "E" Company, who put up a fine show.

We again finished second in aquatic sports. This time "C" Company gave a fine display, and won easily.

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UCKFIELD.

I cannot say much about our prospects at Association and Hockey, but we are hoping to field a useful team for both, and also a good Cross-country team.

Reference my "births" column which appeared in last month's notes: I regret to announce that one daughter has since been sent on "the long, long trail." The others are still doing well, but no more offers of adoption can be accepted.

GRANMAR.

"D" Company.

We have been doing very well at cricket and tennis lately. Our representatives have proved invincible at the latter game.

We were very unfortunate at cricket on the 15th Sept., being beaten by "E" Company after a splendid game. Unfortunately, Major Pinsent and Lieuts. Westropp and King were away on leave, their absence greatly weakening the team. Sapper Goodie put up a splendid "stone-walling" game, and Lieut. Steward showed good form, knocking up quite a good score. Hobden showed some good bowling, taking the renowned Bendry's middle stump for 3 runs. C.Q.M.S. Mills put in some splendid bowling also.

I think we will keep our end up at soccer this season, but am afraid we shall not do so well at hockey, as one of our strongest players (Lieut. King) is, I understand, to leave us shortly. Anyhow, we will do our best.

Under the able management of Lieut. Lee, we had a Company smoking concert in No. 5 Canteen, and it was a huge success. The bold "Ginger" (who, by the way, is "on the tack") of our Stores, performed the duties of "chucker-out."

"E" Company.

It is some considerable time since "Eddy" Company contributed any notes to THE WIRE, but nevertheless, here we are, still going strong as usual, and carrying everything before us in the sport of the Training Centre.

Now, since our last notes appeared in print, we have been fairly busy, being successful in carrying off the honours in the Depot Boxing Competition, held at the Garrison Church on August 25th. The first evening, "A" Company held the honours, but the next evening "Eddy" Company had to be reckoned with. Result: "Eddy" carried all before them, and at the end of the competition they carried off the honours, which was rather a bit of a shock to some of the other Companies.

Now, as regards cricket, "Eddy" are still the League leaders, as usual; and, no doubt, by the time these lines appear in print, we shall have carried the cricket honours off, too. Well, such is life. We shall soon want a separate hut to hold all these shields and medals.

Now that soccer has commenced again, we are looking forward to keeping our place at the top of the League. We won the League easily enough last year, and we hold the shield for it. "Don" Company, I believe, have their eyes on it this year, and we don't mind that—anyone can come along and have a look at it (providing they are accompanied by an escort from "E" Company, and that they don't take it away). Any shield that happens to go to "Eddy," any other Company will have to fight jolly hard to get back.

As yet I cannot say much about the Hockey, but no doubt we shall be able to come out the winners with a bit of luck. We had a good team last season, and no

doubt we shall have practically the same team out; so other Companies had better look out for trouble again.
DUSTY.

"F" Company.

"Poor old 'C.' Diddums hurtums." Well, we have played you now! However, they were both good games, even though the first did have an unsatisfactory conclusion.

The start already made with winter games suggests that we shall at least hold our own in the Leagues. Out of six friendly games of football, we have only lost one. "A" Company protest that we have played only "squad teams" so far, but they have not seen our "first team" yet! Rugby is more or less an unknown quantity so far, but no doubt we shall gather a team to do us justice.

Things We Want to Know.

Whether a razor is an excellent implement for cutting cabbages? And also a pair of scissors for digging potatoes?

Whether such brain waves are gathered from "intensive horticulture"?

Whether a certain "draughtsman" wishes he had not been so generous in lending items of his civilian wardrobe?

Whether another gentleman regrets that he did not even have the chance of refusing to lend his?

DOUGLAS TRIUMPH.

"G" Company.

Business has not permitted of the accumulation of much data during the past month, and, as a consequence, it will be impossible for me to fulfil the promise (made to my associates) of notes galore. On the contrary, they are rather sparse.

Our "Rugger" representative, in anticipation of getting a game (which is, apparently, not procurable here), wished me to challenge any Company at Maresfield to a game of Rugby. Should Maresfield Companies be in the same position as those at Crowborough (i.e., unable to raise a team), the only thing will be to challenge 1st T.B. (as we did the 2nd T.B.).

My congratulations are extended to "F" Company upon winning the replay at cricket against amalgamated "C" and "G." The sporting way in which they played after victory was well within their grasp, upon the first occasion, was most pleasing, and cannot be made too much of. We lost, of course, because the majority of our best players were on leave. (Please pardon the time-honoured excuse).

"G" Company Chevrons Club held its first dinner at the local Red Cross Hotel at the end of last month. The usually unlucky number of thirteen were present under the chairmanship of C.S.M. Dorling. After a splendid repast, an appropriate musical programme was gone through, and ten o'clock brought a termination to an all-too-short entertainment. Thanks are due to the organisers, and to both the pianist and violinist (no names—no nothing).

This Company was well represented at the S.T.C. swimming gala, although the points gained helped to swell "C" Company's grand total to 63. Sapper Clegg's turning of a lead of 10 yards on "A" Company's

part into a lead of 14 yards for "C" Company in the squadron race was a magnificent show, and he was most unfortunate to secure but third place in the 35 yards dash. Mr. Owen also did very well in obtaining second place in the 105 yards race. Sapper Wilby gave an exceedingly good show in the diving competition; he should, in our humble opinion, have obtained 1st, although he only managed to secure a draw.

At Soccer, nothing serious has been entered into, as our main efforts have been extended in an endeavour to prepare a team capable of holding its own against the other strong ones of this Battalion. We can, however, at this stage, say with pardonable pride that endless talent exists in this Company for all branches of sport, and when we are eventually severed from "C," we shall eagerly attack those pots that we have done so much to secure for them.

ELECTRON.

Crowborough Notes.

"B" Company.

Hitherto, notes from this Company have been conspicuous by their absence; but however, better late than never, so here goes.

We regret to have to record the loss to our cadre of a good all-round sportsman in L/Cpl. Lovelock, who has ventured forth into "civvy" life after a six months' course of electrical engineering at Hounslow. He is now employed at Watford, and we wish him every success. We also regret to note that our late "Quarterbloke," C.S.M. Weekes, is still in hospital at Eastbourne, suffering from a form of trench fever; and we all wish him a speedy recovery.

During the past summer season, I am afraid that we were somewhat inconsistent as regards cricket, tennis, water polo, etc., owing to the fact that most of our talent was at Maresfield on Courses, etc.

We managed to do well in the Inter-Company Boxing Tournament, being beaten by one point by "G" Company, who just "pipped" us on the post by winning the last bout of the evening—our man being compelled to give up, having sprained a wrist in a previous encounter. However, we hope to do the "pipping" next time.

At present, we are busy playing practice and friendly soccer matches, with the object of discovering fresh talent. This is not an easy matter, as it is difficult to find enthusiasts, owing to the lack of suitable grounds; but we have managed to scrape together a fairly good side, as the results of the few friendly matches already played will show. First we commenced by drawing with "C" Company, and then beating them in the return match by 7 goals to nil; since then we have beaten "X" and "C" Companies respectively by 2-0 and 3-0. Our first Inter-Company League fixture was with "C" Company on the 21st September, and an account of how we beat them will appear in next month's notes.

IDDY UMPTY.

"C" Company.

We were all very pleased to hear of the promotions of Lieuts. Merchant, Usher and Bulman to be Captains; and although only one (Capt. Merchant) belongs to us,

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we would like to offer our heartiest congratulations. To all who have served with the "Old School," the value of such promotion can be thoroughly understood.

I was in hopes of being able to record the result of our Cricket League, inasmuch as it affects this Company, but there is one more match to record—with "F"—of which the result is not known. Owing to a rupture, *re* the second innings, a protest was necessary, and a replay has been ordered. Only one other match had been played, against "P," on August 6th. "Pip" had been badly bent by "B" Company the day before. They had evidently straightened out during the night, for at one period—though a stiff west wind was blowing, and "Pip" had only ten men—they caused us to feel a small upward breeze. We batted first and only made 70, of which Harvey got 37 and cheeky Mr. Extras got 15. "Pip" scored 54. Harvey took 4 wickets for 17 (once shaving a stump without removing the bail), and McDowell and Eynott 2 wickets each. Sergt. Andrews made two topping catches in the slips, and Eynott a very fine one at point, which dismissed the troublesome Nash.

Football is now on the way, and a number of trial matches in the Company have shewn that we have goodly talent. We have had a couple of friendly games with "B" Company, drawing one and losing the other, besides drawing with "Pip." Everyone is waiting for the League tables to come out, to know if we are to form our own Leagues at Crowborough or still remain in S.T.C. Leagues. Rugger has caught on more this season than last, and we hope to see some good matches. Hockey has still to open its eyes, but we hope before long to get going.

Before closing my notes, Mr. Editor, I should like to show a record and at the same time to offer congratulations to Corpl. Noonan on his fine running achievements during the past season, also to Lieut. F. Courtenay-Thompson on winning the open mile at the Marine Sports at Deal, beating Sergt. O'Neil by a head.

Below is the record of Corpl. Noonan:—

First Season, 1920.		Finished
4½ Miles Cross Country 2nd T.B. (individual)	...	1st
6½ " " " " " " " " " " " "	...	1st
1 Mile "Track "C" Company Sports	...	1st
1 " " " " " " " " " " " "	...	1st
1 " " " " " " " " " " " "	...	2nd
1 " " " " " " " " " " " "	...	2nd
1 " " " " " " " " " " " "	...	1st
1 " " " " " " " " " " " "	...	2nd
1 " " " " " " " " " " " "	...	2nd
1 " " " " " " " " " " " "	...	3rd
1 " " " " " " " " " " " "	...	1st
1 " " " " " " " " " " " "	...	2nd
1 " " " " " " " " " " " "	...	4th
1 " " " " " " " " " " " "	...	1st
1 " " " " " " " " " " " "	...	2nd
2 " " " " " " " " " " " "	...	2nd
1 " " " " " " " " " " " "	...	4th
1 " " " " " " " " " " " "	...	3rd

Things We Want to Know.

Who is the ex-Company runner (walker) now employed in the cook-house?

Has he been supplied with clogs yet?

Does he find more running to do now? And do they call him "Tickey"?

"P" Company.

The filling-up process has continued steadily during the past few weeks, and as demands for drafts have

been few, the Company is now in a more flourishing condition. A small draft of twenty-four other ranks left for Ireland on September 17th at short notice, with Capt. Wills as conducting officer.

We are still making an uphill fight in the Inter-Company Sports, but during the past month there have been many changes in the players for the cricket, tennis and water polo teams.

Despite the fact that many of our players have gone on draft, we have carried on as usual, and though we have lost many of our matches, we have never yet failed to be at the starting point when required. The Company has reason to be proud of its Water Polo team, who trounced "X" Company to the tune of three goals to one. We regret losing Sergt. Sandys—now in the ranks of "D" Company—one of our prominent water polo players; we wish him luck with his new Company.

The winter games are now upon us, and we intend winning all competitions; so all Companies keep a sharp lookout on "P" Company!

We welcome Sappers Fairclough and Eynott to the ranks of our Soccer team, which, by the way, has played three friendly matches and won them all.

We also hope to organise some indoor games during the coming winter, but will tell you what we've done in some future notes.

And now for Boxing. At the last Inter-Company Novices' tournament we had seven representatives, and won the bantam-weight bout with Driver Halligan. Two of our other competitors, Sappers Judge and Wilson, were unfortunate in the finals of their bouts, having to retire with damaged hands when victory seemed certain.

Will the gentleman (?) who borrowed (?) my motor-bicycle kindly call for the side-car whenever convenient? Personal interview willingly given.

Has the "Glaxo Baby" seriously taken up walking?

KWEER ORK.

The Gaiety Theatre.

"WHAT, AGAIN?"

"House is crammed full, sir! Turning 'em away. In fact, Mr. 'ole is shutting the doors!"

"By Jove! we'd better begin then."

"Where the h— is Nichol? We can't start without him! What's that? the leading lady's lost a garter? Better put the show off till to-morrow then!"

"It's alright, R.T.O., I've found it!" (This in a sweet falsetto voice from Lizzie).

"Righto, let's start. Now, then, 'Oscar' (the trap drummer) stop drinking cocktails, and get on with the overture."

All of which may help to give the outside world an idea of the trials and tribulations of Lieut. R. T. O. Cary during the last few moments before launching his brilliant new revue, "What, again?"

A tolerant but somewhat sceptical audience, prepared to slumber through a mediocre selection of songs and dialogue, got a shock of high voltage and considerable amperage. Of course, there were the usual minor mishaps and petty mistakes inevitable in all amateur theatricals, but making due allowances for the limitations of an Army hut in its unaccustomed role of

(Continued on page 142)

With Coach and Horn.

With the transfer of Capt. J. C. Bray, R.E., to the T.F., on August 21st last, the Signals have parted with one of their best known and most respected officers. He will be remembered by many (especially those who passed through the riding school under his care) as a stern but kindly disciplinarian.

A unique send-off was arranged in the old-time coaching style. The coach and team of eight horses, complete with outriders and horn (manipulated by the

(July 15th, 1899). On January 1st, 1900, whilst with the 3rd Telegraph Battalion, he was promoted Sergeant, and later, on returning to the 1st Telegraph Battalion, to T/C.Q.M.S. (August 1st, 1904). From the 1st Telegraph Battalion he was transferred to the 1st Air Line Company, R.E., and there he was promoted C.S.M. (April 15th, 1907). He was promoted R.Q.M.S. (Dec. 16th, 1910) whilst with "B" Signal Company, and later, at Training Depot, Aldershot, to R.S.M. (August 5th, 1914).

On April 19, 1915, he was gazetted to commissioned rank (2nd Lieut.), and appointed Riding Master at



The Departure of Captain J. C. Bray, R.E.

inimitable Tich), proceeded from the Camp to Uckfield Station with "Jacky" on the top of the coach, and looking decidedly sorry to go.

Capt. Bray has a unique record of service. He enlisted at the age of 18 years, at Aldershot, on April 24th, 1893, and was posted as a Driver in the Training Depot. On Jan. 20th, 1896, whilst with the 1st Telegraph Battalion, R.E., he placed his foot on the first rung of the ladder and was appointed Lance-Corporal. Whilst with this unit, he rose to the rank of Corporal

Haynes Park Signal Depot, Bedford; promoted Lieut. (June 26th, 1917), Acting Captain (August 31st, 1917), and Captain (October 1st, 1918).

He served in the South African War, 1899-1902, and he carried out the arduous duties of Riding Master at the Signal Service Training Centre through the last great European struggle, being mentioned in despatches ("Home Service Gazette," August 13th, 1917).

Capt. Bray was well liked and respected by all with whom he came in contact, and the heartiest good wishes of all go with him to his new field of operations.

(Continued from page 140)

theatre, it will surely be universally agreed that Mr. Cary displays the qualities of a producer of the highest professional ability.

One of the best features of the evening was the scenery, the painting of which was undertaken by L/Cpl Patrick. He has good reason to be proud of the last scene in the "Trip to Mars," which, with the assistance of Sapper Critchley's complex system of coloured lighting, was one of the most attractive scenes I have seen off the London stage.

Of the skill and theatrical abilities of the Gaiety Company's artistes we have already seen and heard a lot, and the only thing to add is that they all helped to make "What, again?" the finest show that has yet been produced in Crowborough Camp.

FIRSTNIGHTER.

Aldershot Notes.

1st Div. Signal Company R.E.

A few changes have taken place in this Company during the last few weeks, one of these being the arrival of Capt. J. H. King, R.E., who has taken over the command from Lieut. Owen, R.F.A. It is with feelings of regret that we bid good-bye to Lieut. Owen, who, during the last few months, commanded the Company in the absence of Major Bradley, D.S.O., M.C.

The 2nd Company (to which Lieut. Owen is now posted) must consider themselves lucky chaps, for he is bound to win the hearts of all who are under him. "The very best wishes for the future" are the farewell thoughts of this Company to "one of the best."

Football Notes.

In spite of the shortage of men in the Signal units here, a remarkable interest is being shown in the newly-formed Signals (Aldershot) Football Club, and the responsible parties have been very busy in hunting out old and new exponents of the game.

A general meeting was held on August 30th, when a good attendance was an encouraging sign. The main business of the meeting was the election of two separate committees—a Selection Committee and a General Committee. It is quite evident that the new club will be run on a sound basis, and an exceptionally good team can no doubt be raised to compete in the local competitions and tournaments.

Col. W. P. E. Newbiggin, C.B. (who was elected President of the Signals (Aldershot) F.C.), shows a very keen interest in the club's formation, and with such good leaders as C.S.M. Causey, C.Q.M.S. Brown, Staff-Sergt. Brown, and a few more of the old-timers, there is every prospect of a bumper season.

Two trial matches have been played with very pleasing results, and I hope to forward some good accounts as soon as we settle down to serious football.

The training of the team has been entrusted to Spr. Oldroyd; and Spr. Kent will no doubt keep things in trim as caretaker.

The team to play the first Company match on Saturday, September 18th, was selected from the following players: Sergt. Keevil, Sapper Whiteoak, Sapper Brunton, Sapper Audsley, Sergeant Tolley, Driver Brophy, Sergt. Bayliss, Sapper Ashdown, Staff-Sergt. Brown, L/Cpl. Penfold, Sapper Hay, Sapper Reynolds.

Personal.

We have been fortunate in securing a few additions to our little circle, amongst them being L/Cpl. Tolley, who wishes to be remembered to all old friends at Maresfield and Crowborough.

Sapper Oldroyd would like to hear from L/Corpl. Marshall or L/Corpl. Trapmore, the late Kempstonites, and "Eva's wad scoffers."

In conclusion, dear Editor, allow me to congratulate you on behalf of the 1st Signal Company, on your untiring efforts to popularise THE WIRE. May you be rewarded with all the success you truly deserve in your great venture.

Yours faithfully,
PERPOLE.

Foreign Station Notes.

Rhine Signal Battalion.

Since my last letter, the Battalion has won the "Cologne Post" Cricket Cup by 116 runs. We now play the 2nd Black Watch in the final for the Rhine Army Championship on Sept. 20th and 21st. In the final for the "Cologne Post" cup, we dismissed G.H.Q. Clerks for 22 and 20; Lieut. Barry getting 13 for 30, and Boy Saunders 7 for 8.

Football has started, and several individuals have shown excellent form. Sapper Hall (late of S.T.C.) scored one of those goals one would travel miles to see against 7th Field Company, going through from the halfway line, and eventually scoring with a cross shot which gave the goal-keeper no chance at all.

We have entered in the 1st Division of the League, being over 250 in strength, and have every intention of showing the Infantry Battalions what the "New Corps" can do at football. The 2nd XI. has also been entered for another League.

The Hockey team, which includes two officers who are old county players, will doubtless hold its own in the League.

A Concert Party is to be formed; Spr. Evans (late 12th Signal Company, and one of the most successful female impersonators in France during the war), will be in charge.

The cross-country race has been postponed until October.

RHINELANDER.

3rd Lahore Div. Signal Coy. S. & M.

Bir Salem, Palestine.
August 16th, 1920.

By this time most of us are settling down into some sort of sport, and what with hockey and cricket, combined with the recreation club, to say nothing of those entertaining riding "picnics" to the ranges, we are getting on.

Up to the time of writing, the hockey team has ploughed its way through several hard battles, but always to victory; and this is a great thing out here, where, with Indian regiments, hockey is one of their most popular games.

Our cricket club, consisting of four teams (A, B, C and D) is going strong. The first team has played some

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MATLOCK.

15th January, 1920.

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keenly-contested games, but, unfortunately, not always with the winning score in their favour; but since the big concrete pitch has been finished, play has considerably improved, and the addition also of two smaller practice pitches should further improve the form.

The Recreation Club is going strong, and doing good work in arranging different fixtures, and particularly in the matter of finding the talent of the Company in the way of concerts, etc. We are thinking very seriously, from the fine display put up at the last show or two, of starting a Concert Party with the assistance of the staff of Divisional Headquarters Clerks.

It is unfortunate that our Running Club was knocked on the head so early, for, under the training of C.S.M. Alick Fiddes, one or two good runs had been arranged, which would have put us ready for the Cross-country Championship Run at Jerusalem. Still, Maleesh.

Among other recreations which show promise in the future, under the able guidance of the various sub-committees, are boxing, swimming teams, dancing, and last, but not least, "The Camera Club."

We are hoping soon to start a branch of Old Comrades here, and already have the promise of a good membership.

Territorial Force Notes.

1st County of London Yeomanry.

The regiment, the Middlesex Yeomanry (Duke of Cambridge's Hussars), which was raised in 1830 by the late Duke of Cambridge, is to remain a mounted unit, and it has been selected to form Signal Squadrons for a Cavalry Division.

Ex-Yeomen and others desirous of becoming members of the regiment can obtain all particulars by applying to the Adjutant, Cavalry Divisional Signal Regiment (Middlesex Yeomanry), Duke of York's Headquarters, Sloane Square, Chelsea, S.W.3.

Glasgow R.E. Units.

Since our last notes, the holidays are all over, and training has recommenced. Musketry is now in full swing, Saturday afternoon of each week being spent at Patterson range, a delightful spot adjacent to Rouken Glen. Most men appear to be exceptionally keen on their firing, though, owing to the stiff breezes found in this area, it is sometimes difficult to make a succession of bull's-eyes. In spite of the boisterous winds, some fairly good shooting has taken place, the two shining mostly up to date being Sappers Carmichael and Ritchie, though there are a lot more yet to compete.

Recruiting has now freshened up, but not to the extent that we would desire, though the men coming up are intellectual and of good physique. We would like to see the older hands roll up in larger numbers.

The following officers have been provisionally appointed, subject to final approval by the War Office:—1st Scottish Corps Signals Coy., R.E. (T.), Capt. G. R. Grange, D.S.O., M.C.; Capt. J. H. Barrie, T.D.; Capt. J. S. Muirhead, D.S.O., M.C.; Capt. (Bt.-Major) J. Stevenson, O.B.E. Lowland Divisional Signals: Lieut. D. F. Fulton, M.C.; Lieut. H. G. Gilchrist, D.S.O., M.C.; Lieut. C. H. McMillan; Lieut. E. I. Snodgrass.

H. J. T.

Wessex Div. Signal Company.

"Wessex"—our title. How do we get it? Many times such a question has been asked of us. On the occasion of our present monarch's coronation, when our old Company was represented by a small party, people in our great metropolis wondered what "T.R.E. Wessex" meant.

Although not posing as an authority on the early history of our country, I can perhaps give a rough idea as to how the word "Wessex" became identified with our old Territorial Force.

As is well known to the readers of THE WIRE, the six Western counties (Hampshire, Dorset, Wiltshire, Somerset, Devon and Cornwall) formed part of the ancient kingdom of Wessex. These counties were "lumped" together for military purposes into one district when the Territorial Force was inaugurated in 1908.

It has been said that when our Wessex ancestors laid their grasp on the kingship in the year 519, they were establishing a kingdom that has since swelled into the vast British Empire. Be that as it may, we know from our history books that, about 1400 years ago, the British chiefs, being attacked by the Picts and Scots, invited assistance from a body of Teutonic pirates hailing from the part known as Schleswig-Holstein.

This was after the Roman evacuation of Britain. These Teutons, known as Jutes, Angles and Saxons, agreed to help, and a sort of alliance was entered into with them, but, as events turned out, it proved a dangerous experiment, inasmuch as these strangers had constantly to be subsidised by tracts of land, etc.

The raiding Picts and Scots were driven back, and the Saxons, "feeling their feet a bit," increased their demands on the Britons. These demands being refused, the Saxons began to look around for means to secure what they wanted by fighting, and they allied themselves treacherously with the Picts and Scots.

These new allies met with stubborn resistance from the Britons, who were in the end, however, gradually worn down, and the Saxons, becoming masters of the land, formed kingdoms of the districts they conquered, e.g., Kent, called after the Cantii tribe; Sussex, or South Saxons; Essex, or East Saxons; and Mercia, our present Midlands.

Later, Wessex—the mightiest of them all—was formed, and comprised the greater part of England. To conquer Wessex, the Saxons began first to the west of Sussex, gradually pushing on to the west and occupying the towns of Bath, Gloucester, and Cirencester, which were founded by the Romans.

Then came a hold-up, and for two hundred years they could not get further west than the line now dividing Somerset from Devon. The country south and west of this line was ruled by a British king, and the tribes inhabiting this part were pretty "hot stuff" apparently; and the Saxons found themselves "up against it."

Christianity now comes into the picture. The Britons had been Christians for centuries, and Christianity had begun to penetrate the Saxon camp—so they, instead of following their hitherto bloodthirsty tactics, adopted a sort of "peaceful penetration." They did not exterminate, preferring to colonise, and they and the Britons lived side by side, having occasional disputes, no doubt.

According to historians, Egbert, King of Wessex, had a real busy time, and ended up by ruling as supreme lord over the country from Land's End to Edinburgh—Wessex had gained the overlordship of all England!

Portions of Devon and Cornwall were not, however, "mopped up" until some years later, in the reign of Athelstan the Stedfast.

The men of Wessex have a great inheritance; and long may they continue to prove faithful to it.

OLD SPARK.

R.E.O.C.A. Notes.

Signals Branch.

The date of the Annual General Meeting and Dinner is now definitely fixed as stated in the preliminary notice in last month's WIRE.

The General Meeting will take place at 3 p.m., and the Dinner at 6 o'clock (for 6.30 p.m.). General Sir Richard Harrison, G.C.B., C.M.G., Col. Commandant, Royal Engineers, has kindly consented to preside at the meeting, and also at the dinner. The price of dinner tickets has been fixed at 11s. (exclusive of wines).

It is hoped that the Signals Branch will be strongly represented, and that the facilities for the purchase of tickets by instalments, which have been made at the Training Centre, will be freely used.

The Hon. Secretary is prepared to receive applications for tickets, which will be issued as soon as available.

Your Servant and Comrade,

EDWIN G. HONEYWILL.

96 Shoe Lane, Fleet Street,
London, E.C.4.

The Artist's "Touch."

