



THE LONDONER

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APRIL 1917.

[Price Annas 3.



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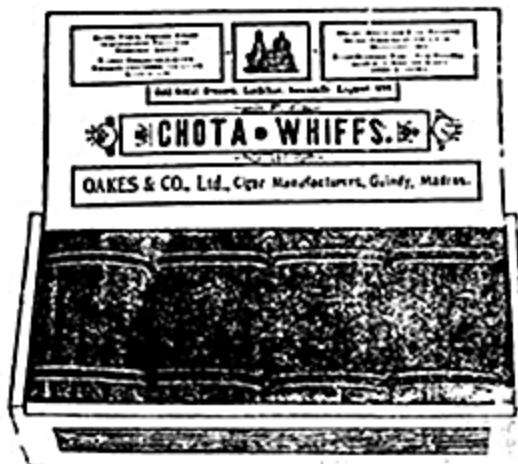
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THE LONDONER.

The Journal of the 1/25th Battalion The London Regiment.

BY PERMISSION OF

Lieut.-Col. ARTHUR CHURCHILL.

No. 6—Vol. I.]

APRIL 1917.

[Price Annas 3.

ROUND AND ABOUT.

MOVING AGAIN.

For the third time since its inception, the "Londoner" has to record in its sixth issue another change of stations, but probably never one more welcome than our removal from the dust of Burhan to the comforts and cleanliness of Jullundur. It is clearly a case of extremes being encountered; the dust-laden bedding and kit with the perpetual disorder of the one contrasting with the bedsteads, kit boxes and shelves of the other where system, uniformity and order excels.

THE LIBRARY.

Among the amenities of our new station must be included the Regimental Library. It is remarkably up to date, a hundred or so of the books having been published last year. The collection is a very representative one with numerous copies of leading authors, the majority being modern. Its popularity can be estimated from the fact that the daily average of exchange is 120 volumes as against that of the previous Battalion of 25.

BILLIARDS & GAMES.

These are now getting well under weigh and we understand that many improvements are about to be made. One billiard table is being recovered and refitted; skittles and snooker balls are obtainable. Various games are being

provided such as draughts, chess, ping pong, ring boards, cards, etc. For the benefit of others it is requested that all using them should be particularly careful to return them to the attendant complete. All the leading daily papers are available in the reading room.

RIFLE GUARDS & PROWLERS.

Although precautions have not been relaxed these duties have taken a decidedly easier turn. A patent rifle rack has been discovered at Jullundur that ought to defy the efforts of the cleverest loose-wallah in Asia to win a rifle. Now at night we prowl around our various company areas armed with a hefty pick helve and by day wander only in the cool shades of the bungalow.

PATROLS.

Among the new guard duties which have come to us is a patrol of the cantonment, a duty reminiscent of our service on coastal defence. Then, our nocturnal wanderings were along the cliffs and shores of old England. Now we move along the cacti-lined roads, by mosques and crowded native quarters, the bazaars—the busy shopping centres. How many of us then would have welcomed the prospect of a patrol among the marketing places of England! Of course we can tell of people who did their patrols through the busy part of the country, but that's another story.

DUST.

The dust storms which occasionally veiled everything at Burhan and left us blinded and groping have not deserted us. Only the provision of walls and the closing of doors and windows have caused an amelioration. The presence of a dark cloud foreshadows their approach and while they swirl around obscuring all, we can at last sit in comfort, though with every precaution the dust is all-pervading. Fortunately the heavy storms, the Indian April "showers," have caused a temporary cessation of this unpleasantness.

THE WEEKLY JOLT.

The return to bungalow life has revived our old friend, the Wednesday morning "Strong as Possible." The first one on April 11th was quite interesting, since the countryside is altogether new to us. The sight of snow-capped hills away to the east-north-east reminded us of the crags we had left.

We expect that it will not be long before the Racing Season opens.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS.

On arriving at Jullundur Cantonment the station buildings created a favourable impression, and helped to inspire the hope that our future home might prove a desirable spot. We are not thoroughly acquainted with the cantonment yet, and so far have only strolled around a few of the roads. However on the whole the impression at this season of the year is very pleasing. The bungalows are spacious and set widely apart in large compounds. The gardens, where any care is bestowed are beautiful, and the flowers remind one much of an English garden during summer. Roses bloom in abundance and the lawns are green and inviting. One imagines that a winter in Jullundur must be very desirable. Some of the bungalows, with the brilliantly coloured climbing plants reminded us very much of the clematis covered cottages of England, whilst others were built very similar to the heavily tied roofs of Surrey. In fact they look very un-Indian! Of the fruit of the kitchen gardens some of us have been lucky enough to taste. The Club buildings and lawn too are very inviting. Perhaps the brightest spot of all is the Public Gardens. They are well kept and full of flowers,

whilst the shady walks make an ideal spot for the evening promenade. Ayahs with their young charges congregate here to discuss the whys and wants of the household world. In one corner is a perfect feast of hollyhocks, tall and multi-coloured. The borders are filled with cornflowers, petunias and many other familiar edging plants. The abundance of roses is also a very noticeable feature. The evening air being full of their fragrance.

The Garrison Church of St. Luke's is an unpretentious building, and its numerous tablets around the walls, "to the memory of—" recalls to one's mind the thought of that adjustable wooden box! The R. C. Chapel was built for the accommodation of an Irish Regiment that was stationed here some years ago. Its small canteen and billiard room offer some variation to the regimental canteen. The Post Office is a large spacious office, whilst the Brigade Staff offices appear a poor tumbled down collection of bungalows. Spread out in all directions are the offices and workshops of the Jullundur Army Clothing Factory, capable of turning out a fairly large stock of clothing. Our hopes are that the station may always look as green, fresh and brilliantly hued as when we were first introduced to it.

Ah! the most important item is the weather. At Bangalore, we were promised month by month a fearful deluge of rain—but it never came—that is, to the promised extent. Here too one almost foresees the same order of things with regard to heat. "It is too hot this month, Master!"; and the next thing we see is an apologetic statement in the *Statesman* pointing out how cold it is for this time of the year. On Monday, 9th April, in the district around Rawalpindi the temperature was 19 degrees below the normal. Delhi was 11 degrees below the average. And we shall not be disappointed if it continues well below the average.

G. O. M.

SALE AND EXCHANGE.

Small advertisements are inserted free. For inclusion in any number they should be handed in not later than the 20th of the month prior to that in which they are required to appear.

PUTTIES. Wanted a pair of spiral cut I putties such as Fox's I. P. Must be in good condition. Offers to Box No. 1, "The Londoner."

THE DRAFT.

The amalgamation of the Reserve Battalions of the 3/25th London and the 3/10th London last autumn in Blighty had not long taken place when a draft was made up for India.

The ball started rolling about the beginning of October whilst the combined battalion was in training at Hurdcott Camp near Salisbury with a medical examination; from thence onward hardly a week passed but what some unfortunate M. O. did not have a poke at us. A few weeks later the 3/10th London as it was now known moved into billets at Teignmouth in Devonshire and it was from that delightful seaside resort that our departure was made for Devonport and embarkation for the East a few weeks before Christmas. Six weeks were spent altogether hanging around Devonport and Plymouth, first boarding one transport, then moving into a rest camp, then on to another transport and then back again to a rest camp until at last we finally settled down on the second troopship.

In the afternoon of an early day in the new year we slipped away down the Sound to the accompaniment of "cock-a-doo-doo" from all the tug and crane whistles in the dock-yard. Not a few of the fair sex gathered on the famous old Hoe to wave us farewell; evidently those on board had made some acquaintances through hanging around Plymouth during those weary weeks of waiting.

A slight roll on deck as we passed the Eddy-stone had its usual effects on those unaccustomed to voyaging on the sea and the R. A. M. C. orderlies had a busy time in consequence. However, after the first day out colour and appetite returned to most and a general settling down was made in view of the prospect of a fortnight's sail before land would be seen again.

During the voyage the customary sports and games permissible within the restricted deck area were held and in these the London draft did excellently. In a boxing competition both the middle weight and the feather weight were won by two of our number; the winning team in the tug-of-war competition was also made up from our contingent. A pierrot concert party of eight members was formed, four of them coming from among us. This party was a brilliant success chiefly due to the efforts of the leader,

T. G. Morris, himself a professional comedian who convulsed everyone with his whimsicalities and fund of humour. The battalion have a real asset in Tommy as a mirth maker.

Considerations of health compelled a temporary disembarkation at Freetown, Sierra Leone, immediately on arrival and a quartering in barracks during our stay there of two or three days. It was rather a rough period so far as food was concerned owing to the lack of native transport but otherwise the novel experience of seeing the sights of that picturesque place was enjoyed by the majority. A fortnight after leaving the "White Man's Grave" found us at the Cape where a rattling good time was spent. The O. C. Troops of our transport allowed a free gangway every afternoon until 11 o'clock at night for the seven days we laid off the harbour, and the English residents in Cape Town and its suburbs gave the visiting troops, ten thousand in all, a splendid reception. The railway from the docks into the town was available at all times without payment and a large hall was taken by a Visiting Soldiers' Reception Committee for the provision of free teas and concerts. Further, some of the residents invited small parties to their homes and entertained them on a royal scale. Within twenty-four hours of the arrival of the troops ashore, a comment appeared in the local press noting their good behaviour and this gave an impetus to the splendid reception already accorded them. On behalf of the London's draft I take upon myself the honour and pleasure of tendering our heartiest thanks to the people of Cape Town and of expressing our appreciation of the manner in which they received us during our stay there.

A few days later we put into Durban and took part in a recruiting campaign, a procession being made up of the ten thousand troops which promenaded the lengthy principal street, West Street, making an imposing spectacle. We had only one afternoon and evening ashore there, but owing to the heat and a storm which followed had very little opportunity for sight-seeing. Leaving Durban we came straight across to Bombay where we were met by Captain Blunden, the arrangements for the long journey by train northwards to Durban being excellent. As an old 25th boy, I am very glad to be back again with the regiment.

J. W. L.

BOXING.

The team representing the Battalion at the Central India Boxing Tournament at Mhow, open to all India, started under very favourable auspices, for time had permitted an opportunity for training and all difficulties in the matter of expenses had been disposed of. This was the first occasion on which our men had competed under Army and Navy rules, these differing from those of the Amateur Boxing Association inasmuch as only effective hits count and hitting in clinches is allowed.

