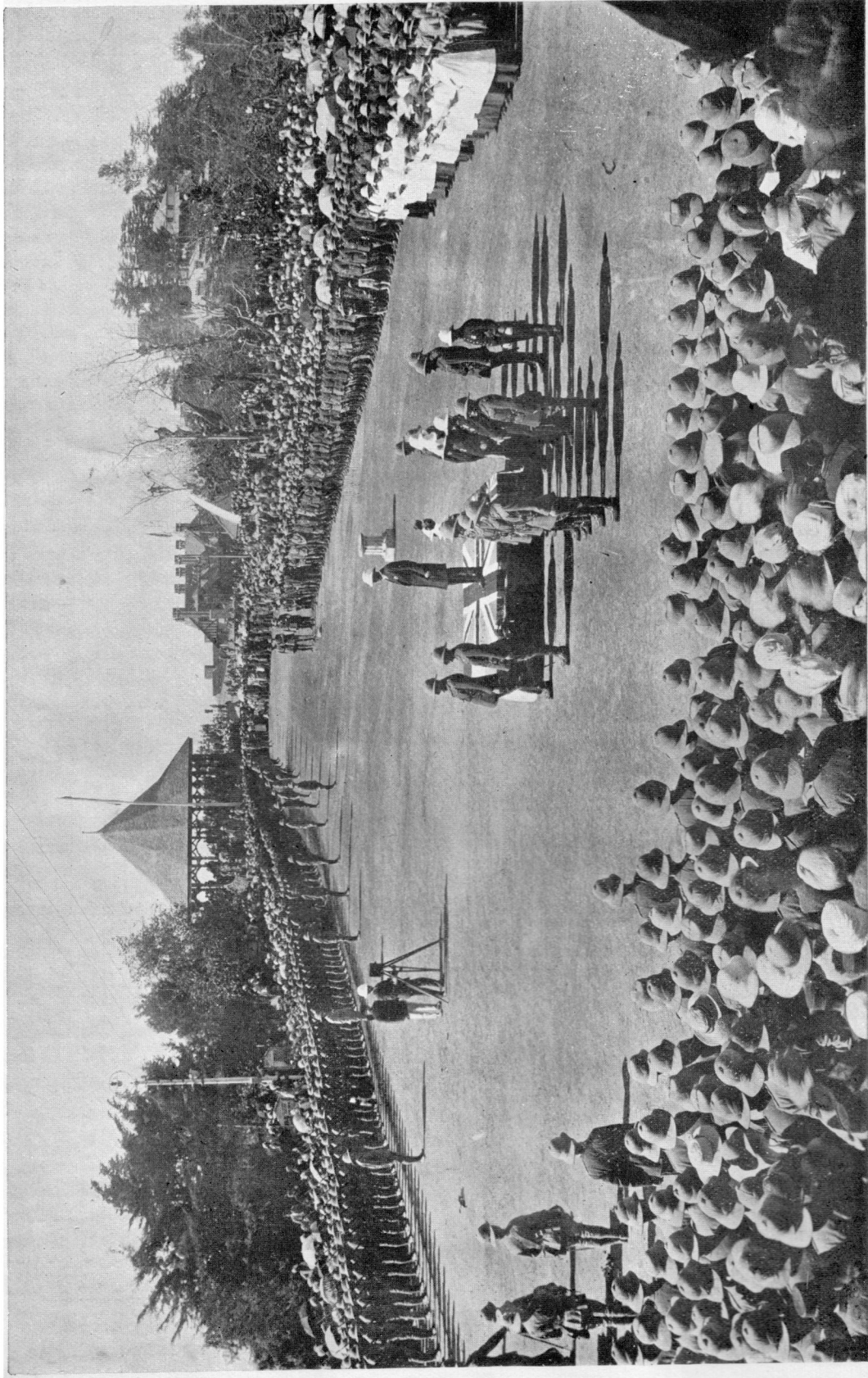


H. E. THE VICEROY ANNOUNCING THE SIGNING OF THE ARMISTICE.



(Simla, November 12th, 1918.)

THE LONDONER.

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

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ROUND AND ABOUT.

Regimental Orchestra.

We note with satisfaction the resumption, at Jullundur, of the weekly Orchestral performances in the Regimental Theatre. In a country such as India, where, even in the larger cities, it is by no means easy to find really good music, these performances in a *mofussil* station such as Jullundur are doubly welcome, and the large attendances every Sunday evening are, we notice, by no means composed exclusively of Londoners. It would perhaps add to the enjoyment derived from these concerts, we venture to suggest, if not *quite* so many monkey-nuts were consumed while the programme is in progress, but this, of course is not in any way a matter for the Orchestra to deal with.

The progress made by the Orchestra since its inception at Hebbal in 1916 is worthy of the highest praise, and while every credit is due to Bandmaster Tilson for his excellent work, one must not forget that the spade work put in by Sammy Silverman gave the Bandmaster some excellent material to work upon—material which he has used to very conspicuous advantage.

Battalion Cinema. The long awaited Battalion Cinema has at length arrived, and the first performance was given on Wednesday evening, February 5th. At about 12-30 on that day, we were startled

by a terrific bang which almost shook the barracks. This was caused by the explosion of some tank or other (we lay claim to no knowledge of the inner workings of a cinema and cannot say whether the tank in question was a water, gas or septic one). Fortunately nobody was hurt, though Pte. Wood (to whom we are indebted for the arrival of the cinema) and his assistants who were in the Regimental Theatre rigging up the apparatus, were pretty well soaked, and some minor damages were done to the building.

However the first show came off all right, and was, by all accounts, a success. It is a great pity that the shipping restrictions, etc., delayed the arrival of the cinema for so long, for there has always been a distinct lack of evening amusement in Jullundur which, but for this delay, might have been remedied at a much earlier date.

Corporals' Annual Dinner.

The Corporals held their annual dinner on January 4th. After a rather tame start, things went with a "snap," and a "nice quiet evening" ensued.

An excellent dinner was served, the provision of music being in the efficient hands of Sammy Silverman and some of his merry men and of some of the concert party *wallahs*.

After the usual loyal toasts, the health of the C. O. was drunk, in an uproar of acclamation. Lieut.-Colonel Hynes, rising in response made a few very eulogistic remarks anent territorial troops, and expressed his regret that it had not been the lot of the battalion to take a more dramatic part in the great war. He regretted also that he would not be able to take the battalion on its homeward journey, but hoped that we should remain an active territorial unit in the future, and that, after our return, he would be able to keep in touch with the men who had served under him.

The proceedings terminated with an excellent vocal and orchestral concert, and the company dispersed in the wee sma hours, in a thoroughly merry and satisfied frame of mind.

We have received the following letter from Sister M. Hilson, who, it will be remembered, left the Station Hospital, Jullundur, last year:—

Sister Hilson.

Following letter from Sister M. Hilson, who, it will be

"I want to thank you all, very, very much, for the kind notice in the "Londoner" about myself. It was extremely nice of you to think of me at all, and I shall never forget it.

I was twenty months at the Station Hospital in Jullundur and, during that time, I nursed a very large number of the men of the London Regiment. You all made excellent patients, and it was a very great joy to me to have the privilege of nursing you, and your gratitude was very sincere, which was proved over and over again by the way so many old patients came to see me long after they had been discharged from hospital, also in the number of letters which I still receive from old patients.

I loved the London Regiment, and knew almost every man in it, and it was a very gr. at grief to me when my orders came transferring me to Bombay.

If any of you are ever passing through Bombay, I hope you will come and see me. You may be sure of a warm welcome."

POTTED PROVERBS.

Bear thyself with humbleness and respectfulness towards thy betters, that they may remember or forget thy name with convenience.

Let him, who standeth on the table of the Liquor Bar, at the hour when knock out approacheth, take heed lest he fall.

When thou art called upon to appear at Battalion office, tell thy tale with an appearance of frankness, yea, and of straightforwardness, for thy Commanding Officer loveth not the lawyer. And if thou liest, do so with all thy strength and with all thy heart and with all thy mind, for better far is the naked truth than a lie of faint-heartedness.

In the sight of the leech, an ounce of abrasion on the skin is worth a pound of intestinal uneasiness.

Beware of the middle way on such parades, better is it by far to be marked with the ruddy M. and D. than with the black attend A. Nevertheless, to be detained is an abomination.

Take heed of thy monthly charzies then will the rupees take heed of themselves.

Rumour is a lying jade, and putteth forth false reports for the discomfiture of true men.

Sweat not therefore upon her sayings, otherwise wilt thou assuredly be shot right well.

A soft answer turneth away wrath, but, in the ranks provoketh the rejoinder "don't argue."

When thou art doing a righteous thing in the eyes of the great ones, hide not thine action under a bushel, then mayest thou have a goodly reputation to support thee, and those who are set over thee may not be after thy body to rumble thee.

The good soldier obtaineth the stick, but into the hands of the swift man falleth the snip.

Call not misere recklessly and without the two spot, for the embankment is paved with deuces which the hasty did not hold. Also beware of the man who calleth one Susie, for he may not be pulling thy leg.

If the perception of doing wrong shall depart what reason is there for living any longer?

Better is it to be never than late, for the Roll may be not called.

If thou art admitted into hospital, see to it that the disease from which thou sufferest be not revealed.

Let thy rifle-sling so shine before the Orderly Officer, that he may not notice the dirt under thy foresight.

THE SIMLA HILL STATES.

The Battalion at Jutogh again had the pleasure of hearing a lecture by Mr. C. J. Halifax, I. C. S., on the 15th of October, the subject being the Simla Hill States. The following is based on Mr. Halifax's notes, kindly lent for the purpose:—

Simla is—for a town founded by the British—quite an old place, the first European resident having settled there in 1819. The first Viceregal visit was in 1827 and the present summer population is about 50,000. The station was originally a small piece of land retained by the British after the Gurkha war of 1815, but it has since been extended by acquisitions from various native states.

When Mr. Halifax made his first visit thirty years ago, when Lord Roberts was Commander-in-Chief, he travelled from Amballa to Kalka in a "palki gari," though he had to use an elephant to cross a torrent *en route*, and completed his journey to Simla in a "tonga." In those days there was only one antiquated hotel, rickshaws were just being introduced for the use of ladies, and the ordinary means of transport were ponies for men and "dandies" for ladies.

The British territory administered by the Deputy Commissioner is very small, comprising only 100 square miles with four towns and 20 villages and including only fifteen square miles of cultivated land.

The native state is the product of the "Pax Britannica" and of the British idea that people ought to manage their own affairs—an idea that was carried to extreme lengths by our ancestors. The net result of this policy has been that the Indian military adventurers who happened to control the country at the moment—without the consent of the inhabitants—were recognised and firmly established by the British. For instance when we conquered the Punjab after the 1st Sikh war, we set up native governments in that province and, because these intervened between what was then British territory and Kashmir and in order to relieve ourselves of the responsibility for the administration of Kashmir, we sold that fine country to the present Maharajah for a crore of rupees (Rs. 1,00,00,000).

While many of the native states are quite minute—they vary in size from 4 to 15,000 square miles—in the aggregate they are very

important covering an area equal to seventy per cent. of British India and supporting a population nearly a quarter of that of the whole of India. Each of these states is recognised by a treaty with the British Government which guarantees independence in internal affairs subject to the guidance and control of the Indian Government, which is very lightly exercised. In many cases the only reservation made by the Government is the right of confirming or quashing death sentences.

In spite of the great measure of self-government accorded to these states it must however be borne in mind that they are nevertheless subject to the Indian Government and in case of continued misgovernment the Indian Government does temporarily take over the administration of the state.

The whole of the hill country from the foothills rising from the plain of the Punjab to the high mountains which form our boundary with Central Asia, with the exception of the native state of Patiala, are under native administration subject to the control of the Superintendent of the Simla Hill States. These states number 27 in all including an area the size of Yorkshire and supporting a population less than that of Leeds. Owing to the nature of the country these states are practically cut off from the outer world, the one main line of communication being the Tibet-Hindustan Road, built in the fifties by the British Government with the object of encouraging trade with Central Asia, running one hundred and fifty miles into the interior from Simla. This road is a truly wonderful piece of engineering especially the section passing along the Rogi cliffs. The road here is carried along a precipice a mile high and it runs along the precipice with a straight drop of two-thirds of a mile down to the River Sutlej. The river here flows through a narrow gorge and just opposite the road is cliff rising abruptly from 6,000 feet (the river level) to peaks eighteen to twenty thousand feet above sea level. The trade actually opened out by this road however is small being practically limited to "pasham" (fine goat hair used in the manufacture of shawls), wool, borax and salet, and even these articles are only brought to the road with great difficulty over mountainous country on the backs of goats or "yaks."

Such being the nature of the country it is hardly surprising that the Simla Hill States have never suffered from the invasions from outside India which have so profoundly influenced the plains of the continent. They came under British control in the beginning of the nineteenth century when they applied for British protection from oppression by Gurkha invaders. A British force drove out the Gurkhas and an arrangement was made by which certain points of strategic importance were handed over to the British and the Rajahs were to be assured in the maintenance of their rights. The arrangement has generally speaking held good until to-day. Occasionally the Government has annexed a state in consequence of gross maladministration by the rajah—a policy which has latterly been abandoned—but more often has merely temporarily taken over control of too badly misgoverned states.