The properties of an old church in Belgium needing repair, the committee in charge employed an artist to touch up same. His work accomplished, the artist presented his bill, but the committee refused payment unless the details were specified; whereupon he presented the following:—

ITEMS.	
To correcting the Ten Commandments ...	5.10
Embellishing Pontius Pilate and putting new ribbon on his hat ...	3.9
Putting new tail on rooster of St. Peter and mending his comb ...	2.20
Repluming and regilding the left wing of Guardian Angel ...	5.18
Washing the servant of the High Priest and putting carmine on his cheeks ...	5.2
Renewing Heaven, adjusting the stars, and cleaning up the moon ...	7.14
Touching up Purgatory and restoring lost souls Brightening up the flames of Hell, putting new tail on the Devil, mending his hoof, and doing several odd jobs for the damned ...	7.10
Rebordering the robes of Herod and adjusting his wig ...	4.0
Taking the spots off the son of Tobias ...	1.30
Putting earrings in Sarah's ears ...	1.70
Putting new stone in David's sling, enlarging the head of Goliath, and extending the leg of Saul	6.18
Decorating Noah's Ark and putting head on Shem	4.31
Mending the shirt of the Prodigal Son and cleaning his ears ...	3.30
	58.66

Our Star Event.

How Tubby Tuckwood Became Famous!

It had been brewing for weeks, and everyone could see that it would have to take place as per book.

It was "Ginger Radford" who started the ball rolling by taking a fatherly interest in the welfare of "Tubby Tuckwood," much to the latter's disgust. No doubt Ginger meant well, and it was an overflow of kindness which was to prove his downfall.

Ginger told Tubby how to make a bed up; Ginger told him how to dress himself properly; Ginger kept the boys awake two hours after "lights out," telling Tubby how to groom mules; it was Ginger who threw the bolster at Tubby in a sudden burst of anger—and that did it!

In less time than it takes to eat an Army dinner, the fight was arranged to take place in E.1 Barrack Room at three o'clock next day. It was to be a 30-one-minute round contest, under Professor Cordite's rules.

When the hour of conflict arrived, and the six men detailed to drag Ginger from the stables to the scene of battle had proved successful, the referee (Ted Royd) introduced the combatants to each other and to the crowd, amidst rousing cheers for both men.

A great fight was anticipated, and on the sound of the gong for the first round, Eugene Corri would have admired the appearance of the splendid opponents. The interest shown by the spectators (who had by this time increased in numbers, owing to the arrival of the Orderly Sergeant) was a testimony to the splendid art of self-defence.

The first round (which was also the last) was full of exciting incidents. Tubby led off with a straight left to Ginger's nose, which could not be possibly covered, even by a pair of 6 oz. gloves. This caused Ginger to be very cautious, and he began some lovely footwork; but after being persuaded that kicking was not in the Book of Rules, the fight went on, and once again that elusive left of Tubby's was very prominent. Although Ginger tried several tactics, such as stopping for a drink, and complaining about the length of time the round appeared to be going, he was no match for Tubby, who with a splendid left, landed a smashing hit on Ginger's recently vaccinated arm. THAT DID IT!

The fight was over, and one more would-be champion faded into oblivion, or rather the Dry Canteen, where the loser's share of the stakes (8d.) was expended on sticking plaster, etc., etc.

Tubby's share of the purse, amounting to 1s. 6d., by reason of the Orderly Sergeant breaking out and contributing 2d., has been greatly depleted by the purchase of a suitable contrivance to make the three top buttons on his tunic perform their proper functions, since he realised that his "dooks" are not for manipulating a knife and fork only.

Moral: Never try to do unto others as ye would not wish to be done unto you.

PERPOLE.

SEALYHAMS FOR SALE.—Two Dogs and two Bitches (6 weeks old); white wire coat; badger-marked head; good breed, by well-known badger dog, "Bob." Price—Dogs £2; Bitches 30/- (to good homes only). Apply Mr. H. Brown, Cycle Shop, Chequers, Maresfield.

The Trials of Editing and Publishing a Trench Journal during the War.

By CORPORAL E. FREEMAN, R.E.

After a stay in Bethune of some two months, during which "The Switchboard" made excellent headway and established somewhat of a record as regards circulation, my Division moved northwards again, our rendezvous this time being the Nieuport sector on the coast. This took some twelve days by road, and incidentally I may mention that, during the journey, two bales of magazines (containing 2000 copies) were lost in transit—which loss went to swell the ever-increasing number of bad debts the journal had to contend with.

The competition in the trench journal line was now being felt all along the Front, for many other Divisions were publishing their own magazines. Further, the English "Blighy"—which, it will be remembered, was issued free to the troops—also made a great difference to our sales. The most serious problem, however, was the cost of printing, etc., which had increased so much that it was found impossible to continue publication of the magazine without serious loss; and the question of an increase in price to 2d., or a reduction in the number of pages, had to be decided. The latter course was taken, and our circulation maintained for a time.

Among the many contributors to "The Switchboard" during its career were the Misses Louise Heilgers, Dorothy Ward, and Phyllis Dare, Messrs. Rudyard Kipling, Horatio Bottomley, George Robey, etc., while its subscribers in England included the King's Librarian (British Museum), and many notabilities too numerous to mention. The magazine was also frequently quoted in the English Press, including an article in *The Daily Mirror*.

The publication of "The Switchboard" came to an abrupt end in August, 1917, when the writer was unfortunately put "out of action" near Nieuport, labelled "Blighy," and brought back to hospital in England. No one in the Division would shoulder the responsibility of continuing publication, and it was found impossible to do so from this side of the water.

It will be seen that the running of a trench journal during the war was a thankless job, owing, as I have previously mentioned, to the lack of official support and finance; and when I look back on the many difficulties which one met with on every hand, not forgetting the personal monetary losses in connection with the same, I sum up, and to use a vulgar expression—"It was not worth the candle!"



THE END.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

[Items for publication under this heading should be addressed to The Editor, THE WIRE, Headquarters, Signal Training Centre, Maresfield, Sussex.]

Births.

To the wife of 18438 Sergt. C. A. Bryant, a daughter (Kathleen Mary), at Buckland, Portsmouth, on July 30th, 1920.

To the wife of 314226 Pioneer S. E. Russell, a son (George Edgar), at Uckfield, on August 15th, 1920.

To the wife of 23177 L/Sergt. P. H. Parkiss, a daughter (Louisa Mabel), at Gillingham, Kent, on August 21st, 1920.

Marriages.

24233 Corpl. Davies to Alice Emma Smith, at Dean, Wilts, on December 26th, 1919.

613602 Pioneer H. L. G. Feming to Ellen Alice Eden, at Bethnal Green, on July 24th, 1920.

26478 A/L/Cpl. A. A. Squirrell to A. Briley, at Ordsall, Notts, on August 2nd, 1920.

251644 L/Sergt. I. F. Johnson to Emily Bower, at Sheffield, on August 21st, 1920.

28511 Corpl. W. C. Moore to Muriel Brown, at Portsmouth, on August 31st, 1920.

BASS-BAX. On 15th September, 1920, at Uckfield Registry Office, 314100 Sapper George Bass, R.E. (of Maresfield Camp and Devonshire), to Lily ("Pat") Bax, of Uckfield.

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Arithmetic.

First Prize - - - 7/6

Second Prize - - - 2/6

Will be awarded for the neatest and clearest solutions of the problems given below.

Rules.

- 1—Each problem should be worked on one side only of a sheet of paper, with the full name, number, and rank of the competitor.
- 2—Only arithmetical methods will be accepted, and full working must be shown.
- 3—The decision of the O.C. School will be final, and solutions should be submitted by the 16th October, 1920.
- 4—The prizes will not be awarded unless all problems are attempted, with at least three correct for First Prize, and two correct for the Second Prize.

Problems for October.

1.—"A" has a box almost full of matches. He gives "B" a certain number and inadvertently drops the box, and in recovering them he loses one third of the number he gave to "B." He has now exactly half the matches he started with. He uses thirteen matches and several expletives to light his pipe, and discovers he has only three matches left. But the box was not full when he started; if it had been he would have had seven left. How many matches did the full box contain?

2.—Find by the shortest method, $\left\{ \frac{4}{5}, \frac{4}{5^2}, \frac{4}{5^3}, \frac{4}{5^4} \right\}$ the sum of

3.—An observer on the platform of a railway station noticed that a train passed him in seven seconds, and that it passed completely through the station, which was 396 yards long, in twenty-five seconds. How long was the train, and how fast was it moving?

4.—If 6 cows eat up a field of growing grass in 3 days, and 3 cows can eat it up in 7 days, in how many days can 1 cow eat it up?

Winners of the September Prizes.

First Prize—(4 correct) No. 314366 Sapper J. S. Roos (Headquarters).

Second Prize—(3 correct) No. 314100 Sapper Bass (E Company)

Solutions, by Capt. A. T. Houldsworth, R.A.S.C.

O.C. School, Maresfield Park Camp.

No. 1—
Cost Price=3
Selling Price=4
Gain=1
∴ Gain per cent. = $\frac{1}{3} \times 100 = 33\frac{1}{3}$ —Ans.

No. 2—Let value of property=£100

Value after 1st venture = $\frac{100 \times 60}{100}$ —£

Value after 2nd venture = $\frac{100 \times 60 \times 120}{100 \times 100}$ —£

Value after 3rd venture = $\frac{100 \times 60 \times 120 \times 120}{100 \times 100 \times 100}$ —£

Value after 4th venture = $\frac{100 \times 60 \times 120 \times 120 \times 120}{100 \times 100 \times 100 \times 100}$ —£
=103 $\frac{1}{2}$

∴ Percentage of profit = $\frac{£103\frac{1}{2} - £100}{£100} = 3\frac{1}{2}$ —Ans.

No. 3—(a) Enemy strength—enemy losses=20000 men
(b) Allies or $\frac{2}{3}$ enemy strength— $\frac{1}{3}$ enemy losses=10000 men

(c) Multiply (b) by $\frac{3}{2}$ then enemy strength— $\frac{1}{2}$ enemy losses = $\frac{10000 \times 3}{2}$ men

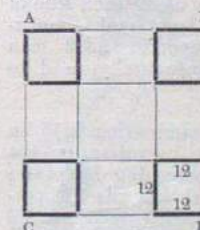
Subtract (c) from (a) leaves $\frac{2}{3}$ enemy losses = $\frac{10000}{3}$ men

∴ Enemy losses = $\frac{10000 \times 9}{3 \times 2} = 15000$ men

And Allied losses = $\frac{15000 \times 11}{15} = 11000$ men

∴ Original Enemy strength=35000 men }
" Allied " =21000 men } Ans.

No. 4—



Let A B C D=hollow square, each side consisting of more than 36 men, for if the square of 1296 men were solid there would be exactly 36 men on each side.

As the men are formed 12 deep all round, mark off 4 squares, each 12×12, at each corner.

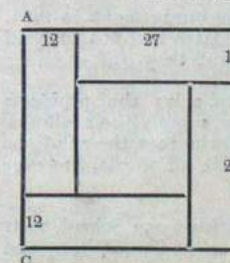
No. of men used for 4 corner squares=4 (12×12)=576

∴ No. of men left to complete hollow square=1296—576=720

∴ Each of the 4 equal rectangles=720÷4=180
∴ The front of each rectangle=180÷12=15 men
∴ Side of hollow square=12+15+12=39 men

∴ Whole front = 39×4=156 men—Ans.

OR
Let A B C D=hollow square



Mark off 4 equal rectangles, each 12 men deep.

Number of men in each rectangle=12×12=324

∴ Front of each rectangle=324÷12=27

∴ Side of square=27+12=39

∴ Whole front=39×4=156 men—Ans.

Notes, by O.C. School.

The third and fourth problems last month proved troublesome to many of the competitors. The third one is a variation of an old type of problem, but its construction was such that competitors did not use the usual methods in attempting the solution of problems of this type.

The fourth problem would probably prove more difficult to soldiers (who quite naturally attempted to use their practical knowledge, with the result that many difficult situations were evolved) than to civilians who would approach it with an open mind. As this problem has interested so many, especially those who worked the "A" paper in the July Examination, I will construct a similar problem, based on the same data, which, I hope, may prove helpful.

Let us imagine a walk taken round this hollow square for the purpose of counting the men. We count those on the first side, including the twelve deep, and then proceed to the second side, and we find that we are counting some of the men twice. If we saw them full face on one side, we now get a side view of the same men on the second side: the result being that at each corner there are 144 (12×12) men who come into the count twice, making a total of $1296 + 576 = 1872$ men, which, of course, is inaccurate. But in order to make this inaccurate count, there must be $1872 \div 12$, viz., 156 men on the whole front. Working on the information we now possess, the following problem can be constructed:—

"A body of men were hurriedly formed into a hollow square twelve deep all round. An order was received that the strength of the 'square' was to be sent to Headquarters forthwith, a despatch rider waiting for the message. An N.C.O. walked quickly along each side of the square, counted the men in the front ranks, multiplied the result by twelve, and reported 1892 men present. What number of men was actually used to form this hollow square?"

Reverting to the First Class Examination held in July, the results were, taking into consideration the difficulties, very satisfactory. The percentage of passes in Group I. in the Eastern Command was 72; the percentage of passes at Maresfield Park Camp was 92 per cent. One candidate obtained 99 marks out of 100 in arithmetic, three obtained 98, one 96, and another 92 the average percentage being 86 marks. The percentage in composition was 70, and in map-reading 75.

The one failure tipped the contents of an ink well on a map he had been working at for over an hour, and although given another map, the time proved too short for him, and he was 11 marks short of the minimum number.

I would say, as a word of encouragement to men, that many of the successful candidates had not touched the subjects for over ten years, but they *did* work.

While many men attempt to solve the problems in THE WIRE, comparatively few submit their efforts. I would say that the only person who sees the solutions is myself; and I personally welcome all efforts, however feeble they may appear.

It is of interest to note that at least one School, near Chatham, uses the problems given in THE WIRE, and the solutions, I am told, prove of interest.

Literary.

Prize - - - Five Shillings

Rules.

- 1.—Re-write the sentences in correct form.
- 2.—State your reasons for corrections immediately underneath each corrected sentence.

Questions—Common Errors in Language.

Correct faults, if any, of expression, grammar, etc., in the following sentences, and give your reasons.

- 1.—I never remember having met his equal.
- 2.—Neither in writing for the learned or for the general reader was he very successful.
- 3.—There was nobody there but him.
- 4.—Who have you told?
- 5.—I am sorry to differ with you.
- 6.—The book is laying on the desk.
- 7.—The man with his wife and two sons were drowned.
- 8.—A boy sat on either side of the table.

Winner of the September Prize.

No. 623610 Sapper G. V. Burns (G Coy., Crowborough).

Highly Commended—

No. 619535 Sapper H. Ring (E Company).

No. 314366 Sapper J. S. Roos (E Company).

No. 314100 Sapper Bass (E Company).

Fishing Extraordinary.

We were encamped in a pleasant valley in County Tipperary, in the midsummer of 1914, spending our time on Signal schemes, grooming, and sports. Owing to the heat, work (other than schemes) was so arranged that nothing was doing, except the inevitable grooming, after one o'clock.

About a mile from the camp was a pleasant stream, broad and shallow, and spanned at one point by a curious footbridge composed mainly of airline poles suspended from D5 cable, and resting on empty casks (lent for the purpose by the Canteen).

This stream was alleged to contain salmon, and the rumour aroused the sporting instincts of more than one member of the N.C.O.s Mess; and, accordingly, a project for a poaching affair was put up. Our arch-scrounger, accompanied by a comrade with a rich brogue and an Irish patronymic, prepared a scheme, and, with due secrecy (more or less), enlisted a few companions to assist in the business.

The Mess caterer had to be taken into confidence, for the poachers required dozens of corks with which to make their floats. The Sergeant-Major was also approached with a request for the loan of the Company cricket net, and his suspicions were allayed with the promise of a nice fat salmon for breakfast. A couple

of very secretive lads were also obtained to assist with the manual labour part of the business.

The party being made up to the required strength, the apparatus was put in order. The gear was very primitive, and consisted of the cricket net supported by bunches of corks, and a couple of airline poles. Everything being in readiness, the party arranged to assemble at 11 p.m. (closing time), outside the Mess-tent, and proceed with the gear to the scene of operations.

Time dragged along, and after a seemingly excessive wait, during which the party were well fortified with Dutch courage, 11 p.m. arrived, and the little group set out, making a wide detour to avoid the sentries. The evening was clear and warm, but very dark.

The ramshackle bridge was the point of assembly, and along it the net was spread. Owing to the "giving" of the holdfasts, and the loss of a certain amount of buoyancy of the casks, the centre of the bridge was a few inches under water, which fact was not observed until Paddy, the gentleman with the brogue and the end of the net, felt his socks getting damp. The resultant flow of Erse nearly destroyed the element of surprise, and the rocking of the bridge must have disturbed the fish for miles around.

At last the net was successfully spread and let down into the water, and it was observed with great satisfaction that the weight of the net did not cause the bunches of corks to be entirely submerged.

The stream was not of a regular width; in some places it was broader than in others, and a projecting boulder or bush, combined with the darkness, caused a little difficulty in the dragging.

The party proceeded along the stream, keeping on the banks, for none wished to wade, and about a dozen yards were covered, the net being extended to its fullest capacity, for the river was fairly broad at that point. Paddy was in charge of operations on one bank, and the possessor of a Cockney accent in charge on the opposite side.

Things were not going at all well, and Paddy was nearly pulled into the river on more than one occasion, while in trying to keep his balance he gave one or two healthy tugs at the net and caused discomfiture to the other side.

A Cockney voice was heard through the darkness, requesting "Go easy; yer nearly 'ad me in the perishing river; don't jerk abaht so much."

Paddy apparently lost his temper at that request, and an extra hefty tug caused him to lose his balance too, and into the water he went with a terrible splash, which should, by rights, have attracted the attention of every member of the R.I.C. in the county. The language following the splash completely demoralised the remainder of the would-be poachers, who fled to the camp, abandoning both Paddy and the gear.

Breakfast the following morning was a disappointment.

The cricket net had been returned (Paddy had collected it after his immersion), but that was all. Two airline poles and one military cap were found by the R.I.C. a mile downstream, but the owner of the cap has not claimed his property to this day.

BUNYAH.

SPORTS NEWS.

Football.

S.T.C. v. Lewes.

The above "friendly" match took place at the Drip-pan Pan, Lewes, on September 11th, before a good attendance of spectators.

The teams lined up at 3.30, and the Depot team, winning the toss, decided to play with their backs to the sun. During the first ten minutes Lewes were very dangerous, and after fifteen minutes' play they opened the score with a good goal.

On kicking off again, the Depot team pressed and forced a corner, but the Lewes backs cleared easily.



The Depot team again "came on" and forced five more corners in quick succession, but these were of no avail. The Lewes forwards then had a turn and broke away; their efforts, however, were spoiled by Turnbull, who ran the ball up the field, and, beating all opposition, scored a fine goal from 30 yards range. Half-time arrived with the score level—one goal each.

On the resumption of play, the Depot team did all the forcing and completely outplayed their opponents, seeming to score as they liked. Seven more goals were registered (Baines 4, and Shenton, Gresham and Fairclough, 1 each), and the final whistle sounded with the score, S.T.C. 8; Lewes 1. Thus the Depot team registered their first win. Let us hope they will keep it up!

LULU.

S.T.C. (2nd XI.) v. Eastbourne Convalescent Camp

Playing at home, in variable weather and on a soft ground, before 70 spectators, the S.T.C. 2nd XI. defeated Eastbourne Convalescent Camp by 13 goals to

nil. The S.T.C. lined up thus: Trapmore, goal; Wooldridge and Metcalfe, backs; Turner, White, and Smith, half-backs; Eynott, Tidswell, Hatcher, Cyster and Harrison, forwards.

The S.T.C. team showed a clear superiority over their opponents. The work of the forwards (except a few wild kicks by wing men) was extremely good. White played a very fine game at centre half, and Wooldridge and Metcalfe were brilliant. At no time were the visiting team dangerous; they lacked speed and control of the ball.

The writer would like to see the N.C.O.s and men roll up in hundreds to support the S.T.C. team, which they have very good reason to be proud of.

P. E. N.

Fixtures, 1920-21.

1st XI.—SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE.

Oct. 2nd—Worthing	...	...	Home
Oct. 16th—Eastbourne	...	...	Home
Oct. 23rd—Eastbourne	...	...	Away
Oct. 30th—Rock-a-Nore	...	...	Away
Nov. 6th—Lewes	...	...	Home
Nov. 13th—East Grinstead	...	...	Away
Dec. 18th—Shoreham	...	...	Away
Dec. 26th—Chichester	...	...	Away
Jan. 8th—Southwick	...	...	Away
Jan. 15th—East Grinstead	...	...	Home
Jan. 29th—Brighton and Hove Amateurs	...	...	Away
Feb. 5th—Vernon Athletic	...	...	Away
Feb. 19th—Shoreham	...	...	Home
Feb. 26th—Rock-a-Nore	...	...	Home
Mar. 5th—Chichester	...	...	Home
Mar. 12th—Worthing	...	...	Away
Mar. 19th—Lewes	...	...	Away
April 9th—Brighton and Hove Amateurs	...	...	Home
April 16th—Newhaven	...	...	Away
April 23rd—Vernon Athletic	...	...	Home
April 30th—Southwick	...	...	Home

2nd XI.—EAST SUSSEX LEAGUE.

Oct. 2nd—Seaford	...	...	Away
Oct. 9th—R.E., Eastbourne	...	...	Away
Oct. 16th—Hailsham	...	...	Away
Nov. 6th—Eastbourne	...	...	Away
Nov. 20th—Hailsham	...	...	Home
Nov. 27th—R.E., Eastbourne	...	...	Home
Dec. 11th—Bexhill	...	...	Home
Dec. 18th—Seaford	...	...	Home
Feb. 5th—Bexhill	...	...	Away
Mar. 5th—Newhaven	...	...	Away
Mar. 19th—Eastbourne	...	...	Home
Mar. 26th—Newhaven	...	...	Home

The Depot teams are entered for the following competitions:—Sussex Senior Cup, Sussex Junior Cup, East Sussex Challenge Cup, Army Cup, English Amateur Cup, Irish Rifles Cup (Knock-out), and Shoreham Ladies' Charity Cup.

Notes.

Now that Football has commenced, we are looking forward to a record season, and have every prospect of carrying off a few honours.

Our First and Second Elevens are pretty strong this year, and although last year we had the Sussex Senior and Junior Cups within our grasp, we hope to "lift" them this time.

We have secured a new playing pitch near the Camp, and we are looking forward to all the boys rolling up in large numbers.

As the season advances, the positions of our teams in their respective Leagues will be shown in every issue of THE WIRE.

The Committee of the Club comprises Lieut. Hirst (President), Lieut. Talbot, R.S.M. Nolan, R.S.M. Simmet, C.S.M. Cussens, C.S.M. Terry (Secretary), Corpl. Halls, Corpl. Griffin, L/Corpl. Spreadborough.

Congratulations to L/Corpl. Turnbull on his being selected to play for the Army against Chelsea.

Cricket.

S.C.T. Cricket League.

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
"E" Company	8	6	2	0	16
"D" Company	8	6	2	0	16
"C" Company	8	6	2	0	16
"F" Company	8	5	3	0	12
"A" Company	8	4	4	0	10
"B" Company	8	3	5	0	7
"Admin." Coy.	8	3	5	0	7
"P" Company	8	2	6	0	4
"X" Company	8	1	7	0	2

S.T.C. Cricket Shield.

The draw for the "decider" for the above shield resulted as follows: "E" Company v. "D" Company, the winner to play "E" Company (a bye).

The match "E" and "D" proved very exciting. The scores were: "E" Company 119; "D" Company, 112. "Eddy" thus ran out winners by 7 runs.

Tennis.

Company Tennis League.

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Half-Pts
"D" Company	8	8	0	0	52
Admin. Coy.	8	7	1	0	43
"E" Company	8	5	3	0	28½
"F" Company	8	4	4	0	28½
"P" Company	7	1	6	0	23½
"A" Company	8	1	7	0	20½
"C" Company	7	3	4	0	20
"X" Company	6	2	4	0	16½

Water Polo.

Water Polo League.

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
"A" Company	7	7	0	0	7
"F" Company	7	6	1	0	6
"E" Company	8	5	2	1	6
"C" Company	6	4	1	1	5
"P" Company	6	2	4	0	2
"X" Company	6	2	4	0	2
Admin. Company	8	2	6	0	2
"D" Company	8	2	6	0	2

S.T.C. Championship, 1920.

	Soccer	Hockey	Cross Country Running	Athletics	Aquatic Sports	Boxing	Total Mark
"C" Coy ...	8	12	14	18	9	6	67
"E" Coy ...	14	14	5	16	6	9	64
"D" Coy ...	12	10	2	13	3½	7	47½
"B" Coy ...	10	8	5	4	3½	5	35½
"F" Coy ...	6	6	8	6	7	2	35
Admin. Coy.	2	4	10	8	0	0	24
"X" Coy ...	—	—	—	10	5	4	19
"P" Coy ...	—	—	—	2	3½	3	8½

Note:—† Count half marks.

THE WIRE

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Signal Training Centre—

Maresfield: C.S.M. W. Butler, R.E., H.Q.S.T.C.

Crowborough: Capt. O. S. D. Wills, "P" Company.

R.E.O.C.A. Notes.

Signals Branch.

I am sorry to learn that the number of applications from "Signals" for tickets for the Annual Dinner on the 16th October was so small. In spite of our mutual disappointment, it was not difficult to find reasons for the paucity of these applications. Conditions were less favourable than for the dinner of last year. The increase in the price of the ticket was, perhaps, not a big item; but the withdrawal of travelling concessions (as we knew them in pre-war days) hits all of us very badly. Coupled with this, and particularly in the case of the Training Centre, was the difficulty of getting back to quarters after the event. I understand the last train for Crowborough and Uckfield leaves London at 8 p.m. This entails the expense of accommodation for the night, and so the Old Comrade who wishes to foregather with his soldier friends finds himself up

against the following proposition: Ticket, railway fare at full rate, bed and breakfast in London, and (dare I say it?) a bottle of "wine" at the venue. It simply can't be done!