The weights came as a bit of a surprise. Owen making Welter was allowed to fight at the weight, but Godwin not being able to make light also fought Welter. Operations commenced with T. E. Smith, Fern, Mockler and Turner in the Bantams, Lulham, who unfortunately became too ill to box, in the Feathers, Hawkins and Holford in the Lights, Owen and Godwin, Welters, and Lance-Sergt. C. J. White in the Middles.

Holford was our first man in the ring and created a good impression. Although he had his man beaten all the time he took too much out of himself, weakening in the third round but managed to keep going to the end, winning easily on points. Fern followed, winning comfortably with a straight left that never left his opponent's face. Owen came next, having the hard luck to be beaten after a good fight by an old stager in Sergt. Crockerof of the D. L. I., Lance-Sergt. White was our last man and easily disposed of Pte. Farthing of the 21st Lancers, showing a glimpse of his old "Blighty" form. At the conclusion we had three wins to our credit and only one failure.

The second day commenced with another success, T. E. Smith quite out-boxing his man in the first bout of the evening. Vic. Hawkins our next man in, with good footwork and a straight left, won for us another fight. Billy Turner caused us some surprise, not to mention his opponent, as he used both hands well with telling effect, winning easily. Mockler was unfortunate in losing, but the fight he put up was quite characteristic of him. Our totals of successes had now been brought up to seven and our losses only two.

Holford was the first of our string in the ring the next evening, meeting a man of the

clinch and hit school, a style quite new to him. Ultimately this was his undoing and although warned several times by the Referee was quite innocent, his opponent funkng an open fight being out-boxed and afraid of punishment. Finally both were disqualified, a very unpopular verdict.

Lance-Sergt. White next met Lance-Corpl. Birch of the Lincolns, a winner at Calcutta, finding his man extremely nippy in the ring. White however continually got him on the ropes and punished him severely; tactics won him his fight. Our successes had now increased to eight out of eleven contests.

Unfortunately on the fourth evening two of our boys "crashed" with one another, T. E. Smith very sportingly scratching to Fern. Turner, our first man in the ring, was unlucky enough to damage his right hand and in the second round stopped with his jaw a terrific right swing. Bus! Hawkins had the misfortune to meet a very tall light weight with a much longer left than his own and although he tried hard was unable to dodge it. Consequently the decision went against him. Godwin next met the eventual winner, Lance-Corpl. Fox of the D. L. I. who landed his left in the second round—another blighted hope. Our last fight was between Lance-Sergt. White and Lance-Corpl. Powell of the 1/1st Brecknocks, the Middle Weight Champion of India, who met in the final of the Middles. The first two rounds were good, there being absolutely nothing to choose between them, but in the middle of the third, our man stopped one that made him groggy and Powell won a good fight on points. Although he lost, Lance-Sergt. White had the satisfaction of winning the best loser's prize.

On the final evening all our hopes were centred in Fern who met in the Semi-Final of the Bantams, Davies of the 1/1st Brecknocks, the eventual winner, but after a nice fight was beaten on points. Unfortunately Fern was greatly handicapped by a damaged hand sustained in his previous bout, and this practically necessitated his fighting with one hand only. His injury has since been examined at the hospital when a fractured thumb was discovered. Fern in meeting his man under such circumstances did a real plucky thing as he must have suffered intense pain during the whole time.

At the finish of the meeting our successes exactly equalled our defeats, eight wins, eight

losses, a result most satisfactory. In boxing—not fighting—and footwork, our boys stood out by themselves. Undoubtedly the experience gained will be of material advantage in the future.

SERGT. HARVEY.

KHYBER RAMBLES.

Before Burhan was left once and for all, at least it is hoped so, an opportunity was accorded a large proportion of the battalion of a visit to Peshawar and the Khyber Pass, no less than three large parties going up for two or three days.

Each of the rambles was very similar, commencing with a weary wait for a train which, arriving an hour or so late and evidently out for fresh records, rendered the journey a dreary one. The only piece of interesting country was that around Fort Attock, but some diversion was found in the motley but picturesque crowds at the many stations, especially the sight of a lusty havildar at Nowshera with a business looking revolver in his hand ready for use. At the frontier town, carts of the Mule Corps were in readiness for the conveyance of the durrie bundles to the barracks of the King's Liverpools. To this famous corps we were indebted for much hospitality for they not only placed a spare bungalow at our disposal for sleeping but in addition provided all our meals in their supper bar. The heartiest thanks and appreciation of all for their kindness goes out to them. Sixty tongas appeared a large order, but these were easily available for the drive up through the pass to Ali Masjid, so that in moving away in single file conveying something near the proportions of a company the ideal route march could be imagined. The sights seen and the journey taken differed but slightly from those so admirably described by "Lamba" in our February issue, these including the Fort at Jamrud over which we roamed, the Afridis with their rifles, bandoliers and large knives to say nothing of the side line of old practically useless weapons which they endeavoured to sell to us; the caravans, a most interesting sight and the guards of the Khyber Rifles, who took quite a friendly interest in us. The double journey of forty miles being covered within an

eventful seven hours speaks well of the stamina and pace of the tonga ponies.

The bazaars, the Soldiers' Home in which we happened to light upon a "cheerful but happy" lantern lecture and the cinematograph assisted to fill in the evening. A fairly good zoological collection and a museum exhausting the attractions of this northern cantonment.

Rain fell on the final day of leave giving the importunate tonga-wallahs a splendid opportunity for raking in the eternal buksheesh so continually demanded, but with the train leaving at mid-day little could be done in the way of explorations afield. A damp and chilly day did not assist in the enlivenment of the long journey back to camp. Another party were even more unfortunate, circumstances confining their visit to two days only, necessitating a long night journey and a weary wait at a way-side junction for an early morning train.

PUBLISHERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Horses and their Training, by Captain P. G. (5s. 0d. net).

With special appendix dealing with "Points on His Hoof," by Cyril Hedging.

The Dalhousie says: "The chapter on 'Grass as a Bait,' is the funniest we have seen for some time."

"*Tenax et Audax*," a Treatise on the Handling of Bombs, by "Nobby," with foreword on "DROP IT," by E. L. Kan. Published by the Granny Publishing Co., Rudnulluj. Rs. 2

THE ORCHESTRA.

We believe that in the new orchestral party there are several vacancies for players. It seems possible to obtain all the necessary instruments but as the promoters are not in touch with probable players, all those wishing to participate are asked to give their names to Corp. Hills, No. 6 Platoon, No. 10 Bungalow.

THE QUEST OF THE ACID.

Hearth and home are very good things in their way. But unfortunately (so the battalion is told) there is a war on, and our hearths and homes have receded into the dark backward and abysm of Time. They have become fairy-tales, beautiful fantasies like the Leicester Lounge and the Victoria Palace. We forget the colour of the paint on our front doors, and the number of pegs in the ancestral hall-stand is a matter of vague controversy. For much water has flowed under London Bridge since the battalion proceeded overseas.

"Proceeded overseas"—a most satisfying phrase:

One rises at once to giddy levels. Vast Dominions hail us as their equal. The Half-penny Press proffers the gladsome mitt. And boots, ankle, dismounted, pairs umpteen, hail us as brothers. Yet, spite of all this honour, how empty is Fame! The wiseacre who babbled of the white elephant in the ointment had gilt-edged inside information as to which particular side of his roti bore the mukkin. Someone has put him wise. He had gazed deep into the heart of things, and had noted the grisly skeleton in the domain of Dame Hubbard. He had drunk of the cup of experience, and the laurel wreath was gnawing at his vitals. Sic transit gloria mundi! O tempora! O mores!

We are but little children weak, and the halls of our sires call us with echoing fingers. In the matter of Iceland's greasy mountains our opinions are still unformed, but India's coral strand achieves little glacial excision in this battalion. Man is a restless animal at the best of times, and divine discontent flourishes here with the greenest of bay trees. We live in a land of plenty, yet we sigh for Blighty, where it is bad form to munch lump sugar. The staff of life is a free issue, and we are dying to purchase it at a bob a time. We enjoy unlimited light (so only that it be decently clad) till nine forty-five pip emma, yet our spirits wander in the city of dreadful night.

What saith the Beatitude?—"Blessed is he that knoweth a good thing when he sees it."

But the Twenty-Fifth bites the hand that administers nourishment. Verily we are like

the weathercock that knoweth not its own mind. And so will it be with us for a' time or till the end of the war. Concerning which thing, do they not tell of a certain Strawberry Helmet who gathered unto him his fellows and spake unto them saying,

"There is a place I wot of most wondrous to behold. And men do call it Burhan, which being translated meaneth "Not so dusty." Why therefore should we not take the Twenty-Fifth and transport them thither? For there are many hills. And we will get their tails down." And this thing was done.

And the Twenty-Fifth sojourned there many days and they found it good. For they had tents to sleep in and men watched their arms by night and there was an abundance of char-wallahs. And in the twelfth month of the year there was much feasting and wassailing. And the officers said nice things about them, and did buy them beer. And they did drink.

Yet even then they were not content and did cry aloud to the Gods. For the bug, which is known as Folly has bitten them, and they could get no rest. And they took counsel one with another, saying "What shall we do that we may sleep? For this is getting us down."

Then spake one in this wise, saying: "Hearken unto me, for verily this is the straight tip, and if ye heed my words your troubles shall forsake ye. Know then, that in the land of your fathers, even in Blighty, there did dwell one Kitchener, a mighty man of war, and a dealer in acid. Seek ye then his acid, that ye may be made whole." And they did even as he said. For each day they set forth with their centurions, and their camels, and their asses, and their fruit-wallahs, and they did travel many miles, and did swallow much dust. And they found much acid. But because it bore not the trade-mark of Kitchener on each label, they were not satisfied. So they forsook their tents and their liquor bar, and took their beds and their beasts, and got them thence, and slept under the stars two nights. And on the third day they returned. And they did drink. Yet though they had found much acid because it bore not the seal of Kitchener, they were not satisfied. And this they did many times.

Then once again did they set out, purposing to sleep beneath the stars for fourteen nights that their quest might prosper. But on the

fourth day came wars and rumours of wars and behold everything was slashed up. And they returned to the place Burlan. And they were not satisfied. But there came the Company Orderly Sergeants crying in the wilderness: "On the morrow you will parade as strong as possible for the Test which is called Kitchener's. And you will find much acid." And hearing this they rejoiced greatly.

