

An t-Óglách

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Price TWOPENCE.



THE G.O.C. LIMERICK.

Drawn by Frank Leah from a special sitting.

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Óglaigh
na hÉireann
DEFENCE FORCES IRELAND

An t-Óglách

JUNE 2, 1923.

ESPRIT-DE-CORPS.

In the military history of the world, in the separate and individual histories of national armies, in the more particular record of regiments and battalions it has always been observed that esprit de corps and efficiency travel hand in hand. One might be truly described as the handmaid of the other. Where men develop this spirit to a high degree in any unit of an army, so surely will discipline, soldierly bearing and devotion to duty follow in its train.

With the development and organisation of the Army in its present advanced stage, it is not inopportune to consider this matter on the basis of our present units. The esprit de corps of a battalion is not frequently the criterion of its worth in the general Army scheme. And esprit de corps, strictly interpreted, is the development of that spirit of pride in one's own unit, that jealous regard for its efficiency, smart appearance, the soldierly bearing and courage of its individual soldierly units, that constitutes the good record of the corps, battalion, or company, as the case may be.

The creation of this healthy spirit of pride, this enervating spirit of emulation is not confined to any one particular rank; it should permeate all ranks in the battalion, from the private to the Officer Commanding. In its action and effect it should be apparent in every unit of the battalion organisation.

The Squad leader should aim at having his unit one of the most efficient in its section. He should aim at having his men smart and soldierly in appearance, efficient in their drill, creditable to himself as leader and to the squad as a whole, in their musketry and general field training.

Similarly in the section; the men should aim at being the best in their company, and the jealous guardians of its reputation for honour, manliness, the soldierly virtues of discipline, smartness in appearance, and attachment to duty.

In the company, the tactical unit of the battalion, one must look for even a more intensive development of the spirit of esprit de corps. With what pride the true soldier and the true citizen, watches an efficient and smart company of troops swing by; a company where attention is given to the little details that count. It is for the Company Commander, equally with the Battalion Commander, to see that his unit is up to a high standard.

In the battalion one looks for the consummate effect of this splendid spirit. There one sees the net result of the individual effort towards efficiency, the esprit de corps of the squad, the section, and the company, massed on one perfect harmonious scheme. It is the spirit in which each acts for all, and all for each. The soldierly bearing of the Private, who takes pride in his unit, is two-fold: it reflects on himself and on his Commander.

The spirit of an energetic Commander who is satisfied with only the best his men can give, ultimately creates a sense of responsibility and effort in the ranks, that indelibly stamps the Battalion.

These are things to be sought after in our battalions.

The efficiency of the Army is the sum total of the efficiency of its separate units.

OUR FRONT PAGE PORTRAIT.

MAJOR-GENERAL M. BRENNAN, G.O.C.
LIMERICK COMMAND.

Major-General Brennan, third son of the late Mr. Patrick Brennan, was born in the parish of Meelick, four miles from Limerick City, 26 years ago. He was educated at St. Munchin's College, Limerick, his parents intending him for one of the learned professions.

As early as 1912 young Brennan was a leader of Fianna boys in Limerick, and, a few years later, one of the first members of the Irish Volunteers in the City of the Violated Treaty. Though still a boy in years, Micheal so impressed the Committee in Limerick by his energy, enthusiasm and his capacity for organisation, that he was soon co-opted a member of the Committee, sharing in the Councils, and tendering his contributions in the discussions which were in those days of no small importance as affecting the future of the organisation.

Next, he was out in his native parish, Meelick, organising the young blood in the ranks of the Irish Volunteers. Early in 1916 he was arrested for a "seditious" speech delivered to the Volunteers in Meelick. He was released a short time afterwards only to find himself again arrested a few days before the eventful Easter of 1916. This period of incarceration was mostly spent in Reading Jail, until Christmas Eve of the same year.

Shortt's "German Plot" was responsible for another "holiday" in Wetherby, in Yorkshire, whence Micheal and four or five other deportees took "French" leave after a period of three months of incarceration. After the escape from Wetherby he settled in Dublin, where he remained until the Asquith Amnesty, when he returned to Clare to help in the East Clare election contest. About a week after the election Micheal, with his brothers Padraig and Austin, was arrested on a charge of illegal drilling. In this connection it is worthy of note that General Brennan, with his two brothers, was the first who proclaimed open drilling, and at the subsequent trial, which resulted in a sentence of two years' "hard," to refuse to recognise the jurisdiction of the British courts.

A ten days' hunger strike in Cork jail followed. From Cork they were removed to Mountjoy, where, shortly afterwards, they took part in the famous hunger strike which culminated in the death of Thomas Ashe.

From Mountjoy Micheal was transferred to Dundalk, where he found it again necessary to adopt the hunger strike weapon to regain the rights which, conceded after the death of Thomas Ashe, had been quickly violated. His hunger strike in Dundalk lasted until December, 1917, when he was again released, returning once more to Co. Clare.

Practically the whole of the year 1918 he spent in jail—portion in Dundalk (where again there was a hunger strike), the balance in Belfast. From this latter prison he was released after a severe attack of "flu," at Christmas, 1918.

From the beginning of 1919, until the Truce General Brennan was a "much wanted" man by the Army of Occupation, and a poster bearing his photograph, and offering a large sum for his apprehension, was circulated amongst the members of the British Forces in Ireland.

The first barracks to fall in Ireland—Newmarket-on-Fergus Police Barracks—fell to him and five Volunteers. From that onwards he was continually on active service, his operations extending not alone over Clare, but in Limerick and Galway as well. In an engagement in a village not far from Limerick his arm was smashed by a bullet.

Prior to the Truce his superiors entrusted him with the work of reorganising the Volunteers in Galway. Shortly afterwards he was appointed Brigadier, and later promoted to the rank of Divisional Commandant of the 1st Western Division. During the occupation of Limerick City by the Anti-Free State people General Brennan was in command of the National Troops, and last October was finally appointed to his present position, G.O.C. Limerick Command.

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IRISHMEN OF ACTION.

V.—PATRICK SARSFIELD.

"But it was still a deeper joy to set before my soul,
The names that burn the brightest on my land's historic scroll—
To feel whate'er in life or death was beautiful and grand,
Ordnained me to the ministry of struggling for that land."

Patrick Sarsfield, the son of the proprietor of the manor lands of Lucan, Co. Dublin, was born in the year 1650. His father was descended from a long line of Norman Knights, and his mother was the daughter of the famous Rory O'Moore, the leader of the men of 1641, in their struggle against the foes of their faith and fatherland. Young Sarsfield being intended for "the soldier's glorious trade," was educated at a military college in France, and on the completion of his scholastic career he was appointed to an ensigncy in the Regiment of Monmouth. Here he distinguished himself on several occasions, and when the unfortunate James II. ascended the throne of England we find Patrick Sarsfield risen to the rank of Colonel. The rebellion of the Duke of Monmouth in 1685, saw Sarsfield on active service in England, and we learn that he bore a not undistinguished part at the Battle of Sedgemoor, where he had the misfortune to be wounded while leading his regiment in the charge that decided the fortunes of the day.

KING BILLY.

When William, Prince of Orange, landed in England, Sarsfield was in Ireland on the staff of the Duke of Tyrconnell, but soon orders were given for his immediate departure with a cavalry regiment, for the scene of hostilities. It was at the little town of Wincanton that our Irish soldier first crossed swords with the adherents of William, and as the result of that meeting the Dutch Prince made overtures to Sarsfield for the purpose of inducing him to join his standard. The offers made on behalf of William were indignantly refused by the Irish leader who elected to follow the broken cause of James II.

In March, 1689, James II. landed in Ireland, and in his company came Colonel Patrick Sarsfield, some Irish troops and about 100 French officers. The command of the province of Connacht was given to Sarsfield, and how well he carried out the work entrusted to him may be judged from a document written by the great French soldier, General D'Avaux, who accompanied James to Ireland. D'Avaux says:—"Sarsfield is a man distinguished by his merit, who has more influence in this kingdom than any man I know. . . . He has valour, but, above all, honour and probity, which is proof against assault."

BOYNE BATTLE AND AFTER.

While in command in the West, Sarsfield raised over 2,000 men for the standard of James, and when the fateful day at the Boyne arrived he was on the field with this force under his command, but was obliged to remain an inactive spectator of the conflict.

After the battle the Irish army, or what remained of it, retreated to the west of the Shannon, contesting every yard of the way, and driving off repeated attacks made by the victory-flushed Williamites.

Athlone was next besieged by the forces of one General Douglas, and a determined effort was made to capture the town, but, on learning that Sarsfield was on his way to the relief of the garrison, Douglas and his forces hastily withdrew.

THE SIEGE TRAIN EXPLOIT.

In the early days of August, William appeared before Limerick with a force of 25,000 men, and prepared to lay siege to the town. Tryconnell and the French General, Lazun, were for making terms with the Dutchman, but Sarsfield and the Irish were determined to defend the town to the death. After many

councils of war Sarsfield gained his point, and was made second in command of the Jacobite army. Now occurred one of the most famous incidents of the whole Jacobite campaign in Ireland, and to our Irish soldier belongs the credit of organising and carrying through the exploit.

Hearing that a great store of ammunition and a large part of artillery were on the way to the Williamite camp, Sarsfield determined to intercept them. With a picked body of cavalry he crossed the rear of the Williamite army, and, proceeding a distance of some dozen miles into the fastnesses of the mountains he waited for the oncoming siege train.

An extra guard of 500 men had been despatched by William to meet the supply train, and his force conveyed the cavalcade to within five miles of the camp. Here they rested for the night, and when the camp was sleeping Sarsfield fell upon them, and put large numbers to the sword. The cannon were then filled with their own gunpowder, their muzzles were buried in the ground, all the wagons and baggage were piled on the top, and then a train being laid the whole was blown to atoms. The explosion was heard at a distance of 15 miles.

THE SIEGE OF LIMERICK.

After this daring coup Sarsfield cut his way through the



SARSFIELD.

(From an old engraving.)

Williamites, who tried to prevent his escape, and entered Limerick in triumph. William was greatly enraged at the loss of the siege train, and ordered an immediate assault on the town.