'Tis a soldier's privilege to grouse, and he is only beaten at the game by those who are not soldiers; but the reduction of pay consequent upon the new "marriage allowance" stunt, which affects so many of us, does not help us to provide a margin for social events such as our annual re-unions. However, the R.E.O.C.A. dinner is now a thing of the past, for this year at any rate, and as the previous paragraphs may be construed as destructive criticism, I will try to make amends by giving an alternative suggestion. It is that a Re-union Dinner be arranged in the vicinity of the Training Centre; for the moment I would suggest Tunbridge Wells as a good centre, and one that could be reached not only by serving members of the Centre, but also others from London and the South-Eastern Counties.

The first of these, I think, could be arranged at a very early date, and should become a historic occasion.

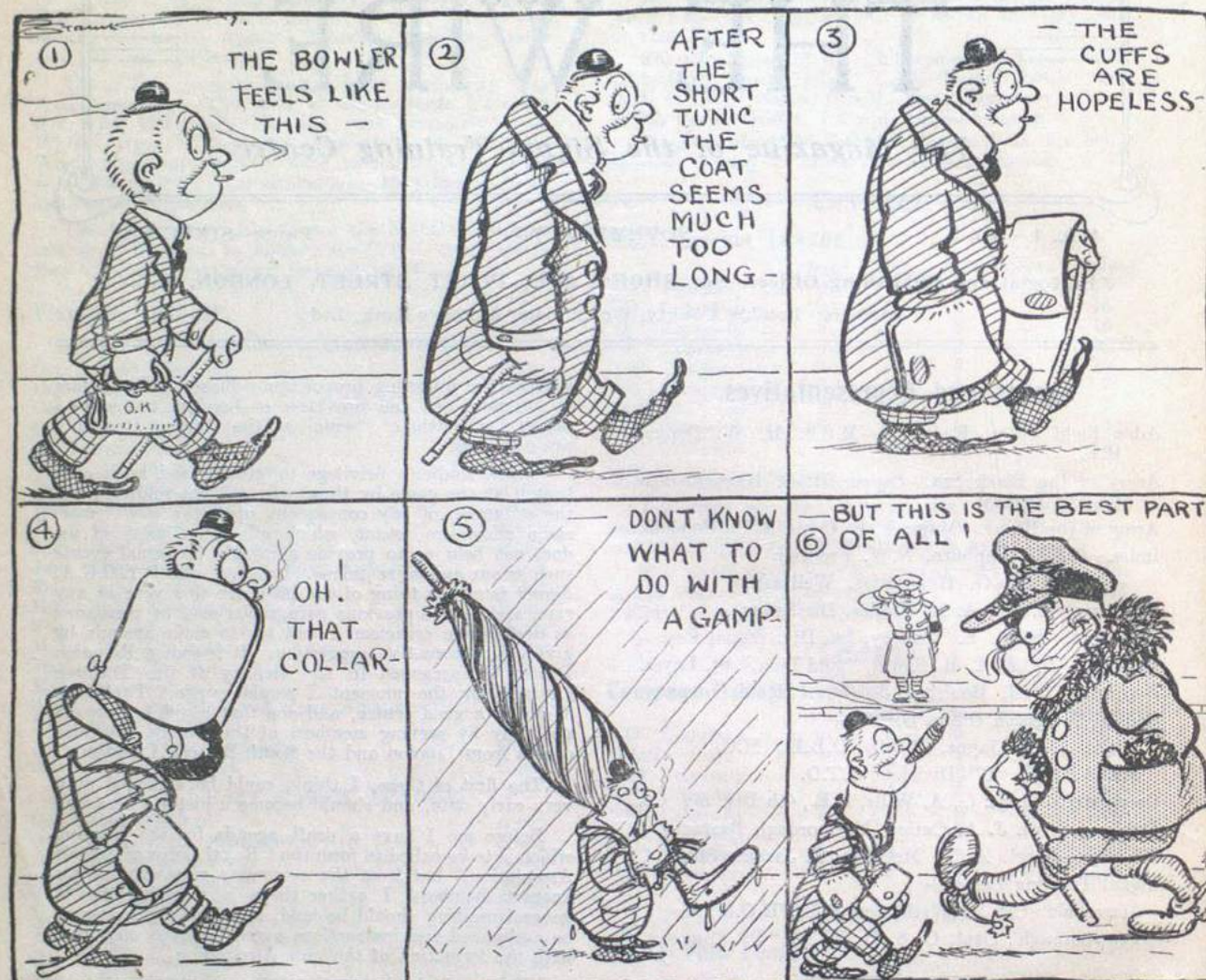
Before me I have a draft agenda for the meeting which is to be called to form the "Royal Corps of Signals Association," but from the comments of several of our keenest members, I gather there is a feeling that a general meeting should be held, at which opinions may be exchanged and instructions given to those entrusted with the formation of the new Association.

What could be better than that such a meeting be held, say, at the venue suggested above, and when business be done, that we all settle down to a cheery little dinner?

There will be much to talk about, and the position of the "Signals Branch, R.E.O.C.A." members with regard to their merging into the new Association will require special thought and attention.

There is plenty of individual enthusiasm in our Old Comrades movement, but we need an "event"—an "occasion of importance"—which will bring a large and representative body together, and so produce that enthusiastic whole which must ever be at the back of a movement founded on *esprit de corps*.

I am sure our President will lend his ready and enthusiastic support to the project, and I can guarantee to those who have not given the matter a thought, that they will have a pleasant surprise if they will avail themselves of an opportunity to hear from that gallant gentleman how much at heart he has the welfare of the movement in all its phases. I propose to send to



When you get your "Civvies" on again.

[By courtesy of "The Daily Express."]

the Centres an outline of a proposal for holding this meeting, followed by a re-union dinner for "Signals." This, with blank columns, will be circulated to all Messes, with a request that all who are prepared to support the scheme by attending will append their signature.

Signals Branch Fund.

Beyond the subscriptions from annual subscribers, which (after Branch administrative expenses have been met) are passed on to Headquarters, R.E.O.C.A., there has not been any income to the Branch for some considerable time. Donations are small, and few and far between. May I suggest to the versatile gentlemen who do so much for the entertainment of the patrons of the Gaiety Theatre, Crowborough, that a show for the benefit of the funds of the "Signals" Old Comrades' movement would be much appreciated? With the advent of the new Association, our thoughts must turn to

the inception of a Benevolent Fund for the Corps, and it occurs to me that welcome contributions to this worthy purpose could be provided from the proceeds of some of the dances which will doubtless be arranged during the coming season.

R.E. Calendar.

At this month's meeting of the R.E.O.C.A. Central Committee, the report of the R.E. Calendar Committee was received. Some very excellent designs by ex-Sergt. Sidney Robbins, of "Signals," were submitted, together with estimates from printers. This calendar, unique in design and interest, will shortly be available at from 1s. 9d. to 2s. per copy.

Your Servant and Comrade,

EDWIN G. HONEYWILL.

Hon. Sec. "Signals" Branch.

TRAINING CENTRE NOTES.

Headquarters Notes.

Once again we are called upon to record a few of the "happenings" in this busy department; and although the strain of concocting news is beginning to tell, we hope to attain in time the standard of our journalistic comrade, the redoubtable "Grammar."

Many changes have taken place lately, and it is an exceedingly hard task to record them all, owing to the small space allotted by the Editor. The principal must be given space, however, no matter how wrathful he may become.

Sergt. "Jack" Lovell has, at last, succeeded in "getting a move on" (and one to his liking, too) by leaving us and attaching himself to the T.F. Staff. He commenced his duties at Brighton-on-the-Sea-Front. We wish him every success in his new vocation, and trust that he will be fortunate in obtaining a house to enable him to settle down at such a bright spot.

Corpl. Hill (Tommy), Sapper Roos (Jack), and Sapper De-La-Hunt (Della), decided that it was time to prepare for civil life, and so have gone to the Trade School, Hounslow, for their last "holiday" prior to commencing work. Good luck to them, and may their "screws" be as big as their optimistic spirits.

We were pleased to welcome the Chief Clerk on his return from a well-earned leave, which was spent in Devon with Mrs. Butler and children. The sun has certainly replaced a little of the bronze which he formerly exhibited on returning from the Soudan.

Our new Benedict (see last month's notes) has been pestered with enquiries relative to marital matters by his flighty chums, who are afraid to take the step and—"marry the gal." Take our tip, George, and leave them to find out the pleasures of matrimony in due course, when they have obtained the necessary courage to mark time to the strains of Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" (Time, one-one-two?)

Great rumours have been prevalent on the subject of a football match (some players here). Has anyone heard of the Staff arranging to play the Depot Team?

—or is it only a friendly between the recruits of "A" Company? We wonder what will actually happen.

Note.—Arrangements have been made with the Mess Property Committee to borrow a cribbage board for the purpose of recording the score of "A" Company—and the M.O. will be present.

The Staff tender their sincerest sympathies to L/Sgt. and Mrs. Legg in their recent disappointment and sad loss, and wish Mrs. Legg a speedy recovery to health. There are many things in this life which are beyond the comprehension of we "humans," and such trials are sent to test us. May they receive comfort from the motto, "Nil desperandum."

TED & Co.

1st Training Battalion Gossip.

Where's the Band?

Throughout the summer this question has arisen from numerous members of the Camp, and it seems rather a pity that our Entertainments Committee have let the season slip by without arranging a few outdoor concerts by the S.T.C. Band for the benefit of the Centre in general.

Through the untiring efforts of the Bandmaster, Lieut. W. A. Kemp, R.E., our voluntary band has been kept together, but the only occasions on which it is heard to advantage are the Sunday church parades, which unfortunately are of so short a duration.

I believe it is the general practice of Battalions or Depots possessing their own band to give Sunday afternoon concerts to the troops of their unit, and if these could only be arranged on similar lines at Maresfield, with an occasional visit to Crowborough, they would be much appreciated by all.

The playing and smart turn-out of the S.T.C. Band at the recent Uckfield Carnival were much commented upon by the local inhabitants, and we look forward to them giving us a treat "at home" in the near future. What say our friends at Crowborough?

Excursion to Eastbourne.

On Saturday, October 2nd, a large party from the Camp took advantage of the cheap char-a-banc trip to Eastbourne arranged by C.S.M. Smith, in connection with the football match there between the 1st S.T.C. team and Eastbourne Royal Engineers (T.) in the first round of the English Amateur Cup. Six handsome and up-to-date cars were supplied by Messrs. Chapman and Sons, of Eastbourne, and these made quite an imposing array when they moved off from the main drive shortly after 11.00 hours.

After a short halt at Hailsham, where the party partook of the usual "refresher," Eastbourne was reached in quick time, and the party split up to explore the town and sea front.

When the match commenced at 15.30 hours, our team suffered no lack of support from the members of this

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Camp and, needless to say, won in a canter by 4 goals to 1, although in the first half Eastbourne put up rather a stiff fight.

An amusing incident on the field during the afternoon was the appearance of Sergt. Field's pet duck, who waddled about among the crowd gaily decked out with the Signal colours. Many of the Eastbourne spectators, I think, were under the impression that it was old "Squeak" (of "Daily Mirror" fame) who was paying the match a visit.

After a very enjoyable day, the party reluctantly took leave of Eastbourne about 21.30 hours, and safely reached Camp shortly after 23.00 hours.

Is Maresfield Going Dry?

My short article last month, under the above heading, has apparently given rise to much comment in the Camp, and the question has evidently been taken up rather seriously in more than one quarter, for soon after it appeared in THE WIRE our worthy R.S.M. Mephram was instructed to convene a representative meeting of the "wets," with a view to ascertaining what steps should be taken to stem the encroaching tide of "dryness."

Therefore it came to pass that, on a recent afternoon, the said party hied themselves away to No. 6 Canteen to thrash the matter out; and suffice it to say that they were no connoisseurs of strong tea or stone beer, and further that their case was admirably championed by Sapper "Jimmy" Long.

Unfortunately, owing to the meeting being held behind closed doors, the Press were not admitted, so we regret being unable to present our readers with a report of the full proceedings. I understand, however, that the quality of the beer at present supplied by the N.A.C.B. in the Camp was the chief topic, and which has accounted for so many of our old "sweats" going "on the tack" lately.

The outcome of the conference was that we are to get a better quality beer in the future, so doubtless the answer to our heading will soon be in the "negative."

"Wind Up!"

Anyone visiting Maresfield this past week or so has naturally been struck with the "certain liveliness" among the thousand and one members of the Camp. Camp hairdressers have been working overtime; long queues lined up outside our Canteens clamouring for "Blanco" and every description of cleaning kit; caps were held tightly to the head when passing Company offices, etc. Readers may ask why all this thushness, but if they have diligently studied ORDERS (and all good soldiers seldom refrain from doing so), they would find that our "annual" had come round again, and the Commandant was making his general inspection of the troops.

"F" Company were the first to appear on the Regimental Parade Ground in all their "glitter" (which unfortunately, in these days of khaki, is confined chiefly to our mess tin lids and buttons), and presented quite a smart appearance. A week later it was the turn of "D" Company to face the critical ordeal, and at the time of writing, "A" and "E" Companies are preparing for the eventful hour.

The Camp photographer has been kept busy these days in coping with an abnormal demand for postcards of the various Platoons on parade, and on which, judging from the various photos the writer has seen, every man looks "like a soldier."

The Monthly "Howler."

A sturdy-looking recruit presented himself to the Sick Corporal the other morning, with a request to "report sick."

The Corporal, being struck with the healthy appearance of the man, could not help remarking as to the cause of his complaint, and fairly gasped when the recruit enlightened him as follows: "Well, it's like this 'ere, Corporal, I ain't getting my proper amount of sleep since I joined up, for whenever I goes down to Uckfield for a walk at night in the fresh air, I comes back and snores so loudly in my sleep that I keeps on waking myself up!"

Tableau! The Corporal entered himself on the Sick Report, and next night the recruit found himself "fully awake" on Main Guard.

E. FREEMAN, Corpl. R.E.

Company Notes.

"A" Company.

Owing to extra "wind up" over the coming General's Inspection, I'm afraid the time at my disposal will not permit of my devoting much to notes. Well, in spite of finishing at the bottom of the Association and Hockey Leagues last season, we did passably well in the Battalion Championship, finishing fourth on the list, one-third of a point behind "D" Company; so please, Mr. Editor, don't leave us right out of the Championship table as you did in last month's issue. [Dear "Granmar," I'm so sorry the mutilation of last month's Table was due to my pencil. But is your arithmetic quite correct?—The "Poor Printer."]

We have played two matches in the Football League (Senior and Junior). Our first was against an S.T.C. eleven from "D" Company, and needless to say we lost by 8 goals to nil, but were not by any means disgraced. Our defence played a great game for about thirty minutes, until they were eventually worn down and forced to capitulate. Our Reserves came off even worse, and were beaten by 11 goals to 1.

In the second game, *versus* "Admin." Company, our men were absolutely off colour in front of goal, and although having most of the game, were beaten by 3 goals to 2. Our Reserves on this occasion did much better, and won.

We have also played a Hockey League match *versus* "F" Company, and once again retired beaten by a better-balanced team, but only by 2 goals to 1—so we are hoping to improve in this department as the season advances. We don't intend to be at the bottom of these Leagues this season if we can help it.

GRANMAR.

"D" Company.

We have so far been very successful at Soccer this season. Of course we have only played "A" Company in the League, and the scores were as follows: First XI. goals for 8; against 0. 2nd XI., goals for 11; against 1. Unfortunately we have to play "Eddie" Company on the 21st inst., and one or two of our stars (including L/Corpl. Turnbull) will be away.



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JEWELLERS TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING

112, REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.



Preparing the Troops for Civilian Life.

[By courtesy of "The Daily Express."]

We have played one Hockey match—against "Admin." Company. They proved very "hot," and a tough game ended in a draw of two goals each.

NOTICE. Anyone requiring Christmas cards should inform "Blanco" of "D" Company fame.

Things We Want to Know.

Is Blanco still on probation as an O.K.?

Will anyone put in print the story of "Ginger and his dogs"?

Didn't Rags prove very "backward in coming forward," and cause a lot of "bad luggage"?

"E" Company.

Once again I have the pleasure of writing up a few notes on behalf of my (?) illustrious Company. In my

notes of last month I mentioned that we expected to carry off the Cricket honours. Well, everything went as I expected, and "Eddy" carried off the Cricket Shield, and thus another trophy has found a welcome home in the Company.

We had to play "C" Company for the possession of it, and the match came off on 18th September. Poor old "C" they came up from Crowborough like Solomon in all his glory, but returned sadder and (we hope) wiser men, beaten by over 100 runs. Never mind, "C!" you have one consolation—you are not the only ones who have gone through the mill, so better luck next time. Whilst on this subject I would like to congratulate Major Phillips and his merry men (on behalf of the Company) on their fine display and the consistency they have maintained throughout the season, which have led up to "Eddy" adding another shield to its collection of trophies.

October 10th, 1920.

How altogether pleasant,

Under skies of summer blue,

To sit basking in the present,

And watch a ball fly true:

To feel the sunrays' blessing

Soak luxuriously in,

And see the wrong side messing

Its chances of a win!

Does the vision I'm evoking

Of the sunshine and the heat

Fill your mind with thoughts provoking

Of bowlers bad to meet?

Cheerio! your blobs are over—

Googlies, lobs, and yorkers sleep;

No more points remain to cover,

No wickets fast to keep.

For I do not sing of Cricket, and its leisurely fatigue,
But of our initial contest in the Sussex County League.

DUSTY.

"J" Cable Section.

As this is their first contribution to THE WIRE, the "Jazz" Section have not very much to say, having been so busy training, and being such a small unit we have done very little in the sporting line.

Our only event of note was the way we put the "tin hat" on "A" Company at Soccer. We would also like to know why some of our team are not picked, especially as we are attached to "A" Company for sports. Evidently we shall have to see about a transfer to another Company where talent is appreciated.

Sapper Copley (now in the Second Eleven) is out for honours this season; also our "Joe," who is the only "Jimmy" holder in the Section, and is keeping fit for the coming cross-country running season.

We are also hoping to do well in the next Boxing Tournament. L/Corpl. McCafferty and Sapper McVay are keeping up to the mark, and they hope to turn the tables next time they clash.

JAZZER.

A. L. LEACH

Cycle Engineer

Car for Hire. Cycles for Hire. Accessories.

REPAIRS a Speciality. Personal Supervision.

23, RINGLES CROSS
UCKFIELD.

The most heroic player

Of all the opposing side

Maintained their goal—a stayer

Considerably tried;

For, facing times unreckoned

A swift and deadly shoot,

He came in to the second

With warding hand or boot.

Though many a one he parried,

He could not stop the lot,

So four to one we carried—

And each a lovely shot!

Now, on this start erecting

The season's hope and aim,

Excuse me for directing

Attention to my claim:—

That this benignant chortle may be merely runner-up
To a pean on the capture of the Sussex Senior Cup.

JAY HOO.

Crowborough Notes.

"B" Company.

There has not been much of interest to record during the past month, with the exception of the departure of L/Sergt. Goldman, who has gone to the 3rd Signal Company at Bulford. It came rather as a surprise to us, as we were all under the impression that he had only gone away for a few days on "strike" duty. We were sorry to lose his services; but "it's an ill wind," etc., and we understand that he is now comfortably installed in proper quarters, and no longer has to ride miles daily to and from Camp.

So far we have not met with the success we anticipated in the Battalion Soccer Leagues, but I believe we hold the record for "draws," having played five games—four of which ended in a draw. The results to date are:—Senior League, "B" v. "C," 1-1; "B" v. "G," 1-1. Junior League, "B" v. "C," 2-2; "B" v. "G," 2-1; "B" v. "P," 2-2.

At Hockey we are going strong, having comfortably won the two matches we have already played; but we have yet to meet the "crack" Company, so we have not started to "crow" yet.

In the Inter-Company Team Boxing Competition, we have once again had to give "best" to "C" Company, who beat us by a few points. It was a fine sporting show, at the end of which the cup and prizes were distributed by Capt. Hobkirk, after Lieut. Carstairs had given us a few words on the "sport" of boxing, etc. I don't think anyone begrudged the "bob" they spent on the two evenings' show, and we have to thank Lieut. Carstairs for doing so much in promoting the competition.

BEER.

"C" Company.

This month I must start my notes with an old proverb: "A change is as good as a rest." The last few weeks have proved this very forcibly. Having now been separated from all S.T.C. Leagues, we are able to give our lads here their money's worth as regards sport. They can now watch their own teams play without having to footslog to Maresfield, and the amount of enthusiasm shown by the spectators (though it gets somewhat boisterous at times) goes to show how much the separation is appreciated.

In this Company all sport is still going strong. Cricket is finished, and taking all into consideration, we have not done so badly. We lost the replay with "F" Company after a very good game. We also played "E" Company for the shield, but they proved too good for us in all departments. Nevertheless, we had a very nice game, and we congratulate "E" most heartily on winning the shield.

We did exceptionally well in the Aquatic Sports, winning the shield with a bit to spare. Sapper Massey won four individual events. We have also done well in the Water Polo League, and no doubt would have been still higher in the League but for one or two things which, perhaps, were unavoidable under the circumstances.

Before closing my notes on out-of-season games, I should like, on behalf of "C" Company, to thank our sister Company, "G," for the support they have given us since their "split" from us, and to wish them the best of luck in the coming season.

Football in this Camp is like pay-days: very attractive. Some very good matches have been seen.

Our first match in the Senior League (after a good many trial matches) was with "B" Company, and the result was not as they anticipated (ref. "B" Company's notes in September issue)—a good hard-fought game ending in "one all." "B" Company scored their goal with only a minute to go. We lost our centre forward (who sustained a cut on the eye) when the game was only a few minutes old.

Our next match was with "X" Company, and an even better game was witnessed. Again we lost our centre forward after a few minutes' play; this time he retired with an injury to his knee, which necessitated his staying in hospital ("sign-of-a-rest," or "sign of something," I believe the medical people call it).

Our senior team has also played Crowborough Wednesday and won by 4-2, the same team beating our juniors by 8-1—"some revenge."

The juniors have had two matches—the first with "B" Company, and the other with "P" Company. The match with "B" ended in a draw with 2 each, and that with "P" was postponed on account of weather.

Altogether, in the Battalion, we are seeing some very good matches, and enthusiasm is running very high. But now, my lads, do not let your enthusiasm run away with you too much and spoil a good match; and remember that the decision of the referee is final, both from the spectators' point of view and that of the players.

We are hoping to hear something from our boys' team later on, they having been entered for the (Boys') Army Cup. So far we have only had trial matches, but as we have three boys who are already playing in our Senior League, and one or two in the Junior League, it spells well for their future.

Hockey is in full swing now, several matches having taken place in the Battalion (the 1st T.B. have already felt their weight). Our Company team played "P" Company in their first match—a draw, no score being recorded, although both goals had some narrow escapes—but we are hoping for the best in the near future.

I have been asked, Mr. Editor, "What has become of the Time Table page in THE WIRE"? It should, in the opinion of a good many, form a permanent part of the magazine. Perhaps it could again be inserted?

And last, but not least, we have won the Cup for the best all-round unit in the S.T.C., beating "E" Company by 2½ points—a very narrow margin, but there! Well done, Eddie! hard lines! Better luck next time, perhaps!

"G" Company.

Winter sports are now going ahead, and, although our sportsmen are of the keenest, it is feared that a great improvement will have to be registered if we are to appear at the head of any table in any of the various departments of sport.

At Soccer we have not met with much success, although, as a Major was heard to remark upon the conclusion of the Officers v. N.C.O.s match, "If 'G' hasn't a team now, it will have by the end of the season." Let it be hoped that this is a forestalment of what will develop.

Only one Hockey match has been played, versus "B" Company, and it proved that, when our team has trained itself to last longer, good results will be produced, for after leading by 1-0 at half time, we were unfortunate in losing by 5-1. Although not wishing to depreciate the good game played by "B," this score hardly represents the true run of the game.

Referring to the Inter-Company Run which took place on October 12th, it would seem as though a quaint charge was levelled against this Company, a fact which caused us to fall into second place instead of tying with "C" for first honours. It was my intention to say quite a deal upon the subject, but as the matter has been settled, it is best to "let sleeping dogs lie." All our Girl Guides will, however, be brought into action upon the occasion of the next run.

"B" Company are an optimistic crowd of chaps, aren't they? That account of how they beat "C" at Soccer will, I presume, never be published now. Further, they hoped to become owners of the Boxing Cup at our expense; but the cup has had its quarterly airing and returned to its apparently permanent resting place in "G" Company's window.

Thanks to the efforts of our sportsmen, and that untiring pair of cooks, Amblen and Green, ably backed by Lieut. Owen, we attained top points on the final night, after being third to "X" and "B" Companies the previous night. Although the Battalion Notes will in all probability contain a full account of the fistic events, we feel that we must have a little to say about our own show.

Pinson and Blunt, of "G," met in the final of the feather-weights, and after two extra rounds Pinson won a very level fight on points. Lyons won the semi-final of the light-weights, his opponent retiring with a sprained thumb, and in the final—strangely enough—he won in the first round for the same reason. Hall won his bout in the bantam-weight semi-finals, but was outpointed by Wheatley in the final. The last fight of the evening—the final of the welter-weights—was won by Jackson with a very decisive knock-out in the first round. The sporting spirit displayed was admirable, and Capt. Hobkirk's motto, "Hit hard, hit often, and keep on hitting," typified the feeling of the evening.

ELECTRON.

"X" Company.

Half-an-hour in which to commence a series of chronicles! Truly a difficult undertaking, you must agree, and I offer my apologies for the brevity of this my first attempt to recount the occurrences, humorous and otherwise, in a Company aptly termed by a certain recruit, "Paradise Found."

Sport—A Brief Survey.

HOCKEY.—To date, our Hockey team have carried all before them, and we bid fair to retain our present enviable position in the League table.

FOOTBALL.—We still hope to find a footing, and must congratulate "P" Company on their recent victory, after a hard game, by the rather one-sided margin of 4-0.