And they set forth on the morrow and even as it was told them they found much acid. And when they had tasted of it, they knew it for Kitchener's. And the wandering Jew fell out by the way side crying: "Bus, I have packed up." And they were in sore travail and many also would fain have packed up. But they said, "Behold, they are out to get our tails down. That has caused it. We will even see this thing out," and they saw it out. And the Twenty-Fifth crawled in on its eyebrows bearing many packets, and having found much acid.

And the bug which is called Folly bit them no more. And there was much avuncular chastisement and they cried: "Roll on Jullundur!" For they had taken their fill of acid, seeing that the acid which is weighed out by Kitchener is not weighed with the apothecaries' scale, but in large packets. And he who has tasted of it once, shall not slake his thirst for many moons. He shall drink much beer and he shall tell the tale among his fellows saying: "Verily the Test which is called Kitchener's is koochnay. I did cane it with one mitt." And his fellows shall hide their faces in their drinking vessels and shall keep their own counsel, deeming him to be in his cups. For there is no man, having tasted the genuine acid, shall ask for more. Now the further doings of the battalion, are they not chronicled in the Domesday Book?

For there is no copy of the Domesday Book in the War Office, which of a surety has forgotten us. By which token, we shall languish in this heathen clime till our bones rest beneath the sand, and the iekle baby scorpions play hide-and-seek in our skulls.

And they say there is a war on.

B. Mc. Q.

CONGRATULATIONS.

The 16th of April last saw the completion by Lieut.-Col. Arthur Churchill of four years' service as the Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion of the 25th London Regiment.

He entered the 5th (West) Middlesex V. R. C. on the 9th March 1898 as a Second-Lieutenant, and on 29th March the following year received his first promotion; thus making his total length of service over nineteen years.

On the addition of cyclist companies to infantry battalions, Col. Churchill was given a company and promoted to the rank of Captain on the 20th June 1900. He was successful in making this one of the strongest companies in the Volunteer Force, securing well over the hundred rank and file in the first few weeks of its existence. At the first cyclist manoeuvres ever held (August 1900) under the late Gen. Sir Frederick Maurice, it turned out ninety-four N. C. O's and men who leaving London at 4 P.M. and riding to Horsham the same evening, found there, that arrangements provided for the feeding of the company at Horsham, and for their billeting in a barn no less than seven miles away. (Think of that, ye footsloggers and physical jerks grousers). Riding seven miles for your breakfast and seven miles back to parade. After the day's operations, seven miles to tea and seven miles back to sleep. A little matter of twenty-eight miles in addition to the "day's job of work." It was admitted afterwards by one of the Staff that the arrangement was made purposely as a test "to see if you could do it." The cyclists did it all right.

Other memorable events of those days were the "route marches" down to the various camps at Seaford, etc., when the 26th Middlesex and other London cyclists would rendezvous at Purley Corner and do the road journey of sixty-five miles in eight hours including all halts. On one of these occasions a well known general intimated that he would inspect the column at 1 P.M. at a certain cross road. The column arrived all right, dead to time, with Col. Gilbertson Smith at its head, but there was not any signs of the general. About ten minutes later he turned up and when he heard that there had been a rest of half an hour a mile or so back he apologised to the C. O. and later gave an excellent report on the column and its day's work.

Another memory which comes to mind is in connection with the manoeuvres in the New Forest when a force of all arms representing invaders at Lulworth were opposed by a force composed of cyclists, who were divided into three columns. One of these columns made up of cyclists from some West Country units, took the west side of the sector of country over which the three columns moved towards the coast; the 26th Middlesex were responsible for the northern side, and a combined force of a squadron of yeomanry and three cyclist companies under the command of Capt. Churchill moved along the eastern side, the whole force being in the form of a square with the south side open. In this formation a converging movement was made towards the south coast gradually contracting. The operations which lasted three days in all, effectually prevented the enemy from getting any further than the high ground north of Lulworth. The superior mobility of the cyclists over the horsemen was very noticeable. On the second morning the movement was held up for three hours because the fodder had got lost and the horses could not go on without a feed. One cyclist company made good use of the "wait." A patrol captured a motor lorry conveying the officers' mess of one of the enemy's infantry battalions which had been sent on to a pre-arranged spot which the infantry never reached. My! how that cyclist company fed that morning!

In 1912 the Battalion took part in the Army Manœuvres which were held that year in Cambridgeshire. In this they formed part of Lawford's Brigade with two other cyclist battalions. These operations were exceedingly interesting as they were the first Army Manœuvres in which cyclists had ever been used as complete units. The Cavalry Division consisted of two brigades of cavalry and one of cyclists. The advance was carried out with three parallel columns, the brigade of cyclists being in the centre.

That year was notable for the inspection of the Battalion at Chelmsford, just before the commencement of the manoeuvres, by His Excellency the present Commander-in-Chief of India, who then held the rank of a major general. The previous year's work will never be forgotten, for the whole of the operations

were carried out in a perfect deluge of rain. The Battalion was commanded right through these manoeuvres by Col. Arthur Churchill who was then still a Captain.

On the 16th April 1913 he was promoted direct from the rank of Captain to that of Lieut.-Col. and assumed command of the Battalion, *vice* Lieut.-Col. Gilbertson Smith, T. D., whose period of command had expired.

We heartily congratulate our C. O. on the achievement of his recent anniversary.

PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

Competition No. 11.—There were seven entries for this competition. Certainly not a large number, notwithstanding the fact of an extended time limit. A committee composed of Cyc. Freethy, H. Q.; Cyc. Nicholson, Signals; Cyc. Penn "C"; Cyc. Howlett "D"; Cpl. Rogers "D"; Cyc. Andrews "B;" criticised the essays and awarded the 1st prize to Cyc. J. E. Ingram "F"; and the second to Cyc. Pattison "G", whilst the third place went to Cyc. Gayler "E."

In view of the closeness of the voting and that the examiners in their written criticisms considered it difficult to differentiate between "F" and "G" we have decided to divide the total prizes between the two essayists.

"Lucky Jim" need not despair; publication being considered.

Competition No. 12.—Three prizes of Rs. 5, Rs. 3 and Rs. 2 are offered for the best suggestions for forthcoming competitions, stunts, etc., etc., in the columns of the "Londoner." This should afford an opportunity for many competitors.

With reference to competition No. 10, the winner's photos are included in our frontispiece. The first prize was the Native Village, E. Guest, B. at the top left hand corner, and the second prize was awarded to the centre snap,—A Persian Well, J. E. Davis, A.

LAHORE.

The capital of the Punjab, one of the most ancient and famous cities in India, being only 84 miles from Jullundur lies well within the purview of a day pass, the fare costing but Rs. 3-15 second class, and Re. 1-8-6 intermediate. Suitable trains are: dep. 6-42, arr. 9-24, or dep. 8-53, arr. 12-0; that returning being 20-0 arriving at the Jullundur Cantonment at 22-31.

The origin of Lahore lays with the Rajputs, which race was founded towards the end of the first century of the Christian era; probably it was the chief city of one of the earliest Rajput States established in the west of India, for at the time of the Muhammadan invasion, Lahore was the capital of an important Hindu principality exercising a kind of feudal superiority over other States. Its history is connected with every Muhammadan dynasty of Northern India, having been the seat of Government for some time. From 1767 it remained in possession of the Sikhs, but with the rest of the Punjab was annexed by the British in 1849.

The river Ravi, now a mile away, once flowed by the city. In 1662 its encroachments necessitated the construction of a massive brick embankment four miles in length; soon afterwards the river left its course turning to the north and has never since returned. Until a few years ago the city was surrounded by a wall fifteen feet high with thirteen gateways.

The visitor should not fail to see the Lawrence Gardens opposite Government House, and the Zoological Gardens. Opposite the Central Museum is the celebrated gun Zamzama, a huge piece made in India in 1761, used by Ahmed Shah in the battle of Panipat and left behind as too unwieldy to take back to Kabul. Until Ranjit Singh captured it in 1802 this gun had been kept by the most powerful of the Sikh Misls, the Bhangis of Amritsar, and called by them the Phangianwali Tope. Regarded as the talisman of the Sikh empire its capture added greatly to the prestige of Ranjit Singh; the gun exercises a powerful influence in the State, as a firm belief is held that whoever retains the custody of Zamzama will control the destiny of their land. Readers of Kipling's book "Kim" will recollect that it was while playing around this ancient and cumbrous

piece that his hero fell in with the old priest in search of a river, and with whom he took service as his *chela* accompanying him during his wanderings.

Lahore is rich in splendid architectural remains of the Mogul period, and the British Government have done much to conserve and restore the mosques, tombs and gardens which add so much to its beauty and interest. Moreover it is profoundly interesting as a type of an old Indian city, and as a relic of the spacious days of the Moguls. It presents a striking contrast to Calcutta, Madras and Rangoon. Calcutta is almost wholly a modern city. No buildings can survive long in the damp climate of Bengal. Rangoon is aggressively new. Its lay out has the regularity of modern town planning. Madras recalls the past as feebly as does Calcutta. But in Lahore the ancient city cooped within high walls still remains.

It is a city in which the Muhammadans are in a majority and Muhammadanism is active and progressive. Side by side with them are the Sikhs who in their day of triumph preyed upon the splendid buildings of the Mogul Emperors and displayed a spirit of vandal puritanism which probably they now regret. They also are manifesting a spirit for progress and are formidable competitors to the more numerous Muhammadans.

UNKNOWN HEROES IN THE BATTALION.

The Coy. Q. M. S. who executed a 12 mile route march on one piece of chewing gum.

The Drill Sergeant who flatters himself that he talks to his squad in their own patois.

The Musketry Sergeant who in spite of the scarcity of paper is still able to work out his musketry returns.

The man who so loves drill order that he brings it out for bayonet practice when shirt sleeve order is permitted.

The cyclist who walks abroad at all hours without his topee, elevates his fingers from his nasal organ in the direction of the winds and the dust storm, and wanders around on the s'y line oblivious of the fire of the enemy.

THE TRAVELLING KITCHEN.

In proceeding to our summer station we travelled on one of the latest pattern troop trains. Not only were the coaches themselves a great improvement on the former type of military coach, especially in the matter of washing and sanitary arrangements; but attached to the second train was a travelling kitchen. Being familiar with Dining and Restaurant Cars on most long distance trains, it does not strike one as much of an addition at first. And yet it is quite a bold and helpful scheme which Lieut. V. A. Haddick (Leicesters) attached S. and T., has invented and put to practical use.