Owing to the absence of influence from the plains the religion of the people is almost entirely Hindu. Out of a total population of 404,000 there are only 11,400 Mussulmans, and these living mainly on the borders of the plains, and a few thousand Buddhists, mostly found towards the Chinese border. The ruling classes are of the ancient kingly caste of Rajput, traditionally supposed to have come from the hills of Rajputana. They number about one in twenty of the population and some of them can trace their descent through two hundred and fifty generations. They are considered far superior to the general body of the people and, like the Brahmins, consider manual labour beneath their dignity, although many of both castes have been compelled to take to agriculture, thus losing their high caste privileges. The ordinary people known as "Kanaitis" number two-fifths of the total population. Below these is a menial class comprising one-fourth of the total population who until recently have been kept in a state of most abject subjection. The origin of the Kanaitis and menials is uncertain but they are probably aborigines converted to Hinduism. Among the lower classes the marriage customs are very elastic. The purchase and sale of women is recognised and women have practically no rights at all. Arrangements are often made for their marriage before birth. Of the girls under ten years of age one in twenty is married and one in a hundred is a widow.

The general custom is for a man to have as many wives as he can find work for. The Kanait is pleased if his wife gives birth to a son, for a son is needed for funeral rites, and does not generally inquire too closely into the circumstances of the birth. In the more mountainous tracts during the winter months the majority of the men folk accompany the flocks into the valleys as winter grazing is impossible in the hills. The few men left behind in the villages with the women at once assume the position of husbands irrespective of family relationships.

The Hinduism of the hill states is lax and largely consists in the worship of the local gods. Each village has its own god, very often the spirit of a man who has died by violence and who inspires such terror in the people that, in order to propitiate him they make him a god. As many of these gods control landed property, lawsuits between them have occasionally been heard in British courts. The gods are usually represented by a number of brass faces affixed to a palanquin and are served by a special class of priests. Their attendants are recognized as prophets and soothsayers and many gods are sufficiently powerful to afford sanctuary to offenders against the local rajah. Although the gods are feared and respected, the hill people sometimes bring force to bear on them. Thus if no rain falls the god is first threatened, then his sacrifices are stopped, then he may be turned over and beaten, and as a final measure he may be made prisoner in the temple of a superior god until rain falls.

Witchcraft is commonly practised and is often similar in form to the European variety. For instance the practice of making a wax image of an enemy, sticking it full of pins and melting it before a fire in order to cause his death is found in the Hill States. The method of testing whether a woman is a witch or not is beautifully simple and conclusive. The woman is bound hand and foot and thrown into a pond. If she floats she is a witch!

The people are almost entirely agriculturalists. Cultivation is difficult owing to the nature of the country and the only articles exported are opium and potatoes. Wheat, barley, maize and other food crops are grown but are needed for home consumption. The people live in isolated homesteads and there are very few places with

a population of more than ten or twelve. There are only twelve places with a population exceeding two thousand. There is no education and no interest in anything not entirely personal and local. Only twenty-five per thousand can read or write. There is no trade and no industry. Practically the only amusements of the people are fairs celebrating numerous religious holidays where they dance round their gods and generally get drunk on a sort of beer made from barley or maize. The people are industrious and law abiding and too busy and isolated to worry about State or administrative affairs. They have no martial instincts and no police. Litigation relates entirely to land and women and is often settled in the following manner: each party brings a goat to the local god and the priest sprinkles both goats with water and the party whose goat first shakes itself wins the case. The power of an oath is still very considerable. In case of dispute any person can put his opponent under the rajah's oath to refrain from taking any action. The parties then go to the rajah who decides the case and fines the losing party. Important cases are often settled by an oath taken on the cow's tail—one of the most sacred of oaths. A man who perjures himself on the cow's tail is commonly supposed to die within the year.

In such primitive society there is no political opinion and the rajah's will is absolute. People do not take the trouble to oppose him until things become intolerable. In this case the people collect together and refuse to pay their dues until grievances are redressed. There is seldom any violence, because as a rule information is quickly sent to Simla whence an officer with half a dozen police has to hurry to the place and settle the matter. Nominally practically everything is the property of the rajah except property vested in the temples, but actually custom rules supreme. For instance, while the rajah claims the right to deal as he pleases with the land of his tenants, custom decrees fixity of tenure subject to the payment of dues.

Medical science is chiefly confined to charms. If a district is badly infected with cholera a goat is sometimes laden with ornaments and driven away in the hope that someone may be tempted to seize the goat and the disease.

In the Simla Hill States we see human society in one of its most primitive forms. Education is practically non-existent, there is no foresight and no administration in the government of the country, religion is primitive, and marriage customs are elastic and lax.

DRILL ORDER, WITH RIFLES.

(We have to attend church parade with rifles. Will they expect us also to carry these weapons when the last trump is played—er that is sounded!)

I.

I was just a trifle 'brown'
When I signed to serve the Crown;
Though my disappointment I tried hard to
stifle,
For they issued me with kit
Of all sorts and shapes and fit,
But they never thought of giving me a rifle.

II.

So I've given up all hopes,
I'm all misery and mopes;
And my chance of Heaven's ruined, wrecked
and wryful,
And I'm fearful, truth to tell,
I shall have to go to hell,
For I cannot go above—I've got no rifle.

III.

For St. Peter, at the gate,
At some fairly distant date,
Will say 'No! Of dust, I haven't got my eye full,
I am sorry, but I fear
That you cannot come in here,
Why, damn it man! You haven't got your rifle.'

IV.

So, you see, Celestial bliss
I am much afraid I'll miss,
And in consequence I'm sorry, sad and sighful
For I fear I've lost my place
In the realms of Heavenly grace
Just because I wasn't issued with a rifle.

V.

So I'll go across the Styx—
All the Harrys and the Dicks
And the Toms I used to know, I'll bet a trifle
Will be there, in force, a'grilling,
And I'll lay another shilling
They'll admit me too in there—without my
rifle.

LITTLE SUNSHINE.

MENS' DANCING CLASS.

With the permission of the Commanding Officer, Mens' Dancing Classes were started in June last. The Regimental Theatre at Jutogh made an excellent dance hall, the floor of which, thanks to the energies of the Committee, brought back pleasant memories of pre-war Cinderellas, etc.

The idea quickly caught on, and the "Moochi" must have had rather a busy time judging by the number of men who turned up in dancing pumps.

Almost immediately after the first party returned from the Hills, the enthusiasts set to work on the concrete floor of the Regimental Theatre here (Jullundur). With the aid of a broom and a few candle shavings, the floor was very soon in—well—a rather dangerous condition to attempt platoon drill in ammunition boots.

At the beginning of December, when Headquarters returned to Jullundur, the classes amalgamated, and have been going strong since.

Owing to a number of members recently leaving the Battalion for "cushy" (?) jobs, the attendance on one or two evenings, was not as great as one would wish. A special night set apart strictly for novices and beginners, speedily remedied this, and the Hall soon became quite crowded again. The membership now totals nearly 100, which, considering the present strength of the Battalion, is quite good.

Without doubt the classes have proved a success, and Monday and Friday evenings are always looked forward to with eagerness. (Some, finding themselves improving so rapidly in the Terpsichorean Art, are also looking forward to their first dance in Blighty). But of late, the absence of the female element has been felt. This caused the Committee to consider. They considered well, for the result was a Station Dance, which was held on the 8th January on the upper floor of the Sergeants' Mess.

The Dance was undoubtedly a great success, and when we rolled "home" in the small hours of the morning, the sole topic of conversation was as to how long it would be before we had such another night. We had not the pleasure of escorting the ladies home: this was, of course,

the duty of others. But we have wondered whether their limbs ached, as every lady danced every dance!

Our heartiest thanks are due to Mrs. Swinerton, who so kindly made herself responsible for the attendance of the ladies, and these are also sincerely extended to the ladies themselves who were so good as to turn up and give us a thoroughly enjoyable evening. We are also indebted to Sgt. Blott who acted as M.C., and to whom the success of the Dance was largely due.

REVEILLE.

When from my virgin couch at dawn
 With sleepy eyes I sally,
 It's not because I want to, but
 Because I hear revally.
 No use to put one's ear beneath
 The clothes, and weakly dally,
 There is a fate in store for those
 Who disregard revally.
 No use to say "five minutes more,
 And thus to shilly-shally,
 Then go late on parade and say
 You didn't hear revally.
 No use to say your watch had stopped,
 Or that it didn't tally,
 They'll tell you there was heaps of time
 If you'd obeyed revally.
 Commit a murder overnight,
 The beaks will be quite pally,
 But don't get charged with "Found in bed
 Five minutes past revally."
 No, pull yourself together lad,
 With iron will-power rally
 Your sluggish senses when you hear
 The bugler blow revally.
 The song says "There are none so smart
 As Sally in our Alley;"
 Just prove them wrong, be smarter still
 Each morning at revally.
 Leap nimbly up, as leap the top—
 Boot "heads" in Russian Ballet,
 Have no ambition but to rise
 In concert with revally.
 Now in conclusion let me state
 This most emphatically,
 I don't love Kaiser Bill, but I
 Abominate revally.

The P. R. I. has recently received the following communication from a firm anxious to supply cigars to the Battalion:—

Dear Sir,

To

THE PRESIDENT.

Regimental Mess, Simla.

We are much anxious to hear from you about your health and we inform your kindness that we are the author of this line of business now over a century. As we know every directions of this department fully well. We kindly request you to favour us a trial and then become customary with us always. If you ones smoked our well known brands, we are sura you will not even remember of others. We guarantee for our most superior quality and golden colour with white flavour even delicious aroma and without any defect for an year period. If spoiled within that time in any respect please return the old stock which we had sent you and we shall replace them with fresh ones free of all charges or we shall send you the cost of them by money order if you want. Lastly we inform you kindly about we can only know well to take away the real poison of every tobacco when manufacturing by chemical process with our long experience and finished without malady and leprous workmanship not like as other Hindu-European names of manufacturers in Worior and Trichy who were our factory cigar rollers lately who are all poor low cost Indians having to deceive Europeans and doing such a merciless policy which is strictly guaranteed and govern by healthy officer and municipal doctors and examined every day from our factory. We hope that you will deeply note about this matter and kindly reject them and free from those contagious diseases and suarly will essuu us your valued comand and oblige.

Credit system also will be opening with you if required.

MOSQUITO TRAPPING.

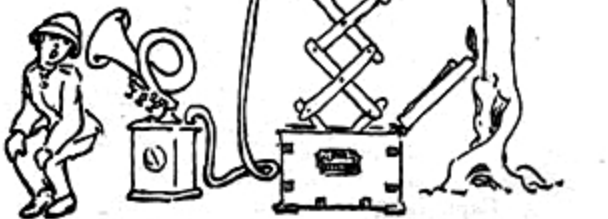
In the early months of the year, the detection of the mosquito by the ordinary methods becomes increasingly difficult, so that the rifle and the bombing aeroplane, described for the first

time in a previous issue of The Londoner, are of little avail as offensive weapons without the

help of the *ppp*Tschik - mosquito-finder.

It cannot be too generally known (and indeed we find that it generally isn't) that a note of peculiar timbre, varying according to the species, and whose pitch depends both on the species and the velocity of the air, is emitted when the wind whistles through the whiskers of a carnivorous reptile such as the mosquito. The instrument whose name we have printed once and refuse to print again, is designed according to these principles. It consists of a device similar to a pair of bellows, for producing an air-current of known velocity, accompanied by a recorder tuned to the desired pitch and timbre. The whole is mounted on an adjustable stand, which enables it to be raised or lowered according to the height of the tree in which the mosquito is suspected of hiding.

**Name copyrighted in all tropical countries. ppp means that the quarry must not be enraged by shouting this hated name above a whisper. The whole word is to be pronounced except the ppp and the asterisk.*



The inventor's sketch is too small to do full justice to the expectant expression on the face of the listener on the ground, the queue of volunteers waiting to relieve him, the ear-syringing fatigue party of two men per listener the enormous supply of syringes, and the hovering planes awaiting the signal to drop bombs. This signal consists of the order "STAND FROM UNDER," which can be carried out with all equipment, by the whole of the reconnoitring party except the blower, in seven seconds—the exact time taken by a bomb in dropping from the height at which the machines have orders to fly. The blower gives the bellows a

smart cant backwards with the right forefinger, at the same time grasping the small of the tree firmly with the left hand, palm inwards. He then directs the fire by extending the right hand to the full length of the right arm, maintaining this position until the aim is correct.

A modification for detecting the influenza microbe is being designed, but unhappily the enemy has been warned, and the inventor, in order to work in safety, is obliged to camouflage himself as a fatal case of influenza complicated by pneumonia, awaiting cremation, and thus progress is delayed.