BOXING.—We commenced very well in the recent boxing contest, but were not strong enough to get through the finals. We anticipate better luck in the next contest.

RUNNING.—Referring to the recent Battalion Cross-Country Run, one cannot but admire the spirit of those of no experience who participated and succeeded in gaining a point, especially as the whole affair was a subject for much wit and merriment. In the circumstances, we did very well to occupy third place, and we look forward to further success on the occasion of the next "run."

Things We Want to Know.

The real rank of our S.D.I.

Has the Gaiety Concert Party really been offered an engagement at the Vaudeville?—and whether a certain N.C.O., famed for his figure, has been approached with a view to his taking part as the Principal Boy in a possible Gaiety Pantomime?

Why a certain officer changed the colour of his car? And whether the police have anything to do with it?

In view of the fact that so many "old sweats" took part in the recent cross-country run, whether this event should not be re-named "The Veterans' Race"?

Whether the author of "Tarzan of the Apes" had gazed upon our Company Office Correspondence Clerk before he wrote his sequel, so appropriately entitled "The Return of Tarzan"?

Whether a certain C.Q.M.S. is being sued for damages to a motor car whilst cycling home?

VESTA.

Revue at Crowborough.

On October 14th I saw a performance of "What, again?" It was a really excellent show, in spite of so many places in the caste having to be filled up on account of strike duty. I understood several of the sketches had been changed, too.

Sapper Riggall is a notable addition. He cleverly filled a number of different parts. Sapper Holland was good as the old lady who had seen better days. I liked the Spanish singer, Sapper Massey, who took Corpl. Manton's part. Sergt. Olive was, as usual, very good in Dickens' characters, and splendid as the Waterloo veteran fighting his battles over again.

Lieut. Beattie, the "leading lady," was excellent, and was much better supported. Callegari was very amusing as Bert in the first sketch.

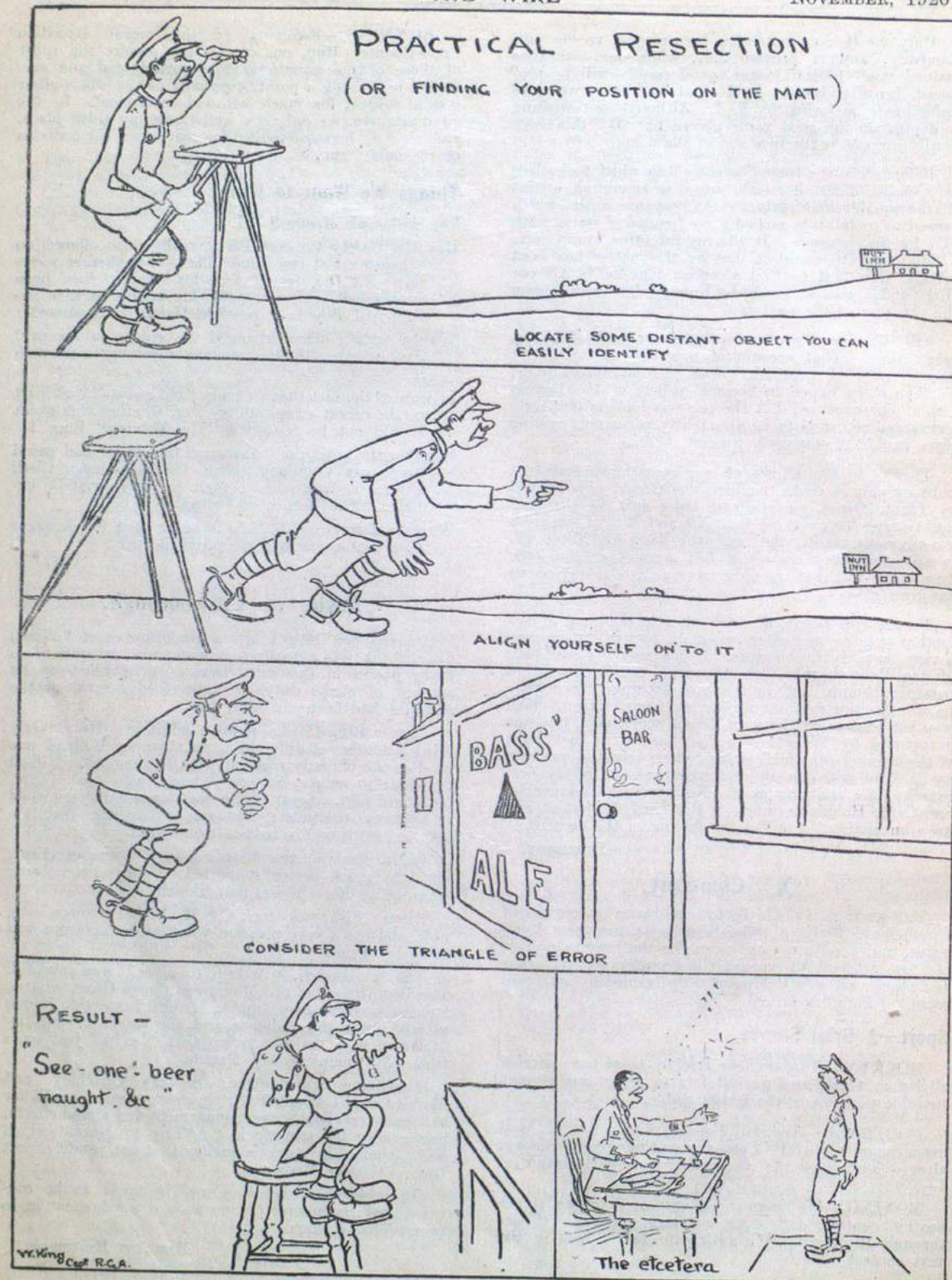
Sapper Fish, who took C.S.M. Nichol's songs, sang well, and has a very pleasant voice. The orchestra was small but good.

The last sketch, "A Trip to Mars," was splendid. The High Priest of the Mountains (Sergt. Olive, who is, I understand, employed in the Medical Inspection Room) utterly upset the audience and the actors as well by declaring in a majestic voice that "he had just come from 'X' Company Sick Parade."

Signalman Constantine, Sappers Critchley and Moralee, and L/Corpl. Partrick, deserve much credit for the really excellent stage management and scenic effects, particularly the scenery in "A Trip to Mars," which had a kind of mysterious quality that one would expect from a Martian landscape.

The producer, Lieut. Cary, is again to be congratulated on having put on such a good show in so professional a manner.

HERBERT HIGHBROW.



Territorial Force Notes.

Glasgow R.E. Units.

Since penning my last few notes, things are getting slightly more brisk. Musketry is being fired on the ranges at Patterson and Darnley, on Saturday afternoons, and very pleasant weather has been our lot up to the present. Fairly good shooting has taken place.

Other training is making good progress, much interest being taken by men in different classes of instruction, viz., Flag drill, dummy key reading, and last (but not least) the inevitable hammer and jumper. Riding drill started on the 6th October, and will continue each Wednesday until further orders. Great keenness was shown in this by all in the ride. C.S.M. Coates and C.S.M. Horner had quite a busy time.

Recruiting has taken a turn for the better, the number of men enlisted last week being the second largest since recruiting opened.

Lieut. A. G. S. Smith, at present in command of the Special Signal Company, Belfast, has been provisionally appointed to the Lowland Divisional Signal Company.

It is expected that Captain McPherson will soon be posted to the Lowland Divl. Signal Company. This, we hope, will have the effect of bringing back some of the old P.O. hands, and probably introducing some new blood as well.

It is noted that the annual dinner of the Old Comrades Association took place on October 16th. but, owing to the distance and increased fares, it is regretted that, as far as we know, Glasgow was not represented.

The authority to wear the patch of tartan, given to the Lowland Divisional Signals, has now been cancelled. It is assumed that the permission accorded to the Permanent Staff to wear kilts has also been cancelled. We are, however, recompensed by the "Snake Charmers," who provide us with a full musical programme nightly under the leadership of Pipe-Major MacKenzie.

H. J. T.

Wessex Div. Signal Company.

Since the last issue of THE WIRE, our strength has increased to 65, so we are not doing badly. We compare very favourably with other local units of the T.A.

On the 17th, 18th and 19th September, we held a week-end camp. In pre-war days these little outings were much looked forward to, and, as a rule, we held two or three prior to the annual training. This camp was unique, however, in that we had no signalling apparatus whatever to practice with.

We complained of our "nakedness" in recent notes, but now we have clothes proper for public occasions, and a certain quantity of rifles and equipment. We had to make the best of matters and devise a programme of training, to include infantry and riding drill, musketry instruction, physical training and lectures on discipline, camp duties, etc.

The site of the camp was about seven miles from Exeter, and the troops marched there in marching order on Friday afternoon.

Our numbers consist mainly of young men, and the proportion of "old Terriers" is so far small. The youngsters did their march in capital style, and gained commendation from the "old hands," who were naturally anxious to see how they would "shape." A motor lorry conveyed the tentage and stores, and ten horses were taken for riding drills.

A very comprehensive programme of training had previously been compiled, the object of which was to make the work instructive, and interesting. It was arranged for squads to be formed, with a changing-over process at intervals.

Work commenced in earnest on Saturday at 7.00 hours, when physical training was carried out. After breakfast the Commanding Officer's parade took place at 9.15 hours, and then work in squads filled up the morning till 13.00 hours arrived—dinner-time.

In the afternoon, by way of diversion, a football match took place between teams representing officers, permanent staff, and old hands on the one side, and recruits on the other. A good game ensued, the former proving their superiority to the tune of 6 goals to nil.

In the evening there was a short parade, and from then on to "Lights out" the time was spent in merriment of various kinds.

Sunday's work was on similar lines to that of Saturday, except that after dinner the camp had to be struck, stores packed, etc.

After an early tea, the troops marched home again, very happy and pleased with the pleasant and profitable week-end they had spent.

The strength in camp consisted of Major W. G. Michelmore, D.S.O., M.C., R.E. (T.), Capt. D. C. Henry, M.C., R.E. (T.), Capt. C. A. Murray, R.L.F. (Adjutant), Lieut. S. W. Western, R.E. (T.), Lieut. E. H. Gratwicke, M.C., R.E. (T.), R.S.M. G. H. Rodwell, M.C., R.E., C.S.M. C. Lavers, R.E., and fifty-five other ranks.

The weather was, on the whole, very kind to us, and the great feature about the business was the keenness with which the new lads went about their work. It was their first test, and they did most creditably. When our signal stores come along, we feel we shall once again make a good show in the Wessex Division.

The catering arrangements were proclaimed satisfactory in every respect, and there was not a discordant note raised concerning this part of the affair. An unsolicited testimonial was given in a little conversation overheard between two lads, one of whom had come out with the main body on Friday, and the other unable, on account of business, to attend until Saturday. The latter greeted his friend in these terms: "Hullo, Bill, what's it like out here?" Bill replied, "Oh! fine!" The new-comer then followed up by saying, "What's the grub like?" "Grub! why I never struck anything like it. I had seven rashers o' bacon for breakfast this morning." The listener lost the rest of this interesting conversation as our young epicure seemed suddenly to become bashful, and his voice fell to a whisper, but we feel that when the excellence of the commissariat arrangements becomes generally known, our recruiting troubles will be solved.

A friend of ours, on looking up the word "appetite," in an ancient dictionary, says he finds the following description: "Appetite—a sort of instinct whereby we are mechanically pushed on to consult our own preservation." Good!

OLD SPARK

Foreign Station Notes.

Aden Field Force.

Wireless Telegraph Section,
Kamran,

September 22nd, 1920.

The Medical Officer has been buzzing round the Section, both here and at Hodeida, just recently, on the "disability pension" stunt—and I am afraid we turned out to be a very much "C3" party. Fifty per cent. of us have to go down to Aden for a Medical Board. What they will say to us there I cannot imagine, but nothing very serious, I hope. I should be very sorry to see the Section split up, as we are a very happy family.

We have a fair amount of time on our hands, so most of the Section have gone in hot and strong for study; quite a number taking up the "Bennett College Course" of wireless telegraphy, which I seriously recommend to anyone who may be that way inclined.

We are all getting "hot stuff" at tennis; that and swimming being our only sport here now.

We had a visit from the G.O.C. Aden Field Force a few days ago, so, naturally, an extra "digout" and clear up took place.

Everything passed off "tophole" so far as we were concerned, though a rather amusing incident occurred just as the General was finishing the inspection of the Island. I will relate it. I was informed by the O/C that the W/T Office would be the last to be inspected. About 2.30 p.m. the General and Staff hove in sight, but, instead of coming to the office, they made a beeline for the Officers' Mess. Now, after cleaning up for these affairs, one is naturally disappointed if it proves to be labour in vain; so two bright youths took it into their heads to attract the General's attention somehow, and suddenly, from the back of the office, I heard a tremendous din.

One fellow, seemingly, was giving orders, and the other, each time the supposed orders were given, banged a petrol tin as hard as he could. This din had hardly started when the General, looking round to see where the noise came from, made a beeline towards the car. He was quite pleased with the arrangements, etc., and so were the lads in having so successfully attracted his attention. They evidently thought that the extra polish deserved inspection, and were not going to be robbed of the joys thereof.

It is even thus that the "Signals" "carry on."

H. W. G.

Army of the Black Sea.

84th Brigade Signal Company,
Bostanjik,

September 10th, 1920.

I am enclosing a humorous account of a football match held out here recently. The players mentioned are members of "Signals," and three of them should be remembered by "B" Company, S.T.C. The account is given *verbatim* as it appeared in the local paper:—

FOOTBALL AGAIN.

A grand football match was played on the War Office ground on Monday evening last before a large crowd of people, the match being between 83rd Bde. H.Q. and 84th Punjabis.

The match opened in grand style, Teddy May the Plymouth crack centre forward scoring in the first minute with a shot he took 365 yds. from goal, giving the goalie no chance whatever.

From the kick-off the same player received a centre from Corpl. Kelly and again scored with a fine shot, this giving the H.Q. 2 goals lead in five minutes.

From this onward it was a game of attack versus defence, the Punjabi forwards now feeling their feet. Waddle the ex-Glasgow Ranger player for Brigade H.Q. was in fine form—he could do anything except kick the ball. McDermott the Bde. Right Back now came into the limelight, showing that he is just as brilliant as when he played with Everton in the Heroic Cup Tie of 1901. Again Waddle was called upon to save a lightning shot, he again proved to be a marvel, for he dived 19 yards across the goal mouth and cuddled the ball for 20 minutes with his teeth, Roberts just getting it away in time to prevent it being swallowed. Again Bde. H.Q. were hard pressed and Roberts proved that he is just as good as when he won the Boat Race by 10 wickets in 1907.

The Brigade now got a turn at pressing. Towers had now gone outside right, and showing fine form, received the ball in the centre of the field, ran 1 mile and centred well, but Higham the Birmingham crack missed by 1 mile.

Now came half time with no further score, so scores were Brigade H.Q. 2, Punjabis Nil.

During the interval the band of the Turkish Fire Brigade rendered some fine selections, greatly to the appreciation of the spectators. The teams partook of refreshments which consisted of Hot Water and Cigarettes, kindly provided by themselves. The interval was all too short and on the whistle sounding the Bde. team took the field like a lot of women.

From the kick-off Higham got the ball, and with a splendid kick put it clean over the War Office tower.

The Punjabis were awarded a free kick against Griffiths, who is a fine high-jumper when throwing in. He gives great promise of a place in the Olympic team. Tony now showed some of his old form. Receiving the ball, he ran 6 miles and then centred well, but Capt. Walsh the Sunderland Forward missed by 1760 yards. Grice was also on top form but his place is in the office with a pen.

Taffy Sheppard was the poorest player on the field. The studs came out of his football boots, and the ground was so wet and sloppy that he had great difficulty in keeping his feet. He should improve when the dry season comes. The committee of the Blind School have requested to purchase him, and no doubt he would do well for them.

From now onwards it was a ding-dong game, each goal being bombarded in turn. Thus the game ended, the Brigade winning by two clear goals, and it can truthfully be said that the best team won.

After the match the Bde. team were entertained at the Wet Canteen, at their own expense. They are open to play any team in Constantinople or even Europe, except of course the Lady Typists of G.H.Q.

The team is top of the Local League, having never been defeated. The League table is now under reconstruction, and so we much regret that, up to time of going to Press, we are unable to publish the same.

H. G. H.

Rhine Signal Battalion.

In the latest news from Germany we are glad to state that the "Signals" are more than holding their own, but bad fortune attended us in the Cricket final, as we lost, after leading on the first innings. Lieut. Berry played a great game, scoring 114 not out. His hitting was a delight to see.

We made amends by easily winning the Cross-country Championship of the Rhine Army, getting 17 of our men home before the next nearest (D.L.I.) had 11, 15 being the total needed to win. Great credit is due to Major F. R. Cobb, M.C., for his personal coaching of the team.

In the "Cologne Post" Marathon Race of 21 miles, we entered 21 out of 57 entries, and had 9 men home out of the 17 who finished in the prescribed time. L/Corpl. England was our first man, he being sixth home.

We are optimistic enough to believe that our Football team will go far against the best teams in Rhineland, and the 2nd XI. will also prove a tough handful against all comers.

The Hockey team is in process of formation, and we look forward with confidence to the first match.

We send our best wishes to all comrades of the "Signals," and eagerly look forward to THE WIRE month by month to follow their fortunes.

RHINELANDER.

A Book of Verse.

DESIDERIUM (Norman Davey; published by Heffer and Sons, Ltd., Cambridge, price 6/-).

Apart from the intrinsic value of the verses, "Desiderium" has a peculiar interest for members of the Corps of Signals, inasmuch as the book is dedicated to Brigadier-General Godfrey Faussett, and the author commanded No. 28 M.A.L. for four years of the war. Most of our soldier-poets have versified the horrors of war; not so Norman Davey—though all the verses were written in France, they tell of the joys of Cornwall, his friends, and of a delightful tour in Tuscany with "J.S.Y." whose identity will be recognised by numerous Signals comrades.

It was my rôle, when in France, to be Norman Davey's "audienza"; nightly he would read his verses to me in my tent in the grounds of La Lovie Chateau, but my part in the proceedings can best be gauged by four lines in the foreword:

"Within no quiet study were they planned,
By wits embellished and by scholars scanned:
Nor had I critic's creed nor idle day
To aid me in the making of my lay."

To his many friends in Signals who knew him as a soldier, and to the general public who know him as an author and poet, the felicity of the verses and the graceful rhyme will make a sure appeal, and a delightful addition to his other works.

I have arranged that copies of "Desiderium" may be obtained at the offices of the Old Comrades' Association, 96 Shoe Lane, E.C.4.

JOHN C. DALTON.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

Births.

To the wife of 12909 Sergt. G. S. George, a son (George Thomas), at Chertsey, Surrey, on July 25th, 1920.

To the wife of 344814 L/Corpl. J. W. Parkinson, a daughter (Joan Alice), at Tunbridge Wells, Kent, on August 8th, 1920.

To the wife of 37073 C.Q.M.S. E. F. Kelly, a son (William Frank), at Crowborough, Sussex, on Sept. 6th, 1920.

To the wife of 208861 L/Corpl. H. McWilliams, a son (Douglas Hunter), at Uckfield, Sussex, on Sept. 21st, 1920.

To the wife of 248540 Sergt. F. G. Gillin, a son (Donald Vincent), at Crowborough, Sussex, on Sept. 23rd, 1920.

To the wife of 314174 Sergt. N. W. J. Grant, a daughter (Betty Margaret), at Fairwarp, Uckfield, Sussex, on October 10th, 1920.

Marriages.

349099 Sapper R. T. McDonald to Kate Crowhurst, at the Registry Office, Tunbridge Wells, on August 17th, 1920.

20802 L/Sergt. J. A. Burgess to Elizabeth Davies, at the Registry Office, St. George's, Hanover Square, London, on August 30th, 1920.

315224 Pioneer J. W. Robinson to Minnie Pearce, at Chorlton, Manchester, on September 18th, 1920.

10834 Sergt. H. J. Taylor to Frances May Chilton, at the Parish Church, Biddenham, Bedford, on Sept. 23rd, 1920.

Death.

625267 Sapper W. Kay, at the Military Hospital, Crowborough, on October 9th, 1920.

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as Science and the Technical Knowledge
of over 50 Years can make it.

MATLOCK.

15th January, 1920.

“I have had the Coat all through the
“War, and want to keep it, as it is in such
“good condition. It has never let me
“get wet during the whole time (four
“years), and I have had some soaking
“rains for days together.”

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AQUASCUTUM “FIELD” COAT.

Monthly Arithmetical and Literary Competitions.

Arithmetic.

First Prize - - - 7/6

Second Prize - - - 2/6

Will be awarded for the neatest and clearest
solutions of the problems given below.

Rules.

- 1—Each problem should be worked on one side only of a sheet of paper, with the full name, number, and rank of the competitor.
- 2—Only arithmetical methods will be accepted, and full working must be shown.
- 3—The decision of the O.C. School will be final, and solutions should be submitted by the 16th Nov., 1920.
- 4—The prizes will not be awarded unless all problems are attempted, with at least three correct for First Prize, and two correct for the Second Prize.

Problems for November.

- 1.—A room, three times as long as it is broad, is carpeted at 4s. 6d. a square yard, and the walls are coloured at 9d. a square yard, the respective cost being £8 5s. 4½d. and 4 guineas. Find the dimensions of the room.
- 2.—If the hands of a clock coincide every sixty-six minutes, how much does the clock gain or lose in a day?
- 3.—Pears are bought at the rate of 5 for 1d., and an equal number at the rate of 7 for 1d.; if they are sold at 6 for 1d., what is the loss per cent.
- 4.—In a train, the 1st and 2nd Class passengers number 77, the 2nd and 3rd, 118, and the 1st and 3rd, 105. Find the number in each class.

Winners of the October Prizes.

First Prize—(3 correct) No. 17083 Farrier Staff-Sergt.
S. F. G. Churchill, 2nd Signal Co. R.E., Aldershot.
Second Prize—(3 correct) No. 314100 Sapper G. Bass,
“E” Company, Maresfield.

Solutions, by Capt. A. T. Houldsworth, R.A.S.C.

O.C. School, Maresfield Park Camp.

- No. 1—(i.) A possesses a box almost full of matches.
(ii.) Number given to B + $\frac{1}{2}$ of that number = $\frac{1}{2}$
of almost full box = 16 matches.
 $\therefore$ Almost full box of matches = 32 matches.
A has 3 matches left, but would have had 7
left if box had been full in the first instance.
 $\therefore$ Number of matches in full box = 32 + 4
= 36 matches—Ans.

No. 2—
 $\frac{4}{5} = \frac{8}{10} = .8$
 $\frac{4}{5^2} = \frac{4}{25} = .16$
 $\frac{4}{5^3} = \frac{4}{125} = .032$
 $\frac{4}{5^4} = \frac{4}{625} = .0064$
= 9984—Ans.

No. 3—Number of seconds for train to travel its full
length = 7 seconds
Number of seconds for train to travel length of
station plus length of train = 25 seconds
 $\therefore$ Time for train to travel 396 yards = 18 seconds
 $\therefore$ Rate of train is $\frac{396}{18} \times \frac{5280}{1760} = 45$ miles per hour—Ans.
Length of train is $\frac{396}{45} \times \frac{5280}{1760} = 154$ yards—Ans.

No. 4—6 cows eat the original grass + 3 days' growth in 3
days.
And 3 cows would eat this quantity in 6 days.
But 3 cows actually eat the original grass + 7
days' growth in 7 days.
(*) $\therefore$ 3 cows eat 4 days' growth of grass in 1 day.
 $\therefore$ 1 cow would eat $\frac{1}{3}$ days' growth in 1 day.
And 3 cows would eat 28 days' growth in 7 days.
 $\therefore$ Original quantity of grass in field = 21 days' growth.

Now from the above we see that 1 cow can eat a
quantity of grass each day which is equal to $\frac{1}{3}$
days' growth, so that she can eat 1 day's growth
and also a certain quantity, which is equal to $\frac{1}{3}$
day's growth, from the original quantity of
grass. The original quantity is equal to 21
days' growth; and as she eats $\frac{1}{3}$ day's growth
extra, as well as eating up the day's growth, the
cow will clear the field in $21 \times \frac{3}{4} = 63$ days—Ans.

(*) A quantity equal to 4 days' growth.

Notes, by O.C. School.

The problems for October were not difficult, with
possibly the exception of number four. The difficulty
with regard to the growing grass will be easily cleared
up by carefully following the solution. The cow in
question had to clear the field not only of the grass
which confronted it in the first instance, but also the
increase owing to the daily growth. It is obvious that
if the cow's capacity did not extend beyond the daily
growth that it would never clear the field, so that
it had to eat up the daily growth and also to gradually
diminish the quantity which was already in the field
when it first entered on its task. The key to the solu-
tion lies in the comparison of the quantities eaten by
6 cows and 3 cows, and we are then able to resolve the
total quantity into days' growth. It will be seen from
the solution that the 3 cows ate a quantity of grass in
7 days which equalled the amount which grew in 28
days or 28 days' growth. In 7 days each ate 7 days'
original growth, so that 21 days' growth equalled in
amount the exact quantity of grass in the field on the
first day.

The "Common Errors in Language" competition was not popular. This is to be regretted, as the competition would eventually have proved of value to candidates who are required to write essays.

I shall be pleased to correct and return the essays submitted by competitors in the November competition.

Literary.

Prize - - - Five Shillings

Rules.

- 1.—Essay not to exceed 400 words.
- 2.—Style, matter and punctuation will be taken into consideration when marking the paper.
- 3.—Essay may be written in pencil.

Essay.

"Your favourite poem;" "Truth is stranger than fiction;" or "Common superstitions."

The October Prize was not awarded.

Solutions to "Common Errors in Language."

- 1.—I *do not* remember having met his equal.
- 2.—He was not very successful in *writing either* for the learned or for the general reader.
- 3.—There was nobody there but *him*.
- 4.—*Whom* have you told?
- 5.—I am sorry to differ *from* you.
- 6.—The book is *lying* on the desk.
- 7.—The man with his wife and two sons *was* drowned.
- 8.—A boy sat on *each* side of the table



The Royal Pavilion, Brighton,

Where thousands of maimed Tommies were nursed back to health and strength, supplied with artificial limbs, and trained in handicrafts, enabling them to gain a livelihood on returning to civil life.