Up to the present, troops travelling for four or five days have lived chiefly on bully and bread, or where hot meals have been provided, the meal hour has been altogether dependent upon the running of the train. Suppose Dinner (Stew) is arranged for at Guntakal Junction for 1-30 P.M., and owing to traffic conditions the train does not arrive until 4 P.M., then a long wait is entailed, and as so often happens one has just "gone past" the dinner feeling, and many prefer to go without. Then too for making a brew of tea the same cumbrous machinery had to be set in motion. Some miles down the line, water is being boiled for making tea, and again owing to the train losing time it may be 6 or 7 P.M. before tea time arrives. With the addition of a Kitchen Carriage all these odd times for meals is obviated. Breakfast, dinner and tea are fixed for say 8 A.M., 12 noon and 4 P.M., and the meal is served as regularly and punctually as in barracks. Being corridor coaches, the Mess Orderlies can pass from the rear coach to kitchen. Fresh meat and vegetables can be wired for in advance and picked up en route. Perhaps its greatest boon is that the longed-for breakfast cup of tea is not delayed until 10 or 11 A.M.

In principle the stove is a gigantic primus, and can be used anywhere. Early this year it passed from experimental stages and was put to practical use in the trenches in Mesopotamia. It is such an adaptable stove that it can be passed from man to man in the fire trenches and set up just where required, then taken to pieces and passed on to another portion of the line. Also it has been installed on the river boats, hospital ships, etc., with excellent results. And lastly it

was applied to railway travel. And we are a little proud at being the first to travel on a train carrying this latest improvement.

From the exterior the Kitchen Carriage is very similar to the living coach except for the bold lettering above the windows KITCHEN CARRIAGE. The inside is a model of applied common sense, and is lighted both by electricity and incandescent gas. The coach which is the size of the average car is roughly divided into two-thirds kitchen and one-third sleeping accommodation for the staff of four sergeants and an officer. The floor of the kitchen is covered with zinc, roof is painted white, and the sides khaki. Around the sides are placed four folding tables, beneath two of which fair sized sinks are arranged. A large pantry and two serviceable cupboards are also fitted. At first glance the floor space of the car appears to be entirely occupied by three low built, rectangular boxes, placed most awkwardly in a diagonal position. These prove to be the stoves, and over the central one is a large fan spread chimney to collect and carry off the fumes.

THE STOVE.

Each stove will cook for 250 men, and can either roast, boil or bake. The stove proper is built of sheet iron, the outer walls being covered with asbestos. Each stove comprises four ovens and eight boiling places. The ovens are so arranged that they are heated on three sides. The heating is supplied from a blow-lamp using kerosine oil, at a pressure of from 80 to 90 lbs., this pressure giving the best cooking results. Each stove burns on an average from three to four gallons of oil per day. The pressure is supplied by an ordinary hand pump. The cost of such a stove being about £50. The water used for cooking purposes is stored in tanks on the roofs having a capacity of 240 gallons. Into the eight boiling spaces the ordinary army dixie can be dropped, and when the contents are only required to simmer, a tin plate is pushed over the opening and the dixie placed on top. The ovens inside are ingeniously divided so that by an arrangement of moveable tin plates the space can be enlarged or reduced according to requirements; the tin plates also acting as dampers.

The inventor foresees a wide demand for this type of cooker. It has been subjected to severe tests for cooking, in barracks and in the field,

on river-boats and now on troop trains, in all cases proving very successful. In the near future it will probably seriously compete with coal; and the new cooker may be regarded as the commencement of what promises to be a complete revolution of cooking throughout the world; and in fact may eventually become as universal as the motor-car. In principle the cooking is performed by the circulation of hot air currents; and its simplicity is its chief asset. It is interesting to note that it is cheaper than electricity.

Thanks to the cooker and the hard work of the kitchen staff our feeding arrangements were all that could be desired; and some hoped that the journey might last a week!

G. O. M.

INDIAN MARRIAGE CUSTOMS OF SOUTH INDIA AMONGST THE LOWER CASTES.

Among the Hindus, it is considered that, since the parents were responsible for the birth of their son, it is therefore their duty to see that he is suitably married. Hence it is the parents who arrange the match, and also provide the expensive wedding feast. Although this may sound strange to the Westerner, it seems reasonable when one remembers that 95 per cent. of Indian marriages are contracted before the parties are eighteen years of age. In the 1901 census 15 millions of widows were under nine years, and 60,000 below five years of age.

The time has arrived when Guntty should be married. It may be he mentions the fact to his parents, or most likely they altogether decide for him. His mother will pay a call upon the family whose circle contains a marriageable child. Now begin countless enquiries. The character and financial status of the parents and family connections is carefully enquired into. The health of the family in general is discovered, and if all is satisfactory then the girl is brought in and examined. She must be passing pretty, and above all her character and virtue beyond reproach. Having gathered all the information possible from the family, concerning their opinion of the girl, the boy's mother wanders around the girl's village seeking information from high and low, regarding the general behaviour of the girl.

It requires a good deal of discrimination to sift the truth from the tales of the gossips! If everything appears satisfactory, then the Headman of the village is approached, and if he states that the girl is respectful in her general behaviour towards the elders she is considered as worthy of becoming a wife. The mother then goes back to the girl's house and makes the announcement that if they are agreeable, she is willing that her son should marry their daughter.

This stage having been reached, the questionings begin all over again, but this time it is the girl's mother who institutes the enquiries. She in turn visits the boy's village and probes into his past, trying to discover whether he is of good character. If all is satisfactory, then the question is asked what does the boy do? What is his trade or business, and is he likely to stick to it? Supposing he is out of employment, have his parents or relations the means to support both him and his prospective wife? Such are the careful enquiries made, and if all proves satisfactory then the girl's family send an old man or an old woman round to the boy's with the intimation that they are ready to enter into the marriage ceremony.

According to the wealth of the respective families the exchange of gifts is governed. The boy will send a gold brooch, or bangle together with fine silks for dresses, etc. Then both families invite their numerous relatives and all possible friends to meet upon a certain day. The boy is dressed and put in a room by himself, and both parties having taken their seats on the floor opposite one another, the Bridegroom's party ask to see the girl. She is decked in her silks previously given by the boy, and enters the assembly with a vessel of water in her hands. This water-pot is brought by the Bride as a sign of friendliness; used for washing feet. Salaaming to the company she stands as a statue, awaiting inspection. Questions are asked, and opinions are expressed freely amongst the boy's party, and any present knowing ought against the girl's character, makes an announcement. On the whole the accusations that the girl is ugly, under-grown or ill-formed are generally whispered. If all is well and the boy's party approve the girl, then the other party express a wish to see the boy. He is brought out, dressed to the best

advantage, and making his salaams, stands for inspection. Especial attention is paid to his physical qualities; care being exercised that he is not blind, deaf, or a leper. Having met with approval, sponsors for both parties step out and seat themselves in the centre of the assembly. The Bridegroom's sponsor, usually a brother, or may be the father, clasps some gold ornament, and the Bride's brother, clasps some betel-nut. The Bridegroom's brother asks the other whether he is willing to hold himself responsible for his sister's past behaviour. He consents, and thereby makes himself liable to support the sister, should any complaint be preferred afterwards. He then states that his sister is willing to marry, and the other makes a similar statement. This question is put and answered three times, and at the same time the betel-nut and gold are exchanged three times. Ultimately the girl's brother retains the gold and the boy's the betel-nut. Thus the boy and girl are now considered married; but if they be Christians only betrothed. Liquor is now produced and the assembly drink, among the low caste to excess, the high-caste as a rule drinking little.

If the party are Christians they then go to the priest and state their wish. He carefully questions them, and makes a special note of their ages, turning if possible to the baptismal certificate. In the Roman Catholic Church the man must be 25 years and the girl 15 years of age before marriage is permissible. If either party be under age then they must wait, and consider themselves engaged. If of age, the banns are put up for three Sundays and due notice being given to the priest the marriage ceremony is arranged. Each party is asked slowly and deliberately whether they are willing to wed each other "for better or for worse." The love-knot or tali (TAMIL), which takes the place of our ring, is tied around the girl's neck by the man and the ceremony is complete.

G. O. M.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

Below we give an extract showing the monthly sales of the "Londoner." The first number

it will be remembered was issued in October 1916:—

Number of Issue.	"A" Coy.	"B" Coy.	"C" Coy.	"D" Coy.	Sundry sales including Officers Mess.	Total.
1	281	210	278	210	162	1,141
2	338	317	390	219	123	1,387
3	416	349	398	209	191	1,554
4	339	290	399	230	222	1,480
5	356	295	385	201	264	1,500

Just before leaving Burhan a very heavy downpour of rain caused the Haro to transform itself from the peaceful bathing stream to a yellowish raging torrent. A careful examination of the banks shewed that the water had risen 12 feet above its normal level. Both "Our bridges" were swept away.

On first entering our barracks the general impression is one of bewilderment. The single storey bungalows were built about 1848, and the double deckers, whose general aspect is more pleasing were added in 1870. The general scheme of wash-houses seems to have been added about 1902. The "parade grounds" are ample and afford excellent playing fields.

We welcome the following officers who have been attached to this Battalion as from 17th March:—

Sec.-Lt.	H. R. Clarke	..	14th Worcester Regt.
"	L. R. Samut	...	Worcester Regt.
"	R. W. M. Lewis		Ditto.
"	E. J. Jewell	...	3rd East Lanes. Regt.
"	T. C. Nixon		"
"	T. Hughes	...	E. Lanes. Regt.
"	M. A. Meny-Gibert		Worcester Regt.
"	J. Kennedy	..	Scottish Rifles.
"	H. Butt	...	5th Middlesex.

Also

Sec.-Lt. de la Coze who was posted to this Battalion 9th March.

Since his arrival in India Mr. Samut has received a cablegram informing him that he has been mentioned in despatches for gallant conduct on the Gallipoli Front. We offer him our heartiest congratulations. Both Mr. Clark and

Mr. Jewell have been wounded in France. Mr. Lewis is a welcome addition to the swimming fraternity, being a member of Glo'ster City Club.

"B" Coy. have resumed their cross country runs again, a Field of 25 taking part in the chase of five miles on Friday evening, April 20th.

Circumstances unfortunately have occasioned the loss recently of two of the oldest members of the Battalion in Sergts. Paul and Meager.