PERSONAL

OWING to obvious reasons, this feature of the Londoner is reduced, almost to skeleton dimensions, and in view of the paucity of news from absent friends we are 'lumping' together all information received, instead of, as heretofore, dividing it into 'First' and 'Second' battalion, etc.

We offer our congratulations to the following "old crocks" who recently left the Battalion en route for home:—

- "A" Coy.—Sgt. Meager and Sgt. Paul.
- "B" Coy.—Pte. Hanafin, Pte. G. B. Willis, and Pte. W. G. Goldney.
- "C" Coy.—Pte. G. C. Hills and Pte. J. J. Colderwood.
- "D" Coy.—R. Q. M. S. Broadbent, Sgt. H. E. Baily, Sgt. McDowall, Pte. T. Mariner, Sgt. Shannon, Pte. J. Edwards.

And to the following who have left as "demobilizers":—

- "A" Coy.—Capt. Blunden, Pte. Bryant.
- "B" Coy.—Sgt. A. C. Hills, Sgt. L. J. Hill, Pte. C. Stevens.
- "C" Coy.—Pte. T. H. Collins, L/C Howard, Pte. W. W. Briggs, C. S. M. Nicol.

The following have been invalided home:—

- Cpl. Oram, "B" Coy.; Pte. G. Hazell.
- "A" Coy., Sgt. Steel "C" Coy.; Pte. A. J. Hubbard, "D" Coy.
- Pte. W. G. Matthews "B" Coy.

Capt. Long has returned to Blighty and Pte. T. Neadham, "B" Coy, and Pte. F. G. Cole,

"A" Coy., have been granted Blighty leave. Sgt. "Laddie" Smith has been demobilized in Blighty while on leave.

Pt Cadet Sparkes is sweating on returning to the Battalion, while "Gussie" De Metz embarked from Egypt on the 20th November, probably for home.

Ted Knight is returning to the R. E.'s at Pindi.

Fisher, Hesk and Coles are still going strong on the Postal Staff in Mesopotamia Wiseman and Chipease are working together at the F. C. M. A. Offices. Sgt. Tom Goodchild is going strong as back in his football team. Aldford is on his way to Poona.

J. N. Claydon, (C. Coy) was married at Bombay December last.

Perkins (the Battalion rhymster) was in Baghdad last January and was proceeding to Persia.

Godwin, "C" Coy., who was invalided home to Blighty, is now in 'civies', and waxeth exceeding fat.

Barraclough started for home last Boxing Day while "Binks" is back in the Battalion after sweating on being invalided home.

Brino is reported to be in Salonica
We print the following letter from Captain R. G. Upton, who commanded old "C" Company of the Second:—

SAXMUNDHAM,
SUFFOLK.

19th December 1918.

MY DEAR—

I have had your letter an unconscionable time before answering it, but I find very little time now for writing letters, and very little material about which to write. I am acting as Staff Captain to the above Brigade which is composed of all arms, and instead of life on the staff being, as is popularly supposed, a "long loaf" it is for me every day, Saturdays and Sundays included, a time of very strenuous work. I left the old Batta. at the beginning of May and see very little of them, and even so there are practically none of the old men left and very few of the officers. A batch of them including my brother went to France early in July and got right into the thick of things. Lascelles and Grist, I don't know whether you remember either of them, were both killed. Sellick lost a foot. Carpenter was very severely wounded in the chest, and my brother (Capt. R. Upton, 'C' Coy.—Ed.) escaped with a compound fracture of the ankle caused by shrapnel. I am glad to say he is going on well but will probably be permanently lame. Baker ('C' Coy.—Ed.) whom you probably remember as Corporal is now a "loot" in the A. S. C. in Egypt, and from all accounts having a good time.

Your information about my old boys is all news to me and I am glad to hear of their progress. It would be a great night we would have at your suggested reunion of old "C" Company and I sincerely trust it will come off. I wish I had had the opportunity of going to India with you, as now here's the war practically over and I have not "seen service". I certainly took a draft to France at the time of the retreat in April last, but of course did not get anywhere near the scene of operations. I had not heard of Smith's death, the last I heard of him was that he had gone to the African Rifles I think it was.

Well, I suppose before long the 1-25 will be coming home, as they have been out, for longer than the usual period and will no doubt be relieved as soon as things here are settled enough to allow of a relieving battalion being sent.

Please remember me to all my old comrades, wish them all the best of luck for the new

year and a speedy return to Blighty and believe me,

Yours very sincerely,
R. GEORGE UPTON.

Lieut. W. H. Cummings has been sent to the Army Signal School, Dunstable, and rather expects that he will have to go to France again with the army of occupation. He has been slightly wounded.

Koski has 'got his ticket', and Dawes (who went to the Signal Service, Poona) is on his way to Blighty.

Frank Ramsey was at Chiseldon Camp fairly recently as a special N. C. O. in charge of the gas "doings".

Colonel Gilbertson Smith, commanding the 2nd Battalion, writes to say that as all messages of congratulations were refused by the Post Office at Christmas he could not send his usual Christmas Greeting. He is looking forward to seeing all old 1st and 2nd men still with the Battalion at Fulham House this year.

The 2nd Battalion has now been disbanded as far as the men are concerned.

A VISIT TO TANK.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

(From the Civil and Military Gazette, January 31st, 1919.)

NOW that the war is over, and we are about to resume our pleasure-seeking habits, munition makers and others who have money to spare will doubtless be contemplating a visit to the glorious East.

Cities of historical interest such as Lucknow and Cawnpore, the seats of the mighty such as Delhi and Simla, those to which commerce has brought prosperity such as Calcutta and Bombay, will all be patronised by visitors who are anxious to know something of India and its charms.

It is for the sake of those who are thus really desirous of seeing India as it is, that we would like to bring the attractions of our city—not exactly city, let us say environment—before the eye of the travelling public.

Tank, pronounced Tonk, is situated in the graceful plains of the Derajat at the foot of the hills of Waziristan, and commanding an excellent view of Mount Sheikh Budin, one of the most charming hill-stations of north-western

India. It is easily accessible, being on the main line of the Kalabagh-Bannu Railway (only one change is necessary, viz., at Laki-Marwat Junction, where a refreshment room has lately been built for the convenience of travellers), and also being the terminus of the Dera Ismail Khan Tank Road, parts of which, as the curate said, are excellent. On arrival at the station the visitor finds proof of his welcome in the form of an escort whose duty it is to accompany him to his hotel (hotel, perhaps, is too euphemistic, we will say Dak Bungalow) whence after a pleasant night's rest he can saunter out to see the sights.

Passing down the main street, first, he will pass the General Post Office on the left, the grounds of which are surrounded by an interesting old wall, said to be one of the oldest in Tank. Further down on the right, the emporium of the Harrods of the Derajat comes into view. This building stands well back from the road, which gives an additional dignity to the general architectural effect.

On the other side of the level crossing lie the soldiers' barracks. These are cleverly built according to an elaborate colour scheme, so that the colour of the barracks is in complete harmony with that of the surrounding country. This homogeneous effect is produced by an ingenious device for the builders, instead of sending away to distant parts for granite or brick, used the material actually to hand and thus produced a pleasing effect at very little expense to Government.

We needn't expatiate on the comforts of these barracks. The visitor has only to look inside any one of them, and he will be easily convinced.

A short description of the Club shall bring our review of Tank to a close. This building is also used as Staff Office, Dak Bungalow, Military Rest House, etc., one room being allotted for Club members, half of whom sit in one row of chairs exactly facing the other half in the other row, members being at liberty to choose on which side they will sit. However, it is rumoured that the management are shortly going to purchase a table.

But, lest we should seem to exaggerate, we would recommend travellers to come and see for themselves, and should recommend spending a week or longer in June or July when they can be certain of fine weather, and plenty of accommodation.

WHAT THE BATTALION IS ASKING.

Whether the B. O. forbidding commination applies to officers when playing "Rugger"?

Why did the troops laugh when the fairy fell off the tug-of-war rope?

Who was the corporal who wanted to send a Lance Jack to the Guard Room under escort of two Privates?

Did the troops maim "slope bayonets and fix arms"?

Did the audience appreciate the "Monkey Nut" accompaniment to "William Tell"?

Who put the "khybosh" on the Pork Wallah?

What about this extra ten shillings and sixpence a week?

Who was the hero who blew a whistle on P. T. parade one morning early in February?

And how many men found refuge in the barber's shop in consequence?

Whether the bicycle mentioned in B.O.'s of January 4th as having been taken from the lines of the 11th Lancers on 8th December 1918 has been returned yet?

And whether "the person who took same" reported, as requested, to the Battalion Office?

When is the next 'Londoner' coming out?

What the Artilleryman on time duty thought when he heard the explosion in the Regimental Theatre?

And whether our "bang" wasn't much louder than the midday gun?

How long it will be before the adjective "perfect" is substituted for "Brown"?

And what the Platoon themselves think about it?

What do they know about a native soldier, being wounded on the range?

And wasn't a certain officer's remark, on hearing that the "sipahi" wasn't dead, just a wee bit callous?

The name of the man who, on the last monthly condemnation of kit took up, among other articles, two pairs of brok n bootlaces, four bent trouser buttons, a needle in two halves, one empty blacking tin, three broken button rings and a worn out tooth-brush (used for rifles cleaning) to be "budlied"?

WHEN ARE WE GOING HOME?

(This is the second time of asking).

DO YOU WANT TO BECOME
PERFECT?
 THEN JOIN MY
PLATOON.

I will make you PERFECT in every respect. I will teach you all there is to be known about EVERYTHING.

JOIN AT ONCE,

And become expert in the arts of BAYONET FIGHTING, PLATOON and CEREMONIAL DRILL, PHYSICAL CULTURE, etc., etc., etc.

"All handsome men are slightly sunburnt."

Under my course you will become not only sunburnt, but

BROWN.

FOR MY

MUSKETRY CLASSES,

I provide

LIVING TARGETS.

WITHOUT EXTRA CHARGE

A. P. Constable,
 JULLUNDUR.

**WHY NOT LET YOUR SON
 BECOME A CLERK?**

If you decide on a clerical career for your boy, you cannot do better than to train him for his profession with us.

The following are a few only of the thousands of unsolicited testimonials received from all over India.

From X. V. I. Div & Co., Lahore:—
 "The clerks on our staff trained at your college leave nothing to be desired."

From C. M. A., Poona:—"Your clerks are **striking** testimony to the efficacy of your educational system. Please send another dozen."

Messrs. LONDONS & Co., Ltd.
Jullundur.

NOTICE.

A young gentleman, at present serving in the Army in India, is desirous of raising a loan of rupees fifty or upwards. This loan will only be accepted from persons of the most unimpeachable integrity, and no arrangements as to repayment are necessary.

Apply:—Londoner Office.

THE HOME BEAUTIFUL.

It has been suggested that, when we are all settled down again in civil life, much of the promiscuity, not to say haphazardness, which would seem to be indispensable from such an existence might be eliminated by the daily issue of orders (signed by the head of the household) something after the style of B. O's. We might arrive at results similar to the following:—

ORDERS

BY

J. A. JONES, Esq.,

Commanding, "Ivydene" 781, High St., Kingston, Kingston, Saturday, July—17th 19—

PART I.

1 *Duties*.—For office, Monday,—J. A. Jones Esq.

Next for duty—J. A. Jones, Esq.

2 *Divine Service*.—The undermentioned are detailed to attend Morning Service tomorrow at 11 a.m. Parade 10-45 a.m.
J. A. Jones, Esq.; Mrs. J. A. Jones.

3 *Employ*.—The undermentioned are struck off Household Duty from this date whilst employed as stated—

Miss Jones, E. A., while staying with Aunt at Brixton.

Master Jones, B. E., proceeding on duty to school at Guildford.

4 *Dress*.—The habit of wearing Turkish slippers before 7-45 p.m. is to be discontinued. Any person failing to comply with this order will be severely dealt with.

5 *Extension of Service*.—Any member of the household staff wishing to re-attest will attend dining room tomorrow at 8-30 P.M. for interview with the Commanding Officer.

6 *Bounds*.—The following area is placed out of bounds owing to outbreak of contagious disease:—

Within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of Piccadilly Circus.

PART II.

Strength. (i). Miss Bawarchy, M. A. having resigned position of cook, is struck of the strength and placed on the unattached list of warrant officers.

(ii). Order No. 113 of May 14th Part II, para. 2, is cancelled, and the following substituted:—

Strength of Household on 30th June 19:—	
Officers (J. A. Jones and wife) ...	2
W. O.'s Class I (Cook) ...	1
" " II (Housemaid and Maid) ...	2
Children, Male ...	1
" Female ...	2
Total effective strength with Unit	6
Seconded and temporarily away from unit —	
At School ...	1
With Aunt at Brixton ...	1
Total strength	8

Appointment.—Mrs. Harris, N. S. P., is appointed cook (overpaid) dated 16th July 19—*vice Bawarchy resigned*.

Discipline.—A. O. 789 x y2 re kit, dated 12th August 19—is republished for information:—

(i) Blankets (12) and sheets (4) are to be folded uniformly into 8 folds and placed alternately; that is 3 blankets and one sheet, on top of bed roll, the whole to be secured with bed strap.