For nearly three weeks the soldiers of the Dutchman continually attacked the walls, but to no avail. Time after time breaches were made, through which the assaulting troops poured in, but, again and again, they were forced to retire before the headlong dash of Sarsfield's gallant garrison. At length, William ordered a cessation of hostilities, and suddenly the besiegers withdrew.

In 1691 Sarsfield was created Earl of Lucan, and during the early spring he inflicted severe losses on the enemy troops who essayed to cross the Shannon. An unfortunate quarrel with St. Ruth, the French Commander, lost Athlone and Aughrim for the Jacobites, and Sarsfield was obliged to again take up a defensive position in Limerick.

THE TREATY.

From the middle of July until September, Limerick was closely invested by General Ginckle, but no thought of surrender entered the minds of the heroic defenders. At length news was conveyed to Sarsfield that James II. had given up all hope of being able to regain his power in Ireland, and this news, coupled with the offers made by Ginckle, induced him to consent to an armistice.

A treaty honourable to both sides was agreed to, and two days after this document was duly signed a French fleet bringing reinforcements to Sarsfield entered the Shannon. Some of the officers were in favour of "scrapping" the Treaty, and the renewal of hostilities, but Sarsfield's high sense of honour would not allow him to consent. "I have set my name to the contract," he said, "and I will never disgrace the name of a soldier and an Irishman by erasing it."

"ON FAR, FOREIGN FIELDS."

Eleven thousand of the Irish foot soldiers and a large force of cavalry volunteered to accompany Sarsfield to France after the capitulation of Limerick, and those war-scarred veterans formed the nucleus of that splendid fighting force which was in after years destined to turn the tide of victory on many a hard fought European battlefield.

Sarsfield never saw his native land again. He entered the service of France, and fought in many battles against the forces of William of Orange. In 1692 he was raised to the rank of Field Marshal, and was killed by a musket ball at Landen. As he lay dying on the battlefield he placed his hand in his breast, and, seeing it covered with blood, he exclaimed, "Ah, would to God that this were shed for Ireland."

Patrick Sarsfield was a gallant and honourable Irish gentleman, a soldier of unquestionable ability and courage, and his life story should serve as a standard for those who are proud to serve that nation for which he laboured so nobly and so well.

X.

CLONES NOTES.

A most enjoyable sports programme was provided on Sunday, 6th May, at Clones, by the Garrison and local teams. The latter won the football match, which opened the evening's enjoyment, but the Garrison retrieved their fallen fortunes by carrying off almost all the prizes in the athletic events following. Much credit is due to Sergeant "Spud" Murphy, who, after playing a fine game in the match, carried off the half-mile in fine style.

* * * *

"B" Coy. 1st Battalion defeated "A" Coy. at Cootehill, on the 8th ult. "The Bees" are exceptionally fortunate—they have no less than five "county" players in their ranks!

* * * *

Congratulations to Lieutenant Terry Lane on the occasion of his marriage. Lieutenant and Mrs. Lane have the best wishes of the officers and men of Clones District.

* * * *

In future we are to have an Irish class every day in Clones, thanks to Lieutenant O'Brien, Batt. Pay Officer, and Rory Kilkenny. Rory learnt all his Irish in England and Scotland.

* * * *

Captain Ned Reilly was the recipient of a presentation in the form of a beautiful watch from the men of Cavan Garrison on his transfer to Dundalk District. In replying to the many expressions of regret at his departure, and of hope for his future welfare in his new area, Captain Reilly returned thanks to his well-wishers, and dwelt upon the spirit in which his fellow-officers and men and himself had always co-operated, and expressed the opinion that the efficiency of the Army to-day as a whole was due largely to the widespread existence of such friendly co-operation throughout its ranks.

MARCHING SONGS.**THE RISING OF THE MOON.**

"Oh, then, tell me, Sean O'Farrell,
Tell me why you hurry so."
"Hush, ma bouchal, hush and listen";
And his cheeks were all aglow;
"I bear orders from the Captain—
Get you ready quick and soon;
For the pikes must be together
At the rising of the moon."
At the rising of the moon,
At the rising of the moon,
For the pikes must be together
At the rising of the moon.

"Oh, then, tell me, Sean O'Farrell,
Where the gathering is to be."
"In the old spot by the river,
That's well known to you and me;
One word more—for signal token,
Whistle up the marching tune,
With your pike upon your shoulder,
By the rising of the moon."
By the rising of the moon,
By the rising of the moon,
With your pike upon your shoulder
By the rising of the moon.

Out from many a mud-wall cabin
Eyes were watching through that night;
Many a manly breast was throbbing
For the blessed warning light.
Murmurs passed along the valleys
Like the Banshee's lonely croon,
And a thousand blades were flashing
At the rising of the moon.
At the rising of the moon,
At the rising of the moon,
And a thousand blades were flashing
At the rising of the moon.

There, beside the singing river,
That dark mass of men was seen—
Far above the shining weapons
Hung their own beloved Green.
"Death to every foe and traitor!
Forward! Strike the marching tune,
And, hurrah, my boys, for freedom!
'Tis the rising of the moon."
'Tis the rising of the moon,
'Tis the rising of the moon,
And hurrah, my boys, for freedom!
'Tis the rising of the moon.

Well they fought for poor old Ireland
And full bitter was their fate
(Oh, what glorious pride and sorrow
Fills the name of Ninety-Eight!)
Yet, thank God, e'en still are beating
Hearts in manhood's burning noon,
Who would follow in their footsteps
At the rising of the moon!
At the rising of the moon,
At the rising of the moon,
Who would follow in their footsteps
At the rising of the moon.

J. K. CASEY ("Leo").

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MUNITIONS OF WAR.

Where they were made during the Fight with England—Working against Heavy Odds—Hairsbreadth Escapes.

[BY OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.]

The munition factories which were in operation during the fight with England were not all closed down after the Treaty. A number of them were still utilised for the purpose of making munitions for the Irish Army.

Of course they were equipped with more elaborate machinery for this post-Treaty work than had been possible beforehand, and they have proved very efficient. It is thought, however, that greater efficiency and economy can be obtained by having all the processes of munitions manufacture performed in one compact area, and now all these historic places have "ceased to function."

MAKING MUNITIONS AND HISTORY.

The passing of the secret factories is an event which calls for special attention. Their story is bound up with some of the most stirring days of the fight for freedom and the men who risked their lives in this work had many thrilling adventures and hairsbreadth escapes. The trouble is, however, to

get those soldiers of Ireland to relate their experiences. They do not seek the limelight now any more than they did in those bygone days of stress and danger.

When the men of 1916 came out of the British prisons they found that the only thing to do was to set about making munitions for the continuance of the fight, if all the bloodshed and sacrifice of Easter Week were not to have proved in vain.

The matter was discussed with the late General Collins, who heartily endorsed the suggestion. The work was immediately put in hands and the manufacture of munitions started by the Dublin Brigade in November, 1918. Amongst those who took an active part in inaugurating this work were Messrs. Richard McKee, Peadar Clancy, Michael Lynch, Matt Furlong, Sean O'Sullivan, Tom Young, and Tom Keogh.

Matt Furlong was in charge of the first munition works started, 198 Parnell Street, which had all the outward appearance of a harmless bicycle shop in a small way of business. This place was first raided by men from the Detective Division



"An t-Oglách"

Left to right.—Front Row—Capt. A. Mayne, Works Manager; Capt. S. O'Sullivan, i/c. Inspection; Col. J. Furlong, D.M.; Capt. F. Gascon, i/c. Foundry; Capt. Keogh, i/c. Explosives. Back Row—Lieut. Kirby, i/c. Assembling; Capt. Kelly, i/c. Machining; Lieut. Daly, 2nd i/c. Machining; S.-Major B. Allen, i/c. Pattern Shop; S.-M. C. O'Reilly, Machinery; Lieut. Mark Furlong, Sec. S.-M. S. Doyle, Electrician.

of the Dublin Metropolitan Police in the summer of 1919. They discovered nothing.

The second raid was more spectacular and more successful. It was made on the 2nd December, 1920, by British military and Auxiliaries.

The raiders entered the building under cover of darkness. They found nobody "at home" and waited patiently for the staff to turn up in the morning. But there were friendly folk who noticed something strange about the alleged bicycle shop that morning and warning was conveyed to the munitions makers.

The first person to enter the shop after the raiders had ensconced themselves therein was a young man who had left a bicycle there the night before. It is believed that he was not aware that it was anything else than what it purported to be.

When he saw the kind of people who were in the place he decided not to wait for his bicycle and started for the far-off fields. The raiders lost their heads at this and, forgetting the need for concealment if they were to "bag" the entire staff, rushed into the street and gave chase, firing at the youth, who was wounded and captured.

There was terrific excitement as they brought back their prisoner, the street having become crowded with the usual Dublin crowd, who are always willing to ignore danger in order to witness a thrilling free show.

And scattered amongst the crowd—the most interested spectators in it—were the entire staff of the munitions factory: M. Furlong, M. Keogh, S. O'Sullivan, Tom Young, T. Keogh, Gabriel McGrath, J. Keogh, C. Reilly and J. Coughlan.

WORKING SYSTEMATICALLY.

In addition to 198 Parnell Street, munitions works were speedily in full swing in other parts of the city. The principal shop was in 3 Luke Street. It appeared to the passer-by to be the small engineering shop of Messrs. "Keen & Co."

There were some very exciting moments at this particular shop. On one occasion, in November, 1920, the Auxiliaries broke into the place at night and searched it thoroughly—and found nothing.

Plenty of the "stuff" was lying around, but they did not know what it was. The assembled parts, strikers, etc., were hidden under a secret fireplace.

Other workshops were at Percy Place—Messrs. "Dunn & Co., Plumbers"—over O'Rourke's bakery in Parnell Street, in Crown Alley, and in Vicar Street. There was a suggestion at one time that the chemicals were injuring the horses in the bakery, but fortunately there were no fatal effects amongst the animals.

THE CARRIER.

A man was employed every day practically as carrier between the different places where the munitions were being manufactured. He was continually drawing stuff away from Percy Place in the mornings and taking all finished articles to the Quartermaster-General's department. He took raw castings from the foundry in Luke Street to be machined in Crown Alley. When machined the articles were conveyed by him to Percy Place for assembly.