Sergt. A. W. Paul was, we believe, the oldest member of the Battalion. He first started volunteering in the 4th R. W. Surrey Regiment in 1892, transferring to the 26th Middlesex in 1899 with whom he has had continuous service up to the present. He was always a good shot: and won several prizes as a military racing cyclist. Sergt. Paul took a prominent part in the Military Cyclist Display at the Naval and Military Tournament in 1909. He has held the rank of Sergeant for the last twelve years.

With Sergt. Meager we also lose a link with the past. He commenced volunteering as a bugler in 1889 and has been associated with it ever since. All the old members will remember how Sergt. Meager represented the Battalion at the Territorial Championships of 1910 when he won the mile and finished second in the 5 miles. As a racing cyclist Sergt. Meager earned great fame and the following are some of his best performances:—

Half Mile Championship of Wales ...	1893, 1894, 1895, 1896.
Five Miles Do. ...	1896
50 Miles Catford Championship ...	1896, 1897.
¼ Mile N. C. U. unpaced record...	27½ secs. This he held for two years before it was beaten.

Our Musical Artistes have been very busy of late and we are greatly indebted to them for their splendid efforts on our behalf. The recent concert given in the barracks was just one more success to add to their laurels. Previous to this they had given the sergeants an evening's enjoyment (surely they need it!) and followed this up by a real star evening at the Jullundur Club, the audience at the latter

place, which by the way included practically everyone in the Station, made no effort to hide their appreciation and if the artistes had re-appeared as many times as they were encored it is very doubtful whether the programme could have been carried out. Every number was well received and Chris Wakeman with his inimitable style brought a thunder of applause and a very persistent demand for future efforts. Owing to the unavoidable absence of Lance-Corpl. Powell in Lahore, the double turn of "It & Bit" could not be given. Unfortunately space will not allow of our mentioning each artist but nothing will justify our missing the opportunity of mentioning our latest acquisition Cye. Silverman. The "Londons" can certainly boast of having one of the most accomplished violinists at present serving in the ranks and we tender to Silverman our heartiest welcome and trust that he will be able to give us many pleasant moments.

The performers under the very energetic management of Lieut. Easton are to be congratulated upon the past efforts and we hope they will get busy for the future.

THE EXODUS. During the past month we have lost our "B" Class men, who have been transferred to the 1st Garrison Battalion, Somerset Regiment. Some of them may be regarded as the Fathers of the Battalion; and certainly Sergt. Paul was looked upon as part of the Battalion itself. We wish them God-speed and happiest of conditions in their new Battalion.

BATTALION DIARY.

- March 3rd-6th—Divisional Manœuvres.
 " 5th—Draft arrives from Bombay.
 " 12th—Kitchener's Test.
 " 15th—Swimming by parad es, 4-30 P.M.; 5 P.M., 5-30 and 6 P.M.
 " 28th—Remainder of E. P. Tents down.
 " 30th—"B" Class men leave for Rawalpindi 6-40 A.M.
 " 30th—Battalion entrains for Jullundur—1st party left 2-45 P.M., arrv. 10-15 A.M. 2nd party left 4-10 P.M., arrv. 5-0 P.M.
 April 2nd.—No open air games before 5-30 P.M. Men going into country for walk can wear hockey or football kit.
 " 16th—"A" Coy. start for Hills, Dalhousie

THE LONDONER.

JULLUNDUR, APRIL 1917.

JOINT EDITORS ... { Cye. H. H. Gayler,
" B " Coy.
Cye. J. E. Ingram,
" A " Coy.

PRESIDENT ... 2nd Lt. R. S. Sanders.

VICE-PRESIDENT ... Sgt. Gore.

CO-OPTED COMMITTEE-Cye. Freethy.
MAN.

REPRESENTATIVES.

Sgt. Oakley ... Platoon No. 5 } " B " Coy.
Cye. Andrews ... " " 8 }
L-Cpl. Cooper ... " " 9 } " C " Coy.
Cye. Booth ... " " 11 }
Cye. Alderton ... " " 14 } " D " Coy.
Cye. Howlett ... " " 15 }
Cye. Nicholson... Sig. Section. H.-Qrs.

ADVERTISING MANAGER C. Q. M. S. Gerrard,
" A " Coy.

" AGENT. Cye. V. Sparkes,
" A " Coy.

EDITORIAL OFFICE.—North Side, No. 2 BUNGALOW.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.—Contributions must be written on one side of the paper only. If you do not wish your name to appear, sign your contribution with initials or a nom-de-plume; but in any case write your name and platoon number at the foot. This is for the Editor's information only, and will be treated as confidential. Contributions should be placed in the box in the canteen or handed to your Company Representative.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—All communications should be addressed to C. Q. M. S. Gerrard, " A " Coy., 1/25 London Regt., Wellington Barracks, Jullundur.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

	3 mths.	6 mths.
ABROAD including Postage	1s. 0d.	2s. 0d.
INDIA " "	as. 12 Rs. 1-8	as. 10½ " 1-5

This issue brings us several changes. BURHAN is but a dream; and we have exchanged the well worn nullahs, and craggy hills of Jaimra District, for the quiet rolling plains of Jullundur. The barracks are an improvement on those at Bangalore, and they are very welcome after our stay of nearly four months under canvas.

But, from our point of view, the greatest change is that which necessitates a change in the editing of this journal. On 30th March our " B " Class men left Burhan for Rawalpindi, to be attached to the 1st Somerset Garrison Battalion. Among those transferred was Cye. R. B. James who has been closely connected with this paper since its inception in October 1916.

At first he acted as Assistant Editor with Sgt. Gore as Chief, and with No. 3 took over the whole scheme. The great success of the paper, the large sale of which bore ample testimony to his excellent capabilities as an Editor. Needless to say his loss is keenly felt by the management. Perhaps the best that we can wish him is that his new Battalion does not run a journal at present, and that he may be able to initiate and edit a magazine for them. We still hope to receive articles from him.

Necessarily the link between the editorial and the individual is momentarily broken, but it is hoped that all those capable of writing articles, or in possession of material for the personal column, will deposit the same in the Box, which will be found in the canteen.

This number, No. 6, will complete Vol. I, it being considered best to run the magazine on a half-yearly basis. Suggestions have been received from many subscribers, who are desirous of keeping their *Londoners* as a memento of their Indian service, that covers should be provided for binding. The idea certainly seems an excellent one, and if we can get sufficient support we shall be only too pleased to make arrangements with our printers, to supply them. The covers can be sent home, and any binder will make them up for a few pence.

We would record our heartiest thanks to Lieut. V. A. Haddick, S. and T., and Sergt. Allen for the courteous manner which they both shewed in taking us round and explaining the detailed history and mechanism of the Traveling Kitchen.

Battalion Notables

No. 1.

Lance-Corporal A. E. Treble.

British Representative at Olympic Games, Stockholm, 1912.

Holder of—

- 1 Mile Sussex Championship.
- 1 Mile Bucks. and West Middlesex Championship.
- 2 Miles do. do. do.
- 1 Mile Bucks. Championship.
- 1,000 yards Berks, Bucks. and Oxon Championship.
- 4 Miles Polytechnic Championship.

Best performances—

- ½ Mile— 1 min. 59½ sec.
- 1 Mile— 4 min. 25½ sec.
- 2 Miles— 9 min. 32 sec.
- 3 Miles— 14 min. 33 sec.
- 4 Miles— 20 min. 12 sec.



BATTALION NOTABILITIES.

No. 1.—LANCE-CORPORAL A. L. TREBLE.

Arthur Treble, the first of our series, worthily heads the list, as it was while representing the "25th" that he discovered his abilities as a runner and commenced that long string of brilliant successes which only the outbreak of war terminated.

At the great Territorial Sports held at the Stadium in 1910 he was selected to represent the battalion in the quarter and the mile, in the latter event running sixth to that great athlete, R. F. C. Yorke of the London Scottish. It was not until the Territorial Sports of the following year that Treble made his next appearance when again representing the "25th" in the mile was successful in filling the third place, Yorke once more being the winner.

This result revealing his possibilities as a runner, Treble forthwith became a member of the Polytechnic Harriers and under the aegis of that famous club which has produced so many champions, commenced to make rapid advancement. So complete was his progress that the following year saw the novice of 1910 one of the first of the men to be selected by the Amateur Athletic Association to form a Rest of England team to compete against one from Cambridge University, when he justified his selection by winning the event in the time of 14 m. 54½ secs. In the Olympic Trials of 1912 with all the best men competing, he was only beaten in the 5,000 metres by that sterling runner, the late G. W. Hutson.

This further evidence of his prowess gained for Treble the great distinction of representing England in the Olympic Games of 1912 at Stockholm, in the 5,000 metres, 3,000 metres team race, and the cross country event.

In 1911 Treble had transferred from the "25th" to the Poly Company in the 12th London Battalion (Rangers), and running for them at Cardiff in 1913 he was successful in gaining the National Territorial Mile Championship, and in addition formed one of the London Territorial Team which won the Mile Relay Race

PERSONAL.

An interesting letter has been received from Mr. Wood of Corton who reports himself and his family as being all well, and wishes the best of luck to all out here. A few weeks ago, ex-Sergt Vaughan gave him a look up, as did also "Old Fluffy" of old "H" Coy. Can you imagine Corton as a busy military centre!

Corporal G. H. White is now with the Signal Service Park and Depot at Mar, il, Busra, and expects to stay there for the present. He has met since his arrival Sergeant Robinson, Lance-Corporals Butcher ("C" Coy.), Carter, ("A" Coy.) and Koski, the motor cyclists, and also Lance-Corporal Coates ("D" Coy.) and Cyc. Prall (Sigs.) all looking very fit. The despatch riders have now gone up the line, Sergeant Robinson and Koski to.....Butcher to.....and Carter to.....

Coates, late of "D" Coy., who left the battalion at Hebbal to join the Wireless Section R. E., writes breezily from Mesopotamia concerning dust, flies and fleas. He also mentions that he has been taking lessons in horse-riding and complains bitterly of the soreness occasioned thereby.

Sergeant Vaughan, who, it will be remembered, broke his leg while playing football on the east coast, has now been discharged as unfit for further service and has been granted a pension. All those who remember this very popular Sergeant will be glad to hear that his services have not been entirely unrewarded.