(ii) Pyjamas or night dresses are to be neatly folded, embroidery or ribbon to the front, and placed on top of blankets, if cases are provided, inside the case, and bed socks (if used) are to be placed on either side of pyjamas or night dresses.

(iii) Two pairs of walking boots, one pair of dancing pumps and one pair of bathing sandals or Turkish slippers are to be placed neatly in a row $4\frac{1}{2}$ " in front of the blankets.

(iv) All spare kit, such as smoking jackets, shooting coats, dressing gowns, guns, phonographs, bottles containing alcoholic mixtures, soda water syphons, books, &c., must be put out of sight until the Orderly Officer has inspected the house, and all pet cats, dogs, monkeys, white (or vari coloured) mice, &c., must be safely housed and tied up during training hours.

J. A. JONES (MRS. AND ADJUTANT),

"Ivydene" High St., Kingston.

Another suggestion is that in order to infuse a little "snap" into B.O's. they should be in verse—something like this:—

BATTALION ORDERS, ETC., ETC., ETC. --PART I.

1. *Duties*—

Lieut. A. N. Other learns with sorrow
That he is Orderly Officer, for to-morrow.
Lieut. P. J. Theta's ready laughter
Is silenced, for he's on it the day after.

2. *Board*—

A Board of Officers, composed as under,
Assembling to-morrow at Jullundur,
At time and place by th'President decided.
Will take most careful counsel as to why did
The dentures of a certain troop get broken,
And who, of paying for them, is the joke on.
(here insert names of President and Board).

3. *Employ*—

Lance-Corporal W. Angler, you will all be
Is struck off Company Duty whilst employed
as Pioneer.

4. *Furlough*—

The small-pox epidemic in Cawnpore
Upon the perfect nuisance almost borders;
For troops can't go on leave there any more
That is, until we issue further orders.

5. *Accounts*—

Officers, Companies Commanding,
Must ensure that all outstanding
Debts to shoemaker or tailor
Fully settled, without fail, are
Of any man, before his final flight he
Takes to the blessed far-off shores of Blighty.

6. *Discipline*—

Our canine friends at present, all unfettered,

May roam about the barracks, without check.
But we conceive this system might be bettered,
So'tis ordained that round each doggy neck
Shall be affixed a disc, if nothing more.
Our charge for these is only annas four.

PART II.

1. *Strength*—

The following statistics, as may readily be
seen,
Concern Battalion strength, on twenty-seven
three nineteen :—
The total of commissioned ranks is dozens
three and seven,
And effective strength with unit is five
hundred, less eleven.
Of W. O.'s Class I and II we've six, and nine
and twenty
Are our Sergeants, which I'm sure you will
agree is more than plenty.
We possess a Colour Sergeant and four Com-
pany Q. M. S.'s,
And the number of Lance-Corporals, but a
paltry seven less is
Than two score. We've eight and twenty of
lance-sergeants and two stripes blokes,
And the rest, of course, are privates—forming
fours, and sloping hips blokes.

NOTICE.

A firm of most classy confectioners
In Lahore, a confirmed predilection has
For finding employ
For a man or a boy,
Who to stopping out here no objection has

THE ARMY AT HOME.

One morning, as I was strolling down Piccadilly, I happened to meet one of my military acquaintances of India, and noticing that he was walking with his right arm stiff to his side, I enquired the reason. He explained that his hand would persist in raising itself to every man jack in uniform, so he had devised a simple method of stopping it by placing an elastic band round his wrist which was connected in some way with his trousers pocket.

We decided to lunch together, as he said he had a tale of woe to unfold to me, also he wished to ask my advice in the matter.

The following is his pathetic story as he told it to me :—

"The morning after I received my discharge, I lay dreaming of my past life in India, when the maid brought in my morning tea. In a dreamy, half awake manner, I told her to place it on the box and take a 'dozie' from my trousers pocket. Sleepily I heard a faint laugh (no doubt of pity.)

My brother came in shortly after, but thinking that he was the 'nappi,' I told him to shave me, and to take 'do pice' from the hidden place aforementioned. He retired with a sympathetic grin, and as he went I told him to 'bolo the cake wallah.'

Eventually I got up, and put on my old uniform ignoring altogether the 'civvy' suit which I had worn the night before, but unfortunately we live quite close to some barracks, and just as I was rolling up my bed, and looking feverishly for the bed-strap, the Quarter-dress for Guard went. This properly 'put the wind' up me, and I dashed downstairs in a frantic search for my rifle and equipment. About halfway down I slipped and fell head-long, spraining my ankle slightly. I decided to parade sick.

My brother (whom I persisted in confusing with the B. O. C.) took me along to see the doctor. I told him a pitiful tale, and had my injuries attended to, but afterwards I again gave the game away by hanging about outside for the sick report, to see what I was marked, and it was only when a policeman courteously suggested that possibly others might like occasionally to make use of the pavement, that I realised how fatal had been my stay in India.

On the way back (of course I was still in uniform), I was stopped by a G. M. P. and 'bunged in' for being improperly dressed, and it was some time before I could convince the military authorities that I wasn't a genuine 'bird,' finally, to crown all, I dropped into a tobacconist's to buy a pipe and got into trouble with him for offering him a third of the specified price, accompanying my offer with language unbecoming to a gentleman (fortunately all the worst words were in Hindustani).

My military acquaintance then, in most pleading tones asked me for some means to forget his past or for some remedy to control his wandering mind. I suggested that he might rejoin the Army, where the things he was in the habit of doing would not be out of place, but strange to say, he had a severe attack of ague on the spot, and was admitted to hospital the same afternoon. W. ERCY.

WAZIRISTAN CONCERT.

THE sum of £65-16-10, proceeds of the above Concert, which was remitted to the Territorial Force Association, County of London, for distribution amongst the dependants of those N. C. O's, and men of the Battalion who fell in the Waziristan Expedition of 1917, has now been expended by the Secretary of the Terri-

torial Force Association, who holds letters from all these dependants "expressing their deep gratitude to the soldiers of the 1/25th County of London Battalion, for their thought in this direction."

The Association received considerable assistance from Mrs. Churchill, who willingly undertook the majority of the work in connection with the distribution of the Fund.

OBITUARY.

ON January 1st the Battalion lost yet another of its men in the person of 742009 Pte. A. G. Evans, "A" Company, who died in the Station Hospital at Jullundur, at 9-20 a.m. on that date, from abscess on the liver.

Joining us with the Burhan Draft in March 1917, he was sent shortly afterwards to Cossipore on special work, and did not rejoin the Battalion until late last year.

We join in expressing our sincerest sympathies to his bereaved wife and children.

From a letter from Lieut. Colonel R. C. Fielding, Civil Service Rifles, we learn with deep regret that Lieut. Lascelles, the announcement of whose death appeared in our last issue, was killed in action on September 1st, 1918.

He lost his life while gallantly leading his Company to the attack against a strong enemy position, and in the face of heavy rifle and machine-gun fire, death being instantaneous. It is a melancholy consolation to know that the attack in which he was killed was entirely successful.

From the "Times" of Nov. 13th:—

Lieut. L. T. D. Stables, second son of Mr. W. W. G. Stables, M. R. C. S., of 5 Auckland Road, Upper Norwood, and grandson of the late Thomas Drury, J. P., Co Dublin, was born in 1891 and educated at St. Olaves, London, and at the outbreak of war was in the office of the Public Trustee. He joined the 25th County of London (Cyclist Battalion) and was commissioned to the Bedfordshire Regiment and posted to the 6th Battalion, October 25th, 1916, which he joined in France on November 29th. He took part in the battle of Arras in which he was wounded on April 23rd, 1917. He returned to the front on September 25th, 1918, and was attached to the Northamptonshire Regiment. He was in action on October 18th and again on 23rd when he was killed.

JOHN JERVIS—EARL ST. VINCENT.

The *London* arrived from England and her Captain visited the Flagship. His galley was waiting alongside and one of the crew asked a man of the Flagship "I say, there, what have you fellows been doing whilst we have been fighting for your beef and pork?" The reply was not encouraging "If you'll take my advice you'll just say nothing about all that here, for by God, if old Jervie hears you he'll have you dingle dangle at the yard-arm at 8 bells to-morrow." The *Londons* were very disaffected, and the *Blenheims* forwarded a request to their Admiral that having heard that the *Londons* were still refractory they solicited the honour of going alongside her and teaching those fellows their duty and obedience—they were thanked but informed that it was unnecessary. Indeed in a week the *London's* crew became as quiet as mice and maintained an excellent character; for none admire firmness, vigour and courage more than the men themselves.

St. Vincent at this time showed his soundness of judgment by selecting Nelson to proceed to the Mediterranean, for which action he was severely taken to task by Nelson's senior, and caused much annoyance. Nelson justified his selection by defeating the French fleet in Aboukir Bay. Nelson's fleet returned to Gibraltar badly in want of repairs, and it was owing to St. Vincent's energy and ability that the fleet was entirely refitted there without a single ship proceeding to England.

The following anecdote of St. Vincent's solicitude for his men, is of interest. His ship was at sea and the pipe went "Hands to bathe." On the hands being recalled St. Vincent noticed a man on the fore-castle in distress. He mingled with the men and found out who it was. He sent his Secretary forward afterwards. "Go forward and find out what is the matter, for there's my delight, Roger Odell, in tears." He ascertained that Odell had dived into the water from the foreyard with his clothes on and lost all his money. "We must do something for him" said the Chief and he requested the Captain

to turn all hands up. When all hands were on deck he called for Odell. When that splendid seaman stepped forward St. Vincent assumed a look of displeasure. "Roger Odell you are convicted, Sir, of tarnishing the British Oak with tears. What have you to say in your defence?" Roger confronted with the loss of his money and his present disgrace was quite overwhelmed and pleaded that he had lost all he had in the world and that he had been many years saving it. He promised he would be never caught crying again, if his Lordship would pardon him. St. Vincent said: "The loss of money, Sir, can never be an excuse for a British seaman in tears; there could be but one, which will never happen to you, Roger Odell—disgrace." There was a moment's silence and the Chief, appearing to soften, continued: "You are one of the best men in the ship and you are a captain of a top. To show, therefore, that your Commander-in-Chief will never pass over merit, wheresoever he may find it, there is your money, Sir," giving him £70, "but no more tears, mind, no more tears." The boatswain's mate then "piped down," Roger paused a moment and exclaimed "Thank ye! My Lord! Thank ye!"—and took a header into the crowd of men swarming below to conceal an exhibition of his feelings that he was unable to suppress.

I doubt if any reader can appreciate the foregoing scene who has not himself felt the admiration that an officer frequently feels for the best type of petty officer. In St. Vincent's day a man did not become a captain of a top unless he had proved himself, by character, courage and devotion to duty, a born leader of men. His duties required him to be ready for instant action by day or night, in fair weather or foul, and the call was never made in vain. Undoubtedly they were men in those days of sailing ships whose superiors could not be found. In 1799 St. Vincent, owing to ill-health, proceeded to England and struck his flag at Spithead in August, after a most strenuous command, and went home to rest and recuperate.

He was not left long in peace however and he soon once more answered his Sovereign's

call, despite the opposition of his doctor. "Baird I am going afloat!" "Surely, my Lord." "Stop, Baird! I anticipate what you are going to say, but the King and Government require it, and the discipline of the British Navy demands it. It is of no consequence to me whether I die afloat or on shore. The die is cast!"

And indeed the discipline of the Channel Fleet to which he was appointed did demand it. His appointment was bitterly resented by many of the Captains and Admirals, one of the latter imagining he had a better claim to the command than St. Vincent, and he learned soon after that one of the Captains at Admiral Bridport's table had drunk the toast "May the Discipline of the Mediterranean never be introduced into the Channel Fleet," and that this had passed without rebuke.