This carrier, needless to say, became accustomed to hair-breadth escapes as part of the daily routine. On one occasion the British troops drew a cordon across Grattan Bridge and held up and searched everybody, except the carrier with his little pony and cart. The "Tommies" shouted rough badinage at him and allowed him to pass without suspecting for a moment the deadly nature of the merchandise in the little cart.

A COOL ESCAPE.

A party of Auxiliaries discovered a little workshop in some old stables in Denzille Lane. It was devoted to making aluminium caps and there was just one man on the premises

when they entered—an elderly man who took their arrival with all the coolness and self-possession of conscious virtue (although he was actually engaged upon the caps at the time).

As a matter of fact the worker had been expecting the present General Furlong to come along with more patterns.

"Is there any stuff hidden here?" demanded the leader of the raiders.

"Aye," responded the old man coolly; "you'll find plenty of stuff in that rubbish heap there," pointing it out to them.

They rushed to the rubbish heap and commenced to search it. It took them some time to find anything in it for the simple reason that the "stuff" was in the upstairs loft.

Whilst the attention of the raiders was engaged by this futile search the elderly man strolled casually to the door. There was nobody in sight save the driver of the Auxiliaries' tender and, at the moment, his head was deep under the bonnet searching for some fault in the engine.

So the elderly workman strolled calmly away until he got round the corner—and the "Augsies" were left lamenting.

SO NEAR AND YET SO FAR.

If any of the Auxiliaries who were in the habit of stabling their cars in a garage near Percy Place read the ensuing paragraphs they will not feel joyful.

On one occasion a party of the Auxiliaries actually entered the yard in Percy Place where the munitions were being made.

Behind a thin partition the munition makers stopped work and held their breaths.

The Auxiliaries actually struck matches on the wall of the partition while they discussed the excessive elusiveness of "these damned Shinnners."

And neither then nor at any other time did they discover that factory in Percy Place.

WORK SINCE THE TREATY.

The factories, as already stated, have been busy since the Treaty helping to supply the needs of the Army. The work done has included the manufacture of elaborate scientific machines and has given the utmost satisfaction to the authorities. A list of the staff officers concerned appears under the picture herewith.

General Furlong in the pre-Treaty days spent most of his time in Scotland procuring the material for making the grenades and was not caught until after the Truce.

During the Anglo-Irish war the whole department of munitions was under the control of Q.M.G. Sean MacMathghamhna, now Chief of the General Staff.

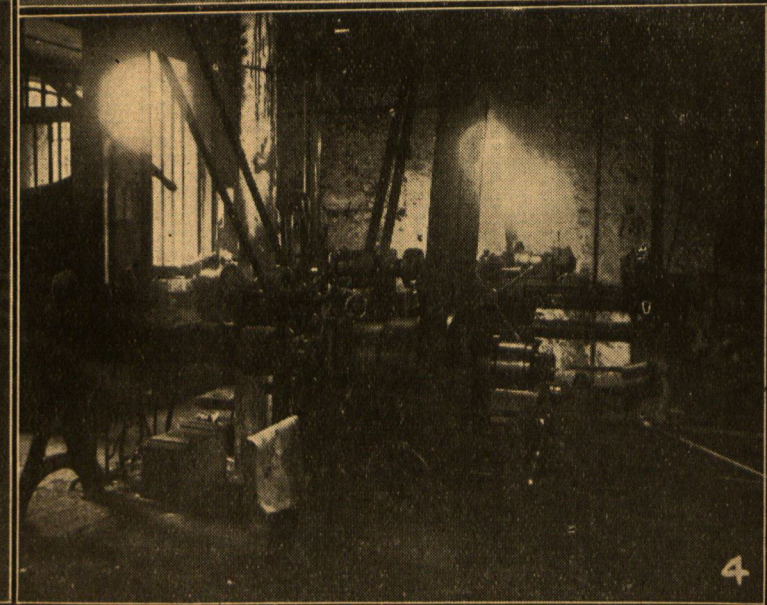
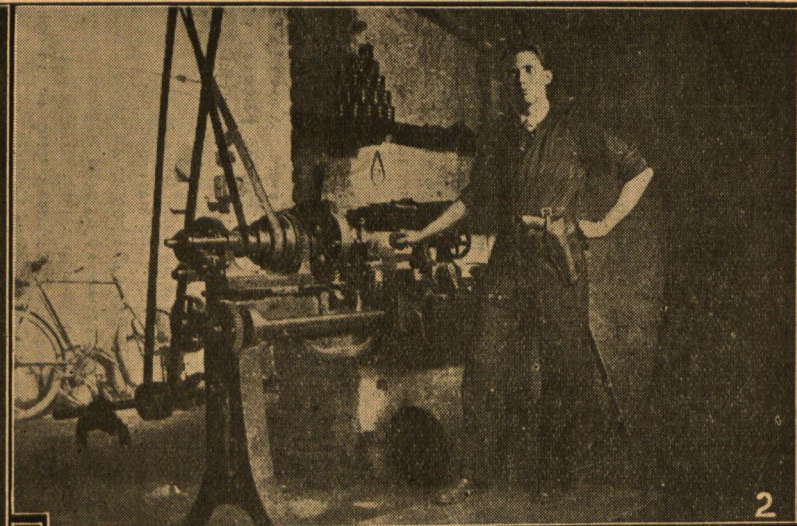
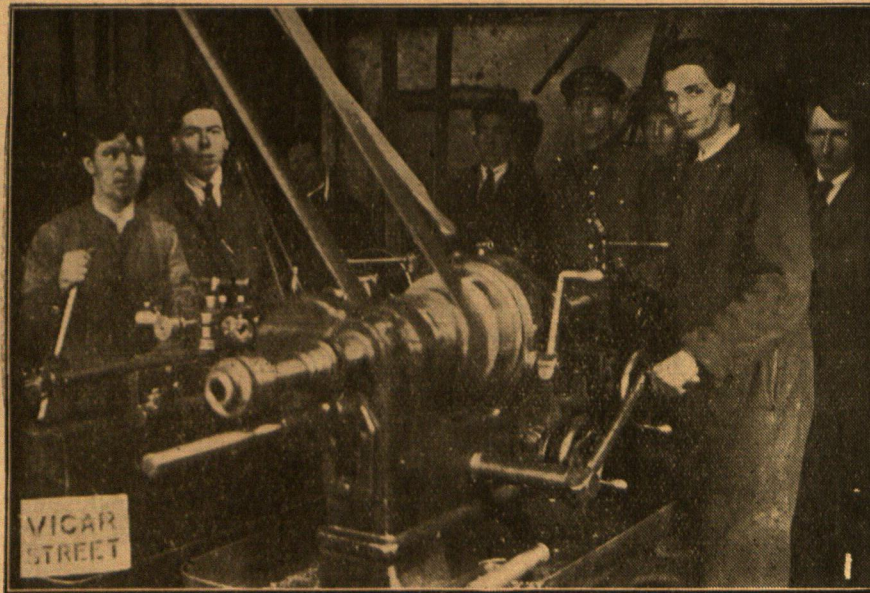
A GOLD MEDAL FILM.

"Tol'able David," the film which is being screened at the Corinthian Picture Theatre this week and next, won the Gold Medal for the best film produced in America last year, beating even the "Four Horsemen." It is a strong, dramatic story of life in the Virginia Mountains, characterised by extremely picturesque settings and first-class photography, but its outstanding feature is the high quality of the acting. There is hardly a character in the film who is not a finished artist, and the acting of the principals is very much superior to the class we usually get in the big films. There are some very tense moments in the story. One of the most famous spots in the American Civil War is shown in the picture—Mosby's cabin, in which the famous Confederate guerilla leader took refuge after the battle of Winchester. While on the "location" Richard Barthelmess, who takes the title part, acquired an old flintlock which had actually been used in the American War of Independence and in the Civil War, and this weapon figures in some of the scenes, the "star" having acquired it for four dollars.

WHERE THEY MADE MUNITIONS OF WAR.

JUNE 2, 1923

an t-Ogláic.



"An t-Ogláic".

(1) Post-Treaty photograph of the Vicar Street shop, showing the lathe—one of the finest obtainable. (2) Photograph taken during the Black-and-Tan regime. The "operator" is Captain Sean O'Sullivan. (3) Luke Street workshop, which was used as a pattern shop for making hand-grenades. (4) Luke Street workshop, showing modern machinery installed since the Treaty.



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(ράθυραις ὁ κορυφαίος το ῥυθίου).

“Α τῆς θάρσας!” ἀντίφη, “νάς ἴδω ἀτά κεανάρμαλ οὐμ! Ἀν

* * * * *

Is léir do'n léigsteoir gur talac cé aige a curó milreáin, má bíodair tuille aige agus na blianta fada rslábháidéalta chuir pé irteac mar céile cailiú, nó má rjar pé le don chúro aca le na coméneamair, bíod a bairnail péin as gac tuine.

ΠΑΤΡΑΙC Ο CΟΝΑΙΡΕ.

DUSTY.



Pages from a Soldier's Diary

The sudden and unexpected burst of gun-fire away in the distance interrupted this narrative of mine on yesterday evening. It caused no little excitement among us; and the conjectures indulged in as to its origin were as varied as ridiculous. The sounds were not repeated, but our curiosity remained unsatisfied. No one could say what had happened, and this lack of definite information increased the tension and made us an easy prey for the mongers of imaginative speculations, immediately passed on as officially authenticated facts. Officers moved silently from post to post, with a tantalising air of mystery. We were kept continually on the alert; and even when we were permitted to retire it was not to sleep.

Early next morning we were astir again. But the excitement had died out, and comparative calm prevailed. Marching orders at last came; we fell in quietly, and with a farewell shout to the guard left behind, we moved off. It was a most welcome change at the time. Anything was preferable to the long stand-to. The moving forward; the prospect of doing something or seeing something steadied us up again, and as we ploughed on up the hills we were ourselves again.

We soon left the main road behind, and started off across country, climbing steadily the whole time. Towards evening sometime the party I was with approached a farm house. We were hungry and tired, and the place looked cosy and inviting. We entered, and immediately set about helping the inmates at preparing tea. We were just sitting down to enjoy it, the Corporal had the teapot in hand in the act of pouring out, when rat-tat-tat sputtered the machine gun, and ping, ping went a number of other arms. The house was under fire. Weariness, hunger and thirst all disappeared at that magic sound, and, quick as a flash, each man dived for his gun and dropped somewhere for cover while he endeavoured to locate the fire of the attacking party. The fire came from one of the neighbouring hills, evidently an outpost who were probably conveying a warning signal to others by their fire.