W. A. Simmons ("B" Coy.) is now at the Army Clothing Factory, Bombay, and has been promoted to Assistant Master Tailor.

Corporal McCrerie ("A"), Corporal Grover, ("A"), Lance-Corporal Cooper ("C") and Cyc. Murray ("B") left at the beginning of the month for surgical treatment at Kasauli in the hills. From Kalka they had a journey of nine miles through the pass on ponies, except Murray who was carried by coolies in a "dandy." Kasauli is situated in the midst of beautiful mountain scenery, Simla, Dagshai, etc., being visible on clear days. The weather is fairly warm during the daytime but the cold at night necessitates the use of five blankets.

Jack Cooper of "B" Coy. is now at Jeejeebhoy Castle, Poona, where he has been in the R.A.M. C. group, but has since been moved to another

with Groves and Oxley. Davies and Meech have recently joined them. Medical inspections are held monthly. The last resulted in Cooper's relegation from B III to C.I. Prices are decidedly up in his quarter; the other day he was nearly rooked of twelve annas by a Jap for a hair cut, but escaped into the clutches of another heathen who wanted four annas but wasn't very lucky.

Ted Knight has passed successfully his preliminary tests at Peshawar. In view of the impending visit of the Viceroy he has for some time past been engaged on the installation of the telephone at the house of the Governor which His Excellency will occupy. He has recently been moved to a hill station.

Cyc. Mackett of old "E" Coy. who was left behind at Chisledon in hospital when the Battalion left England, went soon afterwards to France. He has since been wounded in the fighting round the Somme and is at present in hospital in England.

Lance-Corporal P. G. Curnew of the 5th Signals R. E. is now at on a quieter part of the Western Front, receiving only occasionally souvenirs from Fritz. He writes that they have had some very severe weather and have suffered accordingly.

M. W. Barton, late of old "E" and "H" Coys, is still occupying his position as R. Q. M. S. at a south coast convalescent camp. At the last medical board he was removed from Class C. into Class B., which means fitness for garrison duty abroad.

Sergeant Seddon who in the early days of the war held that rank in the 1st Battalion and later went to the depôt has been engaged in the great push on the Western Front with another Battalion to which he was drafted some time ago. He reports being very fit and sends his regards and remembrances to all old pals.

Whilst in Peshawar a few weeks ago two of the signal section met Lieut. Jones of the S. and T. Corps who was in pre-war days a member of old ("D") Coy. He is quite fit and sends his remembrances to all his old comrades.

Robertson of old ("G") Coy. who wishes to be remembered to all, has been seventeen months in France with the Divisional Cyclists but is now time expired. At the time of writing he was enjoying a month's leave preparatory to taking up a commission.

Bennett and Godfrey, both old members of

the 1st Battalion are back in England in readiness for commissions.

Sec. Lieut. Woods who will be remembered as our late Musketry Sergeant, has been posted to the..... We wish him every success.

Sec. Lieut. Rushbrooke, now of the 7th Battalion Rifle Brigade, in sending his congratulations from France to "The Londoner" desires to be remembered to all his old friends. He says that Captain King is now with the 6th Army Corps; Weaver is a Sergeant in the 1/7th City of London Regiment.

We hear that Sergeant Robinson who was reported in hospital is now back on duty.

Lance-Corporal Butcher has recently been promoted to full Corporal and took part in the advance on Bagdad coming through unhurt. He has not seen a great deal of the place but it is pretty evident that the Turks destroyed as much as possible.

Lieut. L. M. Joseph has written from England where he is recovering from an attack of rheumatic fever. He considers himself very fortunate as three days after he left France his battalion was heavily engaged. He has compiled a diary of his experiences and promises to send it out to us shortly.

SECOND BATTALION NOTES.

High distinctions still come to our old comrades. *Cycling* of the 8th March announces under the heading of "Poly crack decorated," that "the coveted award of the D. S. O. has been bestowed on Sec. Lieut. W. H. Webster. Unfortunately, however, the news of the award coincides with the information that he has been reported as missing. It is reassuring, to a certain extent, to learn that there is every reason to believe that he is in the enemy's hands as a prisoner of war." All who knew him as a corporal in the old "H" Coy. are delighted to hear of the honour he has gained and sincerely hope that while unfortunately he is a prisoner he has escaped serious injuries. The *London Gazette* of March 12 states that the King has been pleased to approve of the appointment of the following officer to be a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order in recognition of his gallantry and devotion to duty in the field.

".....Sec. Lt. WALTER HENRY WEBSTER, Lond. R. At great personal risk he picked up an

unexploded enemy projectile, and threw it over the parapet, where it at once exploded. He undoubtedly saved many lives."

In a letter to Lieut. Morton, Captain Barton wishes to be remembered to all his old boys of "D" Coy. and to all who knew him. He says that Sergt. Godley, Cpl. Smithson, Cpl. Harvey, Cpl. Cooms, Cye. Rayner and Cye. Evans have all left for various fronts. Lieut. Burnett is under orders for active service.

Lieut. W. Barton of the old "E" Coy. and the M. G. Section is now with the Machine Gun Corps and engaged in the heavy fighting on the Somme.

The Roll of Honour of March 6th records the sad news of the death in action of Lieut. Gerald Vaughan Jones of old "F" Coy., a Lance-Corporal in the motor cyclists section and a brother of Sergt. Jones. In February we mentioned the fact of his transfer from the R. E. Signals to the R. F. C. and of his narrow escape from disaster while flying over the German lines. The March issue recorded his promotion as a full lieutenant while serving with that Corp.

Bugler Salmon is having a chequered career in the Army, having since he left the 2nd Battalion in December 1915 served in a Provisional Battalion, afterwards being drafted into the 3rd Battalion which has since been merged into the 10th Reserve, London Battalion. Throughout that time he has been before several Medical Boards but is now awaiting a transfer into an ammunition factory as a substitute.

The A. S. C. drivers attached to the 2nd Battalion, Fulcher, March, Lucas, among them, have all returned to Bedford where they have been enjoying squad drill and guards.

Lieut. P. C. Tayler, formerly of old "H" Coy., is now back again on the western front after a month's course away in the rear. Christmas was spent in the trenches. He has had a busy time in the intervals between the pumping of water out of the trenches and in the patrolling of half a mile or so of shell torn areas in No Man's Land.

G. H. Perceval of old "H" Coy. and at one time on our H. Q. staff, is now at M.....

German East Africa, and writes appreciatively of the *Londoner*. At present he is acting as clerk to the R. T. O. there.

Before leaving Burhan we had the pleasure of seeing Lieut. Winn of the old H. Q. staff and Lieut. Revell of old "D" Coy., both of whom are now with the S. and T. Corps, and were looking very fit.

With reference to the notice in this column in the March issue we are glad to be able to report that Sub-Lieut. Hugh K. Lunn is now posted as a prisoner of war.

THIRD LINE NOTES.

Cpl. Heselden, like many of the old Divisional Cyclists went across last December to France with an infantry draft. Becoming unfit he was sent back to the base and transferred to another unit.

The sad news has recently been received that Sergt. Walker of old "A" Coy. familiarly known as "Granny" has been killed in France.

SUFFOLK NOTES.

A very gratifying fact to the old members of the Battalion is the mention in the Gazette of Lieut-Col. W. F. Pretty, T. D., for valuable services rendered in connection with coastal defence in England.

All will be pleased to hear that Sergt. Pender of old "E" Coy. who has been in England some time suffering from shell shock has now made sufficient progress to enable him to be sent to a convalescent home.

Dell, late of our M. G. Section, who was transferred to the M. G. Corps at Campbellpur, has met there H. Baker of the old "B" Coy. who has been to Mesopotamia with that Corps.

Lieut. Banks of old "C" Coy. is now with the M. G. Corps in Mesopotamia.

Sergt. Charlie Capps has lost his job as Master Tailor and with the other staff wallahs is back again in the ranks. We wonder how he likes doing physical jerks.

THE BOOK OF THE MONTH.

SITOLOGY.*

In the general run of affairs the last volume we should have taken up with any degree of interest would be one on dietetics. Works dealing with the quantity of protein in this, and the absence of alumen in that, has never interested any save the crank. THE thing that appealed to us was the FACT of good food. Getting that was all that counted, and having it we were satisfied. During the last few months a certain lack "in the getting" has made one conscious of the thought that there may be something in the theory of it after all.

And indeed the volume under review has proved a mine of information. It points out how one may live well on 2½ pence per diem, and in the case of a large family it can be done for considerably less, thus leaving an appreciable balance in the hands of the house-keeper. But from our point of view the most interesting portion of the volume is that labelled Part II in which the learned professor deals with numerous experiments that he has carried out in several camps of the New Army. He gives detailed accounts of the various effects of certain foods upon a man in khaki. The most astonishing point brought to light, is that, according to the accepted standard of the number of calories required for normal nutriment, the quantity of food which the men eat, should not have been sufficient to keep them alive. The facts are so startling that the investigations are still continuing under the auspices of a commission; but in the meantime the professor has thought it advisable to publish the facts so far obtained. For instance on page 1543, he writes—

"Owing to the dire need of strict economy during war time most households have banned the luxury of cake. And yet up to the present no way has been discovered of withdrawing this luxury from Tommy's messing. So far no cheaper substitute has been found although many Army contractors have been set to work on the problem. And then too, the work which the men accomplish upon this ration of cake, makes one wonder whether they have not a special assimilating and reduplicating installation in their stomachs. Several battalions were tested

over widely scattered districts in England, and the most noticeable fact was that the men preferred a small piece of cake (cost one penny) to do the day's work on. They could go from 8 A.M. until 4 P.M. working hard, and marching over much broken ground the whole time."

For many pages the learned professor deals with this anomaly, also giving detailed accounts of marvellous feats of endurance performed on the nutriment drawn from a penny piece of cake.

Then too he discovered (p. 2106) that men can be cut off their oatmeal without any decline in their mental and physical capabilities. This all means more money in the exchequer and hence is assisting to win the war. Another extraordinary fact that was noticed is with regard to eggs.

According to the day, so must the egg be cooked. The Padre, stationed near the village of Baird bears out the professor in affirming that on Easter Day, if the men's eggs are beautifully coloured, they not only sing better but also pay more attention to the sermon. After minute examination of the matter the professor believed this extraordinary phenomenon was due to the fact, that the colouring matter penetrated into the egg itself; whereas the Padre asserted that the increased devotion was due to the fact that the colouring made "the boys think of home."

Again (p. 2304) he writes: "After careful analysis, the caloric properties of stew, it appearing to us to be a mixture whose chief ingredient is water, have proved a baffling quantity; but in deference to the men's inordinate passion for the dish, it has been allowed to remain on the menu."