He had under his command forty ships of the line besides a number of frigates, and it would have been a big task for a younger man to have welded this mass into the fleet which won Trafalgar; yet St. Vincent, who was now aged 65, accomplished the task, kept the Channel clear, and maintained an efficient blockade off Brest. To those who are acquainted with the pilotage between Ushant and the Point du Raz, it is a marvel that the squadron entrusted with the duty was able to keep its station in the swirling currents that run round that coast, which was then unlit and poorly charted. The fleet was more than once driven to Tor Bay for shelter 140 miles away, but the westerly gales which blew our fleet to the eastward was equally efficient in keeping the Frenchmen from coming out. This period is teeming with incidents which must be passed over here. The fleet improved in discipline and efficiency, entirely owing to the efforts of St. Vincent. He was able to show his appreciation of the work his men had done before hauling down his flag, by putting a private orphanage for the children of seamen into such a satisfactory financial condition by his own and the officers' subscriptions, that it subsequently became the Greenwich Hospital School. His own subscription was £1,000. When these facts became known, the petty officers of the *Ville de Paris*, his flagship, fell in in a body and expressed their gratitude to the admiral

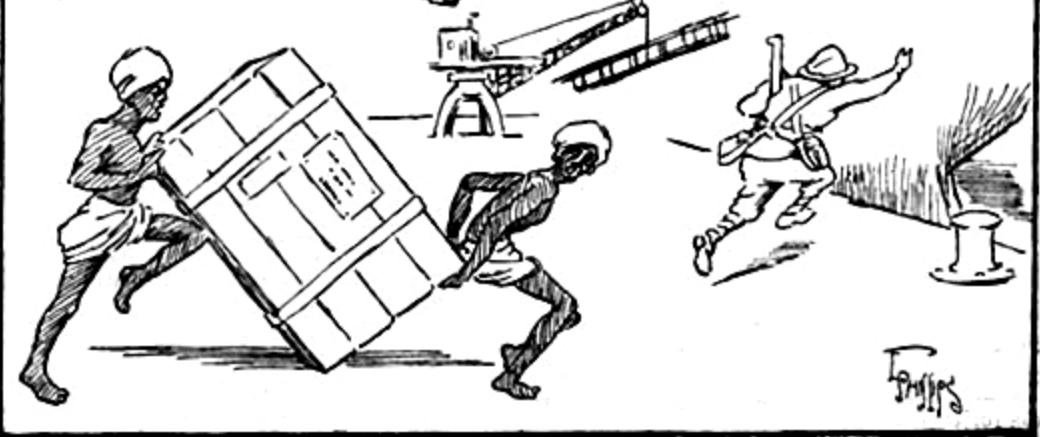
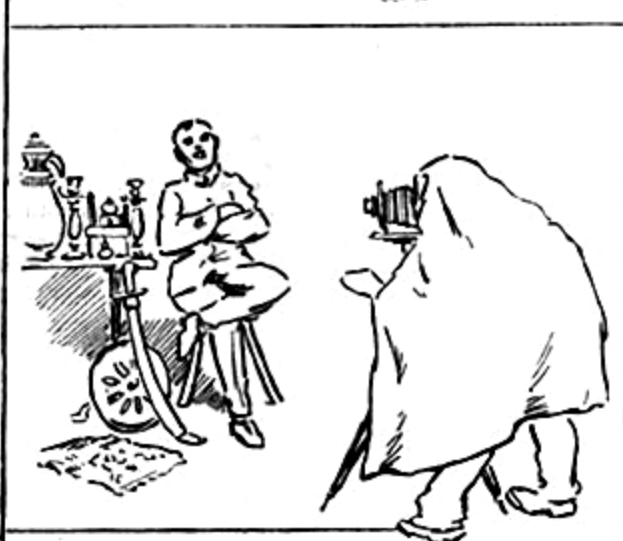
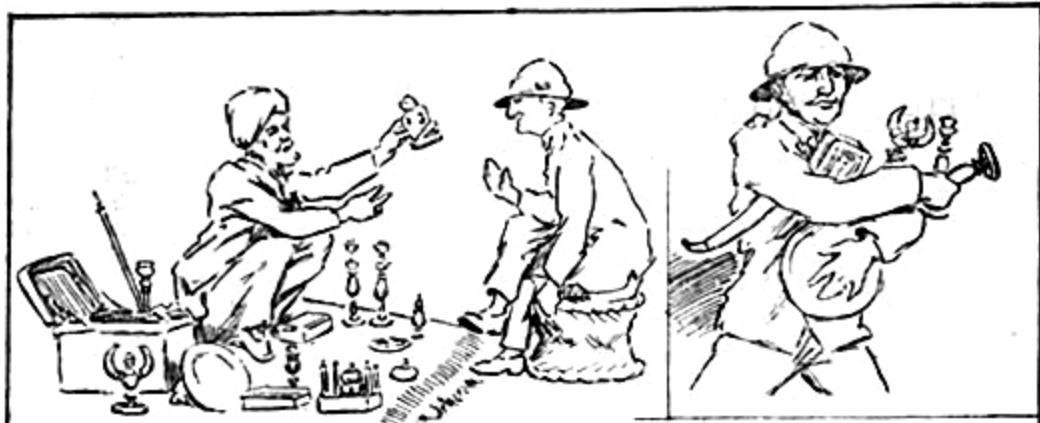
St. Vincent now left the Channel Fleet to take up important duties on shore, he was appointed First Lord of the Admiralty in 1801, and laboured unceasingly to deal with reforms in the dockyards and administration of the Navy, a task which nobody was better qualified to undertake than he, who had so long had to suffer the effects of corruption and supineness on the part of dockyard officials. His work at this period may be summed up as follows. By a system of rigid inspection he made the discovery of fraud and mal-administration practically certain, and took care that in all cases it was followed by equally certain punishment. One can imagine the old seaman, who had broken a mutiny at sea, was a terror to fraudulent constructors and to shipwrights and their delegates who were striking for extra pay whilst the country was at war.

On the peace of Amiens being signed in 1802 St. Vincent was able to continue his reforms—but he kept the members of the fleet intact, so that on war again breaking out in May 1803, within forty-eight hours, Cornwallis with thirty-three ships of the line held Brest in blockade.

St. Vincent for political reasons in 1806 ceased to be First Lord, and it would have been imagined that at the age of 71 he would have had the right to expect he would be allowed to enjoy his well earned retirement; yet such was not the case.

In March 1806 at the request of Pitt he hoisted the Union Jack at the main in the *Hibernia* and we find him once more off Ushant He remained at sea till early in 1807 when he struck his flag for the last time. The bodily infirmities of old age now compelled St. Vincent to retire from all active service of his country; but he did so, as Sheridan aptly put it, with the triple laurels gained from the enemy, the mutineer and the corrupt.

The last glimpse we will take of the old Admiral is at Greenwich Hospital where he had been summoned to meet the King, speaking to two old seamen who had served under him (he was then eighty-seven years of age and leaning heavily on his stick) he exclaimed "We all were smart fellows in our day."



F. D. S.

THE LONDONER.

JULLUNDUR, MARCH 1919.

EDITOR L.-CPL. R. S. MADEN.

ASSISTANT EDITOR...L.-CPL. A. S. CLARK.

EDITORIAL OFFICE.—S.-W. corner of No. 5
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 the Editor.

At the present time, the almost universal topic of conversation is "when are we going home?" and rumour-mongers have had, in all probability, the busiest time that they have known since the early days of 1916 when we were expecting to leave Chiseldon at any date. Things appear to be in a condition of beautiful uncertainty, though possibly by the time that this appears in print, something definite will have transpired. For the time being, however, it is well nigh impossible to draw any sane conclusion as to the date of our departure for England, from the mass of conflicting statements appearing in both Indian and British newspapers; the most recent (at the time of writing) decision being apparently that British territorials will have to remain in India, until battalions of the new army can be formed and despatched overseas for their relief.

Against this, however, is the strong feeling that we may be shortly sent home on medical grounds, though one must admit that documentary evidence in support of this theory is conspicuous only by there being none. Altogether, anything seems to be possible—it would appear just as likely that we shall go home to-morrow as that we shall remain out here for another couple of years, and he is a bold prophet indeed who ventures an opinion as to the date of our embarkation.

But in any case, whether we remain abroad for two more weeks or for two more years, we must 'grin and bear it' No good will come of "grousing," and it must be borne in mind that the task of demobilising something like four million troops is indeed a formidable one. Somebody will have to wait, and if those unlucky somebodies happen to be us, there is nothing left for us but to mak the best of it. After all we have been singularly fortunate as a battalion, and, although it rested not with us whether or not we were sent to some fighting front, we must remember that there are others who have manfully faced the hell of modern warfare in Flanders, and in other places, and if it be the luck of these to be freed before us, we must admit that they have done more to deserve it. By this, it is not intended for one moment to disparage the services of the battalion—the Commander-in-Chief at Gharial eighteen months ago told us that, although we had seen very little fighting, our work in India was just as important as the work of the regiments on the fighting fronts, and if anybody be entitled to express a definite opinion on this point, surely Sir Charles Monro is the man. Nevertheless, one cannot but admit that the path of duty has led for us through "cushier" channels than for most battalions.

It is certainly hard to be separated from our friends and relations for over three years, with the prospect of a still further period looming before us. But "be ye not dismayed," the war is over—that is the great thing, and we are bound to go home sooner or later. Let us therefore await the great day with patience, and remember—

That out of distance might ensue
Desire of nearness doubly sweet;
And unto meeting, when we meet
Delight a hundred-fold accrue.

SOME FRONTIER EPISODES.

(In Vol. II, No. 6, we published an article under the above title, but owing to some misunderstanding the concluding portion was omitted. We have much pleasure in rectifying this mistake, and take this opportunity of tendering our apologies to the author of the article in question).

Of course the hillman himself carries his life in his hands daily, though some of his quarrels have their lighter side.

Two families quarrelled over the ownership of a water course. Both sides agreed to meet and hold a jirgah to settle the matter, and it was arranged that they should come unarmed. One party however proceeded to the tryst the preceding day and carefully buried their rifles just below the soil. At the jirgah they sat down facing the opposing faction with their feet just above their weapons. The discussion not going to their liking, they suddenly all jumped up, seized their rifles, and settled the dispute by shooting the whole of the rival family.

A Subadar in a Pathan Regiment went on leave to his home across the border. On his return, his Company Commander asked him if he had had a good time. He replied somewhat sadly that he had not really enjoyed himself as he had been compelled to spend the whole time in his house exchanging shots with his neighbour and enemy, a subadar from another regiment, as there was a family feud between them. The captain offered his services to try and effect a reconciliation between them, observing that it was a pity that two such fine soldiers should be enemies. The subadar replied that it would be useless, as his rival's family was "six up" on his own, and his honour as a Pathan would be sullied if he made peace under those circumstances.

There was once a Mahsud, the sole surviving member of his family, who grew tired of the perpetual feud with his enemies. He went to a holy Mullah and implored his services to try and make peace between himself and his enemies. The Mullah, for a consideration, said he would see what could be done, and eventually he managed to arrange terms whereby the sole survivor should be permitted to live in peace and friendship with the other family on payment down of a large sum of cash.

The sole survivor carried out his part of the bargain, and said:—

"To show you that I am in good faith I will stand you all a dinner."

The other side accepted, and, accompanied by the Mullah, came to the feast.

During the meal the host made some excuse and went outside. He climbed up on to the roof, threw some dynamite cartridges (stolen in India) down through a hole, and blew up the whole of his enemies, about a dozen all told.

This might be considered quite "Tenax et Audax" except for the fact that the Mullah, who had declined a hint to come out and see a dog, had got blown up too. The other Mullahs of the neighbourhood were deeply incensed, and raised a lashkar which drove the sole survivor out of the country.

This episode is perhaps rather an exception to the Pathan rules of hospitality which forbid you to "do in" anyone who claims food and shelter in your house. But in this particular case the unlucky family had only themselves to thank for their fate for being such fools as to accept the invitation to dinner.

At least that's what the Mahsuds said.

C. N. P.

AN APPRECIATION.

ALTHOUGH it is now very late in the day, late is in all cases better than never, and we think that the services of the undermentioned men of the Battalion, during the influenza epidemic at Jutogh, merit recognition in the pages of the Londoner.

They were among the few men who escaped illness and upon them devolved the unpleasant, melancholy, arduous task of digging the graves of their comrades who succumbed. This was entirely a labour of love, and we are pleased to publish an appreciation of their work, though a belated one, an appreciation in which we feel confident the Battalion will join.

The names are:—

Pte. Conolly.	Pte. Silver.
" Bailey.	" Reeves.
" Harrington.	" Mariner.
" Rye.	

and they were assisted by Gunner Lambert, R. F. A.

"THE DISADVANTAGES OF BEING A CIVILIAN."

A REPLY TO AN ARTICLE IN "THE LONDONER."

WE have from time to time had the accusation cast at us that the *Herald* is calculated to create the entirely erroneous impression that the soldier in India has a feather-bed existence calculated to stir the envy of our khaki brethren in other theatres of activity. We freely admit it, but the difficulties are obvious. There are many aspects of the life that cannot be discussed. We do not possess the ordinary freedom of the press and the Censor is ever the Sword of Damocles that bids us think before we compose a sentence. The facts that are instrumental in creating a mental nausea for the life may not be dilated on in a Regimental Journal.

Yet it remains that we have never deliberately libelled the life we have led out here to the extent that our respected contemporary "The Londoner" has proved guilty of in its current number. Perusing its otherwise entirely readable pages our eye has caught a contribution dilating on the disadvantages of being a civilian. The whole thing seems so outrageously removed from reason that we are almost inclined to believe that the author has indulged in an attempt to pull his readers' leg.

After suggesting that to be fed up is not a military monopoly, and expanding on all we have promised ourselves to do when we return to our true sphere the writer paints what he describes as "the other side of the picture."

"For instance" he writes "after three years in India, the practice familiarly known as 'caning Uncle Ned' has become an institution, the average private (and N. C. O.) having devoured his midday 'khana' 'gets down to it' with a pleased sigh of relief and remains down to it until the pleasant rattle of the tea kettle awakens him. He then partakes of 'cha' and changes into the appropriate costume for tennis, hockey, football, etc."