I always loved hill-climbing, and while in the city I dreamed of and longed for the mountains. I am wiser now. A pleasant day's outing to go and come when you please is one thing. To climb rock after rock in one place. To tear through briars and furze bushes in another. To halt, take cover, advance and spend half your time wandering aimlessly—to all appearance—through mountain fogs, well it's quite another thing altogether. I confess I wasn't sorry when I found myself moving back to our posts again.

April 15 (Sunday).

We were it seems part of a big operation. News is now beginning to come in. There was a big scrap away on the other side of the hills. Some of the other posts came in contact with the Irregulars. Liam Lynch was seriously wounded, and captured. Everyone has it that he is since dead as a result of his wounds. We are still kept going. But the fog and mists are playing the mischief with us.

April 18.

Dan Breen and two others are said to have been captured off over in the Galtees.

Here I am now in what my father used to call the capital of Ireland—Ballyvorney. We came on here from Cork yesterday. 'Tis my first visit to the capital, and I can't say I'm too much in love with it. I'm getting a taste of hills and mountains anyway. We had nothing but mountain work since we came here.

We paid a visit to Loo Bridge yesterday, and 'twas like a regular seilg. I got the surprise of my life here. I often read descriptions of Indian villages or Wild West settlements, but I had no idea I'd ever strike into a Loo Bridge in Ireland. In normal times the place would be very uninteresting. 'Twould be the last place on earth one would select for a holiday. It is situated in a deep valley, with bare, rocky hills towering on every side. It boasted of a railway station, and a stationmaster before the present scrap. The station was burnt down, and the house of the stationmaster shared its fate. There is nothing to indicate the existence of civilised life, but a few scattered houses, and, of course, the inevitable publichouse.

We received a rousing reception from the boys of the Railway Protection Corps, and all proceeded at once to make things comfortable for us. The weather was really delightful, and the novelty of the whole situation was delightful. Bell tents were pitched in the fields on both sides of the railway line. The kitchens were set going, and soon the good, hot grub was being made ready for us. The station—or where it had been—appeared to be the centre of the settlement. All sorts of stores were distributed all round, divided into lots according to the particular kind of stores. Railway covers held the elements at bay. Appropriate notices were displayed at the various stalls. For instance, "Eastman's, Ltd.," marked out the meat stores. Another large notice board, very prominently displayed, announced to all whom it might concern that the Railway Protection Corps were general caterers, could build bridges while you wait, could lay down lines to Hell or Heaven, and were ready to give the would-be passengers a free and speedy run if so desired. Loo Bridge will, I venture to prophesy, be one of the most popular holiday resorts for boys of the National Army.

A SUNSET SONG.

(Air: "Ballyvaughan.")

Softly the wind through the rushes sighs,
A-humming the river flows;
Weary-winged homeward the swallow flies,
And the maid to the trysting goes;
Redly the sun sinks over the hill,
The West with her glory flushed,
The children's voices, all, all are still,
The birds in the woods are hushed.

I listen awhile to the river's song:
That carolling, soft and low,
Seems ever to hymn, as it rolls along,
A tale of the long ago.
It summons me visions long passed away,
It whispers of hopes once bright;
Of days once sunny that gathered grey
And darkened to starless night.

The stars come stealing out one by one
To bathe in the river's breast;
The fiery track of the sun is gone,
The wind in the reeds at rest;
Softer and sweeter the river's voice
Seems chanting a glad refrain—
"What though the sunshine is fled; Rejoice,
The dawning will flame again!"

WILLIAM ROONEY
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Oglagh
na hEireann
DEFENCE FORCES IRELAND

BATTALION OPERATIONS.

APPRECIATION OF A SITUATION.

Before dealing with any tactical problem in the field or formulating plans for operations, or movements, a Commander must first appreciate the situation, which means coming to a decision as to the course of action he intends taking, after considering the various points which may affect the carrying out of the object he has in view.

The Commander of a battalion will appreciate the situation from the point of view of forming plans to carry out successfully the operation allotted to his battalion.

It will be understood that only those points relevant to the situation, and to the particular operation of his own formation need be considered.

The object in view must first be clear to him and must never be lost sight of when considering the course of action necessary to its accomplishment.

To get the best results, a systematic process of considering each point in order of its relative importance is necessary. Officers require constant practice to enable them to write an appreciation of a situation in a clear and concise manner, and a careful study should be made of the following points which should be considered from the enemy's point of view, and our own :—

ENEMY'S.

What object has he in view?

What action is he likely to take to attain it? Is he likely to remain in his present position, and, if so, how long?

If he moves, what will be his line of advance or retirement, and in what formation?

What is his strength?

What is the extent of his front? Where are his flanks? Do they rest on natural obstacles? Is the ground in front of his position held by small posts or light Machine Guns? Has he fortified any strong points? Where are his Machine Gun positions, or light Trench Mortars? Are there any weak points? Where are his headquarters, his line of communications, his supports and reserves? Can his reinforcements advance without being seen? Any possible opening for counter attack? Any railway or good roads behind his line giving facilities for reinforcements, or rapid retirement?

OURS.

If he remains in his present position, what is the best means of attacking him? If he advances where can he best be met? If he retires where can I come up with him? What time is available? What preparations are necessary

Our own strength?

Can his flanks be turned? Can I concentrate for turning movement without being seen? Does the ground in front afford covered approach, good fire positions, covering fire, light Machine Gun and Trench Mortar positions, suitable positions for re-organising for Battalion Headquarters, Communications, Refilling station, Dressing station, Transport? What formation should be adopted in attacking him? What action on his part will interfere most effectively with my plans? What counter measures are advisable? Are there any obstacles likely to hold up or delay advance? Are there any favourable positions to secure superiority of fire prior to the assault, possibilities to surprise, enfilading fire?

Having considered all the factors that apply to the situation, decide on the course of action you suggest taking, giving reasons for your decision.

Attach sketch in illustration of points.

EXAMPLE OF AN APPRECIATION OF A SITUATION.

SECRET.

Ref. Ordnance Map Sheet 19.

Scale $\frac{1}{4}$ inch to one mile.

Copy No. 1.

1/5/23.

COMMAND ORDER No. 1 BY G.O.C. WATERFORD COMMAND.

1. The enemy, estimated strength 1 Battalion, the advance party of a force having effected a landing on the Wexford Coast near Kilmuckridge, are holding a line facing west from Clondaw to road junction east of Mill near Oulartwick (Map reference G. 9, 5, 6, inclusive, to G. 9, 5, 3 inclusive).
2. Intelligence reports that the enemy intends advancing on Enniscorthy and capturing the town.
3. The 41st Battalion reinforced by two Companies of the 40th Battalion having arrived at Enniscorthy by rail, are ordered to drive the enemy from his position and endeavour to cut off his retreat.

As O.C. 41st Battalion, write an appreciation of the situation.

APPRECIATION OF THE SITUATION.

ENEMY'S.

OBJECT IN VIEW.

To capture the town of Enniscorthy, secure the flour mills and other supplies in the neighbourhood, the D.S.E. Railway, and establish a base for further operations.

He may await the reinforcements in his present position before making a further advance, or, in order to secure the element of surprise, to allow no time for preparations to receive him, or the arrival of reinforcements, he may push on at once and attack the garrison of two companies.

Not knowing the country, he is not likely to advance from his present position without making a forward reconnaissance.

This, and the time occupied in making his dispositions for the attack will keep him in his present position for some time.

He will probably advance in two columns, one moving via Colourish, and one via Corbally, forming a junction at Clonhasten cross roads, where he will deploy for attack.

Extent of front about 1,000 yards.

His flanks are not resting on natural obstacles, and the position of both give facilities for a turning movement.

The ground in front of his position is held by small posts, probably supported by light Machine Guns. He has no fortified strong points. His line of communication probably runs through Oulart, Kilmuckridge.

OURS.

OBJECT IN VIEW.

To drive him from his present position, and endeavour to cut his line of communication, and prevent his retirement.

His ignorance of the country and the hostility of the inhabitants and consequent lack of information will make it necessary for him to reconnoitre before making a further advance. The time occupied in this, and in making dispositions for attack will be sufficient to allow me to attack him in his present position.

The facilities for covered approach and the high ground overlooking his flanks make both vulnerable. His left flank is particularly so.

Good facilities for observation are afforded at point 300 and 375 north-east of road junction at Colourish.

A small stream about 400 yards in front of his position may delay the attack at certain points.

The high ground on either flank gives facilities for enfilading his position.

The ground in front of his right flank provides good positions for covering fire and machine guns.

Good covered approach on his left flank facilitates the possibility of a successful turning movement and surprise attack.



JUNE 2, 1923

an c-051ac.

ENEMY'S.

Position of his supports probably about G. 9, 7, 5, suitable position for his Headquarters with his supports.

Good metalled roads in rear of his position give good facilities for rapid retirement.

Line of retreat Oulart, Kilmuckridge road—alternative line via Kilnamanagh.

Strength—One Battalion (National Army Establishment).

OURS.

The object of extending his left flank to its present position is to secure Enniscorthy-Oulart Road, and the Bridge east of the mill.

One Battalion and two Companies.

COURSE OF ACTION.