In a foot-note the professor intimates that he contemplates a tour through India to discover for himself the truth or otherwise of the statement, "that troops in India are overfed." We venture to believe he will be somewhat surprised.

THE MAILS.

The Government of India have decided, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to have a fortnightly instead of a weekly English Mail Service, to commence at the beginning of June from England and probably a month later from India. This measure has been decided upon in accordance with the general policy of economising the use of British shipping throughout the world.

* "Dietetics in relation to Training." By Professor Saalesby, F. Z. B., London, Caxton Tall Press, Ltd. (25s. 6d. net.)

WHAT THE BATTALION IS ASKING—

No. The four spaces in last month's page were not wasted. Hits are not so nice to receive as to give. Ask Fern.

* * *

How was it the Afridi got the better of OUR illusionist?

Who sent for the policeman to get his money back?

* * *

Who is the signaller who collects cigar ash?

And what is his price per ton?

* * *

Is it true that we shall find three inches of snow at our hill station?

Or will it be three inches of dust?

* * *

How many military funerals has our "regimental" attended and whether the victims were found attached to fly papers?

* * *

Whether the Quartermaster thought he had joined the Flying Corps when he fell down the inspection pit on the journey down?

* * *

Who was the smart company signaller who got the stick recently and what the rest of the guard thought about it?

* * *

What would our sick lay officials do if iodine was not available?

* * *

What the sergeant really thought when the *dummy* bomb began hissing in his hand?

And, if when he threw it down in haste that someone had blundered?

If anyone has ever seen a company move so quickly and take cover so excellently without any command being given?

* * *

What did the Quartermaster say when the mule *left him* in the lurch?

And was the mule glad to be relieved of his load?

* * *

Who is the Captain, that asked, immediately on arrival at the station, "Is there a nice large parade ground"?

Is he better satisfied with the provision at that "other place"?

* * *

Who was it received the card "For valour" from the girl at Bangalore and why?

And if his musical friend is not secretly a little envious?

* * *

Who is the *fairy* base drummer?

And whether he would care to take on the side drum as well?

* * *

Whether a certain officer does not heartily agree that company's issue of flour could be used to far greater advantage in the manufacture of cakes rather than bombs?

* * *

What is this we hear about the card-twister undertaking to produce mynals from a washing bowl?

* * *

What did the Sergeant think when the Rookie came up complaining that "The handle of my rifle is loose"?

* * *

If Joe Bogani's lunatic coppers are really happy?

* * *

Why do people living downstairs imagine those upstairs have a special heavy pair of hobs for indoor use; and why should those "up top" declare that the dwellers of the underworld have torpid livers?

* * *

Who is it that objects to being "mentioned in despatches"—as you were the Londoner?

* * *

Are the sergeants afraid of meeting the corporals on the sports field? Six "scratches" want some explaining!

* * *

Do the corporals play "beat your neighbour" now, and won't Auntie be pleased when we write home?

* * *

Why did No. 12 Platoon get so "shirty" at the last "Sports Meeting"?

* * *

What offers for one large walking stick and a pair of knee breeches?

"Sighs" Kindergarten.

For small boys and infants.
Splendid feeding. All pupils.

FED RIGHT UP!

Strict training with motherly discipline.

Specialities—

Kit Inspections
Mystical Signs
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Musketry (*Real Rifles*).
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A choice collection of "Chairman Junior" Selected
garden seeds.

Magnificent varieties of:—

Sandersantennums.
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Stafford-illies.
Onions a-la-stake (very scarce and much sought after).
Chamberlos horse-radish (flourishes by night).
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All tested and guaranteed the finest obtainable.
Experts in Wartime and Barrack gardening and all
work under the personal supervision of Major Bullen,
F.B.S., F.R. Hort. S.

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complete with chin straps and capable N.C.O.'s.
equipped with belt, bayonet and stick!

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latest ingenious novelties.
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At the word of command springs to attention and gracefully coils itself round the owner's calf. Invaluable to Mikers and Busy Officers.

The "Lee Enfield" Rifle Cleaner.

Cleans twenty rifles at once. Simply place rifles in the slots and turn handle. Special terms to Section Commanders.

The "Whale" Sand Sifter.

Makes stew harmless! This wonderful little apparatus, fitting neatly into the gullet, absolutely prevents sand from entering the system. Neat, Strong, Washable. Any throat fitted. Send for self-measurement forms.

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Once you are posted, all you have to do is to inflate your "Alter Ego" and go to sleep. It will stand at ease, slope arms, march up and down your beat, shout "All's Well," "Halt," "Advance one and be recognized," to the C.O., and in fact perform all your duties. At the end of your two hours it will wake you up and deflate itself. Useful and durable. Can be carried in an ammunition pouch.

Special for wealthy Privates.

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The "British Medical" Patent Automatic M. O.

Fitted with gramophone attachment. Says "Fismuth and Soda—Iodine—Number Nine—M. & D.—attend A, B, C." When ordering state the rotation in which these words are to be said.

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ATHLETICS.

BY SERGT. H. G. FULKES.

Now that we are in more congenial surroundings than our last place of abode, and sports being more or less a compulsory feature of our training, I hope to be able to put in these columns quite a considerable amount of interesting matter.

At present, companies are only just settling down and games of any importance have not yet started.

Before dealing with any sports played here, I should like to say a few words regarding the Battn. Football team that went to Risalpur to compete for the Williams Cup, put up by the 21st Lancers, the Boxing team that went to Mhow, and the runners who took part in the sports held at Peshawar and Rawalpindi.

FOOTBALL. As we all know the football team, having drawn byes in the first two rounds, were beaten by the 10th Middlesex in the 3rd round by 3-0. Reporting the match, Lce.-Cpl. Duthoit writes:—

"Just before the Battalion left Burhan we sent a team to Risalpur to compete in the Williams Cup, and although we were knocked out in our first match the team by no means disgraced itself. It was very unfortunate that Hall sustained an injury in a practice match and could not accompany the team. Cousins went in to centre half and Moppett came in at left half.

We were fortunate in getting into the 3rd Round without a match, but our luck was dead out in being drawn against the 10th Middlesex, a team with a great reputation and much experience in Cup tie football.

In the first half the Londons attacked nearly all the time, Smith, T. E., putting Mesley away in the wing time after time. But it was the same old tale, we could do anything but score, and at half time nothing had been scored.

In the second half the Middlesex settled down but our defence was magnificent, and it was not until a quarter of an hour from time that they netted. The strain was beginning to tell on our men by this time and before the finish the Middlesex scored two more goals.

Davis in goal was as safe as usual, but had no chance with the shots scored. Scarlett and Whisstock at back played as only they can and Greenaway at right half was great. Of the forwards (Little A., Turner, Clayton, Smith, T. E., and Mesley) all I can say is that they tried hard, and showed much improved combination.

RUNNING.

The running results as reported by "As-BIN" are set out below:—

The following non-commissioned officers' and men, represented the Battalion in Athletic meetings which were held at Peshawar and Rawalpindi:—

Sgt.	Beckett	"A" Company
"	Basing	"A" "
L.-Cpl.	Treble	"C" "
"	Jones	"D" "
Cyc.	Mesley	"D" "
"	Guest	"A" "
"	Hare	"A" "
"	Diamond	"B" "

The first race which we competed in, was a one mile relay race (four men at a ¼) open to the Northern Army, and run off at the "King's" Regimental Sports at Peshawar, on April 4th. The winners were the "King's", the Royal Sussex (regulars) second and the "Londons" being third. Our team in this race consisted of Sgts. Beckett and Basing, and Cyclists Hare and Mesley. The race was quite a good one, and our team ran well, the time being 3 minutes, 50 seconds.

The party then journeyed to Pindi (saying au revoir to Mesley who was joining up the "Pugs") to take part in the "North Staffs" sports on April 6th and 7th. A one mile open race was run off on the 6th, and Lce.-Cpls. Treble and Jones, and Cyc. Hare ran fairly well. Lce.-Cpl. Treble was not up to his "Blighty" form of 4-23, but he kept well in the van until the last lap, when lack of training told and he was beaten into fifth place. The race was won in 4-45. This is not fast time, and we have four men who with sufficient training can beat it.

The following day the two mile relay race (four men at a $\frac{1}{2}$) took place. Twelve teams entered and eleven went to the mark. This race was the tit bit of the meeting, and proved very exciting. The London's finished fourth, being beaten by the "Staffs," "Duke of Wellingtons" and the "Kings." The time was 8-24 and our time 8-30, which was our best performance during the tour. The team was Sgt. Basing, Lce.-Cpls. Treble and Jones, and Cyc. Hare.

Our last race was a three mile team race on the 12th, the first team to close in to be the winners, irrespective of places, held at the "Yorks" Regimental sports. Sixteen teams of four men each, lined up, for the pistol. Our position at the finish was fifth. In the individual placings, we had Lce.-Cpl. Treble second, Cyc. Hare sixth, and Lce.-Cpl. Jones ninth. Lce.-Cpl. Treble was rather unlucky not to win this race, as he certainly looked an easy winner, but Read of the "Staffs" took him by surprise in the home straight, fifty yards from the tape, and just pipped him for first place. The team ran well packed together in the lead for five laps, but then Sgt. Basing had a "bad time" and dropped away to the rear but finished the race. The time was 16-30, which was good considering the heat of the day.

This finished the tour, and on the whole I think we did well considering the very little training we were able to get in before we left Burhan, owing to suitable training ground being unavailable. A fact worth noting is, that we were not beaten in any of the races by a Territorial team. I feel confident that given facilities for training, we should have won at least two races of the three competed in.

The party thank the Commanding Officer and Capt. Stafford for the financing and arrangements made on their behalf.

"AS-BIN."

The foregoing records are not as we could have wished, but I don't think they are discouraging.

Personally, I don't believe in making excuses for losers, but I always consider that there is a "reason why," and in the foregoing cases there seems to me to be one predominant feature that is, *lack of training*—both "individual" and "team"

Take the football team. I had the pleasure of witnessing their game at Risalpur, and during the first half I had great hopes, the

team playing splendidly. In the second half, however, superior weight and training told and our team seldom got out of their own half. Now, am quite confident, and it was the general opinion of all who saw the game, that had the London's been able to have as much training as the other teams, or if the events had taken place when we arrived from Bangalore, there would have been a very different tale to tell.