SPORTS NEWS.

Football.

English Amateur Cup.

1st Round—S.T.C. v. Eastbourne R.E.

The above match took place on Saturday, October 2nd, at the Saffrons Ground, Eastbourne, before 1600 spectators, amongst whom were a large number of khaki partisans who travelled with the Depot team. At 3.30 the teams lined up as follows:—

EASTBOURNE—Goddard, Jesson, Wood, Hart, Reed, Baldwin, Morley, Beal, Cook, Henham, Benfield.

S.T.C.—Freeman, Turnbull, Barby, Goodie, Talbot, Metcalf, Gresham, Baines, Shenton, Fairclough, Carter.

Turnbull winning the toss, the Depot decided to play with their backs to the sun. Eastbourne kicked off, and at once invaded the Depot area. A lively two minutes followed, but Turnbull cleared with a good kick. The Depot team broke away, and play was transferred to the other end. Carter forcing a corner, which prove fruitless. Goddard clearing easily.

The home team now pressed, and a good run by Morley resulted in a corner being given. Morley putting the ball in the goal mouth, but without result. Barby cleared, and Carter got away, a fine run by this player giving the Depot team their chance; a pass to Shenton followed, and within ten minutes from the start, he found the net with a splendid shot.

Play now livened up, and Eastbourne became dangerous. Cook passed out to Benfield; a pass to Henham followed, and this player netted, but the goal was disallowed owing to Beal getting "offside." The home team kept up the pressure, but could not take advantage of their chances, Turnbull clearing.

Gresham, now getting possession, made a fine effort, putting the ball into the Eastbourne goal mouth; a lively few minutes followed, but Goddard cleared. The Depot again pressed, and for a time the home team's goal was often in danger.

Ding-dong play became prevalent. Carter broke away and passed to Shenton, who shot over the bar. From the goal kick Eastbourne broke away, and Benfield forced a corner, which he put behind. Mid-field play followed, and once more Gresham, getting possession, made a good run and put in a splendid centre, but Goddard managed to clear. Half time arrived with the score: S.T.C. 1; Eastbourne 0.

On resumption of play Shenton kicked off and set Gresham going, but Wood managed to clear. Eastbourne got busy and forced a corner, but nothing came of it. In return the Depot pressed and gained a corner, which Gresham put behind.

The Depot now had most of the play, and could do everything except finding the net. Hands against Talbot gave the home team a free kick, and the Depot goal was in danger for a few minutes. Turnbull eventually clearing with a tremendous kick.

At this stage one of the Eastbourne players was hurt, but on play being resumed the Depot got posses-

sion from a throw-up, and Talbot passed out to Carter, who returned the ball to the home goal-mouth, and once again Goddard was called upon to clear.

All the play was in the home half during this period, and the visiting team were always dangerous. Shenton again obtained possession, and, cleverly tricking the backs, scored a fine goal.

Eastbourne kicked off and at once broke away, and Cook, taking a chance, scored from 30 yards' range with a shot that gave Freeman no chance.

Shenton, kicking off, swung the ball out, play being once more transferred to the Eastbourne area. Fairclough, obtaining possession of the ball, hit the upright with a terrific shot, which was netted by Shenton on the rebound, thus completing the "hat trick."

The Depot now had a comfortable lead, and a fine run by Carter resulted in this player scoring five minutes from the close. The final whistle sounded with the score: S.T.C. 4; Eastbourne 1.

The game was exceedingly good, and was marked by a very clean display throughout the match.

LULU.

2nd Round—S.T.C. v. Lewes.

This took place at Martin's Ground, Maresfield, on Saturday, October 16th, before a good number of spectators. At 3.30 the teams lined up as follows:—

S.T.C.—Freeman, Barby, Turnbull, Metcalf, Talbot, Goodie, Gresham, Baines, Shenton, Fairclough, Carter.

LEWES.—Forward, Lee, Gurr, Pender, Woodall, Buckman, Leneý, F. Piper, Mitchell, Duidney, R. Piper.

Lewes won the toss and had the choice of ends. Shenton kicked off for the Depot, and a good run resulted in this player shooting into Forward's hands. Lewes now got away, and a foul against Goodie put the home goal in danger, but Pender shot wide. From the goal kick Gresham forced a corner, but with no result. Lewes now became dangerous, and a good run on the right wing finished up with Piper shooting into Freeman's hands. Again Lewes invaded the home goal, and Piper opened the score for the visitors at close range.

S.T.C. kicked off, and Shenton swung the ball out to Carter, who returned the ball into the Lewes goal-mouth; a lively scramble took place, but Forward managed to clear. Again the Depot pressed, and a foul against Lewes was given. Turnbull took the kick and shot over the bar.

Lewes now broke away, and again their right wing became dangerous; and a fine effort ended up with Piper adding his second goal, Freeman having no chance.

The Depot kicked off, and at once broke away, but could not score. The Lewes goalkeeper was playing a fine game, and brought off some splendid saves, which were heartily applauded by the crowd. Lewes appeared to be overrunning the Depot at this stage, and were always dangerous. Lewes forced a corner, but Turnbull cleared. The Depot right wing broke away and Goodie gave Forward a warm handful. Half time arrived with the score: Lewes 2; S.T.C. 0.

On play being resumed, Lewes kicked off, and a nice move was spoiled by Metcalf, who was playing a fine game. A nice pass to Gresham resulted in the ball being centred into the Lewes goal-mouth, but Forward cleared. Hands against Goodie followed, and enabled Lewes to make a raid on the home goal, but Talbot

cleared just in time with a good kick. The Depot now broke away, and a nice movement resulted in Baines opening the score for them.

Lewes kicked off, and play was very lively, the Depot team giving the Lewes backs an anxious time. Again the Depot got through, but Shenton shot wide. The visitors now appeared to be tiring, and the Depot waking up. The home team were now having most of the play, and Carter was prominent on the left wing. The home forwards again pressed, and Shenton forced a corner, but Gresham put behind. Lewes now had a turn, but could not get past Barby and Turnbull, who were playing a brilliant game. Lewes again pressed, but "Harold" shot wide. From the goal kick that followed, Gresham got away and centred beautifully, Fairclough heading it into the net.

The Depot supporters were delighted now that the scores were level, and gave their side plenty of encouragement. Lewes kicked off, but could not make any impression on the home defence. Turnbull was responsible for a nice pass to Carter, who swung the ball into the visitors' goal-mouth; a lively tussle took place, and Baines, getting possession, scored with a shot that gave Forward no chance.

Again Lewes kicked off, and attempted to break through, but their efforts were spoiled by Turnbull, who cleared easily. Again the Depot team broke away, and a good centre was met by Baines, who registered the fourth goal, and thus completed his "hat trick."

The Depot were all over Lewes now, and could do anything but score. The final whistle sounded with the score: S.T.C. 4; Lewes 2.

LULU.

Sussex Senior League.

S.T.C. v. NEWHAVEN.

This match was played at Martin's Ground, Maresfield, on the 9th October, before 600 spectators. At 3.30 the teams lined up as follows:—

S.T.C.—Freeman, Barby, Turnbull, Goodie, Talbot, Metcalf, Gresham, Baines, Shenton, Fairclough, Carter.

NEWHAVEN—Eager, Amey, Street, Randell, Goldwin, Hubbard, Edwards, Harris, Dunk, Martin, Parchester.

S.T.C. kicked off and at once broke away. Carter shooting wide. From the goal kick Shenton got possession, and passing to Carter, enabled him to break away. When near goal Carter shot, and Street, the Newhaven back, in an attempt to clear, diverted the ball into his own goal, thus giving S.T.C. the lead.

Newhaven kicked off, and at once became dangerous. Dunk, evading Turnbull, sent in a low ground shot which beat Freeman, and the score now being even, both sides played hard to gain a lead.

Shenton kicked off, and Gresham got away, but with no result. S.T.C. again pressed, and were giving the visitors a lively time. Newhaven broke away, and a foul against S.T.C. resulted in the visitors forcing a corner, but Edwards, taking the kick, placed behind. The home team again pressed, and Carter, who was playing a splendid game, put in a lovely centre, Shenton heading wide.

The visitors now had a chance, and hands against Turnbull placed the home goal in danger, but Barby managed to clear in time. Turnbull attempted to go through on his own, and sent in a terrific drive which brought the Newhaven custodian to his knees. Baines dashed in, but was just a second too late.

The Depot were now doing most of the pressing, and forced a corner. Carter took the shot and dropped the ball into the goal-mouth, Turnbull causing much amusement by trying to thump the ball into the net. Newhaven tried hard to score, but the home defence was too much for them.

A foul against Turnbull resulted in Harris shooting over the bar. From the goal kick the Depot right wing broke away, and a smart piece of work by Gresham and Baines resulted in a corner. Gresham, taking the kick, dropped the ball into the goal-mouth, but with no result. A minute later another corner was forced, and again Gresham took the kick, which Fairclough headed into the net.

Newhaven kicked off again, but a raid on the home goal was relieved by Barby. Shenton now got away and passed to Fairclough, who, taking a shot, hit the upright with a good drive. A little later Fairclough netted with a splendid shot.

The Depot were now overrunning the visitors, and half time arrived with the score: S.T.C. 3; Newhaven 1.

On play being resumed Newhaven became dangerous, but Dunk, when in a favourable position, shot wide. The Depot right wing got away and Baines shot, but Eager managed to clear. A moment later the home team forced a corner, but Gresham muddled his kick, with the result that the Newhaven forwards broke away. Edwards tried to go through "on his own," but was pulled up by Turnbull, who cleared easily.

Again Newhaven became dangerous, but could not find the net. A foul against Barby resulted in Hubbard shooting wide. From this point play became spasmodic, chiefly owing to the heat and the very fast game. Even at the interval several of the players were having the contents of a water can poured over their heads. The play was now mostly in the visitors' half, and Turnbull, beating all opposition, scored a brilliant goal. Ding-dong play now followed, and the final whistle blew with the score: S.T.C. 4; Newhaven 1. Thus the Depot team made their *debut* in the Sussex Senior League with a fine victory to their credit.

LULU.

Notes.

It is indeed pleasing to note the progress our First Eleven are making, and we all hope that they will keep up their success. Up to now we have three victories to our credit, having only played three matches. The goal average is splendid, as they have registered 16 goals and have only 3 against them—"stuff to give 'em."

Our Second Eleven lost to Eastbourne R.E. on Oct. 9th by 3 goals to 2. Never mind, boys; buck up—you cannot win every time.

Although 600 spectators turned up to watch the First Eleven in action against Newhaven, we hope to see a great many more present in future; so roll up, you chaps, and support your Corps.

The charabanc tour to Eastbourne on the 2nd Oct. proved a big success, and our First Eleven were not lacking for supporters. But the most pleasing thing of all was the fine win our boys scored. We are looking forward to a few more of these outings.

In the 1st Round of the Army Cup we drew a bye—evidently we are "jammy" for once. Our Crowborough team are up against the Machine Gun Corps. Well, we wish them luck!

The draw for the 1st Round of the Sussex Senior Cup took place on the 13th Oct., and we have been drawn against Rock-a-Nore, the match to take place at Maresfield on November 27th.

Congratulations to "Baines" on his "hat trick" in the Lewes match on the 16th October.

On Saturday, October 16th, our Second Eleven journeyed to Hailsham and defeated that team by 5 goals to 2.

Our First Eleven are still going strong, and have yet to be defeated. Their play in the first half in the Lewes match was not up to standard. In the second half, however, we saw some sparkling play—and we want this form to be kept up.

The County League Cup is on view in Lewes, and is, I believe, insured for £150. We hope to give that cup "marching orders to Maresfield" in due course.

S.T.C. Hockey Fixtures.

1920.

Nov. 3rd—M.G. School, at Maresfield.
Nov. 4th—Cambridge University S.S.A., at Cambridge.
Nov. 6th—East Grinstead, at East Grinstead.
Nov. 13th—Brighton 2nd XI., at Maresfield.
Nov. 20th—M.G. Corps, at Maresfield.
Nov. 27th—R.A., Shoeburyness, at Maresfield.
Dec. 4th—Hailsham, at Hailsham.
Dec. 4th—Tunbridge Wells, at Maresfield.
Dec. 9th—Cambridge University S.S.A., at Maresfield.
Dec. 15th—R.N.C., Greenwich, at Greenwich.

1921.

Jan. 11th—2nd Royal Irish Fusiliers, at Dover.
Jan. 15th—Brighton, at Brighton.
Jan. 22nd—Worthing, at Worthing.
Jan. 29th—2nd Connaught Rangers, at Maresfield.
Feb. 5th—R.E., Chatham, at Chatham.
Feb. 12th—Brighton 2nd XI., at Brighton.
Feb. 17th—M.G. Corps, Shorncliffe, at Shorncliffe.
Feb. 19th—East Grinstead, at Maresfield.
Mar. 9th—R.E., Chatham, at Maresfield.
Mar. 19th—Worthing, at Maresfield.

Officers and other Ranks awarded

"Jimmies" for Season 1919-20.

Rugby.—Capt. W. R. C. Penny, M.C., R.E.; Capt. R. E. Vyvyan, M.C., Worc. Regt.; Lieut. D. R. Kelly, N.I. Horse; Lieut. C. A. Murray, R.E.; Lieut. R. H. R. Steward, M.C., R.E.; Lieut. C. G. Cochran, R.E.; Lieut. B. E. C. Dixon, M.C., R.E.; Lieut. D. C. Methuen, R.F.A.; Lieut. A. S. Johnstone, R.E.; Lieut. N. C. D. Brownjohn, M.C., R.E.; F.S.M. E. G. Bowker; Sergt. J. Shaw; Sergt. L. N. Lewis; Pioneer D. J. R. Rosenberg; Pioneer K. W. C. Rosenberg.

Signal Training Centre Championship Table, 1919-20.

Coy.	Rugby	Soccer	Hockey	Cross-Country Running	Athletics	Cricket	Water Polo	Aquatic Sports	Boxing	Tennis	Marks
"C"	—	8	12	14*	18*	16	7	9*	6	5½	95½
"E"	—	14*	14*	5	16	16*	6	6	9*	7	93
"D"	—	12	10	2	13	16	2½	3½	7	9*	74½
"A"	—	4	2	12	13	10	9*	8	8	1	67
"F"	—	6	6	8	6	12	8	7	2	5½	60½
"B"	—	10	8	5	4	7	5	3½	5	4	51½
"Admin"	—	2	4	10	8	7	2½	0	0	8	41½
"X"	—	X	X	X	10	2	4	5	4	2½	27½
"P"	—	X	X	X	2	4	1	3½	3	2½	15½

X Did not compete.

† Count Half Marks.

* Winner of Shield or Cup.

‡ No League this year.

Winner of Championship Cup - "C" Company.

ASSOCIATION.—Lieut. H. T. Talbot, 6th Dragoon Guards; Sergt. A. C. Shenton; Sergt. W. F. Carter; Corpl. A. A. Barby; L/Corpl. W. H. Freeman; L/Corpl. R. Turnbull; Sapper W. Sage; Sapper J. Findlay; Sapper J. Gresham; Sapper J. Fairclough; Sapper J. Griffiths.

HOCKEY.—Lt.-Major J. R. Pinsent, D.S.O., R.E.; Lt.-Major L. G. Phillips, M.C., Worc. Regt.; Capt. J. A. S. Tillard, O.B.E., M.C., R.E.; Lieut. H. T. S. King, R.E.; Lieut. E. G. W. Pearce, R.E.; Lieut. T. A. R. Scott, R.E.; Lieut. S. Stoddard, O.B.E.; Sergt. C. W. Dawson, R.E.; Corpl. Spillman, R.E.; L/Corpl. J. Bendry, R.E.; Driver C. H. Horsecroft, R.E.

CROSS COUNTRY RUN.—Lieut. C. E. Beattie, R.E.; Lieut. H. W. Blankney; R.S.M. W. A. Nichol; L/Cpl. E. Gradden; L/Corpl. P. J. Clarke; Sapper F. A. Jones; Sapper W. Kirwan; Sapper T. Garnham; Sapper W. Masters; Sapper A. Ursall.

CRICKET.—Lieut.-Col. O. C. Mordaunt, D.S.O., Som. L.I.; Lt.-Major F. A. Heyman, O.B.E., R.E.; Lt.-Major J. R. Pinsent, D.S.O., R.E.; Lt.-Major L. G. Phillips, M.C., Worc. Regt.; Capt. R. E. Vyvyan, M.C., Worc. Regt.; Lieut. D. C. Methuen, R.F.A.; Lieut. C. A. Bridgeland, E. Surrey Regt.; Corpl. E. Downer, R.E.; L/Corpl. J. Bendry, R.E.; L/Corpl. H. Bellew, R.E.; Driver C. H. Horsecroft, R.E.; Sapper C. Harvey, R.E.

SWIMMING.—Lieut. T. E. Palmer, M.C., D.C.M., R.E.; Lieut. P. H. Owen, R.E.; R.S.M. W. A. Nichol; C.S.M. H. Scott; S/Sergt. A. Dickenson; Sergt. A. C. Shenton; Sergt. A. Sandy; L/Cpl. J. E. Wall; Sapper Massey; Sapper Clegg.

BOXING.

Heavy Weight—Sapper W. Kay.
Light Heavy—Sapper L. S. Daniels.
Middle Weight—Pioneer E. Wiltshire.
Welter Weight—Driver J. Tout.
Light Weight—Sapper A. Richardson.
Feather Weight—Driver J. H. Smith.
Bantam Weight—Sapper J. M. M. Richardson.
Fly Weight—Sapper W. Carey.

ATHLETICS.

100 Yards—Capt. J. A. S. Tillard, O.B.E., M.C., R.E.
Quarter Mile—L/Corpl. A. Smith, R.E.
Half Mile—L/Corpl. P. J. Clarke, R.E.
One Mile—Corpl. M. J. Noonan, R.E.; Sapper M. Shardlow, R.E.
Three Miles—Sapper W. Cotterill, R.E.
Long Jump—Sapper J. McCormick, R.E.
Putting the Shot—Corpl. A. C. Griffin, R.E.
High Jump—Bov S. J. Murphy, R.E.
Honorary—Lieut. A. G. de la Willis.

RAILWAY SERVICE—TO AND FROM LONDON.

Leave UCKFIELD	CROWBORO.	ARR. LONDON	Leave LONDON.	CROWBORO.	ARR. UCKFIELD
7.38 a.m. ...	7.57 a.m. ...	9.40 a.m. Vic.	Vic. 5.20 a.m. ...	7.29 a.m. ...	7.47 a.m.
8.27 ...	8.44 ...	10. 5 L.B.	" 7.23 ...	10.21 ...	10.37
8.49 ...	9.10 ...	10.30 Vic.	" 9.10 ...	11. 3 ...	11.19
10.54 ...	11.11 ...	1.33 p.m. "	" 11. 5 ...	1. 2 p.m. ...	1.18 p.m.
12.46 p.m. ...	1. 5 p.m. ...	3.25 L.B.	" 11.55 ...	2.27 ...	2.45
1.34 ...	1.50 ...	4.12 Vic.	" *1.25 p.m. ...	3.34 ...	3.50
4.10 ...	4.27 ...	6.18 "	" 3.45 ...	5.28 ...	5.46
4.38 ...	4.55 ...	6.29 "	L.B. 4.44 ...	5.59 ...	6.14
5.50 ...	6. 5 ...	8. 5 "	Vic. 4.50 ...	6.28 ...	6.45
6. 0 ...	6.15 ...	8.29 "	" 5. 5 ...	7. 1 ...	7.17
8. 5 ...	8.25 ...	10.36 "	" *5.48 ...	8. 0 ...	8.17
			" 6. 3 ...	7.20 ...	7.35
			" 7.15 ...	9.55 ...	10.12
			" 8. 5 ...	10.10 ...	10.25
SUNDAYS.					
— ...	8.12 a.m. ...	11.26 a.m. L.B.	Vic. 8.35 a.m. ...	10.53 a.m. ...	11.10 a.m.
7.59 p.m. ...	8.18 p.m. ...	10. 9 p.m. Vic.	" 6.45 p.m. ...	9.14 p.m. ...	9.30 p.m.

TO AND FROM BRIGHTON.

Leave CROWBORO.	UCKFIELD.	ARR. BRIGHTON	Leave BRIGHTON.	UCKFIELD.	ARR. CROWBORO.
7.29 a.m. ...	7.47 a.m. ...	8.37 a.m.	6.55 a.m. ...	7.33 a.m. ...	7.57 a.m.
8.20 ...	8.36 ...	9.19	8. 5 ...	8.49 ...	9.10
10.21 ...	10.37 ...	11.22	9.22 ...	10. 4 ...	10.23
11.46 ...	12. 3 p.m. ...	12.50 p.m.	10.20 ...	10.54 ...	11.11
2.27 p.m. ...	2.45 ...	3.30	12. 0 noon ...	12.46 p.m. ...	1. 5 p.m.
— ...	4. 0 ...	4.50	1.38 p.m. ...	2.22 ...	2.40
*4.57 ...	*5.14 ...	6. 0	2.53 ...	3.50 ...	—
5.28 ...	5.46 ...	6.35	4.27 ...	5.11 ...	5.30
6.28 ...	6.45 ...	7.33	5.43 ...	6.25 ...	6.43
7. 1 ...	7.17 ...	8. 3	6.19 ...	7.11 ...	7.30
8. 0 ...	8.17 ...	9. 4	7.20 ...	8. 5 ...	8.25
9.55 ...	10.12 ...	10.55	9. 5 ...	9.56 ...	10.14
SUNDAYS.					
7.26 a.m. ...	7.42 a.m. ...	8.45 a.m.	9.40 a.m. ...	10.25 a.m. ...	10.43 a.m.
10.53 ...	11.10 ...	11.55	2.10 p.m. ...	2.55 p.m. ...	3.12 p.m.
5. 8 p.m. ...	5.27 p.m. ...	6.21 p.m.	7.15 ...	7.59 ...	8.18
7.46 ...	8. 3 ...	8.48	8.25 ...	9.10 ...	9.28

* Saturdays only.

AUTO-CAR SERVICE between TUNBRIDGE WELLS, CROWBOROUGH, UCKFIELD, LEWES, BRIGHTON, EASTBOURNE, Etc.

	WEEK-DAYS.	SUNDAYS.
Tunbridge Wells (Auto Centre) ...	10. 0	2.30
Crowborough (Golf Links) ...	10.50	3.20
Uckfield (Station) ...	11.30	4.10
Lewes (County Hall) ...	12.10	5.10
Brighton (Aquarium) ...	12.50	6.10
Eastbourne (Pevensey Road) ...	1.20	7.10
Eastbourne (Pevensey Road) ...	9.30	5.30
Brighton (Aquarium) ...	10. 0	6. 0
Lewes (County Hall) ...	10.40	6.40
Uckfield (Station) ...	11.30	7.30
Crowborough (Golf Links) ...	12.10	8.10
Tunbridge Wells (Auto Centre) ...	1.00	9.00

Change Cars at Uckfield.

FARES (Single)—From Tun. Wells to Crowborough, 1/4; Uckfield, 2/6; Lewes, 4/-; Brighton, 5/-; Eastbourne, 5/6.

Every care is taken in the compilation of these Time Tables, but the Editor cannot accept responsibility for any inconvenience caused by unforeseen alterations in the respective Services.

THE WIRE

The Magazine of the Signal Training Centre

VOL. 1.—No. 10

DECEMBER, 1920

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Editorial Notes.

It is felt that the majority of our readers are not fully cognisant of the ultimate objects of THE WIRE, and that a brief exposition of the desired end may be beneficial to the sale and status of the little magazine that has fought its way so successfully through untold trials and adversities.

THE WIRE was first instituted in February, 1920, as a Signal Training Centre magazine. It is hoped that it will very shortly become a Corps magazine, and that all profits made by the sale of it will be placed to the credit of a Corps of Signals Benevolent Fund.

I do not think I should have many dissentients when I say that such a fund is more than necessary, inasmuch that the welfare of a man, after he has left the Corps, is still, to a very large extent, the interest and care of the Corps Association.

Corps and Regimental Associations were formed to watch the interests of their members on return to civil life, and this is where the Benevolent Fund comes in. Cases of distress can receive attention with the existence of such a fund, and suffering can be alleviated in a practical way.

Sympathy is worthless unless backed by something that will assist the sufferer, and every man can help this cause by purchasing his magazine monthly and by keeping its interests at heart.

* * *

The book of verse, "Desiderium" (Norman Davey, published by Heffer and Sons, Ltd., Cambridge, price 6s.), is now obtainable. Orders should be submitted to 96 Shoe Lane, London, E.C.4.

* * *

The R.E.O.C.A. Calendar for 1921 will be ready on Monday, 13th inst. In re-issuing the Calendar, a distinct departure has been taken from previous issues, and the form taken for 1921 is a block calendar (with weekly "tear offs") imposed on a design embodying a view of the Rock of Gibraltar in 1783 with a type of the R.E. of that period and of the present day, surmounted by the Corps crest; the whole tastefully printed in gold and colour. On each "tear off" is printed an appropriate quotation or reference of interest to the Corps. The size of the design is 15 in. by 10 in.

The cost per copy is 1s. 9d., or by post, 2s. The Calendar design is the work of Mr. S. J. Robbins (late

READ

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(with which is incorporated *The Ex-Service Man*)

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* * *

From several letters received, it appears that some of my critics have got their second wind, so to speak, and again are losing sight of the fact that, as far as the Editorial Department of this magazine is concerned, the staff consists of one man. Nevertheless, I am quite open to criticism, and to a great extent welcome it. It gives me great satisfaction to know that readers take such an individual interest in their own Corps magazine. On the other hand, the letters of congratulation are also very numerous and perhaps outnumber the adverse ones. The suggestions of a few are exceedingly helpful, and every endeavour will be made to cater for all tastes; but it should be borne in mind that an Editor relies upon news contributions from outside sources, and any reader sending short items or pithy articles for publication will always receive the keenest consideration.