To advance as rapidly as possible making the best use of our

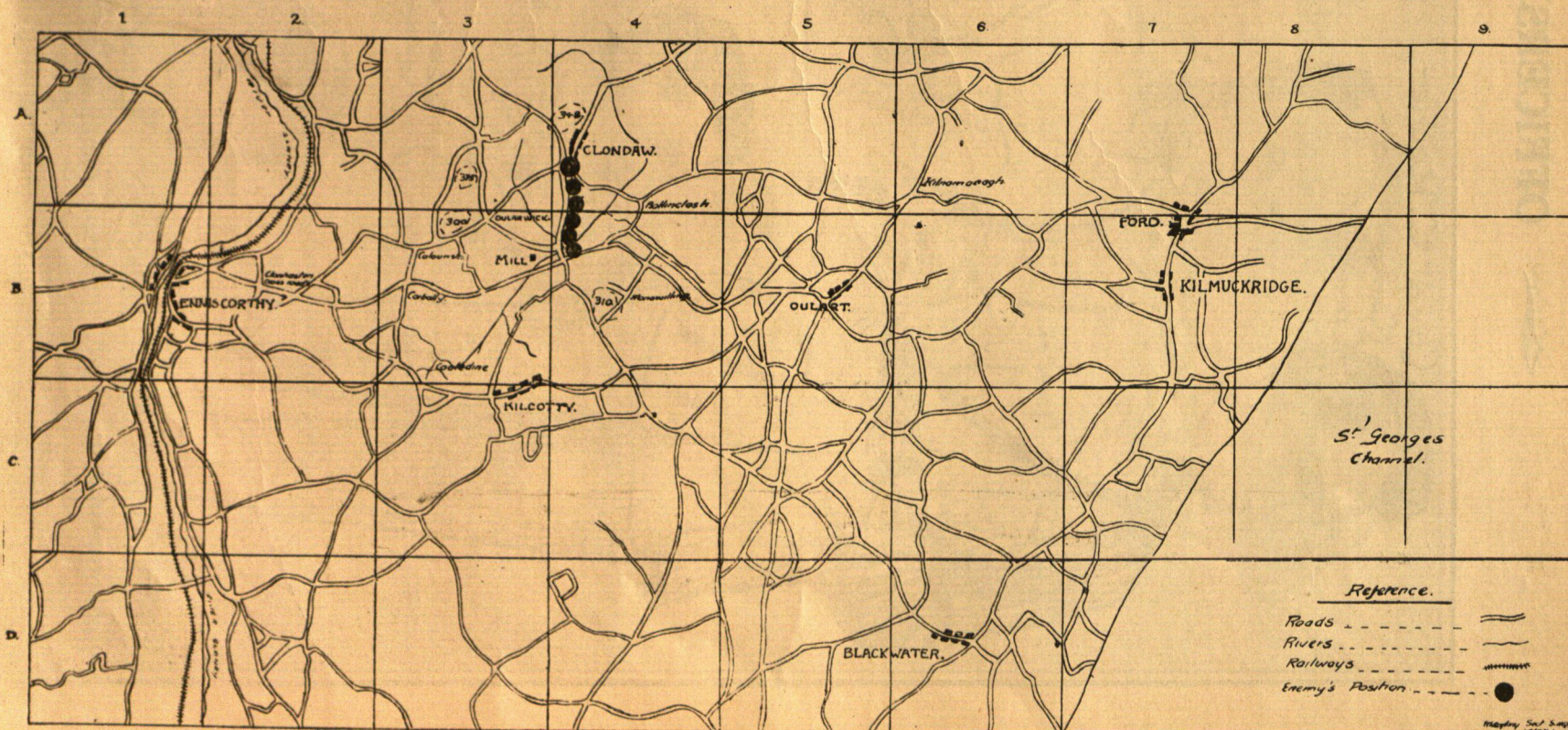
knowledge of the country and the available covered approaches to surprise the enemy in his present position, capture his advance posts, secure a position on the high ground on his right flank commanding the Clondaw-Kilnamanagh Road, thus cutting off his alternative line of retreat.

Sent two companies under the covered approach provided by Colladine Valley to turn his left flank and secure the Enniscorthy-Oulart Road about the Ballinclash and Monawilling Junction, depriving him of the use of the Enniscorthy-Oulart Road.

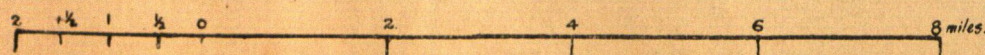
The command of these two roads will effectively cut off the enemy's retreat, and the stream crossing his line of retreat between these roads forms an obstacle to his retiring across country, and confines him to the low marshy ground west of Ballinclash, where he can be easily dealt with.

Be precise.

Always give the enemy credit for acting soundly.



Scale.



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OFFICERS AND N.C.O.'S OF T



THE CLAREMORRIS COMMAND.



MORE PORTRAITS FROM THE CLAREMORRIS COMMAND.



TRAINING IN SMALL POSTS.

FOURTH ARTICLE.

Field Work.

Practice will be given in movement along a road in patrol formations, breaking up into squad columns, &c. The men should be frequently exercised in attack formation. An objective should be pointed out and a squad detailed to act as a skeleton enemy. The remaining squads will advance by squad rushes with covering fire. Especial attention should be paid to training the Lewis Gun team. The use of cover will be pointed out, methods of using cover, and advancing from cover, &c.

Lectures and Indoor Work.

Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers will prepare a series of lectures. Normally two short lectures should be given in each week. During wet weather much useful training can also be carried out indoors. The following list of subjects is given as suggestions:—

LECTURES.

- (1) Duties of Guards and Sentries.
- (2) Patrolling and Patrol formations.
- (3) How to turn an enemy's position when ambushed.
- (4) How to attack a position.
- (5) Method of surrounding an area and method of conducting searches of areas, houses, &c.
- (6) A section on piquet duty in an outpost line—Outpost work.
- (7) Advanced and flank guards.
- (8) Care of arms.
- (9) Aiming and trigger pressing.
- (10) Lectures on Visual Training and Judging Distance.
- (11) Preparation of Range cards.
- (12) The use of cover—kinds of.
- (13) Lectures on:—Formation of Squad—section.
- (14) Lectures on:—
Work of Company Sergeant-Major; Company Quarter-master Sergeant.
Section Commanders.
Orderly men, &c.
See General Staff Notes.
- (15) Army organizations.
- (16) Discipline and Chain of Command.
- (17) The general situation from time to time.
- (18) The Army's duty to the people.
- (19) Scouting.
- (20) Lectures on personal cleanliness—sanitation of billets.
- (21) Simple Map reading.
- (22) Rights of accused at a Courtmartial—how to apply for leave—report sick, &c.
- (23) Marching and march discipline.
- (24) Esprit de corps.

INDOOR WORK FOR WET WEATHER.

- (1) Demonstration of how to fit equipment.
- (2) Demonstration of laying out kit for inspection.
- (3) Demonstration of cleaning a rifle.
- (4) Competition of squads inspecting and marking one another for "best turn out."
- (5) "Sentry Go" and "Guard Drill Turn Out" competition.

- (6) Aiming and trigger pressing tests. The triangle of error, &c.
- (7) Rapid loading facing a wall, with blocked triggers.
- (8) Bolt Drill.
- (9) Preparation of range cards.
- (10) Passing and writing messages.
- (11) Fire orders on landscape targets or pictures from magazine.
- (12) Description of points on landscape targets.
- (13) Description of an area of country from a Map.
- (14) Exercise in Map reading.
- (15) Saluting Drill.
- (16) Instruction in use of the "Lewis Gun."
- (17) Instruction on "Grenades."
- (18) Judging distance and description of objects seen from various windows.
- (19) Instruction in sandbagging and construction of loopholes.
- (20) Eyesight tests.

(The section of this course of training dealing with Musketry has not been published, as an article on that subject appeared in a recent issue.)

AN ALERT READER.

To the Editor of "An t-Oglach."

Sir—With reference to the schedule of training under the heading "Training in Small Posts" in your latest issue, dated May the 5th, Arm exercise 3 (a) "Hips Firm" is rather misleading as to correct position of "Hips Firm."

Also starting position of Trunk exercise under the heading of Group 11.

These exercises referred to above do not correspond with the Manual of Physical Training by Dr. Ling, the founder of the Swedish System of Physical Training, in the year 1813, which has altered very little since.

Hoping the above corrections can be made in your next issue, or at an early date,

I remain,

Yours obediently,

"INTERESTED."

REPLY.

Under the heading Physical Training.

Arm Exercises 3 (a) Hips Firms—Elbows pressed well back, in the detail for "hips firm" is incorrect, and applies to the Sandow Exercises, and not to the Swedish system.

The detail should read as follows:—Raise the hands quickly and grasp the waist firmly just above the hips, fingers together in front and thumb behind, palms pressed well down, shoulders kept in the same position as at attention.

The position of the hands on the hips does not involve the training of any muscle, but is important from the point of view of uniformity. It is used as a standing position of a large number of exercises, principally for the purpose of getting the hands out of the way of the legs, &c. It also transfers the weight of the arms from the shoulders and upper part of the trunk to the hips, giving more freedom to the chest walls.

As many of the exercises in Physical Training are useless unless carried out under the supervision of qualified Instructors, the sequence of exercises, as laid down in the various groups are not followed, and only those which require less expert knowledge are selected.

A book on Physical Training for the Army will be issued in due course.



GAELIC ATHLETIC PASTIMES.

By "OSCAR."

With the athletic season hot upon us it behoves our Army talent to be up and doing. I see no reason why an athletic team from the Dublin Command could not issue a challenge to the winners of the Dublin Senior Athletic League. This League has proved a great success, and it looks as if the final will be run off within the next ten days between National University College and Kickhams A. C. Both teams have triumphed over Dublin University (Trinity College). C. J. Kickhams are going strong, but, though they will probably win all the weights and distance events, "National" University will balance with greater ability in sprints and hurdles. It will be a dour struggle, and not more than two points will separate the clubs when the last event is run.

WANTED—ENTHUSIASTS.

The meeting of the winners and a selected Army Athletic team at Croke Park would prove an immense attraction. Inter-company and inter-battalion contests could "find" the right men. In each section an enthusiast is necessary to rouse the sleeping talent. Enthusiasts have done everything that ever mattered in this world, and one athletic enthusiast in each battalion could organise an athletic team. The question of athletic equipment is important. Togs are a simple matter, but good running shoes, hurdles, high jump standards, hammer, shot, and 56 lbs. need some considerable expenditure. Proper representation to the authorities should ensure these facilities in every barracks and camp.

The matter of training is all important at the moment. Once a man has decided on his event he ought specialise therein. This is the secret of American success in track and field events. In Ireland we like to dabble in events which suit our physique and temperament but little. We have produced the greatest all-round athletes in the world—as instance: Kiely, Tipperary; Bresnihan, Limerick; Sheridan, Mayo; Woods, Cork; O'Sullivan, Kerry. The methods of these super-men have much to recommend them for all-round physical development, but in these feverish days of specialisation, the athlete must confine himself to his particular forte to make his mark.

TRAINING PRINCIPLES.