The writer then proceeds to sketch the life that is our true sphere, the long hours of work, and "the hundred and one little details which you have to settle for yourself."

We have little to say of the suggestion contained in the latter statement, but we stand amazed that any man, who is a soldier in

India, as we suppose the author is, could have been capable of perpetrating such an entirely exaggerated impression of our life out here. It represents an insult to the intelligent man, whose detestation of the life is framed around the utter vacuum of each succeeding day. We are not defending the average man's weakness against the powers of Morpheus, but has it occurred to the writer of this truly remarkable article that the very large percentage of soldiers in India resort to sleep for the utter consolation it gives; the blotting out of hours that are as uninspiring as they are uneventful.

We agree that most men can have tennis and the various sports if they so desire, but can there be any enthusiasm for anything in an environment that is alien and odious withal? And what of the social amenities? What of the utter ostracism that has been the lot of ninety-nine per cent. of us since we came to India over three years ago? Truly the writer's philosophy is a thing to marvel at.

In a later passage we observe further hyperbole. He says "Then, after a sponge down, he drifts into one or other of the regimental institutes, there to lounge away the evening until bed-time." We can readily conjure up a picture of the unsophisticated mind at Home reading a sentence and deeply wondering why we cannot restrain our impatience to be repatriated amidst such assuaging surroundings. The idea suggested is that a regimental institute is in line with the palatial clubs of London. Personally we know of nothing quite so devoid of comfort, so widely removed from homeliness, unless it be the barrack room itself. And our institutes have the quality of being superior to most regimental institutes in India.

The writer says of the future: "Regard the prospect with equanimity if you can" We are sure we utter the sentiments of our readers in stating that we regard the possibility of being able to work and use a normal amount of brain not only with equanimity, but with impatience and suppressed joy. To the man who is worth his salt the future is the star to which his waggon is hitched. The present is best passed away in the satisfying oblivion of sleep.

"WHERE ANGELS FEAR TO TREAD."

On the opposite page will be found an article extracted in *extenso* from our bright and breezy contemporary, the "Royal Sussex Herald," inspired, as stated, by "the disadvantages of being a Civilian," which appeared in the February issue of the "Londoner."

We esteem it our duty to all lovers of unconscious humour to give, so far as lies in our power, the fullest publicity to an effusion of such charming naïveté; and, to mitigate the brusquerie of reprinting without explanation or elision, we tender one or two respectful criticisms on the general tone of this dignified indictment.

In the first place, we are painfully surprised that so influential an organ as the "Herald" (Royal Sussex of that ilk) should take up an attitude of such strong disfavour towards military life, in view of the fact that it is to military life alone that it owes its inception.

Prior to perusing this crushing rejoinder to our innocent little effort on army and civil life, we, in the full complacency of a fool's paradise, were unconscious of the fact that we had "deliberately libelled the life we have led out here," for, in agreement with the Rev. Thomas Davidson (the Editor of Chambers's Twentieth Century Dictionary of the English Language,) we were under the impression that the precise meaning of the word "libel" was "a malicious defamatory publication or statement," and we submit that the severest critic could find nothing libellous (when the word is used in this, and not in the "Herald" sense) in our laudatory remarks anent army life.

We apologise for the "insult to an intelligent man" conveyed in our unhappy perpetration of "an entirely exaggerated impression of our life out here," feeling sure that the printer whose lamentable error must have incensed "Morpheus" beyond measure, will extend a similar courtesy to the Editor of the Royal Sussex Herald, who must himself be bursting with "surpressed" annoyance,

"Truly," we are informed, "the writer's philosophy is a thing to marvel at." As is also the wonderful unanimity between "the utter ostracism that has been the lot of ninety-nine per cent of us since we came to India over three years ago," and the concluding paragraphs of the letters from "S. P. Cheesman" and "In the Ranks" on p. 104 of the February 15th, 1918 issue of our contemporary, which paragraphs we take the liberty of reproducing for the benefit of our readers:—

"I think at the same time I might put forward the appreciation on behalf of the battalion as a whole towards the ladies of Lahore in general who have all shown us such hospitality since our arrival in the station."

(Sd.) S. P. CHEESMAN.

"Shortly we shall go away, one more step on the journey home, and we shall take with us an indelible memory of those ladies, who, not overwhelmed by our members, have the courage and kindness of heart to cheer the lot of us strangers in a very strange land."

(Signed) In the Ranks.

Our critic observes.—"The whole thing seems so outrageously removed from reason that we are almost inclined to believe that the author has indulged in an attempt to pull his readers' leg; and the ponderous gravity of his condemnation of an article obviously frivolous in nature leaves us no alternative, but to wonder whose leg really has been pulled.

Nothing now remains, therefore, but to ascertain, in inches, (we almost said "feet") the precise extension of the member (whosoever it be) so that an order may be placed with some reputable manufacturers of artificial limbs, with a view to obtaining for the sufferer some contrivance by the use of which he may resume his perambulations of the "Green Footstool of God."

JULLUNDUR.

I.

I used ter think you was a perfect 'ell,
 In nineteen-umpteen, w'en you was my
 station;
 You, an' your 'eat an' cold an' dust an' smell,
 I wished the lot in blinkin' ot damnation.

II.

Two year I spent in barracks, off an' on,
 Commencin' Easter nineteen seventeen,
 An', till the time them 'orrid years was gone
 I swore you was the worst place as I'd seen.

III.

But now the war's all finished, an' the stink
 Of nigger villages is all fergotten,
 (Me bein' back at 'ome) w'y, strike me pink,
 I don't believe that you was 'arf as rotten.

IV.

As I made aht, you certainly was 'ot,
 In summer time, w'y 'Ades ran a second
 An' cold in winter too, but you was not
 Un'calthy, not as Indian talms is reckoned.

V.

And if there wasn't now'ere you could go
 At nights, an' this did get us rather neechy,
 If we 'ad stopped another year or so,
 We might 'ave 'ad some movin' picters—
 peechy.

VI.

I've cursed you good an' 'ard, when feelin' sore
 An' 'omesick, but I'm sorry, straight I am;
 An' if I 'ad ter come ter yer once more
 Gawd blime! w'y I wouldn't give a damn.

SEMPER EADEM.

A PRISONER, Gunner Grogan, E.
 To-day will be brought up to me
 For impudence and sloth:

Reveille only made him sneer;
 Aroused, he lipped a Bombadier
 (And very natural—both).
 And I shall counter, with disdain,
 His feeble efforts to explain
 Or justify such deeds.
 It will be funny if I fail
 To twist young Gunner Grogan's tail,
 That being what he needs.

I know he isn't really bad;
 Myself, I rather like the lad.
 (And loaths that Bombardier!)
 Beneath his buttoos—none too bright—
 May lurk the spirit of a knight—
 A thwarted cavalier.

For some who fought at Crecy, too,
 Snored on or scoffed when trumpets blew,
 And presently were caught;
 And when the clanking N.C.O.'s
 Came round to prod them, I suppose
 They up and spoke their thought.
 Then they were for it; up they went
 Paraded by the Prince's tent.

While he, to meet the crime,
 Recalled the nastiest words he knew,
 And learned the worst that he could do
 from "K. R." of the time.

And yet such criminals as those
 Did England proud with English bows
 As schoolboys have to read;
 And Gunner Grogan would to-day
 Prove every bit as stout as they
 Should there arise the need.

But just as heroes of Romance,
 Who dodged parades with half a chance,
 Were strafed—and mighty hard—

So likewise Gunner Grogan, E.,
 Employed in making history,
 Will do an extra guard.

SPORT AND ATHLETICS.

WITH so many men away from the Battalion, it cannot be a source of surprise that inter-company and even battalion games are not productive of such good play as in former seasons. However enthusiasm is by no means abated, and the hockey and football leagues are now in full swing.

Most of the teams have many new men, especially 'A' and 'B' Companies, who have lost nearly all their best men. 'C' and 'D' have been more fortunate, and their teams are not materially weakened by the exodus to Poona and other places. This good fortune extends also to the Battalion cricket team.

FOOTBALL.

1/25th Londons v. 21st Lancers.

(Murray Cup. Played at Meerut on January 14th).

The Lancers won the toss and set the Londons to face a strong wind and the sun. The former were easily the better team in the first half, and at the interval led by three clear goals.

In the second half, the Londons got into their stride and Whisstock scored the best goal of the match. Our team pressed for nearly the whole of the second half but could only score one goal. Duthoit and Whisstock were the pick of our team, which was:—

O'Gorman; L/Cpl. Clayton and Sgt. Duthoit; Petch, Sgt. Beswick and Cpl. Bartlett; Sgt. Sawkins, Gleeson, Sgt. Whisstock, Sgt. Hall and Pappin.

25TH LONDONS v. D. C. L. I.

(Played at Delhi on January 17th.)

The Londons won the toss and took advantage of a strong breeze.

They were easily the best team in the first half, and Yates scored a good goal from a pass by Whisstock.

Early in the second half, Whisstock came into collision with the goal keeper and had to leave the field, so for the remainder of the game we had to stand pressure from the Cornwalls forwards, but managed, however, to keep them out.

Our backs were very safe and Petch was the pick of the halves. Whisstock was our best forward until he was injured.

Our team was:—O'Gorman; L/Cpl. Clayton and Sgt. Duthoit; L/Cpl. Little, Petch and Cpl. Bartlett; Sgt. Sawkins, Phillips, Sgt. Whisstock, Cpl. Yates and Pappin.

SUSSEX v. LONDONS.

1ST ROUND DIVISIONAL TOURNAMENT. PLAYED AT LAHORE ON JANUARY 26TH.

The Londons lost the toss, and had to face a strong wind and the sun. The Sussex were the best team in the first half and scored the only goal which many thought was off-side.

The Londons bucked up in the second half and Gleeson scored a fine goal, but towards the end the Sussex scored the winning goal. This was a good match to watch and full of excitement. O'Gorman was great in goal and Smith

was well worth his place at outside right. We were without Sgt. Hall and L/C. Clayton, the team being:—

O'Gorman; Harbour and Sgt. Duthoit; Greenaway, Petch and Cpl. Bartlett; Smith, Gleeson, Sgt. Whisstock, Cpl. Yates and Pappin.

LONDONS v. 5th HANTS RESERVES.

(Played at Jullunder on February 2nd.)

This was a friendly match, and we lost by 4-2. The team played a poor game, Sgt. Hall and L/Cpl. Clayton dropping out just before the match. Our goals were scored by Sgt. Whisstock and Gilding.

Team:—O'Gorman; Shelton and Sgt. Duthoit; L/Cpl. Little, Petch and Greenaway; Smith, Gleeson, Sgt. Whisstock, Gilding and Pappin.

Referee:—Sgt. Rogers.

BATTALION v. 1093, BATTERY, R. F. A.

The return match with the R. F. A. was played on Saturday, the 22nd of February, on the R. F. A. ground.

We were without the services of Duthoit and Pappin, Shelton and Sawkins taking their places.

The first half opened evenly, and after fifteen minutes play Sawkin shot and hit the inside of the post. Hall ran up and finished off a good piece of work by placing the ball in the net.

Shortly afterwards the Battery scored with a long shot which beat our goalie all the way.

Half time arrived with the score one all, although on the run of the play we should have been at least one up. In the second half our men played better together, and early on Cotton scored from a centre by Smith. We continued to press and Greenaway took a pot-shot which found the net from a range of twenty-five yards. This is probably the best game the Battalion team have played since the Gharial days.

The half back line was the strongest part of our team, all three played well, especially Cosens at centre half.

Whisstock was very safe at back and I don't think he should be moved from there. Cotton played his first game for the Battalion and is certainly worth another trial.

Clayton worked hard and he gave Smith several chances of showing his speed on the wing.

Sawkins at outside left would do better if he centred more often instead of shooting.
Result: Londons 8, Battery 1.

Team: O'Gorman; Sgt. Whisstock and Shelton; Petch, Cosens and Greenaway; Smith, L/Cpl. Clayton, Sgt. Hall, Cotton and Sgt. Sawkins.

LONDONS CORPORALS v. BATTERY CORPORALS.

This match was played off on Friday 14th of February and resulted in a win for us by two goals to one. We were one down at half time although on the run of the game we should have led. In the second half Clayton scored two goals. Hawkins and Clayton were the pick of our men and the goalie played well for the opposing team.

COBB CUP LEAGUE.

In this League, "D" Coy. have perhaps the strongest side on paper, and they have several players who have improved of late, notably Petch and Cotton. The match between "C" and "D" was full of thrills, and a draw was a fair result, both goals having narrow escapes.

"B" Coy., who have been especially hard hit in the loss of so many of their men, are at present at the bottom of the league, but they may pull up when some of their men return.

Results:—

"A" Coy.	1 v. "B" Coy.	0
"D"	7 v. "B"	2
"D"	2 v. "A"	1
"B"	1 v. H. Q.	0
H. Q.	4 v. "A" Coy.	1
"D" Coy.	0 v. "C"	0
"C"	6 v. "B"	0
"D"	6 v. H. Q.	0

LEAGUE TABLE.