Corps Christmas Cards.

The Corps Christmas Cards are now in hand and will be ready for sale within the next few days. The cards will be about 4 in. by 6 in. and tastefully printed in blue and white. On the front will be depicted a Wireless Station in the heart of London, which will have great interest on account of its being, in many instances, the only means of wireless communication between London and Cologne. The price of the card has yet to be decided, but will not exceed 6d. Advance orders will assist in placing orders with the printer, and may be the means of producing at a lower figure. Orders may be placed with C.S.M. W. Butler, Headquarters, S.T.C., in the case of Maresfield, and with Capt. O. S. D. Wills, "C" Company, Crowborough Camp. C.S.M. Honeywill, R.E., Hon. Sec. Signals Branch, R.E.O.C.A., 96 Shoe Lane, Fleet Street, E.C.4, will be pleased to give any further information on the subject.

Greetings.

I take this opportunity of wishing all readers a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Yours faithfully,

THE EDITOR.

Grit.

That's it!
You're not worth a bit
Till you prove that you're fit
To be where the *real* men, the mighty ones, sit.
Ten years at college
May fill you with knowledge;
Your limbs may be strong,
Your head may be long;
But, unless you're a stayer,
A thoroughbred player,
You're *all wrong*.
'Tis the *sticker*,
The *kicker*,
The man who's the quicker,
Who conquers in battle;
His brains never rattle;
Like a dog with his fangs on
His quarry, he hangs on,
He knows he can win,
And in time he gets on.

G. E. PALIN.

R.E.O.C.A. Notes.

Signals Branch.

The Annual Dinner of the R.E.O.C.A. was an unqualified success. A great gathering of representatives of all branches of the Corps sat down to an excellent and well served dinner, after which there was opportunity for pow-wows 'twixt old comrades and for the meeting of new ones.

I was not a little surprised to find such a number of "Signals" present—people of all ages and experiences—and not the least interesting of the many with whom I had a chat was one F. Kenney, who told me of his first experience of Signals in the days when he practised telegraphy on the instruments brought home from the Crimea.

Excellent music was rendered by a portion of the R.E. string band, under the baton of Band-Sergt. A. Conqueror, R.E., whilst artistes from the Euston Palace gave of their talent in the intervals between some most excellent speeches.

Regarding these latter, I cannot pass without making reference to the really glorious speech of Major-General Sir George Scott-Moncrieff, President of the Central Committee. In Association matters, Sir George is a host in himself; he not only attends almost every meeting, but devotes his whole heart and soul to the work in hand, and is responsible for much of the good work the Association is able to do. His breadth of outlook is exemplified in the following extract from his speech in proposing the toast of "The Corps of Royal Engineers."

After speaking of the glorious past of the Corps, he proceeded as follows: "And then, sir, we have not only a splendid ancestry to look back upon, but I think also that the Corps of Royal Engineers may be proud of its descendants. We have, as we know, corps that have their origin in ours, and who have been separated from us from time to time owing to the exigencies of military service and the development of engineering science. I am not sure whether the Artillery was not actually one part of the Royal Engineers at one time, although I believe that some 200 years ago the Siege Battery was actually under the orders of the Chief Engineer of England; but whether that is the case or not, we do know that the first Colonel of the Royal Regiment of Artillery was certainly an Engineer Officer. To-day we may well be proud of the splendid work of our comrades in the Royal Regiment of Artillery. Again, it is not so long ago—only a few years—that there was under the command of the Chief Engineer of Aldershot a branch of the corps which was then known as the Air Battalion. It had to do with balloons, airships, and kites, and a few aeroplanes. It was not a very large body, but before very long it separated from us and was formed into what was then called the Royal Flying Corps—now the Royal Air Force. It was only very small about the year 1912 when it separated from the parent corps, but when the war came on we know how the little child grew into a great giant, and we know also of the splendid work which was done by the young manhood of our nation in connection with the Royal Air Force."

"And more recently still, sir, I understand that since I left the Army, the part of the Corps which is associated with 'Signals' has been formed into a separate force. It is not so very long ago since the representation of that branch of the Army was simply one troop, the old "C" troop, usually stationed at

Aldershot. In the year 1875, when I was a young officer, this troop was at Chatham going through its technical training. It was then commanded by Major Durnford, and among the subalterns in that troop was one—Kitchener—who afterwards rose to such a high position, and whom we all are proud to remember as an Engineer Officer. I think I may say that for efficiency in technical work, for smartness on parade, for everything of soldierly appearance and thoroughness of discipline, there was certainly none better than "C" Troop in the British Army (applause). The work which was then begun in one troop has extended and broadened out during the last war. The efficiency of the Signal Companies, whether Airline, Wireless, or Cable, or whatever else it may have been, contributed

From the photograph published in this number, you will get some idea of the handsome wreath which was placed on the Cenotaph by the R.E.O.C.A. as a tribute to the memory of our comrades who fell in the late war. The wreath was borne to the Cenotaph by the two "Fiddlers" seen one on each side of the wreath, a young bugler from Chatham, and a trumpeter from Aldershot. These were assisted in their beautiful, if sad, task by one of the R.E. Chelsea Pensioners and the A.G.R.E., Brig.-General R. H. Boys. It is typical of the spirit of all engaged in this soul-stirring ceremony of paying tribute to the "unknown warrior" that General Boys, in spite of invitations to wait in the War Office until the moment for proceeding to the Cenotaph, insisted upon remaining for over an



Photo by C.S.M. E. G. Honeywill, R.E.

not a little to the splendid success of the British Army (great applause). The Signal Corps has now taken itself away, but I feel that we will always look upon those in it who have been in the Royal Engineers as being very specially associated with us in both war and peace."

I listened, as did very many others, with a pardonable thrill of pride—a thrill which is renewed in writing the extract—at such a glowing tribute to the branch of the Corps in which I have had the honour of serving, and which has now grown into the Royal Corps of Signals. Many men could have uttered the same words as Sir George Scott-Moncrieff, but few with the same effect, for he is a man who weighs his words and delivers them only after sound consideration.

hour with the emblem in the dense crowd of similar delegations which thronged the Embankment. The Fiddlers, the Chelsea Pensioner, the Brigadier-General, all were as one in face of the overwhelming greatness of the spirit of the "unknown warrior" whose remains embodied all that has meant so much to Britain.

The Corps was represented in the Abbey by a young Sapper who had lost his step-father and six brothers on service. I think it would have been difficult to discover a more appropriate representative.

It fell to my lot to represent the serving members of the Corps of R.E., and the Hon. Sec. of the London Branch the ex-members. We met at Victoria, near the carriage which contained the coffin, and after it had

been placed with beautiful care and ceremony on the waiting gun carriage, we followed with other similar delegates from other regimental associations in procession to the Cenotaph. The autumn sun struck golden shafts of light from the trees on the route, and drew the remark from my companion that even the elements had taken unto themselves that colour and peacefulness which seemed so much in keeping with the wonderful spirit of homage to those who had done well, and gone from us in so doing.



Kantara, Egypt.

Our old friend, Sapper W. J. Leonard, sends me a couple of snapshots, one of which the Editor is kind enough to reproduce above. In his accompanying letter he pays a fine tribute to the newly-arrived draft. He describes their technical training as "it," and says that their quality as footballers is a further asset to the detachment.

As at least one football match per day is played by the detachment (two of the team play for Cairo), I am not surprised to learn that the detachment is in good health.

If our comrade's hopes are realised, he is now on his way to Maresfield.

Vacancies for T.A. Instructors.

Two such vacancies are notified, one from 2nd Western Corps Signals Company, T.A., Liverpool (Capt. W. A. Glue), and the other from Highland Divisional Signals, T.A., Aberdeen. A.C.I. 337 of 1920 gives all particulars.

C.S.M. Sharpe, one time of "B" Depot, Bedford, and lately of Aldershot, has taken a similar post at Stratford, London, E., with the East Anglian Signals, and I learn from Capt. Usher, the Adjutant, that he requires one other. Applications to this office will receive immediate attention.

Telephone Operator.

A vacancy is notified for a disabled Signaller as Telephone Operator—four phones and 21 extensions—in a London office.

Somerset Territorial Force Association.

The Secretary of this County Association states that a small unit of the Royal Corps of Signals is being raised as the Signal Section of a Field Artillery Brigade, and desires to learn of two or three ex-officers and a similar number of ex-Warrant and N.C.O.s who

wish to be considered for vacancies. Residence in Taunton or locality is preferable, but not essential.

In conclusion, I ask you all to accept my sincere good wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Your servant and comrade,

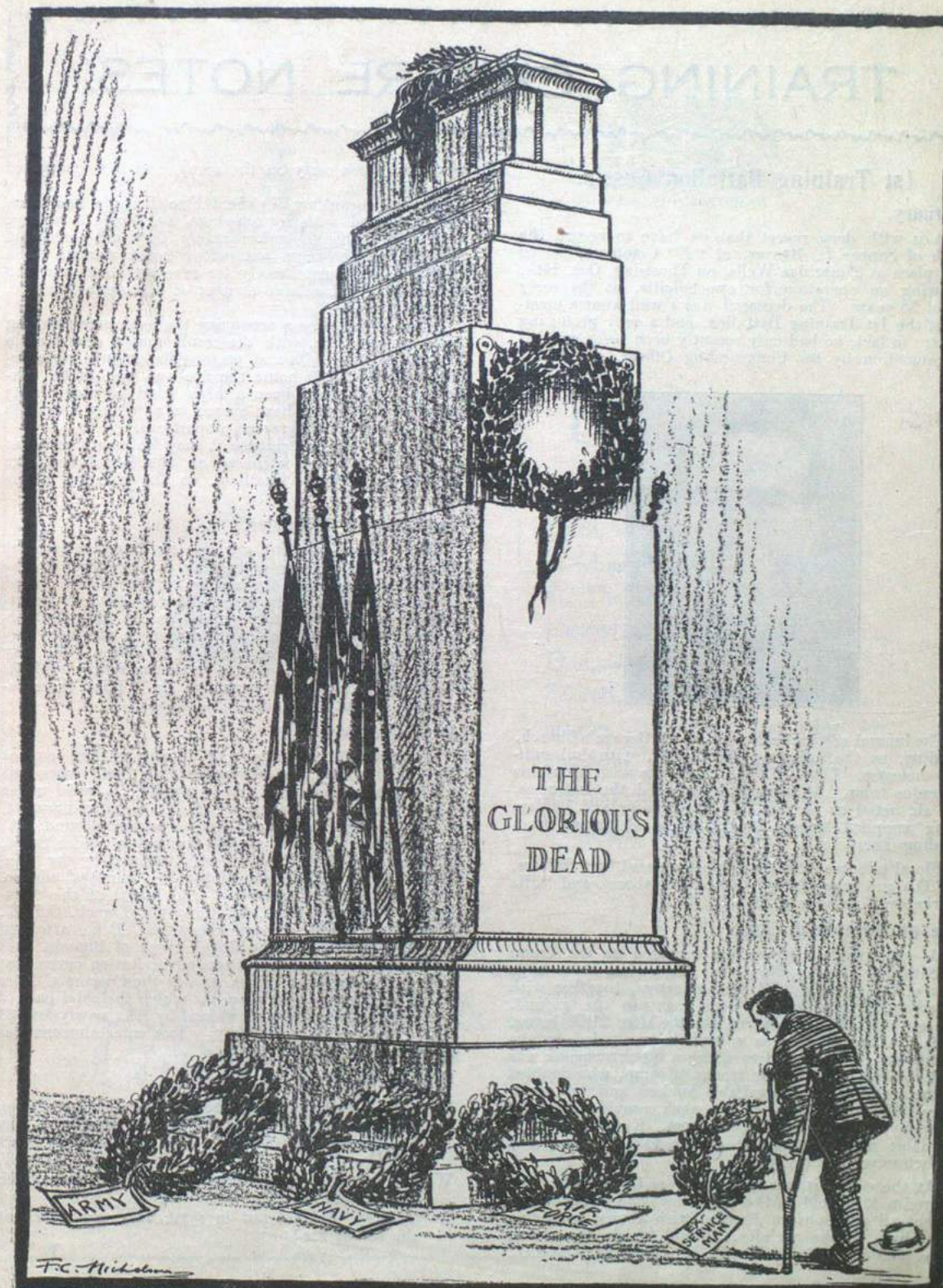
EDWIN G. HONEYWILL,

Hon. Sec. Signals Branch R.E.O.C.A.

An Examination Paper for Roughriders.

- 1.—Given one mule, one marine spike, and one recruit driver, the latter face downwards 50 yards from former; calculate by the use of logarithms—
 - (a) The amount of force used by the mule.
 - (b) The number of feet covered by the recruit driver per second.
 - (c) The highest point of trajectory and how this compares with Mark VI. ammunition at a range of 700 yards.
- 2.—Show by diagram the course traversed if he was struck by the mule's off hind leg on the femur, and, assuming the blow was at 3 p.m., show on the diagram the times he would pass—
 - (a) A point 10 yards on the line of trajectory.
 - (b) A point 25 yards on the line of trajectory.
- 3.—Estimate at what time he would "come round," and show detail of working.
- 4.—If it had been a closed stable, what force would have been required to put him through the door, and how many R.E. carpenters would it require to repair the door in two weeks?
- 5.—At what time would he be admitted to hospital if the accident was reported to the Company Office at 6 p.m., and how many Orderlies would be required to carry the requisite Army Forms?
- 6.—If he weighed 10 st. 8½ lbs., and the circumference of the mule's hoof was 10 ins., what amount of material would be required to repair the damage to the pantaloons, assuming they were partly worn?
- 7.—Give the breadth of the smile on the mule's face at the precise moment of contact, and say how this compares with the expression on the recruit driver's face.
- 8.—Define the names given to the mule by the recruit driver when he realised what had happened. (The answer to this question should be looked up in the Blue Book.)

G. E. P.



"In Memoriam."

[By courtesy of "The Service Man."]

TRAINING CENTRE NOTES.

1st Training Battalion Gossip.

Obituary.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of Sapper B. Reeves, of "F" Company, which took place at Tunbridge Wells, on Thursday, Oct. 14th, following an operation for appendicitis, at the early age of 25 years. The deceased was a well known member of the 1st Training Battalion, and a very promising soldier; in fact, he had only recently been recommended for promotion by his Commanding Officer.



The funeral service took place at St. George's Church, Reading, on the following Wednesday, with full military honours. Lieut. J. W. Dickinson with 12 of his comrades from "A" Company attended the last rites, and six acted as bearers, the firing party and buglers being supplied by the Royal Berks Regiment from Reading Barracks.

Floral tributes from the Camp were sent by "Officers, N.C.O.s and men of 'F' Company" (three), and "His Workshop Comrades at S.T.C."

Fire at Maresfield Camp.

A somewhat disastrous fire occurred at the Camp on Saturday evening, November 13th, when three large huts of the Officers "C" Mess quarters, together with an adjacent boiler-house, were burnt to the ground. The outbreak was discovered shortly after 21.00 hours, when the fire alarm was immediately sounded by the trumpeters on duty, and to which a quick response was made by the whole of the troops in camp, who doubled to the scene with all available buckets and fire appliances. The fire picquet of the week, provided by "A" Company, turned out under Sergt. King with commendable promptitude, and gave a very good account of themselves as fire-fighters.

At the outset it was soon apparent that the fire had secured a firm hold on the three huts and boiler-house, so that all efforts were directed with a view to saving other huts in the vicinity, around which fire-screens were placed. Lieut.-Col. O. C. Mordaunt, D.S.O.,

Som. L.I., was early on the scene, and took charge of the operations.

In the meantime, Uckfield Fire Brigade had been communicated with by telephone and made a prompt turn out, although unfortunately they are somewhat hampered with their antiquated horse manual. The conflagration burnt fiercely for over an hour, and the flames attracted a large number of sightseers from the neighbourhood.

Most of the officers occupying the huts were away on leave at the time, with the result that a considerable amount of their kits and personal belongings were destroyed. By 23.00 hours the fire was well under control, but had there been a high wind blowing in its early stage it would have spread to adjoining hutments, and assumed much greater proportions.

By a strange coincidence it may be mentioned that a similar outbreak occurred at the Royal Engineer Officers' quarters at Chatham, on the morning of the same day.

The Monthly "Howler."

On a recent morning our worthy Quartermaster at Maresfield Camp was proceeding to his office at the Central Stores, when the sentry on guard there failed to observe his approach and omitted to salute. Naturally he was immediately pulled up by the Quartermaster, who enquired as to the reason he did not "Pay Compliments" on the approach of an officer. We may judge of the Q.M.'s surprise when the sentry replied: "I'm sorry, sir; good morning, sir." [Oh, these recruits.—Editor.]

Armistice Day.

The King's Message was loyally carried out at Maresfield Camp on November 11th last, when the whole of the officers and troops available paraded under the Commandant—Brig.-Gen. E. G. Godfrey-Faussett, C.B., C.M.G., on the regimental parade ground. At two minutes to eleven massed trumpeters under Sergt. Norton sounded the "Last Post," followed by the "Reveille" at the termination of the two minutes' silence.

At the London ceremony, and burial of the "Unknown Warrior," Capt. H. Chenevix Trench, O.B.E., M.C., R.E., and L/Corpl. Bloomfield, R.E., attended as representatives of the Royal Corps of Signals.

In the evening a well-attended invitation dance was held at the Sergeants' Mess, and at the Corporals' Mess a smoking concert took place, at which the chief part of the programme was undertaken by the newly-formed "A" Company Concert Party, whose entertainment was much appreciated.

Things We Want to Know.

Whether a certain "Jock" member of the 1st Eleven football team is going to propose to one of the Eastbourne sisters who "has such a nice sweet face"?

Why a certain Pay Corporal is looking "very much down" these days?

If "Aubrey" did not put in some very good work at the recent fire?

E. F.



THE Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Company have the Finest Stock in London of Presentation Cups, Bowls and Trophies, of which inspection is invited. The Company are always pleased to prepare Special Designs (free of charge) if desired. Selections of articles can be sent for approval at the Company's risk and expense. Illustrated Catalogue sent Post Free.

THE
GOLDSMITHS & SILVERSMITHS
COMPANY LTD. *with which is incorporated
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JEWELLERS TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING

112, REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.

Company Notes.

"D" Company.

There is not much to report on the "Don" front this month. We have been doing well at hockey so far. After a tough game with "F" Company we managed to beat them by 3 goals to 2. The great match of the season is now pending between "Don" and "Eddy" Companies (the rivals of last season), who meet on Friday, the 19th Nov. It is difficult to say how the match will end, but we intend to have a jolly good attempt at maintaining the lead our Soccer team has given us. Unfortunately, we haven't the team we had last season. In addition to others, we have lost the valuable assistance of Lieut. H. T. S. King, R.E., but we are fortunate enough to still retain the services of Major Pinsent.

THE DON.

"E" Company.

In our little world of sport in the Training Centre, I am glad to say that "Eddy" are still holding their own among the best, and although the season is as yet very young, we already find ourselves in quite a respectable position in the Leagues, and as time goes by, we hope to see "Eddy" holding the place of honour at the head of the tables.

Football.

We have played three matches, one of which we lost—against "D" Company. The junior team are doing splendidly, and have yet to be beaten. The best of luck to them, and may they continue to beat all comers.

Hockey.

We have played three matches, winning one against "A" Company by the narrow margin of 13 goals (!) and drawing the other two—against Administrative Company and "Don." The latter game was one of the best hockey matches of the season. We should have carried off the points on the play, but our forwards had no luck in the circle.

Running.

In the Inter-Company Cross Country for Companies at Maresfield, "Eddy" won easily, thus carrying off the first of six races which are to take place; the final winners of Maresfield to meet the winners of 2nd T.B. at Crowborough for possession of the shield. You had better look to your laurels, "C," or else you will find your shield ordered to report for stable duty.

DUSTY.

"F" Company.

It is with great regret that we have to record the death of 619680 Sapper B. Reeves, on October 14th, following an operation for appendicitis. He was very popular, and an all-round sportsman, and his loss is keenly felt by the Company.

Even though we have been conspicuous by our absence in several recent issues of THE WIRE, we have not many startling events to record. Possibly it is owing to everyone's insatiable desire for work that we have not shone, as one might hope, in the field of sport.

Hockey seems to be our strongest suit, having two victories to our credit against Admin. Company and "A" Company (poor old "A."), and one defeat at the

hands of "D." As we only lost the latter by the odd goal in five, we can assure the "Don" that he will have to look to his laurels in the return game.

From results of trial runs, our athletes promise to give good account of themselves as the season advances.

Yes, taking things all round, I think "A" Company will retain their positions in the Leagues.

DOUGLAS TRIUMPH.

Medal Presentation.

Brig.-Gen. Godfrey-Faussett presented the following medals after church parade on Sunday, Nov. 14th last.

(1992) 625077 Sapper G. McCulloch—D.C.M. & 1914 Star.

Whilst serving in the Black Watch as 1992 Pte G. McCulloch was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for conspicuous gallantry in carrying messages under heavy fire, displaying great courage and determination. He later rescued many wounded.

(7926) 32798 L/Cpl. F. C. Garner—M.M. and 1914 Star.

602439 Sapper G. Wheatley—M.M.

23524 Sgt. G. Edwards—M.S.M., 1914 Star

(17208) 344992 Corpl. A. Robertson—M.S.M., & 1914 Star.

23187 L/Cpl. G. Halinn—L.S. & G.C., 1914 Star.

23833 C.S.M. J. H. Allen—1914 Star

14528 Sergt. J. Atkins—1914 Star

16531 C.Q.M.S. H. L. Adams—1914 Star

26060 Corpl. W. J. Burr—1914 Star

20525 Sapper J. W. Brotherton—1914 Star

(16093) 344412 Sapper W. Brame—1914 Star

(24678) 601869 L/Cpl. E. Dawson—1914 Star

15577 L/Sergt. W. A. Diffey—1914 Star

(2805) 344702 Sapper J. Duggan—1914 Star

(23695) 344696 L/Cpl. A. Devlin—1914 Star

19355 L/Cpl. C. Foot—1914 Star

20565 L/Cpl. H. Frost—1914 Star

22328 L/Cpl. G. K. Fahey—1914 Star

(9316) 32674 L/Cpl. S. J. Gambrill—1914 Star

20037 Corpl. G. Grist—1914 Star

(22136) 602137 L/Cpl. J. Henderson—1914 Star

(14127) 344701 Driver W. R. Holdaway—1914 Star

24591 Corpl. H. J. R. Hatcher—1914 Star

(19921) 314053 L/Sergt. J. Hadfield—1914 Star

(846) 619514 Driver G. King—1914 Star

(21970) 344579 Sapper J. Le Fondre—1914 Star

19442 Sergt. F. J. McDonald—1914 Star

17424 Sapper F. Morris—1914 Star

24216 L/Sgt. J. Mathews—1914 Star

(24730) 315534 L/Cpl. J. McCafferty—1914 Star

(3710) 343849 Sapper S. E. Oliver—1914 Star

21325 Sapper A. Oliver—1914 Star

12389 Corpl. T. J. Parrett—1914 Star

(24989) 315348 Driver A. Rose—1914 Star

(16823) 314322 Sapper S. Sweeney—1914 Star

18371 Sergt. G. F. Weekes—1914 Star

(23445) 344131 L/Sergt. T. Wilson—1914 Star

(399) 614305 Driver H. Walker—1914 Star

23536 Corpl. G. W. Whittle—1914 Star

(23138) 619512 L/Cpl. S. Wilcox—1914 Star

24255 Sapper R. E. Barlow—1914-15 Star

25000 L/Cpl. W. E. Battersby—1914 Star

(1807) 624784 Sapper W. H. Brown—1914-15 Star

28810 Pioneer P. G. Brunt—1914-15 Star

24305 Sapper W. M. Foster—1914 Star

28873 L/Cpl. L. F. J. Frost—1914-15 Star

(50658) 625203 Driver S. J. Harvey—1914-15 Star
(42478) 315069 Sapper W. Nolan—1914-15 Star
24628 L/Sgt. P. M. Simmonds—1914-15 Star
(2053) 624805 Sapper S. H. Williams—1914-15 Star
(1074) 619576 Sapper R. Withers—1914-15 Star
(51541) 614317 Sapper R. H. White—1914-15 Star

Old Regimental Numbers are shown in parentheses in first column.

Crowborough Notes.

"P" Company.

Our notes for this month will be short and sweet—the foremost being on sport, which has these last few months taken quite a hold on the members of the Company.

Football.

To kick-off with football. This month we have done exceptionally well, heading the Senior League and second in the Junior League, with results as follows respectively:—

P	W	L	D	For	Agst	Points
4	4	0	0	13	1	8
4	2	1	1	15	10	5

Cast your eyes back to THE WIRE of a month or two ago and you will note that I told you to keep your eyes on "P" Company. Well? Any remarks on our sporting propensities now?

We had two very exciting games just recently against "B" and "C" Companies, which we managed to win by 2—1 and 2—0. In the former the only goal against our record was scored by L/Cpl. Smith of "B" Company. Congratulations, Smithy, on beating our worthy custodian. (It was a lovely goal.)

We played a friendly match with Crowborough Wednesday, and won 9—3. No doubt many of our old members will remember the dashing outside left of last year's Company team, namely, "Pip Orl." who has been selected this year to play for the Rhine Army Soccer Team, and from the latest accounts he has proved himself quite worthy of such an honour. (What about the four days at Strasbourg, Pip?)

Hockey.

The Hockey Team have played four games so far, but I am sorry to say not with such success as the senior Soccer team. First with "C" Company—no score. Second with "B" Company, when we lost 4—1. A good hard game; this score hardly gives us credit, but we will make amends next time. "P" versus "G" was another illustration of how not to score. We were all over them but could not find the net to take a lead. Result a draw, 2—2. In our last match, with "X," owing to five of our regular team being away on leave, we could hardly expect anything but a licking.

Cross Country Running.

So far this sport has not taken such a great hold of the Company, except in the case of a few individuals

who are very keen on running; but what are they compared to the large numbers from other Companies who take running seriously?

Boxing.

In the Open Boxing Competition recently held at the "Ring," several members of the Company greatly distinguished themselves.