In all athletic training, however, certain broad principles are universally acknowledged. Regular hours of sleep, meals, work and exercise may be set down as fundamentals. Plenty of wholesome food, plenty of fresh air and exercise, with eight hours' sleep daily; strict moderation in alcohol and nicotine (better still, cut them out altogether); these are the essentials on which athletic vigour with surprising reserve power is usually built. The reward amply repays the sacrifice. No man who has not taken pains to get his body into a state of perfect physical fitness can realise the surpassing joy of life which comes to the athlete who guards his God-given treasure of virile manhood as God intended it should be guarded. Every moment of his life is enjoyed by the man in state of physical fitness. Winning contests is a great joy, particularly when such success reflects credit on the Nation to which we belong, but the greater usefulness of athletics is in building up a strong, virile race which will make its mark in future history.

Meanwhile prospects of International athletic contests are attracting considerable attention in athletic circles. Efforts are being made to bring all that is best in the Island under one athletic banner for our contests with England, Scotland and France this year, and for our part in next year's Olympic and Tailteann festivals. Considerably disorganised in recent years, when the best of our manhood had more demanding work on hands, we cannot hope to finish prominently against nations who have been at peace—at least, not yet. But we can pave the way for a great athletic team in the near future.

INTERNATIONAL ATHLETICS.

The importance of athletic success in International affairs cannot be over-estimated. Continued success of Irish-born men against the world's best from the period of the G.A.A.'s institution was a powerful influence in riveting the world's eye on the little island in the Atlantic then struggling for her legitimate place amongst the Nations. Future success in International athletics will enhance our claim. For these reasons I submit that the Government must continue sympathetic, and give every reasonable support to legitimate athletic development.

Very little news of the A.A.A. activities has crept into the public press. Matches in hurling and football must be under way at once, lest our great start lose its usefulness. It is important that all important games be fully reported, and that competitions be pushed forward with all despatch.

"OSCAR."

GOLF AND TENNIS.

To the Editor of "An t-Oglach."

A Chara—Does Lieutenant Scully mind if I make a few side-line remarks on the "Golf and Tennis" controversy?

I want to point out to him first—that his letter in the current "An t-Oglach" does not dispose of "Irish Golfer's" rather convincing arguments. In fact, Lieutenant Scully debates very badly.

When "Irish Golfer" proves to him that he cannot attach an Imperialist label to either Golf or Tennis, Lieutenant Scully holds his nose and objects to the Imperialist stench from the games. That is childish. Is there a stench of Imperialism from horse racing, card playing, rowing, boxing, or any other international game or sport?

He then objects to both games on the ground that their advocates are "playing at being aristocrats"!

That reads very badly—it even suggests to me that Lieutenant Scully knows absolutely nothing about the games—he doesn't even judge them on their merits. If he did he would appreciate that money or blue blood counts for nothing, and that the only attribute of a good golfer or tennis player is skill—and a sporting spirit.

Surely he realises there must be something in games that bring competitors from all over the world to fight for international honours—something more attractive than Imperialism?

I think, with Lieutenant Scully Imperialism is a bogey that overshadows everything else.

Shake yourself up, man—get out into the fresh air with the remainder of the world—away from Imperialism—and show the Imperialists, and all the other "ists" that Ireland and Irishmen will take a lot of beating on the battlefield of international sport.

Is mise,

A. BARRY, Captain.

Command Headquarters, Cork.

SACRED HEART ON FLAG.

On Monday last, the image of the Sacred Heart was solemnly attached to the National flag floating over the Town Hall, Athy, the quarters of the garrison there. In the presence of the whole garrison, Lieut. Kelly, assisted by Sergt. Devine, hoisted the colours.

Back numbers of the New Series of "An t-Oglach" can be obtained on application to this Office.



AS OTHERS SEE US.

Most Rev. Dr. Cohalan on the Army.

Speaking in SS. Peter and Paul's Church, Cork, Most Rev. Dr. Cohalan said: When we have considered the part played by the people, the work of Government and Parliament, the wonderful development and success of the Army, the help of the Church, we shall be forced to conclude that no people or nation in similar circumstances would have done better than the people of Ireland in the last ten months.

The Government and Parliament have surprised all observers

ment in military skill and discipline, its patience, its success, are really wonderful.

"It has grown in numbers, it has improved in military art and in discipline; it has stations in every town and village of the country where its presence is necessary; it has freed Cork City and County. Some people complain of the number of prisoners in the jails. The military might have adopted a different plan of campaign under which there would be fewer in the jails but more in the graveyards of the country, but they have preferred to take prisoners, and the number of the killed is comparatively small.

The Church.

"People," he continued, "think they see a weakening in

G.A.A. AT CURRAGH.



"An t-Oglách"]

Beresford Barracks Team, winners of the keenly-contested Garrison League and Garrison Championship for cup and set of medals. Front row—Sergeant Farrell, C.S.M. McIvor, Vol. Fahy, Sergt. Brennan. Middle row—Vol. Beasley, Lt. Jas. Morgan, B.S.M. Kelly, C.S.M. Gogarty, Sergt. Matt. Kelly. Back row—Cpl. Coogan, Sergt. Murphy, Sergt. Hudson, Vol. Byrne, Cpl. Byrne. The success of the team is due to the energy and enthusiasm of Capt. T. Gallagher, O.C. Beresford Barracks.

in and outside of Ireland by their capacity, by their hard work, and by their success. Power comes from the people. The Government is but the representative of the people. All Governments provoke criticism.

Whatever group of men constitute the Government, they will have for some time to be exacting to find the means of repairing the destruction of the past ten months, but the present Government has done wonderfully well, and should be remembered in honour and in gratitude.

Speaking of the Army, he said: "Its growth, its improve-

ment in military skill and discipline, its patience, its success, are really wonderful. The powers and influence of the Church because they look on the small number who have persisted in the campaign of violence, and fail to take account of the happy relations between the Catholic people and their Church.

The relations between the Church and the people were never happier, her power never greater.

"The support of the Church has been of great value to the Government and to the Army, not that the Church has interfered on the military or political side, but the teaching of the Church has steadied the people."

PRESENTATION TO CAPTAIN D. COLGAIN.

An interesting little function took place when the Officers and Staff of the Dependants' Allowance Branch of the Army Pay Corps assembled to make a presentation to Capt. D. Colgain, Assistant Chief Pay Officer, on the occasion of his transfer from the Branch.

On the proposal of Capt. Cannon, Lieut. Kennedy took the chair, and in explaining the object of the gathering he referred to the many months of arduous work which Capt. Colgain had spent in laying the foundations of the Dependants' Branch. Although the organisation is not perfect, still the very difficult stages of establishing the Branch had been successfully passed, largely through the hard work of Capt. Colgain. A man of shorter vision might well have despaired, so great were the difficulties to be overcome.

Capt. Cannon made the actual presentation on behalf of the Staff, including the Ladies of the Correspondence Section of the same Corps, who were present. A silver tea and coffee service of chaste design, with a serviceable leather case, formed the presentation. The following inscription is engraved thereon—"Presented to Captain Colgain by Officers and Staff of Army Pay Corps as a token of affection and esteem, of his devotion of duty to Staff during his term of office as Assistant Chief Pay Officer."

Captain Colgain, in acknowledging the gift, said he appreciated the presentation not alone for its intrinsic value, but also for the expression of goodwill and esteem which it represented. He feared the tribute was undeserved, and added that the work could never have been accomplished but for the whole-hearted co-operation of each individual member of the Staff. He looked back with particular gratitude to the men who had worked with him during the early months of the Department's existence, when it was necessary to work late into the night, and sometimes all through the night, in order to keep up with the ever-increasing volume of work. Those stormy days were now fortunately passed, and the Department had reached comparatively smooth waters. Although his new post would probably be a civilian one, he would always remember the early days of the Army Pay Corps with affection.

The proceedings terminated with three rousing cheers for Captain Colgain.

USE OF GROUND AND COVER.

It is very important that all ranks should be well trained in the use of ground, in the use of cover, and in selecting fire positions.

There are two kinds of cover—cover from view and cover from fire. Both kinds should afford concealment. Cover from fire should be bullet proof. Cover from view allows of concealed movement, but may not give cover from fire.

In selecting concealed avenues of approach, consideration should be given to ground which lends itself to providing mutual fire support, and fire positions should be selected with a view to helping forward the troops on the flanks by covering fire. Advances should be made by bounds from one firing position to another, each successive position being carefully selected before the next advance is made, and the range from the next position estimated. Sights should be adjusted and rifles re-loaded before moving from cover. This enables fire to be opened at once when the next position is reached.

If a concealed movement is to be made, the line of advance should be carefully reconnoitred by scouts beforehand. This reconnaissance should be very carefully carried out so that no movement is observed by the enemy. It must be borne in mind that movement catches the eye quickly, and that one man exposing himself will give away the whole movement.

What to Avoid when Taking Cover.

Cover which affords a good aiming or ranging mark for the enemy, crowding behind cover—particularly isolated cover; skyline or crest line of hill; all unnecessary movement; ground which shows up uniform.

Men can conceal themselves in what appears to be perfectly level ground by adopting the prone position in any little dip in the ground or behind a tuft of grass, etc., and avoiding movement. They will then present a more difficult mark than behind a well defined line of cover, such as a hedge, bushes, bank, etc. Farms or buildings in the line of advance should be avoided. They are easy to get into, but hard to get out of, and are probably ranged on by artillery or machine guns. Fire positions which are not approximately parallel to the objective may lead to the loss of direction, and give the enemy opportunities for oblique and enfilading fire.

Tall grass or corn fields can be used to conceal approach when there is a wind blowing which prevents movements being detected.

When firing from behind cover, the following principles should be applied:—Keep the eyes always on the enemy; secure the free use of rifle; look for rests for the rifle; fire round cover when possible. Cover should not be such as to impede or delay advance. If possible, cover that is hidden from the enemy should be selected. Keep close up to the cover to avoid being hit by bullets dropping at a steep angle. Arrange head cover if it can be done quickly so as not to delay your fire. See that your cover is bullet proof and provides a good field of fire to front and flanks.

PENETRATION TABLE.