Of course, we all know field training and manœuvres, made sports training of every serious nature out of the question, at least for us. I cannot say off-hand, whether all the other regiments who sent teams to the football, boxing and running, had to carry out manœuvres at the same time, but I am under the impression that other Divisions finished their manœuvres last November, and it's very hard luck on our teams, only half trained, to come up against men, who have had the opportunity of months of training. I know for a fact that some of the men our runners met had been in training for their particular event since last Xmas.

We have men in this Battalion who, given proper training in whatever branch of sports they specialise, I'd back every time to put up a show equal to every other Regiment out here, and in quite a number of cases beat them. I'm not boasting on behalf of the Battalion. We all know what men we have, and when a runner of Lce.-Cpl. Treble's standing can only finish 5th in a mile, the time of which was $\frac{1}{4}$ mts. 45 secs., 20 secs. slower than his own time in England, it stands to reason that only lack of training could make such a thing possible.

A platoon league throughout the Battalion has started, and some really interesting games should be witnessed.

The Cobb Cup is again "up" and inter-Company Competition on the English League system, for the trophy, will commence about the middle of June.

COMPANY SPORTS.—

"A" Company are running an inter-section Knockout Competition in Hockey and Football, and it has proved very popular, as every man in the Company is given a chance of a game in both sports. This is to be followed by a half platoon league. Things are rather held up at present owing to "A" Coy.'s move to the Hills.

"D" Coy. are moving rapidly with their events. Capt. Stafford has offered a Cup for competition among the various platoons of the Company

under somewhat novel conditions, these being that when any platoon has won the trophy they may be challenged for its possession by any of the others in any branch of sport, i.e. football, tennis, hockey, etc. This will probably mean that the Cup is kept on the move and should encourage the platoons to take up all sports and give every man a chance in a game.

"B" Coy. have made an excellent start. The football pitch is in use every night by one of the platoons who share it in rotation; the cricket set is likewise available every fourth evening. Two hockey pitches are constantly in use as are also three tennis courts. The various platoon teams have been practising for some time in readiness for the forthcoming league fixtures. A Hare and Hounds section has started, a gratifying feature being the presence of several men from other companies who have followed the trail.

THROUGH OTHER EYES.

For nearly three years now, some of us have been wandering around. At first the English coasts provided a happy hunting ground; and it was there that we learned to a nicety how to blend work with pleasure, until soldiering became a luxurious holiday. The authorities however determined that we should not be allowed to grow dull, and so an expensive trip was arranged to the Far East. A vast touring scheme has been initiated, and much enjoyment is to be had therefrom. But there is a fly in the ointment. A certain official has been appointed to meet us at each halting place. He is there to help us, and among his stock-in-trade is a book of rules. Rule 1 lays down that all tourists, must, as soon as possible after arriving at their destination, have it pointed out to them, in simple and clear language, the terrible sacrifice they are making in undertaking this world-wide tour.

The holiday feeling evaporates and we feel hurt. Something must be done. Will not someone suggest that the advance party should make it their business to see that the message of welcome extended to us at our future halting places shall not contain the phrase "the magnificent sacrifice you young men have made, etc.?"

CHESS.

By an oversight the result of the London's v. Hants Draughts Tourney was omitted from No. 5. A very interesting evening was spent, and the final results read Londons 15 games, Hants 12. We notice too that draught tourneys are a very strong feature of barrack life. The Battalion draught representative is Cyc. Maden, "C" Company.

Challenges have been sent out to the R. F. A. and Hants Regiments for the arrangement of Chess Tournaments, but up to the time of going to Press no replies have been received. With the Hants we suggest a correspondence tourney, and if they will accept, it should prove very interesting. The respective position in each game will be posted up at say the 15th, 24th, 32nd, etc., moves; thus enabling all to keep informed of the position. Since arriving at Jullundur, "A" Company have not got going yet, but up in the Hills, they hope to arrange some inter-platoon matches. Cyc. Howell has taken over the duties of "A" Company Representative. "C" Company played Head Quarters on 27th April and Head Quarters won by $4\frac{1}{2}$ points to $2\frac{1}{2}$ points.

With regard to the Battalion Chess Ladder, the only way to run that in the absence of "A" Company is for the challenger to play the "next possible man." Thus if No. 10 wants to meet No. 9 who happens to be away from the station, then he can challenge No. 8 and so on. It is hoped too that the Company's Representatives will complete the inter-company tourneys which were commenced at Moorhouse Barracks.

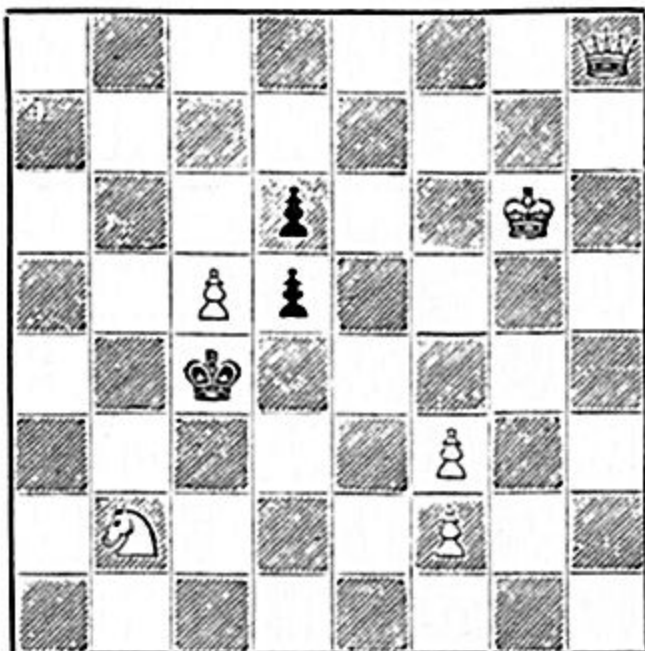
It may be useful to note some of the laws as laid down by the British Chess Association.

LAW III states that choice of colour is to be made by lot, the choice of White carrying with it the privilege or duty of beginning, and the choice of Black relinquishing that right or obligation. The same colour must be adhered to throughout any one sitting, each player making the first move alternately, whether won or drawn.

LAW V.—If in the course of a game a player move a man when it is not his turn to play, he must retract the said move, and, after his adversary has moved, must play the man wrongly moved, if it can be played legally.

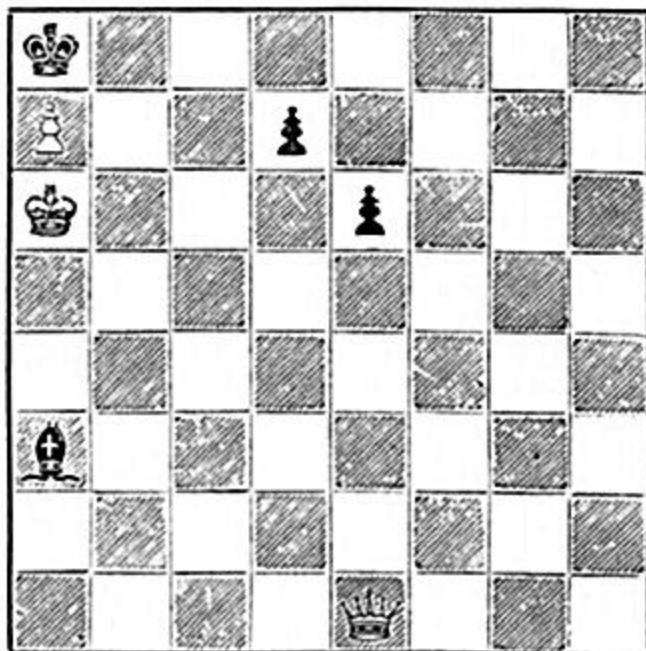
Solutions. Problem, V. Q. to Kt. 7.
VI. B. to R 6.

PROBLEM VII.
By Lieut. GIBBINS.
Black (three pieces).



White (six pieces).
White to play and mate in three moves.
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PROBLEM VIII.
By Lieut. GIBBINS.
Black (four pieces).



White (three pieces).
White to play and mate in two moves.

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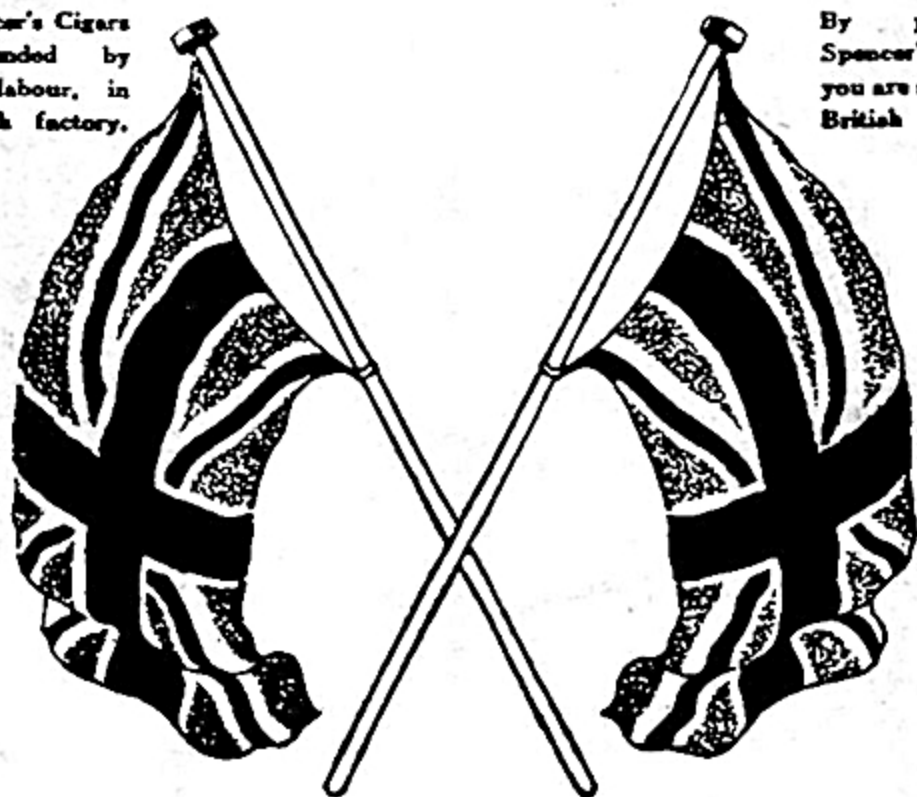
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