Recreation Club.

We have started a Reading and Recreation Club in the Company for the use of the men during the coming winter months. Although the Club has just opened, we have a very strong membership. Reading matter and games are provided, and already the Club has proved a great success.

Transfers.

It is with much regret that I have to record the loss from our Company of a very old friend, Capt. Osborne Wills, who has taken up duty with "C" Company. Our loss is their gain, and we wish him every success in his new appointment.

We have also lost the services of two other worthy officers, namely, Lieut. H. W. Jones, M.C., to Chatham, and Lieut. F. G. Maunsell to Cambridge. We wish them both the best of luck.

At the time of going to press we have just been transferred to the Royal Corps of Signals, and allotted new Army numbers. Probably this accounts for the number of people now to be seen with the "Little Grey Books."

Battalion Soccer Notes.

Time will not permit my giving a lengthy account of the doings of the Battalion Soccer Team in this month's copy of THE WIRE, but I should like to give a brief resumé of our accomplishments to date.

So far we head the Tunbridge Wells League, and have successfully emerged from the first round of the Tunbridge Wells Charity Cup, beating Tunbridge Wells Excelsiors 3—1 on Saturday, Nov. 13th.

In the first round of the Army Cup, played at Crowborough between ourselves and M.G.C. Infantry (Shorncliffe), we ran out winners after a clean and hard-fought game, by 3—2, thus qualifying to meet the Royal Irish Fusiliers at Dover in the second round.

One other feature of Soccer this month has been the playing of the Battalion Officers versus the W.O.s and N.C.O.s. The Officers won on two occasions and drew on the other. We also played the Officers from the 1st T.B., Maresfield, and again won 4—2. The outstanding players of these matches were Major Heyman, and Lieuts. Sutton-Pratt, Walker, Cary and Watt. We are now open to receive any challenges (W.O.s and N.C.O.s at Maresfield please note).

GLAXO.

"X" Company.

Since forwarding my last brief notes, we have had one or two changes in the Company. I think quite a number of recruits will regret the departure of one "Moggy," and congratulate "C" on procuring the services of an "intellectual personage." I rather think he could have beaten Pussyfoot for dryness. We were sorry to lose Lieut. Coombs, who has been transferred to the Western Command. There are many who wish him every success in his new capacity of Asst/C.S.O. I heard that he did not exactly welcome the change,

preferring old faces to new, and the hurricane atmosphere of a Training Company to a life of aristocracy and ease.

The Gaiety Theatre is still the chief entertainment in the Camp, and the concluding performance of "What Again" was seen by a large audience, quite a number of whom belonged to the neighbouring villages. The visit of Brig.-Gen. Godfrey-Faussett, who had come some considerable distance to see the performance, was highly appreciated.

A spirit of excitement pervaded the atmosphere, and mingled with a well-lit hall everything promised to be a success. The curtain rang up on the opening stage of a sketch entitled "Outside the Gaiety Theatre." In this, C.S.M. Smithson gave a really creditable idea of a London newsboy (sic). I could not but notice the smile which crossed the General's face. Perhaps his was the pleasant feeling of watching a professional performance. Certainly one could not but notice the professional attitude adopted by the artistes. The remembrance of difficult parts played by Sapper Riggall in this very original sketch was somewhat astonishing. As usual, Lieut. Cary's witticisms brought forth peals of laughter. The confidential manner in which Sappers Callegari, Massey and Holland played their parts was much appreciated, and I cannot criticise any portion of a really humorous scene.

The chorus in the Seaside Sketch was extremely cleverly arranged, and shewed great originality. Assuredly a provincial hall would welcome such talent. Lieut. Beattie, who has taken the difficult (and delicate) part of the lady since these performances commenced, has improved wonderfully. The four chorus ladies (Sergt. Scrivens and Sappers Callegari, Riggall and Fish) caused much merriment, and Lieut. Cary's orchestra (!) conducted by himself, was heartily applauded. The termination of this sketch was quickly followed by the appearance of Sapper Massey, who very successfully rendered his humorous dancing episode. He was ably assisted by Sapper Holland, who has brought his dancing prowess up to a fine art! The Dressing Room Scene was equally successful as the first, and Lieut. Beattie is to be congratulated on his imagination of what actually occurs behind the scenes—from whence his knowledge came matters not. Lieut. Cary's experiences in past reminiscences stood him in good stead. I should imagine that at some time he had had considerable professional tuition. Certainly his acting throughout prompted me to think so. Sergt. Olive's rendering of "Gregory Brewster" is most clever and is magnificent. His make-up was extremely good, as witnessed by the remark made by a certain person, "He's quite an old man." Sergt. Olive is indeed a valuable member of the caste. He seems always carried away by his renderings and indifferent to his surroundings. Appreciation was shewn by the manner in which he was applauded.

I should imagine several of the audience felt somewhat guilty at the words of the song "You can't fool around with the women," given by Lieut. Cary and Sapper Riggall. The patter in this was very original, and kept the audience overflowing with merriment. Who could criticise the "Indianapolis" Scene? I found it all that could be desired, and the interval came all too quickly.

"Methods of Barbarism" was a very clever burlesque, and those who participated played their parts with enthusiasm. Sapper Riggall as the Barber was naturally funny, and Lieut. Cary's retorts in the patter

kept the audience in hysterics, brought to a climax when Sergt. Scrivens entered as the Bolshevik. Sergt. Olive's rendering of the Prison Scene, taken from "Oliver Twist," was even better than "Gregory Brewster," and when I have said that I have said all. The Burlesque Operatic Quartette, played by Lieut. Cary, Lieut. Beattie and Sappers Massey and Riggall, was indeed funny, but I should think the latter's violin performance exceeded expectations.

It would shew lack of appreciation to omit the name of Sapper Fish, who sang extremely well. He is certainly an excellent addition to an already well-balanced caste, and with a little more practice he will do well.

The final scene, "A Trip to Mars," was cleverly arranged, and one could hardly expect a better setting on a professional stage. Great credit is due to L/Cpl. Patrick for his scenery painting—a really fine piece of work which called forth many admiring remarks. Sergt. Scrivens carried off the part of Mephistopheles with great success, and the flight to Mars, arranged by shadows thrown on to a screen, was very original. Lieut. Cary as the "Mortal" played a very humorous part to perfection, and Sergt. Olive as the "High Priest" was extremely good.

Thus ended a thoroughly enjoyable evening, but before I conclude I should like to point out that the rehearsals for these excellent performances take place in the evenings, members of the caste carrying on with their ordinary duties during the day. All the more credit, then, to those who assist in the production.

VESTA.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

Births.

- To the wife of 18204 C.Q.S.M. W. Hoitt, a son, Basil Sidney, born at 100 Benares Road, Plumstead, London, S.E., on September 11th, 1920.
- To the wife of 312502 L/Cpl. F. Betteridge, a daughter, Doris Lilian, born at Crowborough, Sussex, on October 8th, 1920.
- To the wife of 362879 Sergt. D. Currie, a daughter, Edith Maclaren, born at Crowborough, Sussex, on October 9th, 1920.
- To the wife of 20030 Sapper A. C. Soper, a daughter, Eileen Winifred, born at Lambeth on October 27th, 1920.

Marriages.

- Corpl. R. H. Winton, "C" Company, to Lizzie Diemer, at the Registry Office, Bedford, on September 22nd, 1920.
- 624383 Sapper R. G. Jones to Florence Scott, at St. Matthew's Church, Southborough, on Oct. 9th, 1920.

Deaths.

- 32856 Sapper F. W. Smith died in Royal Herbert Hospital, Woolwich, on October 10th, 1920.
- 319620 Sapper B. Reeves died in Tunbridge Wells Hospital on October 14th, 1920.

Aldershot "Signals."

As no doubt you are already aware, the 1st Signal Company have split up somewhat since the last issue. About a dozen N.C.O.s and men have gone to that happy little place they call Ireland, leaving only the drivers, C.Q.M.S. and one Sapper here to carry on the good work.

Also, we have lost C.S.M. Sharp and Sergt. Vickery, who have both donned the civvies once again, after having received the necessary instructions detailed on page 156 of the last issue. C.S.M. Sharp has gone on the "Territorial Staff" somewhere in London, and Sgt. Vickery is proceeding to New Zealand at the first opportunity. May they have the best of luck in their new adventures is the wish of all here.

So things are very quiet here now. Sergt. Hyson, Corpl. Jimmy Genge, and our latest recruit from Maresfield, L/Cpl. Tolley, were the lucky (sic) ones who proceeded overseas to Belfast on October 18th last, and from the latest information it appears they are well dug in "somewhere in Derry."

Corpl. Genge has a staff job—"clipping the corns off the pigeons' feet"—he having been attached to the Pigeon Service. The remainder are also in the pink and anxiously awaiting their recall to the Fatherland.

Our football team has not been doing much lately, owing to the Regimental Committee borrowing our best men to play for the Regimental team. Still, things no doubt will improve later on.

Up to the present we have played 7 games, having won 2, lost 2, and drawn 3. Congratulations to the S.T.C. on their latest successes in the Amateur Cup.

PERPOLE.

Foreign Station Notes.

38th (Divl. Signal) Company, India.

Piazza Raghza, Waziristan, N.W.F., India.

May we as a small detachment take up a few lines of your excellent journal? Although Company Headquarters call themselves the Last Post of the Empire, I fancy they forgot us and one other station that is further afield than themselves. (Come on, Ladha, what about it, you journalists?)

For so small a station as we are, I think this wants some beating for football. A league was formed comprising eight teams (including four Regimental teams). There were only twelve of us Signals, and with a bit of persuasion we managed to scrape a team together, thanks to Lieut. Hall and our old friend, L/Cpl. Nicholls, trainer—no, not on beer. Anyway, we won the League, for which we were presented with a set of very nice silver medals. The following were the team: Lieut. Hall, Sgt. W. Clarke, Sgt. H. Andrews, L/Cpl. "Dan" Godfrey, L/Cpl. "Whack" Abrahams, L/Cpl. "Dub" Hales, Sappers Bush, F. Clarke, Smith, Pathejohns and Turland. Not so bad, for a Detachment. Headquarters will have to look to their laurels when we get back again (what lopes).

Before closing I am sure all ranks will join me in wishing L/Cpl. Harry Nicholls every success, now that he has reached that dizzy height.

Wishing you an ever increasing circulation and good luck,

Yours, 4+3.

N . A . C . B

Cold Nights	} WHICH DO YOU	Warm Rooms
Lonely Country		CHOOSE ?

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The Soldiers' Rendezvous

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☛ In supporting your own Canteen you provide Funds for your Sports, Entertainments, and general cheeriness of life in Camp.

ROLL UP!

Territorial Force Notes.

3rd (London) Corps Signal Company.

From the date of formation of these units we have been going along as strongly as could be expected. Recruiting is moderately brisk, and all are more than pleased to see such old faces as Sergts. Arroll, Whittingham, Grantham, "Harry" Green, and "Dick" Goddard (our old Shoe) return to these headquarters.

We have successfully passed through that severely trying period, "musketry," firing taking place at Purfleet, where some wonderfully good scores were made under very fair weather conditions. This period consisted of two week-end camps, and our formation was commanded by Lt.-Col. H. Carey Thomas, A.M.I.E.E. and Capt. R. G. Williams, M.V.O., R.E., Adjutant.

During this last week, R.S.M. Thorpe, R.E., has been ordered to move to Gateshead, Northumbrian Divisional Signals, and we all wish him the best of luck in his new surroundings.

R.S.M. Prescott, R.E., on arrival here from 2nd Training Battalion, Crowborough, assumed the duties of R.S.M.

C.S.M. E. Shepherd (Old Ted) and myself are up to our necks in work, preparing to change our Headquarters to an uncertain destination somewhere in Westminster.

Hoping our notes will be more plentiful in future.

W. G. P.

G.H.Q. (G.B.) Signal Company.

The subtle permeating powers of THE WIRE have penetrated our lines and stormed the dizzy heights of our appreciation. We are but a small Company, hidden away among the bungalows on Horse Guards Parade—so near and yet so far from the madding crowd.

With the exception of the everyday routine of Signal work, there is little or no news to chronicle, but as the Editor is adamant and says that every Signal Company must be represented, even if it only publishes a "Who's Who," I suppose, I must "knuckle under" to his persuasions.

As everyone is, or should be, aware, November 11th, 1920, was a day to go down in history as the day of universal mourning for our glorious dead. G.H.Q. Signal Company performed the important function of erecting and maintaining communication between Victoria Station and Hyde Park for the purpose of signalling the time for the "barrage," or the salute of 19 guns. As the first beat of the drum synchronised with the boom of the first gun, the efficiency of the whole affair can be imagined.

Never, since perhaps the time when King Charles lost his head, has Whitehall witnessed more moving scenes. The two minutes' silence was most impressive, and brought back memories of two or three years ago.

Among our numbers here are: Capt. H. C. W. Wilkinson, M.B.E., C.S.M. C. E. Williams, Staff-Sergt. F. Bramley, Sergt. B. G. Lewis, Sgt. S. H. Townsend, and one who will be remembered by many old R.E.s, L/Sergt. W. Smeeton, of the bow and arrow period.

WAVEMETER TOWNSEND.

Central Telegraph Office and General Post Office.

The sales of the Magazine in these departments have exceeded all expectations, thanks to the energies of the representatives there.

One feels sure that, when the very worthy object of the Magazine becomes known, the sales will increase by leaps and bounds.

Sixpence per month for a magazine is not a bad speculation when for that sum you can help your less fortunate comrades who *did not* have a job to go back to, or lost the job they had because they went to do their bit.

The profits accruing from THE WIRE are wholly and solely devoted to the above worthy cause, and it behoves every one of us to do our best to help those of "ours" who are "down and out" through no fault of their own.

Order your copy through your own representative, Mr. A. Dell, "C" Division Central Telegraph Office. Any matter for publication under this heading, passed through to him or direct to the Editor, will be welcomed.

* * *

Wessex Div. Signal Company.

The first of our social functions since pre-war days took the form of a whist drive and dance at our headquarters on Friday, October 29th. A very happy little party assembled and an exceedingly enjoyable evening was spent. R.S.M. Rodwell took charge of the proceedings generally, and carried out his duties with unbounded energy. As an M.C. for the dancing he worked real hard, and was quite in his element in so doing. Many old friends of ours rolled up, and we were extremely glad to welcome them again after such a long absence. Our rooms looked even brighter than in old days, and the walls were again adorned with the pictures which were so familiar to us.

During the five years we have been away our headquarters have been used for all sorts of business, but now, after a good clean up, the place presents a very inviting appearance. This little "social" is intended to be the forerunner of many such ventures during the coming winter months.

We have also revived our Annual Dinner. This was a great event in old days, and we are anticipating a very good "show" this time; in fact, we are trying to get together all the "old hands" we can to make it a proper Re-union Dinner.

This will take place at our headquarters on Saturday, December 4th. So much for the social side. On the military side we have commenced what is known as our winter programme of training, which means mainly indoor work. Lectures on technical matters, map reading, etc., are given on two evenings a week, and riding drill on another evening. This is about as much as can be conveniently tackled during the winter months, with social fixtures and perhaps miniature shooting thrown in.

As regards our technical stores, we have arrived at the stage of preparing indents, so by the time Spring comes we shall be fully equipped once again.

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MATLOCK.

15th January, 1920.

"I have had the Coat all through the War, and want to keep it, as it is in such good condition. It has never let me get wet during the whole time (four years), and I have had some soaking rains for days together."



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(Ladies' and Gentlemen's).

Monthly Arithmetical and Literary Competitions.

Arithmetic.

First Prize - - - 7/6
Second Prize - - - 2/6

Will be awarded for the neatest and clearest solutions of the problems given below.

Rules.

- 1.—Each problem should be worked on one side only of a sheet of paper, with the full name, number, and rank of the competitor.
- 2.—Only arithmetical methods will be accepted, and full working must be shown.
- 3.—The decision of the O.C. Garrison School will be final, and solutions should be submitted by the 16th December, 1920.
- 4.—The prizes will not be awarded unless all problems are attempted, with at least three correct for First Prize, and two correct for the Second Prize.

Problems for December.

- 1.—The population of a parish exceeds 3000 and is less than 4000, and whether the people are arranged in groups of 8, 9, 15, 18 or 25, there will always be 7 over. Find the exact population.
- 2.—A clock loses 10 seconds an hour, and is set right at 9.15 a.m. on Monday. What will be the correct time when its hour and minute hands point exactly opposite between 9 and 10 p.m.?
- 3.—A room 25 ft. long and 15 ft. broad is covered with paper 30 inches wide at 9d. a yard. If the paper had been 33 inches wide the cost would have been 14s. 8d. less. Find the height of the room.
- 4.—A person can row 8 miles an hour on still water, and he finds it takes him just twice as long to row up as to row down the river. Find the rate of the stream.

Winners of the November Prizes.

First Prize—(3 correct) No. 314100 Sapper G. Bass, H.Q., S.T.C.

Second Prize—(3 correct) No. 310878 Sergt. G. Harrison, "X" Company, Crowborough.

Solutions, by Capt. A. T. Houldsworth, R.A.S.C.

O.C. School, Maresfield Park Camp.

- No. 1—
$$\frac{8-5-4\frac{1}{2}}{4-6} = \frac{147}{4} = 36\frac{3}{4} \text{ sq. yards}$$

Since room is 3 times as long as it is broad, the floor will consist of 3 equal squares.
Area of a square = $14\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3} = 4\frac{7}{6}$ square yards.
 $\therefore$ Side of square = $\sqrt{4\frac{7}{6}} = 2\frac{1}{2} = 3\frac{1}{2}$ yards.

The side of square is short side of room.

Long side of room = $3\frac{1}{2} \times 3 = 10\frac{1}{2}$ yards.

$$\frac{\text{£ } 4 \text{ } 0 \text{ } 1008}{9 \text{ pence } 9} = 112 \text{ square yards.}$$

And perimeter of room = 28 yards.

$\therefore$ Height = $\frac{1}{2} \times 2 = 4$ yards.

Room is $3\frac{1}{2}$ yards wide, $10\frac{1}{2}$ yards long, 4 yards high—Ans.

No. 2—The minute hand of an accurate clock gains 55 minute-spaces every 60 minutes on the hour hand, and the hands will therefore coincide or minute hand gain 60 minute-spaces in

$$\frac{60}{55} \times 60 = 65\frac{5}{11} \text{ mins.}$$

The minute hand of this inaccurate clock only passes over $65\frac{5}{11}$ minute-spaces in 66 minutes, and thus loses $66 - 65\frac{5}{11} = \frac{6}{11}$ minutes every 66 minutes.

$\therefore$ Clock loses in a day $\frac{6}{11} \times \frac{60}{1} \times \frac{24}{1} = 11\frac{1}{11}$ mins.—Ans.

No. 3—Cost price of pears = $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ of a penny respectively
 $\therefore$ 1 of each kind (or 2 pears) cost $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4}$ of 1d.
Selling price of 2 pears = $\frac{1}{2}$ of a penny.
 $\therefore$ Loss on 2 pears = $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4}$ of a penny.

$$\frac{1\frac{1}{4}}{\frac{3}{4}} \times \frac{100}{1} = 2\frac{2}{3} \text{—Ans.}$$

No. 4—(a) 1st class + 2nd class = 77 passengers.

(b) 2nd class + 3rd class = 118 "

(c) 1st class + 3rd class = 105 "

Add a, b, c, then twice 1st class + twice 2nd class + twice 3rd class = 300 passengers.

(d) $\therefore$ 1st class + 2nd class + 3rd class = 150 passengers.

Subtract (a) from (d) then 1st class + 2nd class = 77 passengers.

$\therefore$ 3rd class = 73 passengers.

And we then find that 1st class and 2nd class passengers number respectively 32 and 45.

1st class 32, 2nd class 45, 3rd class 73—Ans.

Notes, by O.C. School.

The third problem set for the November Competition caused considerable trouble to most of the competitors. The winner of the 1st prize would, however, have obtained the correct answer except for an error in division. It would be well if all competitors bore in mind that accuracy is only obtained by checking each operation and by the most determined revision. Candidates for the First Class Examination should also remember that during the examination they are, more or less, isolated from their fellows; that answers are not available, and that consequently they should, by careful practice, cultivate the habit of working problems without constant reference to answers, so that gradually a feeling of self-reliance obtains.

Literary.

Prize - - - Five Shillings

Rules.

- 1.—Essay not to exceed 400 words.
- 2.—Style, matter and punctuation will be taken into consideration when marking the paper.
- 3.—Essay may be written in pencil.

Essay.

"Prohibition," or "Your favourite hero," or "Music."

Winner of the November Prize.

No. 623610 Sapper G. V. Burns, "G" Co., Crowborough

Highly Commended—

No. 314366 Sapper J. S. Roos, Hounslow Heath.

No. 314100 Sapper G. Bass, H.Q., S.T.C.

Notes, by O.C. School.

The essays submitted were excellent. Competitors should, however, remember that "simplicity" is greatly to be desired. There is rather a straining for effect. And phrases and sentences as the following might well be simplified: "As civilisation matures"; "Their scepticism would conceive heathenism"; "On perusing these few lines of Kipling"; "A connoisseur of poetry"; "The achievement of that possibility"; "As our night light of the heavens makes its appearance." It would be better, I think, to say: "As we become more civilized"; "Their scepticism may lead to heathenism"; "On reading these few lines of Kipling"; "A lover or a critic of poetry," and "The moon makes its appearance."

Competitors who wish to cultivate a good style would find that Macaulay's Essays would prove of interest to them.

Reminiscences.

Our summer training camp in 1913 was very pleasant in many ways. It is true that we pitched our tents in a field which was a watercourse and only dry in the summer, so when it rained—and it rains considerably in Co. Clare—we moved at very short notice; but that minor discomfort was more than compensated for in other directions.

We were quite close to the sea, and although the coast is rocky generally, there is a fine stretch of firm sand which is submerged at high tide. The sports secretary used this sand as the Camp cricket pitch, but abandoned it later, for diplomatic relations became strained when the ocean elected to occupy the pitch at the same hour as we were to play a team of the local National Volunteers.

Sea fishing had its followers, and fish were sufficiently large and plentiful to preclude the necessity for undue distortion of the truth. Crabs (sea crabs, of course) were plentiful, but unfortunately, our cook had not learnt the art of cooking them, and as 8 inch pliers were not designed for breaking their shells, the delicacy was not popular, although the mess caterer was very patient and produced them time after time.

The great pastime—when not engaged in cleaning up for the General's inspections—was shooting. As every soldier knows, or should know, the idea of having a rifle issued is to use it to shoot with occasionally, and in those days, as the Signal Companies produced the best shooting unit in the whole of Ireland, we kept our "eye down" by indulging in much miniature rifle practice. In addition to the .22 Service rifles, several of our number had privately owned small-bore rifles, and the supply of ammunition was quite plentiful. Half a mile from the Camp were sandhills, which were honeycombed with rabbit burrows. Here, then, was an opportunity to improve on figure targets and "running men" which we were not slow in taking. Morning, afternoon, and evening (yes, morning! it is said that farriers have nothing to do before the canteen opens), certain enthusiasts would be seen stealthily approaching the hills with loaded rifles and empty haversacks, intent on exterminating every rabbit which showed itself above ground.

This sport became so very popular that it proved dangerous. One has only to imagine what would happen should two marksmen, unknown to each other, approach the hill-top from opposite directions. This actually did happen one evening, and one of the marksmen (who was probably a third class shot) let off two rounds before he discovered that he had been trying to drill holes through the auburn head of the rough-riding sergeant.

The mess caterer caught the craze, but owing to his duties keeping him in position guarding casks and bottles until 11 p.m. daily, he had very little opportunity of testing his marksmanship. However, he went out very early one morning (he remained up all night to be in time, it is said), intent on presenting each Mess member with a rabbit, and nothing more was heard of him until about midday, when he was discovered, peacefully sleeping, with a rifle grasped in his hand, lying face uppermost in a very strong sun on top of a rabbit hole. It is presumed that he grew tired of waiting for a shot, so lay over a hole with the intention of suffocating the animals.

Everything has to end, and the rabbit shooting came to an abrupt termination, for one day the N.C.O.s cook, employed in the peaceful task of peeling potatoes, felt a blow in the chest, and on examination, blood was found to be trickling from a wound caused by a bit of metal. An enquiry was held, and all owners of miniature rifles were interrogated, but the cause of the wound could not be ascertained. The cook was soon about his tasks again, but to be on the safe side, no more shooting was allowed at that Camp.

We had no annual sports that year—a great mistake—but we endeavoured to make up for it by arranging games and smoking concerts amongst ourselves, and on the whole had a very good time.

A small river, about a mile away, offered ample opportunities for poaching, but only one attempt was made, because (as it was said at the time) it cost the promoters such a lot in refreshments for the local civilian assistants, the number of whom, in spite of efforts to preserve strict secrecy, was about twenty.

Those who were present at that Camp will have vivid remembrances of the pleasant neighbourhood and people, and the happy times spent there; but, alas! Miltown Malbay, the little town we used to visit, is now in ruins, for it was unfortunately the scene of destructive disturbances, and was burned down quite recently.

BUNYAH.

SPORTS NEWS.

Football.

Our 1st Eleven are going very strong this season, and if present form is maintained, then the remainder of our Sussex friends in the County League are in for a very warm time.

Our 2nd Eleven are also going strong, and hold the second position in the Mid Sussex League.

Congratulations to Turnbull, Barby and Baines on their being picked to represent Sussex against Dorset. Evidently the "civvies" are fully alive to the talent we have at the Park.

We are doing fine in Cup Ties up to now, and are looking forward to those Cups arriving in due course. Old "Jock" wants a bag of gold medals before he leaves us!