The following table gives the power of resistance of the commoner materials:—

Material.	Maximum Penetration.	REMARKS.
	Inches.	
Steel plate, best hard ...	7/16	At 30 yards normal to plate; 3/16 inches is proof at not less than 600 yards, unless the plate is set at a slope of 3x2 when 3/16 inches is proof at 250 yards.
Steel plate, ordinary mild or wrought iron.	3	ditto.
Shingle ...	6	Not larger than 1 inch ring gauge.
Coal, hard ...	6	
Brickwork, cement mortar.	9	150 rounds of concentrated fire on one spot will breach a 9-inch brick wall at 200 yards.
Brickwork, lime mortar	14	ditto.
Chalk ...	15	
Sand confined between boards or in sand bags.	18	Very high velocity bullets have less penetration in sand at short than at medium ranges.
Sand, loose ...	30	
Hard wood, e.g., Oak with grain.	38	
Earth free from stones (unrammed).	40	Rammed earth reduces its resisting power.
Soft wood, e.g., fir with grain.	58	Penetration of brick-work or timber is less at short than at medium range.
Clay ...	60	Varies greatly. This is maximum for greasy clay.
Dry peat or turf ...	80	

Note.—Experiment has shown that:—

Walls of broken brick, 2 inches by 3 inches between corrugated iron are proof if 8 inches thick.

Walls of road metal, 2 inches by 3 inches between corrugated iron are proof at 8 inches thick.

Walls of screened gravel $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches between corrugated iron are proof if six inches thick.

When making a concealed advance in broken ground, short open spaces can be crossed by men carrying a bunch of the surrounding foliage, or a bush as a screen between themselves and the enemy, and moving very slowly. The movement of the bush or natural foliage is very hard to detect if moved slowly. This plan can also be successfully adopted to get observation over high bushes, etc., or to give head cover (from view) when firing.

Cover from observation by hostile aircraft can be got by moving along hedges, lying down, or standing still. Men should be taught never to look up when under a hostile aeroplane. If on the march, troops should move to the side of the road. When in the firing line, men must not seek cover from aircraft.

The squad or section should be taken out and trained in the use of ground and cover in various kinds of ground and country. A good method of developing an eye for country is to make a man observe a section of ground for five minutes, and then describe it with his eyes shut. Another method is to take the squad to a hill and imagining a flood rising, to point out the parts of the surrounding country which they think will be covered first.

They will also be practised in selecting successive halting places in an advance, and to describe how they intend reaching it.

The following demonstrations of the use of ground may be practised. Select a ground which appears to be perfectly flat, and place a few men in the prone position behind tufts of grass, or dips in the ground, then advance the remainder towards them. Try to locate them. This will show them how easy it is to obtain cover from view in the least little dip or fold in the ground.

To demonstrate how movement will give away a position—place a few men out in broken ground where they have a suitable back ground. Get them to mask their faces, hands or any part that shows up by the use of the surrounding foliage. The remainder of the men endeavour to locate them. Then, on a given signal, get the men under cover to move. Similarly, the use of a bush held between enemy and skirmisher moving across open spaces in broken ground can be shown.

Place one squad in a position as observers, and get another squad to advance towards them using every available cover—the observers to criticise. Then change over and select a different piece of ground—the observers to advance while the skirmishers criticise.

The visibility of men behind cover in the loading position and in the firing position should be demonstrated. Demonstrations of the use of bad cover should be given—cover from which it is difficult to advance—where the enemy cannot be seen—where the free use of the rifle is restricted—where flanks are exposed to enfilading fire—where there is very little field of fire—where they mask the fire of their own troops—where they cannot observe the movements of the troops on their flanks—isolated cover, etc. Demonstrate methods of crossing exposed ground when moving from one firing position to another—how to cross a forward slope—a ridge—when the advance should be made in successive rushes—how to act when crossing a bridge—the sort of cover to look for on the other side, and how to move to it—how to make use of a railway line so that the rail gives head cover when firing—how to construct a 10 minutes' shelter trench—how the rifle should be carried when creeping—how to creep—how walls should be notched or loopholed—how to construct a loophole—how loopholes are screened—how to construct a fire-step behind high wall or steep bank.

Approaching Skyline.

Show the squad how to approach a skyline. Do it yourself

while they look on. Then let one squad at a time approach skyline, while the remainder observe their movements. The skyline or crestline should be approached cautiously, making use of folds in the ground or other available cover. Some way below the crest get down on hands and knees, and creep to the crest on your stomach, being careful to keep head, elbows and heels close to the ground. Constant practice is required. In looking over a crest, a tuft of grass, or small bush should be raised slowly to screen head and slowly lowered after observation.

The use of ground and cover should be taught both from the point of view of attack and defence.

In Defence.

Cover should provide sufficient resistance to the fire of the enemy, or at least afford concealment so arranged as to permit the greatest possible development of fire under the most favourable conditions. It should not in any way prevent the free use of the rifle or restrict the free movements of troops. It should be selected with a view to providing cover from view for supports and covered approach to reinforcements, exposing attacking troops to fire at all points during their advance, and should give concealment for assembly for counter-attack.

In Attack.

Cover should afford concealed approach, positions for mutual support and covering fire and for reorganising. Any small feature of ground affording cover should be made use of during the attack. Avoid objects that may be ranged on by enemy's artillery, such as clump of trees, edge of woods, exits from defiles, approaches to bridges, isolated objects, such as haystacks, etc. These points should be passed as quickly as possible.



WARRANT OFFICERS' AND SERGEANTS' DANCE.

The first dance held in Droichead Nua, since that town passed into the hands of the Soldiers of Ireland, took place on the night of Saturday, 19th May, at the Picture Palace, and was an unqualified success.

Great credit is due to the Warrant Officers and Sergeants of the 54th Infantry Garrison Battalion (which is stationed at Droichead Nua) for the efforts which they put forward to ensure that all who attended should carry away the memory of a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Over 150 couples were present, and the dance music was provided by Miss N. Reynolds's well-known orchestra.

Special credit is due to C.S.M. Delaney and his engineers for the splendid way in which they decorated the dancing room, Sergeant Major Delaney afterwards proving himself the most capable of M.C.'s. The catering, which was left in the hands of Sergeants Doyle and Cohen, was appreciated by everyone present.

Many of the prominent residents of Droichead Nua have expressed the hope that B.S.M. O'Melia and C.S.M.'s Delaney, Murtagh, B.Q.M.S. McCann, Sergeants A. G. Brabazon, Crowe, E. P. Byrne, J. O'Toole, F. R. Clampett, and P. Mortimer will not rest on their laurels, but will organise many more enjoyable evenings, such as that of the 19th.

Amongst those present from the 54th Infantry Garrison Battalion were noted prominently, Commandant L. O'Hegarty, the O.C.; Captain FitzGerald, Second in Command; Captain G. Downes, Adjutant; and Captain Finnegan, Batt. Quartermaster.

Prominent amongst those from the Curragh Camp were Colonel J. Hunt, O.C. Training, who represented the Command Staff; Commandant P. P. Hyde, O.C. 43rd Battalion and Commandant Lawlor, O.C. 61st Batt.—Contributed.



SHRAPNEL.

"Summer is i-cumin in; loud sing cuckoo." The glad chorus being heartily joined in by the orderlies who have been lighting fires to circumvent the rigours of May.

It is not correct that the rallying song of the Wireless folk at G.H.Q., Parkgate Street, is "In Cellar Cool."

Anybody hear that racquet on the tennis courts at Parkgate Street? No? Yes?

It was used against the novice who said his bad play was due to the fact that he was wearing "slacks." Don't mention the word "slacker" in his hearing.

"What is that?" asked the civilian clerk as something stirred on the most comfortable chair in the office.

"It's a dog," kindly explained the gallant young soldier boy. I bought him from a kid for a tanner."

"What make is he?"

"A Black-and-Tan."

"I presume," said the civilian clerk, heavily, "you mean a black and tanner."

Those little reminders on the back of the temporary passes now issued to civilian workers at G.H.Q. are wholly admirable in their intent. But are they really fair to the lady typists?

This week our hat is raised to the man who wrote in "Can you tell me what to do with my wife's allowance?"

The word he wanted was not "about" when he wanted it.

In view of the number of poetic contributions which have drifted into this office recently we offered the job of Poetry Editor to a decent young chap who didn't seem to have very much to do.

He read the first four or five proffered gems painstakingly and self-sacrificingly and all that. Then he said: "I am quite willing to start a Poets' Corner for you—in Glasnevin."

The general typists' room at G.H.Q. is now known (unofficially) as "The Pool."

Since we heard this we have been going around trying to hammer out something really dinky about

"Water lily fingers tapping (not lapping) at the quays,

"Quick producing letters we can read with ease." and Marcel waves rippling the Pool and all that sort of really bright stuff, but it looks as if we would have to give up all this notion of being Poet Laureate of Parkgate Street.

That was a bright lad who pencilled on a whitewashed wall in a Curragh Barracks "Soldumeno for the Two Thousand Guineas" the day after the race and then marked it "Confidential."

OUR NEW ADDRESS.

The Editorial Offices of "An t-Oglach" are now at G.H.Q., Parkgate St., Dublin.

It is stated that the vicinity of the Quartermaster's stores in a down country district shows signs of scorching. From which it is inferred that very hot language has been passing in the vicinity.

Which reminds one of the story of the gramophone and the ancient egg—Words passed between them.

A Scots tourist in the vicinity of Kenmare asked a soldier the shortest way to the town.

The soldier said he was sorry, but although he had been some time in the district he didn't know.

"Weel," said the Scotsman, "if you're here a while you should KEN MAIR than that."

It is rumoured that a Scottish tourist is missing.

FOOTBALL AT DUNDALK.

"Craobh Ruadh" writes from Dundalk, as follows:—The members of the 37th Infantry Battalion, Gormanstown Camp, Football team, whose photos appeared in your issue of May 19th, paid us a visit on Friday 18th inst., playing a team from the 49th Battalion, the latter winning by a margin of 4 points. The result placed many of us here in the position of the poor woman's son who became Mayor of Limerick—we were surprised at ourselves. The visitors were a fine, hefty lot, whose catching and kicking were excellent, and had they tried for the "minors," instead of taking pots at goal, the points to their credit at the end of the game would have equalled, if not exceeded, their opponents' score. The home team worked hard, and if we single out any players it would be "Dempsey" and Commandant Tom Fox, who appeared to be able to stay for ever. Our players appeared selfish around the visitors' goal, as, instead of frustrating their opponents when their own man was in possession with an excellent chance of scoring, they were apparently anxious to have a try to earn the honour themselves.