	Played.	Won.	Drawn.	Lost.	Goals.		Pts.
					For	against.	
"D"	4	3	1	0	15	3	5
"C"	2	1	1	0	6	0	3
"H. Q."	3	1	...	2	4	8	2
"A"	3	1	...	2	3	6	2
"B"	4	1	...	3	3	14	2

CRICKET.

ON their visit to Pindi, the cricket team met with varied fortune, sustaining an inning's defeat in the match with the Gymkhana, and inflicting a similar reverse on the M. G. C. The scores in the first match were:—

GYMKHANA

Maj. Watson-Smythe b. Vaughan	...	...	0
Capt. Ritchie b. Chapman	...	...	73
Mr. Hargreaves c. Chapman, b. Vaughan	...	...	25
Maj. Luck b. Wickens	...	...	53
Mr. Cullen c. Capt. Paget b. Milliken	...	...	88
Maj. Leapman b. Vaughan	...	...	49
Mr. Helme c. Topham, b. Chapman	...	...	4
Mr. Skinner not out	...	...	20
Mr. Symonds b. Vaughan	...	...	0
Mr. Danholm b. Vaughan	...	...	9
Capt. Myles c. Browning, b. Vaughan	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	7
Total	...	...	338

LONDONS.

First Innings.		Second Innings.	
Hall S. G. c. and b. Leapman	19	run out	6
Browning b. Leapman	36	run out	1
Barley b. Symonds	1	l. b. w. b. Symonds	3
Chapman l. b. w. b. Cullen	32	c. Ritchie, b. Symonds	17
Wickens c. and b. Leapman	13	c. Smith, b. Symonds	3
Vaughan run out	6	c. Danholm, b. Skinner	14
Capt. Paget not out	29	b. Symonds	20
Pierz b. Cullen	8	c. Luck, b. Myles	21
Topham b. Cullen	4	b. Symonds	0
Young c. and b. Cullen	3	b. Leapman	1
Milliken b. Cullen	0	not out	33
Extras	8		12
Total	158	Total	131

our team being thus beaten by an innings and 49 runs. Vaughan took six wickets for 94.

In the second game, the tables were turned. Scores:—

LONDONS.

Wickens l. b. w. b. Kenny	...	...	84
Chapman run out	...	...	3
Hall b. Hargreaves	...	...	14
Vaughan b. Hargreaves	...	...	3
Milliken l. b. w. b. Kenny	...	...	24
Browning b. Hargreaves	...	...	51
Pierz b. Sutcliffe	...	...	4
Balk b. Kenny	...	...	32
Topham c. and b. Kenny	...	...	24
Barley b. Hargreaves	...	...	9
Young not out	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	21
Total	...	...	268

M. G. C.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Sutcliffe b. Vaughan	3	l. b. w. b. Pierz	8
Draper c. Milliken b. Wickens	1	run out	0
Lieut. Hargreaves b. Wickens	12	l. b. w. b. Browning	12
Hargreaves l. b. w. b. Wickens	23	b. Browning	9
Kenny b. Wickens	...	c. Browning, b. Topham	3
Lafferty b. Pierz	27	c. Young, b. Hall	0
Carmichael l. b. w. b. Browning	6	l. b. w. b. Hall	1
Davis not out	13	b. Topham	2
Fielder b. Browning	1	not out	1
Lytham c. Vaughan b. Pierz	1	c. and b. Balk	23
Luckman run out	1	b. Barley	13
Extras	3		9
Total	91	Total	81

KAPURTHALA v. LONDONS.

Kapurthala batted first and scored 187.

L.-Cpl. Pierce bowled well taking 4 for 26.

L.-Cpl. Vaughan took 3 for 44. Chapman 2 for 19.

Londons 124 for 9.

Capt. Herriot 33.

Chapman 26.

Lt. Lamberton 20.

Hall 18.

HOCKEY.

The Company league hockey matches results are as follows:—

"B" Coy. 2 c. "C" Coy. 1

"B" " 3 c. "C" " 1

"D" " 1 c. "B" " 0

"D" " 3 c. H. Q. " 2

"C" " 0 c. " " 0

"CHOTA."

WITH THE ATHLETES IN CALCUTTA.

The first meeting at which the Battalion Athletic Team competed was the 20th Annual Y.M.C.A. Meeting held at Calcutta, on December 28th after a lapse of four years owing to the war.

From the Battalion's point of view this meeting was notable for the success of Sgt. Mesley and the new men in the team. Everyone was pleased at the success of Sgt. Mesley, for he is always one of our keenest men, and has undoubtedly been decidedly unlucky in many of his races. It was also very gratifying to find the two newcomers so soon justifying their inclusion in the team.

Coming to the races themselves, Sgt. Mesley got into the final of the Open Amateur 100 Yards against such prominent men as Duffy, Hildreth, Rossetti, Ford and Knight, absolutely the best civilian runners in the country. Unfortunately he was unable to run in the final of this race, as the final of the Military 100 Yards took place less than 5 minutes after, and it was obvious he could not do both.

The final of the Military 100 Yards resulted in Sgt. Mesley being beaten by inches in 10½ seconds, a great improvement on 11 secs., his previous best. As the Amateur 100 Yards was won in 10½ seconds, Duffy and Rossetti running a dead heat, it would have been interesting to see what Sgt. Mesley would have done.

Sgt. F. G. Jones accounted for the Open Amateur Half Mile as we expected, with L.-Cpl. Pyett a good second.

In the British Army 440 Yards, Sgt. Mesley drew outside position, but got well away, secured position on the first bend and ran right away from his field to win in 57 seconds. Here again one of the newcomers, Dmr. Nash ran a good race and secured second place against many experienced runners.

The Open Amateur Long Jump and British Army Long Jump were combined. L.-Cpl. Pyett though unable to get in any previous practice, secured second place in the British Army Jump and third in the Open.

The British Army Relay Race proved to be an easy thing for the Londons. Sgt. Jones led off and handed the baton over with a short lead. This was materially increased at each take over the Londons finally winning very easily in 2 minutes, 53 seconds. The team consisted of Sgts. Jones, Treble, Mesley, L.-Cpl. Pyett and Dmr. Nash. Sgt. Basing unfortunately got a touch

(Continued on next page).

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

After the heavy rains of the first few days of February, a few enthusiasts decided that the ground was sufficiently soft for a "Rugger" match. The result was a happy little scrap, no one was hurt, and H. M. Troops, the majority of whom had not seen a Rugby game before, were highly amused. The match was arranged between the Londons and the Officers of the Station and the result was Londons one goal (5 points), Station six tries (18 points).

The match itself was little better than a scramble, many of the players on both sides seemed to have forgotten the rules and the "ref" contented himself with stopping the game only for the more flagrant breaches. The Station threes however were not too bad. The interchange of cheers at the finish brought to many of us melancholy remembrances of the old days at Richmond and Twickenham—for what is left of the old London Rugger set will now have to curse their luck from a seat in the stand while the game is played by school-boys.

Another match was arranged two days later in which the Londons shaped much better, winning by two goals and two tries (16 points) to one try (3 points). "Derby" Hall turned out and shewed promise of developing into a really good wing "three," once he learns the rules.

of the sun in the Half Mile, which was run early and was unable to take any further part in the sports.

On January 28th, the Bengal Athletic Association ran a meeting open to Amateurs, which though perhaps not quite of the class of the Y. M. C. A. Meeting presented a chance for our team to get experience in racing, which is worth a deal more than training. The team was therefore entered and perhaps it was just as well, for we ran up against a strong team of the South Lanes.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ Mile Open was won by a very fine runner of the S. Lanes, Lieut. Jarman in 54 $\frac{1}{2}$ with L.-Cpl. Pyett close up. A fine performance on the part of L.-Cpl. Pyett this, to beat 55 seconds in his second race.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ Mile again resulted in an easy win for Sgt. Jones though Lieut. Jarman made a determined effort to hold him over the first 600 yards. Credit is due here to L.-Cpl. Pyett who took Sgt. Jones along in fine style for the greater part of the journey. In this event Sgt. Perry, the winner of the Novice Mile at Jullundur, ran exceedingly well to get into third place. Taken in hand he will undoubtedly prove a welcome addition to the team.

At this meeting we blossomed out in a new direction, our trainer, L.-Cpl. Holford coming out as a cricket ball thrower. He put in a fine first throw of 98 yards which stood, till near the end when it was just beaten by N. C. Blazey of Sibpur College.

Sgt. Mesley had an attack of fever on this day, so was unable to do anything. This seriously affected our Relay Team, Mesley being one of our fastest men over 352 yards, and though his substitute Sgt. Perry ran very well, the S. Lanes just beat us. The Londons led until the last man went off, but Lt. Jarman proved just too good for him and the S. Lanes won a narrow victory.

Team:—Sgt. Jones, Sgt. Perry, L.-Cpl. Pyett and Dmr. Nash.

The Calcutta North Club's 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ Miles Walk.—This took place the following day, January 19th, and here we had rather a surprise, Pte. Perkins beating Cpl. Porter by a yard in 1 hour 30 minutes, 6 minutes faster than last year, which itself was a record for the course. Third, fourth and fifth places were filled by representatives of the South Lanes, with Sgt. Gambles of the 2-6th Royal

Sussex seventh. Perkins has come along tremendously and is to be heartily congratulated on his fine walking.

THE KALIGHAT SPORTS ASSOCIATION.

This meeting was held on the 1st February and here we had five Challenge Trophies to defend.

In the 100 yards Flat Race, Sgt. Mesley again got into the final, but failed to get placed, the race going to three civilians. Time 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ seconds.

Our only representative in the 150 yards handicap was Pte. Ward who ran off the rather short mark, for a novice of 6 yards. The race was won by the limit man with Ward a good third. Time 16 seconds.

Throwing the Cricket Ball.—Here our honorary trainer again put up a good throw of 99 yards, 6 inches short of the second man. Had he thrown straight he would have secured second place. The winning throw was 105 yards.

220 Yards Flat Race.—This looked a good thing for Sgt. Mesley, who was running finely till he got on the bend, when he was badly pushed by Hildreth and put out of the race. Lt. Jarman of the S. Lanes, won in 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ seconds.

440 Yards Flat Race.—This was a particularly fine race, L.-Cpl. Pyett fighting Lt. Jarman all the way, to beat him by a yard in 55 seconds. In this race L.-Cpl. Pyett beat at least six of the crack quarter milers of India. A fine performance for one of our "novices."

300 Yards Handicap.—Again the limit man won, and again Pte. Ward ran a good third off 8 yards' start. Time 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ seconds. Pte. Ward's running in these two events proved that he is yet another valuable acquisition to the team.

One Mile Walk.—This of course was a good thing for the Londons. Cpl. Porter and Pte. Perkins led all the way till the home straight, when Cpl. O'Day of the S. Lanes, by an obvious run forced his way to the front only to be disqualified. Pte. Perkins who went after O'Day won by 2 yards from Cpl. Porter. Sgt. Gambles of the Royal Sussex retired after one lap.

880 Yards Flat Race.—This again proved a good thing for Sgt. Jones. L.-Cpl. Pyett made the pace for about 500 yards when Sgt. Jones took up the running to win easily in 2 minutes 9 seconds. Sgt. Perry finished a good third.

The Two Miles Cycle Race which unfortunately did not count towards the Team Cup

also proved a good thing for the Londons. L.-Cpl. Parkinson went out for the lap prize and led at every lap, whilst Warren cleverly kept the rest of the riders from him. Warren won in 6 minutes 0½ seconds with L.-Cpl. Parkinson close up for second place.

One Mile Flat.—This was a curious race inasmuch as Sgt. Jones had his field beat by 40 yards with half a lap to go, when Pte. McCoy of the S. Lanes. put in a most unexpected burst and with a jump at the tape won by a foot in 4 minutes 55½ seconds. There was no question as to the better man, it was simply a surprise win. This fluke win proved most expensive for us as it lost Sgt. Jones the big cup for the best individual at the meeting, the team cup, and the Relay Race which was won by the S. Lanes by a yard, Sgt. Jones being unable to run. Here again the Relay would have been a gift for us with a full team.

The competition for the individual cup resulted in Sgt. Jones, Lt. Jarman and Duffy tying with 19 points each.

The Team Cup went to the Lanes. with 66 points, the Londons being second with 61 points.

MOHUN BAGAN ATHLETIC MEETING.

We entered the above meeting because the S. Lanes. and a few other military representatives were entered, but on arriving at the meeting decided not to compete, except in the walk.

Cpl. Porter won easily with Pte. Perkins second and Sgt. Gambles a bad third. One or two of the other events were won by the S. Lanes. but we did not think it up to us to oppose them.