Below is the record up to date of the 1st Eleven:—

- Oct. 2nd—v. Eastbourne R.E. (1st Round Amateur Cup), won 4-1 away.
- Oct. 9th—v. Newhaven (County League) won 4-1 home
- Oct. 16th—v. Lewes (2nd Round Amateur Cup), won 4-2 home
- Oct. 23rd—v. Eastbourne (Cty. League) lost 3-1 away
- Oct. 30th—v. Newhaven (3rd Round Amateur Cup) won 7-3 away.
- Nov. 6th—v. Lewes (County League), won 1-0 home
- Nov. 10th—v. Brighton & Hove Amateurs (1st Round Shoreham Charity Cup), won 3-1 away.
- Nov. 11th—v. Lewes (Friendly), won 8-1 away.
- Nov. 13th—v. East Grinstead (County League), won 8-1 away.
- Nov. 20th—v. Eastbourne (4th Round Amateur Cup), draw 4-4 away.
- Nov. 23rd—v. M.G.C. (Cavalry) (2nd Round Army Cup) won 3-0 home.

The above record is certainly excellent, and we all hope it will be kept up.

Sussex County League.

Results to date.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	for	agst.	Pts.
Worthing	5	4	1	0	21	5	8
*Shoreham	6	3	1	2	13	7	8
B. & H. Amateurs	7	4	3	0	15	15	8
Vernon Athletic	5	3	1	1	16	8	7
Eastbourne	5	3	1	1	12	10	7
Chichester	6	3	2	1	8	9	6
Corps of Signals	4	3	1	0	14	5	6
Lewes	7	2	3	2	11	12	6
Rock-a-Nore	7	3	4	0	16	17	6
Southwick	8	3	5	0	10	24	6
Newhaven	5	2	3	0	13	12	4
*East Grinstead	8	0	7	1	10	40	1

* Includes the match when short time was played.

CORPS OF SIGNALS v. LEWES.

This match took place on Saturday, Nov. 6th, at Martin's Field, Maresfield, before a moderate attendance of spectators. At 2.45 the teams lined up as follows:—

SIGNALS—Trapmore; Barby and Turnbull; Hobbs, Goodie, Wooldridge; Gresham, Baines, Shenton, Fairclough, Carter.

LEWES—Ford; Lee and F. Piper; Pender, Woodall, Buckman; Leney, Mitchell, Stollery, Butchers, Wares.

Referee—Mr. Ayling (Southwick).

Lewes won the toss and Shenton started the ball rolling for the Depot. The Signals at once invaded the visitors' half, but "hands" against Fairclough relieved the pressure. Again the Signals pressed, and Gresham put in a fine centre which led to Lewes conceding a corner, which, however, proved fruitless. Lewes could not get going owing to the good work of our halves, in which Wooldridge was prominent. For a time Lewes pressed, but Turnbull relieved the pressure by his usual powerful kicking. The Depot now broke away, and Shenton opened the score for them with a long low drive which gave Ford no chance. Half-time arrived with the score: Signals, 1; Lewes 0.

The second half opened with a rush by the Depot forwards, but with no result, and play was of a desultory nature for some time. Lewes occasionally broke away, but their forwards could not pierce the home defence, both Turnbull and Barby playing a fine game. Carter got going for the Depot, and sent in a fine shot, but Ford brought off one of his splendid saves at full length at the expense of a corner. Gresham took the kick, but put behind. During the last twenty minutes of the game the Depot did most of the pressing, but failed to add to the score. The final whistle sounded with the score: Signals 1; Lewes 0.

The defences of both sides were very strong, and nullified many efforts made by both sets of forwards.

LULU.

EAST GRINSTEAD v. CORPS OF SIGNALS.

The above match took place at East Grinstead on Saturday, Nov. 13th, before a moderate attendance of spectators. Before the match commenced the Signals' mascot (the pet duck) as usual had a tour round the field. At 2.45 the teams lined up as follows:—

EAST GRINSTEAD—Wood; S. G. Mills and Rowe; Taylor, Hoath, Thomas; Armstrong, White, A. T. Mills, Draper, Kittle.

SIGNALS—Trapmore; Barby and Wooldridge; Goodie, Turnbull, Cobley; Gresham, Cyster, Shenton, Baines, Carter.

Referee—Mr. C. L. Grant (Southwick).

Shenton kicked off for the Corps, and immediately broke through, but Mills cleared. Turnbull returned the ball into the home area, and a good run by the Signals resulted in Cyster opening the score. East

Grinstead kicked off and at once became dangerous, Trapmore being called upon to clear. The Signals now got away and Shenton, getting possession, netted with a good drive. East Grinstead now pressed for a time, and were awarded a penalty through Barby fouling Draper. Mills took the kick, but Trapmore saved in brilliant style. East Grinstead kept up the pressure, and a good run by Armstrong followed, a capital centre resulting in White scoring with a well-judged shot. Shenton kicked off, and a nice bit of play resulted in Cyster again finding the net. Half time arrived with the score: Signals 3; East Grinstead 1.

On the resumption of play, the Signals fairly outplayed their opponents, and five more goals were added in quick succession (Shenton 1, Turnbull 2, Carter 2). The Signals were by far the cleverer and faster side, and when the final whistle sounded the score was: Signals 8; East Grinstead 1.

LULU.

EASTBOURNE v. CORPS OF SIGNALS.

The above match took place at the Saffrons Ground, Eastbourne, on Saturday, October 23rd, before 2000 spectators. Two changes were made in the Depot team, Trapmore and Hatcher coming into the side in place of Freeman and Shenton. At 5.30 the teams lined up as follows:—

EASTBOURNE—Medhurst; Weakford and Arundel; Teague, Wickenden and Winsper; Goldsmith, Hollobone, Shoesmith, Tugwell.

S.T.C.—Trapmore; Barby and Turnbull; Metcalf, Talbot and Goodie; Gresham, Baines, Hatcher, Fairclough, Carter.

Referee—Mr. Ayling.

Eastbourne won the toss and had the choice of ends. Hatcher started the ball rolling for the Depot and Eastbourne at once attacked, and within five minutes from the start Shoesmith netted the ball for them from a nice pass from Winsper. S.T.C. again kicked off, and a raid on the Eastbourne goal followed, but Medhurst managed to clear. Ding-dong play followed, the Depot trying hard to equalise, and Baines breaking through, hit the cross-bar with a terrific drive. The ball rebounded into play, but Goodie shot wide. S.T.C. again attacked, and again Medhurst was called upon to clear. S.T.C. were now pressing hard and forced a corner, which proved fruitless. At this point Sapper Metcalf broke his leg and had to be carried off the field. Half-time arrived with the score: Eastbourne 1; S.T.C. 0.

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On the resumption of play the Depot did most of the pressing, but were weak in front of goal. Eastbourne broke away and a raid on the Depot goal resulted in Eastbourne adding a second goal, Hollobone netting from a nice pass from Shoesmith. The Depot kicked off, and although always dangerous they failed to find the net. An accident to Talbot resulted in his having to retire from the field. The Depot were now playing with nine men, but they gave the Eastbourne defence a trying time. S.T.C. pressed, and Carter making a nice run, centred the ball into the goalmouth, but Medhurst cleared. Eastbourne now broke away and a raid on the Depot goal resulted in Shoesmith putting the ball past Trapmore, thus giving Eastbourne their third goal. A few minutes before time, S.T.C. raided the home goal and an exciting scrimmage followed which resulted in Barby scoring for the Depot. The Depot were now trying hard to reduce the lead, but without result. The final whistle blew with the score: Eastbourne 3; S.T.C. 1.

LULU.

F.A. Amateur Cup—(Third Round).

NEWHAVEN v. CORPS OF SIGNALS.

The above Cup Tie took place at Newhaven on Saturday, October 30th, before a good attendance of spectators. Both teams turned out at full strength. At 5.30 they lined up, and Newhaven winning the toss, had the choice of ends. Shenton kicked off for the Depot, and going through on his own hit the cross-bar with a terrific drive; the ball rebounded into play, and the Newhaven backs managed to clear. Newhaven broke away, but could not get past Turnbull, who sent the ball out to Carter. A fine run by this player ended in a splendid centre, which, however, proved fruitless. The game was very fast, and the Depot kept up the pressure. Shenton broke through and opened the score with a good drive. Newhaven kicked off, and at once became dangerous, Barby clearing at a critical moment. Again Newhaven attacked, and a good run by the Newhaven right followed. This player sent in a beautiful centre; Dunk met the ball and netted with a good shot. Shenton kicked off for the Depot, and passed the ball out to Gresham; a nice run followed, but without result. Half-time arrived with the score: Newhaven 1; Signals 1.

On the resumption of play Newhaven started off with a dangerous rush which was stopped by Turnbull. The Depot now attacked and gave the home defence a very trying time. Newhaven now took up the running and a great effort resulted in their scoring, thus gaining the lead. Excitement ran high and rose to fever heat when the Depot were awarded a penalty. Turnbull took the kick and made no mistake, scoring with a shot which gave Eager no chance. The scores were level again now, and both sides were trying hard to gain the lead. Newhaven pressed and forced a corner; the kick caused an exciting melee in the Depot goalmouth, which resulted in Newhaven scoring. The Depot made a good run which ended in Newhaven conceding a corner, the taking of which proved fruitless. The Depot again pressed and a good run by Shenton resulted in his equalising. Full time arrived with the score: Newhaven 3; S.T.C. 3.

Extra Time.—An extra half-hour was ordered and the Depot completely outplayed their opponents, adding four goals in quick succession. The final result was: Signals 7; Newhaven 3.

LULU.

F.A. Amateur Cup—(Fourth Round).**EASTBOURNE v. CORPS OF SIGNALS.**

The above match took place at the Saffrons Ground, Eastbourne, on Saturday, November 20th, before a crowd of 3000 spectators. At 2.30 the teams lined up as follows:—

EASTBOURNE—Medhurst; Weakford and Arundel; Jupp, Wickenden and Garrett; Winsper, Teague, Hollobone, Goldsmith, Tagwell.

SIGNALS—Trapmore; Barby and Turnbull; Goodie, Hobbs and Wooldridge; Gresham, Baines, Shenton, Fairclough, Carter.

Referee—Mr. Payton (London).

Turnbull surprised the Corps supporters by winning the toss and elected to play up the incline, thus having the sun at their backs. Hollobone kicked off for Eastbourne, and at once the Signals began to press. Eastbourne broke away and invaded the visitors' half, but Turnbull broke up the attack. A fine run by Gresham resulted in a nice centre, which Shenton converted, thus giving the Signals the lead. Eastbourne now pressed for a time and Turnbull conceded a corner which, however, proved fruitless. The Signals now broke away, and a splendid run by Carter resulted in Fairclough heading past Medhurst. The Signals were now having most of the play and again attacked. A third goal came shortly before half-time through a nice pass from Carter, which Shenton netted. Half-time arrived with the score: Signals 3; Eastbourne 0.

On the resumption of play Eastbourne at once attacked and became dangerous, Trapmore being called upon to clear. A few minutes later a good run by Tugwell resulted in Eastbourne forcing a corner. Tugwell placed nicely and Winsper netted. The home team were now pressing hard and gave the Signals' backs a very trying time. Hollobone breaking through scored with a good shot. Eastbourne now tried hard to equalise and forced a corner; Hobbs, in attempting to clear, handled the ball and Eastbourne were awarded a penalty. Hollobone took the kick and equalised. The Signals now took up the running, and a fine run by Gresham resulted in Fairclough scoring. The Signals now had the lead, but not for long. Eastbourne attacked, and Turnbull in an attempt to clear handled the ball and again the Signals were penalised. Hollobone took the kick and converted. The score again being equal both sides were trying hard to gain the lead, but without result. The final whistle sounded with the score: Eastbourne 4; Signals 4.

No extra time was played, and the return match took place at Maresfield on Saturday, November 27th.

LULU.

Shoreham Ladies' Charity Cup—(1st Round).**BRIGHTON & HOVE AMATEURS v. CORPS OF SIGNALS.**

The above match was played on the County Cricket Ground, Hove, on Wednesday, November 10th. The Signals team and supporters (about 15) journeyed down in our famous "Bus," arriving at Hove at 2.30. At 2.45 the teams lined up as follows:—

BRIGHTON AND HOVE AMATEURS—Wiseman; Phillips and Tristram; Simmonds, Steele and Lynn; Harwood, Elliott, Lye, Austen, Rowe.

SIGNALS—Trapmore; Barby and Duffy; Hobbs, Goodie and Wooldridge; Gresham, Baines, Turnbull, Fairclough, Carter.

Referee—Mr. C. L. Grant (Southwick).

Turnbull won the toss for the Signals. The Amateurs kicked off and at once became dangerous; for a time the play was all in the visitors' half, the Signals goal having many narrow escapes. The Amateurs kept up the pressure and a good run by Harwood resulted in a nice pass to Lye, who found the net with a stinging shot, thus giving the Amateurs the lead. Turnbull kicked off and the Signals invaded the home goal, but Baines shot wide. Again the Depot pressed and Turnbull found the net with a low drive, but was given "off-side." At this point a regrettable incident occurred. Tristram, in an attempt to clear, collided with Carter, which resulted in Tristram having to be carried off with a broken leg. Mid-field play followed, and half-time arrived with the score: Brighton & Hove Amateurs 1; Signals 0.

On the resumption of play it was noticed that the Signals team had been rearranged. Turnbull going full back and Fairclough going centre-forward. The Depot kicked off and invaded the home half, and Wiseman was called upon to clear. Again the Depot pressed and this time Fairclough found the net. The Amateurs in return bombarded the Depot goal, Trapmore being called upon to clear. Again the Amateurs pressed and forced a corner, which Rowe put behind. The Depot now broke away and Gresham placed a fine centre, which Wiseman cleared. The Depot kept up the pressure and forced a corner; Gresham put in a beautiful centre, which was successfully netted by Fairclough. The Signals now had the lead and meant to keep it. The Amateurs, who were now desperate, at once forced a corner, and Trapmore was compelled to punch out. Again the home team pressed, and Lye, breaking through shot wide when only about five yards from goal. From the goal kick, Carter got possession, and a good run along the wing resulted in a brilliant centre which was met by Baines, who headed the ball to Fairclough, who again netted, thus completing his "hat-trick." Ding-dong play followed, but no further score was registered. The final score was: Signals 3; Brighton and Hove Amateurs 1.

But for the loss of one of the home team's best men the result of the game would, no doubt, have been a draw, as both sides were very equally matched.

LULU.

League Results (Maresfield).**Inter-Company Hockey League.**

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
"F" Company	3	2	1	0	4
"E" Company	3	1	0	2	4
"D" Company	3	1	0	2	4
Adminis. Company	3	0	1	2	2
"A" Company	2	0	2	0	0

Inter-Company Soccer League (Senior)

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
"D" Company	2	2	0	0	4
"E" Company	3	2	1	0	4
Adminis. Company	2	1	0	1	3
"F" Company	2	0	1	1	1
"A" Company	3	0	3	0	0

Inter-Company Soccer League (Junior)

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
"E" Company	3	3	0	0	6
"D" Company	2	1	1	0	2
"F" Company	2	1	1	0	2
"A" Company	3	1	2	0	2
Adminis. Company	2	0	2	0	0

S.T.C. Hockey.

The S.T.C. Hockey Eleven have done very well up to date this season. The first two matches, against 2nd Battalion Connaught Rangers at Dover, and R.A., Shoeburyness, at Shoeburyness, were lost owing to several regular players not being able to get away. Since then all matches have been won. Results to date are as follows:—

Oct. 2nd—2nd Connaught Rangers, lost 2—3 away.
Oct. 14th—R.A. Shoeburyness, lost 2—4 away.
Oct. 16th—M.G. School, won 6—4 away.
Oct. 23rd—Brighton 1st Eleven, won 6—3 home.
Oct. 30th—Hailsham, won 15—0 home.
Nov. 3rd—M.G. School, won 4—2 home.
Nov. 6th—East Grinstead, won 5—4 away.
Nov. 13th—Brighton 2nd Eleven, won 4—1 home.

Boxing at Aldershot.

No. 3 Group Royal Engineers held a Novices' Boxing Tournament in the R.E. Theatre, on Tuesday, November 2nd. A very large number were present, which included Brig.-General Harvey, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., R.E., Lieut.-Col. Carpenter, C.M.G., D.S.O., R.E., Major Ferguson, D.S.O., R.E., Major Fitzpatrick, D.S.O., M.C., R.E., Capt. Young, M.C., R.E., Capt. Collins, R.E. (T.F.), and numerous other officers.

The officials were:—Referee, Rifleman Heathcote, Rifle Brigade. Judges: Sgt. Blake, R.E., and Sgt. Maj. B. Brown, "A" Company, Corps Signals. Timekeeper, Lieut. Barlow, R.F.A. M.C., R.S.M. Caffrey, R.E. Whipper-in, S.M. Cawsey, 2nd Signal Company.

The boxing on the whole was fairly good, the competitors shewing any amount of pluck, if they lacked the finer points of the game, but the latter will come with perseverance. Appended are the results of the Competitions:—

Fly Weights.—Trumpeter Royer v. Trumpeter McKinnell. This was a very good bout indeed, McKinnell slightly forcing the pace, but Royer gave a splendid display of defensive tactics, the result being a draw.

Feather Weights.—Driver Blower v. Driver Falcus. This was a rattling good bout, and only after an extra round had been ordered could the Referee separate the men, Blower winning by a narrow margin.

Light Weights.—Driver Ellis v. Driver Angell. Ellis, who was much the stronger boxer, won comfortably on points, the loser giving a very plucky show.

Driver Pemberton v. Driver Beals. Pemberton won on points.

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Driver Askew v. Driver Johnson. Askew won on points. The loser was conceding a lot of weight, but gave a very creditable show against a heavier man.

Driver Lucas v. Driver Alcock. Lucas, forcing the pace, won on points.

Driver Brett v. Driver Headlan. Brett won a very close decision on points.

Welter Weights.—Driver Holliwell v. L/Cpl Humpries. Humpries had to retire in the second round owing to a damaged hand.

Driver Morton v. Driver Cuthbert. Morton won on points after a rattling display.

Middle Weights.—L/Cpl. Fox v. L/Cpl. Sykes. This was a splendid contest, and only after an extra round had been fought could the judges separate the men, Fox gaining the verdict by a very narrow margin. Sykes had a really good defence, but Fox won on attack.

Three Rounds Exhibition Bout between Boy Burke, who is the son of ex-Sergt.-Major Burke, R.E., and Boy Oakley, R.B. This was a capital exhibition, both boys showing a remarkable knowledge of the game.

At the conclusion of the evening's entertainment, the prizes were presented by Lieut.-Col. Carpenter, C.M.G., D.S.O., R.E., who in a neat speech referred to the splendid sporting qualities shown by the competitors. It is sincerely hoped that this is only the forerunner of other evenings of this sort.

FISTIC.

Cross-Country Running.

The Cross-Country Running season has opened this year with great gusto, and there have been a number of training and inter-Company runs at both Maresfield and Crowborough.

At the latter Camp the Inter-Company Competition is evoking great interest, and resulted in no fewer than 545 turning out for the first run, and 574 for the second. At the present moment "C" Company lead by 4 points from their old comrades, "G."

The first S.T.C. fixture took place on Saturday, Nov. 6th, when a team of 24 went to run against the Brighton and County Harriers at Brighton. Last season they beat us twice, and this year we hoped to wipe out our defeat. This we did with some success, with a score of 111 to 235, twelve being counted in. It is only fair to Brighton to say that the large number we took down gave us a decided advantage, and also made their total considerably larger than it would have been if only 16 had been running on each side. The result, however, was never in doubt from the start, and gives good reason to hope for further successes. After the run the Harriers entertained our team to tea, followed by a concert, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

The placings of the first 12 of the S.T.C. team were: Sapper Shardlow, "G" Coy., 1; Corpl. Noonan, "C," 2; L/Cpl. Clarke, "G," 3; Sapper Cottrill, J. Sect., 4; Sapper Jones, "D," 7; Corpl. Gaffney, "X," 10; L/Cpl. Dowie, "X," 11; Sapper Wilby, "G," 12; Sapper Gent, "G," 13; Sapper Richardson, "G," 14; Lieut. Kennet, Courses, 16; Sapper Cayley, "E," 18.

Just a Line from the Printers.

May every reader of THE WIRE enjoy a really happy Christmas, wherever he may be; and may the spirit of the season—"Peace and goodwill to all men"—carry each one safely through all the chances and changes of the coming year.

G.M.F. LTD.

RAILWAY SERVICE—TO AND FROM LONDON.

Leave UCKFIELD	CROWBORO.	ARR. LONDON	Leave LONDON.	CROWBORO.	ARR. UCKFIELD
7.38 a.m. ...	7.57 a.m. ...	9.40 a.m. Vic.	Vic. 5.20 a.m. ...	7.29 a.m. ...	7.47 a.m.
8.27 ...	8.44 ...	10. 5 L.B.	" 7.23 ...	10.21 ...	10.37
8.49 ...	9.10 ...	10.30 Vic.	" 9.10 ...	11. 3 ...	11.19
10.54 ...	11.11 ...	1.33 p.m. "	" 11. 5 ...	1. 2 p.m. ...	1.18 p.m.
12.46 p.m. ...	1. 5 p.m. ...	3.25 L.B.	" 11.55 ...	2.27 ...	2.45
1.34 ...	1.50 ...	4.12 Vic.	" *1.25 p.m. ...	3.34 ...	3.50
4.10 ...	4.27 ...	6.18 "	" 3.45 ...	5.28 ...	5.46
†4.35 ...	4.52 ...	6.29 "	L.B. 4.44 ...	5.59 ...	6.14
5.50 ...	6. 5 ...	8. 5 "	Vic. 4.50 ...	6.28 ...	6.45
6. 0 ...	6.15 ...	8.29 "	" 5. 5 ...	7. 1 ...	7.17
8. 5 ...	8.25 ...	10.36 "	" *5.48 ...	8. 0 ...	8.17
			" 6. 3 ...	7.20 ...	7.35
			" 7.15 ...	9.55 ...	10.12
			" 8. 5 ...	10.10 ...	10.25
SUNDAYS.			SUNDAYS.		
— ...	8.12 a.m. ...	11.26 a.m. L.B.	Vic. 8.35 a.m. ...	10.53 a.m. ...	11.10 a.m.
7.59 p.m. ...	8.18 p.m. ...	10. 9 p.m. Vic.	" 6.45 p.m. ...	9.14 p.m. ...	9.30 p.m.

TO AND FROM BRIGHTON.

Leave CROWBORO.	UCKFIELD.	ARR. BRIGHTON	Leave BRIGHTON.	UCKFIELD.	ARR. CROWBORO.
7.29 a.m. ...	7.47 a.m. ...	8.37 a.m.	6.55 a.m. ...	7.33 a.m. ...	7.57 a.m.
8.20 ...	8.36 ...	9.19	8. 5 ...	8.49 ...	9.10
10.21 ...	10.37 ...	11.22	9.22 ...	10. 4 ...	10.23
11.46 ...	12. 3 p.m. ...	12.50 p.m.	10.20 ...	10.54 ...	11.11
2.27 p.m. ...	2.45 ...	3.30	12. 0 noon ...	12.46 p.m. ...	1. 5 p.m.
— ...	4. 0 ...	4.50	1.38 p.m. ...	2.22 ...	2.40
*4.57 ...	*5.14 ...	6. 0	2.53 ...	3.50 ...	—
5.28 ...	5.46 ...	6.35	4.27 ...	5.11 ...	5.30
6.28 ...	6.45 ...	7.33	5.43 ...	6.25 ...	6.43
7. 1 ...	7.17 ...	8. 3	6.19 ...	7.11 ...	7.30
8. 0 ...	8.17 ...	9. 4	7.20 ...	8. 5 ...	8.25
9.55 ...	10.12 ...	10.55	9. 5 ...	9.56 ...	10.14
SUNDAYS.			SUNDAYS.		
7.26 a.m. ...	7.42 a.m. ...	8.45 a.m.	9.40 a.m. ...	10.25 a.m. ...	10.43 a.m.
10.53 ...	11.10 ...	11.55	2.10 p.m. ...	2.55 p.m. ...	3.12 p.m.
5. 8 p.m. ...	5.27 p.m. ...	6.21 p.m.	7.15 ...	7.59 ...	8.18
7.46 ...	8. 3 ...	8.48	8.25 ...	9.10 ...	9.28

* Saturdays only. † Not Saturdays.

AUTO-CAR SERVICE between TUNBRIDGE WELLS, CROWBOROUGH, UCKFIELD, LEWES, BRIGHTON, EASTBOURNE, Etc.

	WEEK-DAYS.							SUNDAYS.		
Tunbridge Wells (Auto Centre) ...	10. 0	12. 0	2. 0	2.30	5.10	6. 0	9. 0	10.30	2.30	6.30
Crowborough (Golf Links) ...	10.50	—	2.50	3.20	6. 0	6.50	—	11.20	3.20	7.20
Uckfield (Station) ...	11.30	—	3.30	—	—	7.30	—	12. 0	4. 0	8. 0
Lewes (County Hall) ...	12.10	—	4.10	—	—	8.10	—	12.40	4.40	8.40
Brighton (Aquarium) ...	12.50	—	4.50	—	—	8.50	—	1.20	5.20	9.20
Eastbourne (Pevensey Road) ...	1.20	—	5.20	—	—	9.20	—	Sunday service shortly		
Eastbourne (Pevensey Road) ...	—	9.30	—	1.30	—	—	5.30	Sunday service shortly		
Brighton (Aquarium) ...	—	10. 0	—	2. 0	—	—	6. 0	10.30	2.30	6.30
Lewes (County Hall) ...	—	10.40	—	2.40	—	—	6.40	11.10	3.10	7.10
Uckfield (Station) ...	—	11.30	—	3.30	—	—	7.30	12. 0	4. 0	8. 0
Crowborough (Golf Links) ...	8.45	12.10	—	4.10	4.20	6. 0	8.10	12.40	4.40	8.40
Tunbridge Wells (Auto Centre) ...	9.35	1. 0	2.30	5. 0	5.10	6.50	9. 0	1.30	5.30	9.30

Change Cars at Uckfield.**FARES (Single)**—From Tun. Wells to Crowborough, 1/4; Uckfield, 2/6; Lewes, 4/-; Brighton, 5/-; Eastbourne, 5/6.

Every care is taken in the compilation of these Time Tables, but the Editor cannot accept responsibility for any inconvenience caused by unforeseen alterations in the respective Services.