We are considerably handicapped here for want of a playing pitch—the one in use at present being only available on two evenings per week, and a considerable distance from the barracks. However, the promise that training grounds will be provided by the Board of Works where applied for gives us hope. Captain White and Co. are labouring under difficulties in this respect at present.

** The Editor would be glad to receive brief reports of all Sporting and Athletic events in the Army.

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OUR INFORMATION BUREAU.

When in Doubt write to "An t-Oglach."

Soldiers are cordially invited to make use of this column. All queries should be addressed to the Editor of "An t-Oglach," G.H.Q., Parkgate Street, Dublin, and should be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, which will not be made public unless desired.

Readers should write on one side of the paper only. It is possible that some slight delay may occur in answering certain queries owing to the necessity for making inquiries, but all questions will be answered in the earliest possible issue.

LEAVE.

Vol. James D., Gorey.—The question of leave is a matter subject to the jurisdiction of your O/C. and the exigencies of the military situation in the Command. We believe, however, that under ordinary conditions a soldier is entitled to seven days' leave in every six months.

"IF A BODY MEETS A BODY."

"The Green Linnet."—We are glad you raise this question. When occasion demands, meeting a lady friend, passing a church, &c., that a soldier salute he should do so, not by raising his hat, but by saluting in a military manner. A soldier should always, when in public, wearing uniform, bear in mind that when he leaves barracks he does not cease to be any less a soldier and should carry himself and act accordingly.

RANK INSIGNIA.

Vol. John F., Macroom.—The insignia worn by a Company Q.M.S. is three green bars three inches by half-an-inch, worn midway between shoulder and elbow on both sleeves.

DISABLED.

P. M. McG., Curragh.—If you will supply us with your full name we will be able to have your case attended to.

DURATION OF SERVICE.

C. B., Railway Corps, Kellystown.—Your letter is not sufficiently clear. If you attested in December for a period of six months you may leave the Army on expiration of your period of service or else attest for a further period. We do not understand what "conditions of 12 months' service" means. Write again.

"UNDER SUSPICION."

"Serious."—We cannot attend to your letter till you let us have your address.

RANK.

Sgt.-Maj. T. M., "Old Rank."—This is a matter you should refer for consideration to your O/C., who, we feel sure, will give your case his attention.

"In Doubt."—We are forwarding the second part of your letter to the proper Department for immediate attention.

TELEPHONE OPERATORS.

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BARRACK Q.-M.

T. M., Co. Clare.—You should put your case before the Command Quartermaster.

SPECIAL PAY.

"Proficiency Pay."—You should see your O/C. in the matter.

MILITARY POLICE.

"Sam," Kanturk.—The proper procedure in applying for a transfer is to make application to your O/C., giving the necessary particulars.

FROM CIVIL FORCE.

"Contraband."—Apply to your immediate O/C.

UNIFORM.

2nd Lieutenant G. B., Curragh.—(1) It would not be possible as far as we are aware, without the sanction of the Quartermaster-General. (2) Make representations to the Command Paymaster with a view to his obtaining the Quartermaster-General's approval.

RANK.

"Red Tape," Curragh.—It is hoped that the following information on the ranks and insignia extant in the previous Army organisation will settle your argument satisfactorily, and to your advantage. That these ranks do not exist in the present Army re-arrangement hardly needs mention:—

Brigade Asst. Q.M.—Rank, Captain; markings, three blue rings on sleeve and one brown stripe on epaulette.

Brigade D.T.—Rank, do.; markings, do.

Brigade Asst. Adjt.—Rank, do.; markings, do.

Battalion Adjt.—Rank, Captain; markings, three blue rings on sleeves and one purple stripe on epaulette.

TRADESMAN.

"Moulder."—Make application (stating qualifications) to your O/C. for transfer to Works Corps.

ORDNANCE.

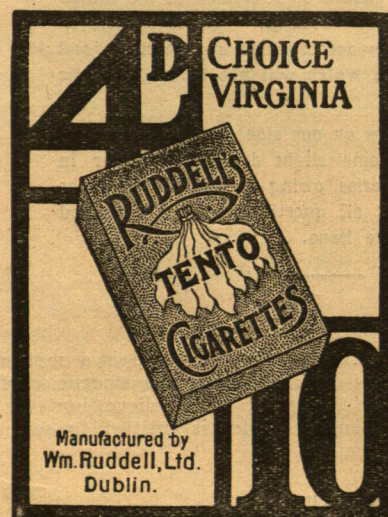
"Sinn Fein Abu!"—(1) You should have given your mother's full name and home address. (2) We take it that you refer to the Civic Guard, and we are sorry to inform you that men will only be accepted who are over 19 years of age, 5 feet 9 inches in height, and 36 inches chest measurement. (3) No, not fully; and we are not aware that there is a distinctive insignia.

TRANSFER, &c.

"Tomás Nóglách (?)"—The first part of your letter will have the attention of the Department concerned. The question of transfer is a matter for the sanction of your O/C.

ESSENTIAL DETAIL OMITTED.

Will correspondents please note that in all queries relating to Dependants' Allowance, the home address, together with the full name of the dependant and the full name of the soldier, must be supplied to enable the case to be traced. This applies to a number of letters on this subject received during the past few weeks, and will explain why answers to same do not appear.



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Captain J. D., A.S.C., Curragh.—You should address a claim, giving circumstances and particulars, to the Officer I/C. Claims Branch, G.H.Q.

A SAM BROWN BELT.

"Red Cap Guide."—You don't state reasons for the action of the Provost Marshal. We cannot hope to answer questions if full particulars are not given. Write us again.

SENIOR N.C.O.

"Detail," Limerick.—The Company Sergeant-Major is senior to all other Company non-commissioned officers, including the Company Quartermaster-Sergeant. The Company Quartermaster-Sergeant is not entitled to Sir when addressed by non-commissioned officers and men.

PERIOD OF ATTESTATION.

Private R. G.—You attested on the 19th July, 1922, for a period of twelve months.

ERRATUM.

With reference to our answer to "Volunteer B. L. (Leix)," published in the issue of May 19th, that free vouchers will not be issued for journeys outside Ireland, our attention has been drawn to General Routine Orders No. 8, 16/12/'22. Paragraph 26 (Adj.-General's Dept.) deals with issue of Railway Travelling Vouchers, and states that they may be issued at the public expense. "To Officers, N.C.O's. and men proceeding home on leave to any part of Ireland, England or Scotland, provided that not more than one Free Railway Travelling Voucher is granted to any Officer, N.C.O. or man in any six months."

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ḡaoluinn do'n ARM.

GAELIC.

An iao ro ceathrúna na n-oifigeac?

Upuit a éioir aḡac cá bpuit bitéao an éapraen uí Upuain anro?

An tḡmiao ḡopar ar éaoḡ na láime clé éall annḡin.

ḡo maib míle maic aḡac.

Cá bpuit do éḡuall, a ḡeáin?

Anonn ḡo uí na ḡtóir.

Upuit fuirm ceapóala aḡac?

ḡá. Cao ḡá tú aḡ loḡḡ?

Éaoaige, cóir ḡḡibinne.

'ḡiao ro ceathrúna na bpéar.

ḡá mo bitéao anro i mbloc a ḡ.

Buail ipceac. ḡá mo leaba ra éall annḡin 'ra éúinne.

Beiró t'ionao ra caoḡ liom.

Buail an aḡairt ar an oḡoet, maḡ ro; aḡur fill é.

Anḡin buail an oḡet anuar aḡ an oá éaca.

Fill na plaincéaoa aḡur leaḡ ar an oḡoet iao.

Cuir na baḡlíni fillce ḡo ceap ar na plaincéaoa.

Anḡin fill roir plaincéaoa aḡur baḡlíni maḡ ro. Sin é.

An oḡuigeann tú anoir?

PHONETIC PRONUNCIATION.

Un nee udh su kah roona nun nuf fig uck?

Will lissa guth kaw will bill laidha kop tain ee vreen un su?

A tree oo dhuruss err haiv null law klay howl un sun.

Gurra meela mwaha guth.

Kaw will duh hir reela hyaan?

A noun gud dee nuss store.

Will fwirm tass daula guth?

Thaw. Kodh thaw thoo a lurrug?

Aid dee, kore shgreevinna.

Sheeudh su kah roona nuv var.

Thaw mu vill laidh un su im mlucka day.

Boola shtock. Thaw mull lobbasu howl un sun suk koonna.

Beg tinudhsu taiv lyum.

Boolan eyert erra duckth, mor shu; ogguss feel lay.

Un sun boola tuckth ann nooss erra dhaw hocka.

Feel nup plyin kaidha ogguss log erra duckth teeudh.

Kir nub borra leen nee fechta gud dass err nup plyin kaidha.

Un sun feel dir plyin kaidha ogguss borra leen nee mor shu. Shin nay.

Dhiggun thoo a nish?

ENGLISH TRANSLATION.

Are these the officers' quarters.

Do you know where is the billet of Captain O'Brien here?

The third door on the side of the left hand beyond there.

Thank you very much.

Where are you bound for, Sean?

Over to the Stores.

Have you a requisition form?

I have. What are you seeking?

Clothes, stationery.

There are the men's quarters.

My billet is here in D block.

Come in. My bed is over there in the corner.

Your place will be next me.

Place the pillow on the mattress so; and fold it.

Then place the mattress down on the trestles.

Fold the blankets and lay them on the mattress.

Place the sheets folded nicely on the blankets.

Then fold both blankets and sheets thus. That's it.

Do you understand now?

TO ANY SOLDIER.

It is in the small matters your co-operation will count most:

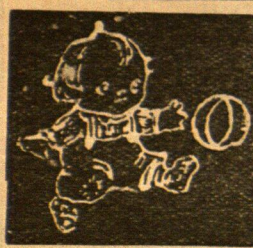
- (a) Strict observance of general discipline.
- (b) Particular attention to your personal cleanliness and appearance at all times.

(c) The courtesy and consideration you show the civil population in the course of your duties.

(d) Your behaviour in public. It is here that a bad soldier can disgrace the uniform and a good soldier can make it more respected.

Your co-operation in these important details will make the Army second to none.

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