THE BENGAL PRESIDENCY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

This meeting, which is the premier athletic meeting in India, has not been held since 1914. For the first time in the history of the meeting Territorials and Regulars competed together for the fine Sir Geo. White Challenge Shield. The principal regiments represented were the N. Staffs, S. Lanes, Kings, Duke of Wellingtons, Bedfords and No. 6 Mountain Battery. Thus the London Regiment were the only Territorial Regiment to try their strength against the Regulars. The shield is awarded to the regiment whose representatives obtain the largest number of points. Points are assigned to the first three in each race, as follows: First 12 points;

Second 7 points; Third 4 points. Looking at the regiments represented, the Londons appeared to have the strongest all round team, for we had men capable of getting a place in each race. The writer speaking before the meeting stated that given that little bit of luck which has been missing for so long Championship Shield, Relay and Cycle Race were all in our hands, but Fortune turned her back still more upon us, inasmuch that L.-Cpl. Pyett was unable to turn out owing to a very badly strained tendon and Sgt. Perry's leg would not stand more than one race. L.-Cpl. Pyett is the most improved runner in the battalion and would undoubtedly have earned us a few points. Also with him in the team we should have won the Relay Race, which would have won us a further 5 points. Then again Sgt. Treble though perhaps a trifle *passé*, would have proved very useful in the 1,000 Yards, Mile and Marathon, if he had been able to run.

100 Yards Flat Race.—Sgt. Mesley just failed to get up in the fastest heat, and lack of training told on Sgt. Hall who also failed to get placed. Pte. Ward ran well and finished second to Lt. Jarman in the third heat. The final was a fiasco, Sgt. Stephenson of the Kings, beating the pistol by 6 yards winning in 10½ secs. Pte. Ward came through in fine style to finish third, thus securing the first points for his team.

1,000 Yards Flat Race.—Sgt. Jones was our only representative in this race. The start was slow, but Sgt. Jones went to the front and soon began to draw away. He secured a lead of some 20 yards, which he held until 200 yards from home, when that fine runner L.-Cpl. Smith of the N. Staffs, put in one of his fast bursts, caught and passed him to win in 2 mins, 24 secs. Sgt. Jones was a good second.

The 600 Yards Flat Race was the next event of interest to us, with Sgt. Jones again our only competitor, as it was decided to rest Sgt. Mesley that he might be fresh for the 440 Yards and the Relay. This race resulted in another fine win for L.-Cpl. Smith in 1 min 16½ secs. Lt. Jarman being second and Sgt. Jones a good third.

The 440 Yards Flat Race we hoped would be a good thing for Sgt. Mesley. He got well away and forced the pace well, but coming

round the last bend got badly spiked. However he gamely carried on to secure third place. This race provided L-Cpl. Smith with his third win in the fast time of 51½ secs. A really great performance considering he had already won two hard races in the 1,000 yards and 600 yards.

In the Mile Flat our only representative was Pte. Green who ran exceedingly well for 3½ laps, getting some 40 yards away from the rest of the field only to lose the race, through that old trouble of his, lack of finish. This race went to Bdr. O'Connor, No. 6 Mountain Battery, with Sgt. Roberts, Kings Regiment, second, and Needham of the Duke of Wellingtons, third.

Relay Race.—This was the last event on the programme and proved to be the most exciting of the day. Sgt. Jones led off and handed over with a lead of 8 yards, this was increased by the exceedingly good take over of the baton, and the running of Dmr. Nash, to over 20 yards. Sgt. Perry took over next and again ran a good race but was overhauled by the S. Lanes. man; and Lt. Jarman and Mesley went off together for the final lap. Sgt. Mesley though badly spiked and shaken, ran a splendid quarter and all the way up the home straight it was a matter of inches. Lt. Jarman had those inches, and try as he would Mesley could not get them back. Thus we lost our third relay through having a first class man away. Given L-Cpl. Pyett we should have had the race and broken Indian record.

Thus the position at the end of the afternoon was as follows:—

North Staffs. Regt.	.. 36 points.
1-25th London Regt.	.. 26 "
South Lanes. Regt.	... 26 "
Kings Regt.	... 23 "

The only amateur race we were represented in, i.e., the 2 Mile Cycle Race, created a great deal of interest. Our representative Dmr. Warren and L-Cpl. Parkinson made up their minds to go away from the rest of the field, and riding lap and lap soon got clear. A close finish resulted in a win for Warren by about half a wheel in the fast time of 5 mins. 26½ secs.

The Marathon Race (about 8½ miles)—This also counted towards the shield; but we did not fancy our chances much, for we had no one trained for the distance.

The Marathon Race should have been run on the following Monday; but a deluge made it impossible; and it was postponed till Tuesday. Bombr. Burrows the winner of the Bombay Marathon led from start to finish and won well in 45 mins. 30 secs.

Pte. Dodge of the Duke of Wellingtons was second about 300 yards behind, and Cpl. Waterman of the S. Lanes. third.

Sgt. Jones of 'ours' was 8th and is to be complimented on finishing; as his longest training run was 1 mile.

Thus the final position for the shield, was—

North Staffs. Regt.	... 36 points.
S. Lanes. Regt.	... 30 "
1-25th London Regt	... 26 "
No. 6 Mountain Battery, R.	
A., Peshawar	... 24 "
Kings L'pool Regt.	... 23 "
Duke of Wellingtons Regt.	... 12 "
1st G. B. Bedford Regt.	... 7 "
	O. H. B.

BOXING.

A Regimental Boxing Tournament was held in the Theatre, Wellington Barracks, on the evening of Feb. 1st and proved to be a very interesting and enjoyable function. The internal arrangement of the theatre reflected great credit on the promoters of the tournament.

In the first round of the Novices 9 stone, Pte. Smith, 1/5th Hants, beat Pte. Cotton, 1/25th Londons, on points, and Gunner Burnier, 1093rd Battery, beat Pte. O'Gorman. The latter bout was productive of some rather wild work, with the gunner securing the verdict on points after three rounds.

In the final Gunner Burnier, beat Pte. Smith on points.

FIRST ROUND NOVICES 10 STONE:—

Pte. Stone, 1/25th Londons, beat Gunner Davis, 1093rd Battery, on points. Bdr. Elbow, 1093rd Battery, W. O., Gr. Stamp, 1093rd Battery, scratched.

In the final Pte. Stone, beat Bdr. Elbow after a rough bout, in which both men held a good deal. Stone, however, proved better at in-fighting and, after an extra round, he was awarded the verdict on points.

The first Four Round Contest saw Dmr. Mockler, 1/25th Londons, knocked out by Pte. Nass, 1/4th Queens. Mockler was much fancied for this contest, but in the first few seconds of

the first round he received a short right hook over the eye which dropped him. His head came into violent contact with the floor thus stunning him.

SECOND FOUR ROUND CONTEST:—

L/Cpl. Mitton, 1/25th Londons, beat Bds. Brooks, 1/25th Londons, after an uninteresting bout.

THIRD FOUR ROUND CONTEST:—

Cpl. Hawkins, 9 stone 8lb., 1/25th Londons, beat Cpl. Holmes, 9 stone 7lb., 4/5th Queens. The first round opened very cautiously, but Hawkins soon realised his superiority, and, dealing very kindly with his opponent, proved an easy winner on points. Although overmatched Holmes put up a very game show, and was awarded the prize of Rs. 20 offered by the Commanding Officer to the best loser.

FOURTH FOUR ROUND CONTEST:—

Pte. Hope, 9 stone, 1/25th Londons, drew with Bds. Osborn, 9 stone, 1/4th Queens. A very even contest. Hope used a straight left with advantage while Osborn depended on two handed work. Although there was nothing to choose between the two in the contest, Osborn proved to be the stronger man.

FIFTH FOUR ROUND CONTEST:—

L/Cpl. Edwards, 9 stone 8lb., 1/4th Queens, beat Pte. C. Young, 9 stone 7lb., 1/25th Londons. The first round showed hard and fast fighting, with Young ahead; the second was equally fast and very clean, Young receiving a heavy punch to the jaw which shook him badly. Subsequently he forced the fighting, but stopped a punch in the body which put him out.

SPECIAL SIX ROUND CONTEST:—

Sergt. C. J. White, 10 stone 9lb., 1/25th Londons, beat Pte. Goldberg, 2/6th Royal Sussex.

In this contest C.J.'s original opponent was Sgt. Lansdell of the Queens, but the latter damaged his hand whilst training, and was thus unable to box, and Goldberg (Kid Taylor of Bermondsey) arranged to take his place.

The first round opened with fairly fast fighting, White using his left hook with advantage, and Goldberg relying on two handed boxing. White shook his man badly at the end of the round with a very heavy left hook.

The second round opened tamely, and finished by White's opponent taking the count, though it was difficult to see why.

Brigadier-General R. E. H. Dyer, C. B., I. A., was present with his staff and distributed the prizes. Lieut.-Col. B. M. Hynes was also present. The officials were:—

Referees:—Lieut. M'Intyre, 1093rd Battery, R.F.A.

Lieut. F.E. Cormack, 79th Battery, R.F.A.

Judges:—Capt. G.M. Somerville, 11th Lancers, Lieut. Burt, 1/25th Londons.

Lieut. Livermore, 1/25th Londons.

M. C.:—R. S. M. Furman.

(Much disappointment was caused among the audience by the M. C. not wearing his brass helmet while officiating.)

NORTHERN ARMY CHAMPIONSHIPS.

(Lahore Feb. 10th).

Light weights semi final, Cpl. V. Hawkins, 1/25th Londons v. Sgt. Harrison, S. L. I.

The first round opened with both men going cautiously, but Harrison soon attempted to force the pace. Hawkins however showed superior defence and footwork. An even round.

In the second round, both men put in some fast and clever work, each landing effectually and Hawkins being slightly ahead on points.

The third round was fast two handed fighting all through. Harrison, being the stronger man, put in more work at the end of the round, and was awarded the verdict.

Special Six Round Contest.—Cpl. Hawkins v. Sgt. Smith, S. Lanes.

In the first three rounds the fighting was fast and even, Hawkins depending on straight left and right jabs, and showing very smart footwork, while Smith used both hands and tried to force the pace.

Hawkins had obtained a slight lead on points, but the fourth and fifth rounds saw Smith still forcing the pace, and landing more effectively. At the end of the fifth round the men were about equal on points.

In the sixth round, Smith, who was the stronger man, gained a slight advantage. The result was a win for Smith on points. This contest was the most skilful of the whole tournament, and the general opinion was that a draw would have met the case.

Middle Weights:—Sgt. C. J. White v. Pte. Goodwin, S. Lanes.

White was awarded the verdict on a foul after two rough and scrambling rounds.

Semi-final.—Sgt. C. J. White v. Sgt. Singleton, 1st Yorks.

This bout lasted about 20 seconds only, when White put his man down with a left hook.

Final.—Sgt. C. J. White v. Pte. Stagg, D. L. I.

First Round.—Very cautious fighting, while trying for a left hook, and Stagg using both hands, and holding and smothering White. Stagg's round.

Second Round.—Fast and hard fighting. White shook his man badly with left hooks. Stagg covered up well and occasionally landed right swings. White's round.

Third Round.—Very hard fighting, both men going for a knock-out, and each nearly succeeding. Stagg gave up his covering tactics, and went in for a fight. White received a right swing to the jaw which shook him badly and but a little later, very nearly put Stagg down for the count.

The verdict went to Stagg on points.

BILLIARDS.

Londons' Corporals v. Junior N. C. O.'s, 1093 Battery.

This match, played "at home" on the "carry-on" principle proved for the most part to be a very close thing, the Artillery leading until towards the end of the seventh game, at which period Price with a few useful breaks put us ahead, leaving the table with the scores at.—Londons 590, Battery 572.

Jemmett, our last man, in his that evening's form was too good for his opponent and scoring 117 in the half hour left us the victors by 83.

The scoring on the whole was not exceptional, Cpl. Jenkins of the Battery (121), Cpl. Jemmett (117) and L/Cpl. Price (114) being the only ones to complete their centuries.

FINAL SCORES.—Londons 707,
1093 Battery 624.

BATTALION HANDICAP.

This handicap attracted sixty-four entries and some very exciting games were played, especially those between Price and Hall, and the final between Newman and Goulding.

The semi-finalists were Goulding v. Lilley and Newman v. Price, and the final was fought out between Newman and Goulding. Newman won by three.

These handicaps are very popular and attract full houses every night.

Another handicap is being played and there are eighty entries.

TENNIS.

A very interesting tournament was played between H. Q. and "C" Coy. on the Officers' courts at Jullundur, February 20th. "C" Coy. being in good form proved too good for their opponents, the result being an easy victory.

TEAMS:—H. Q.—Major Swinnerton, Mr. Francis, R. S. M. Furman, C. S. M. Burnett, C./Sgt. Suttle, B. M. Tilson, Sgt. Death, Sig. Cuddeford, L/Cpl. Court, and Sig. Creed.

"C" Coy:—Capt. Hatch, Sgt. Davidson, Lieut. Morton, Sgt. Jones, L. Sgt. Applegate, Bdmn Faulder, Cpl. Strange, L/Cpl. Wright, Sgt. Brace and Cpl. Jemmett.

RESULT:—"C" Coy. won by 17 sets to 8 and 136 games to 95.

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