



AN T-OGLÁC

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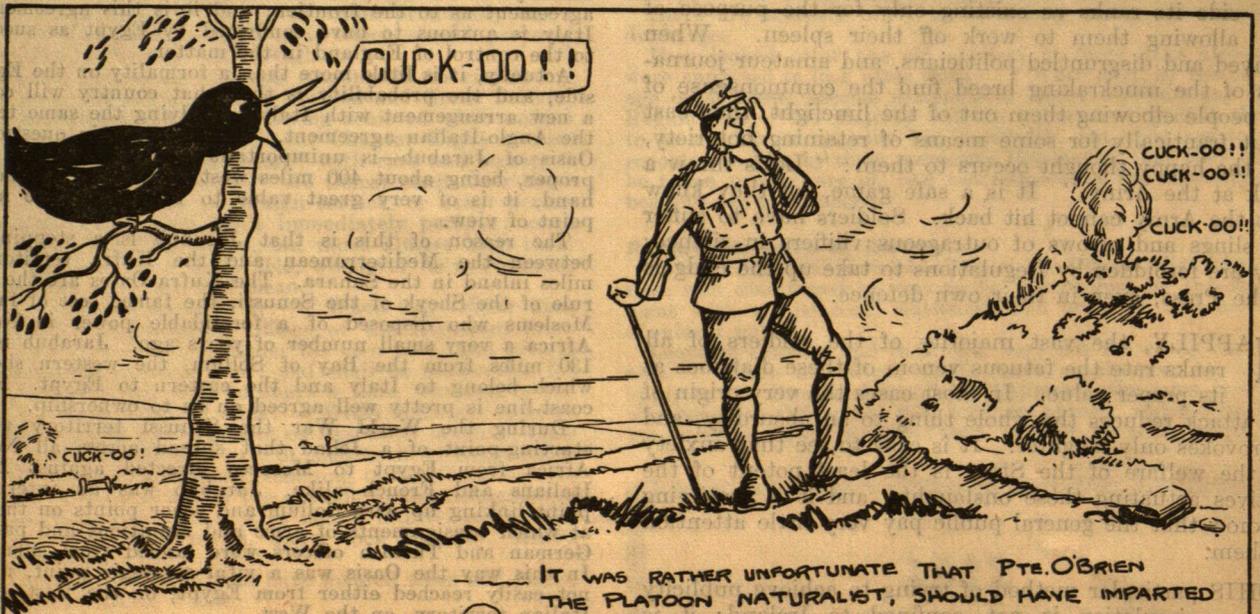


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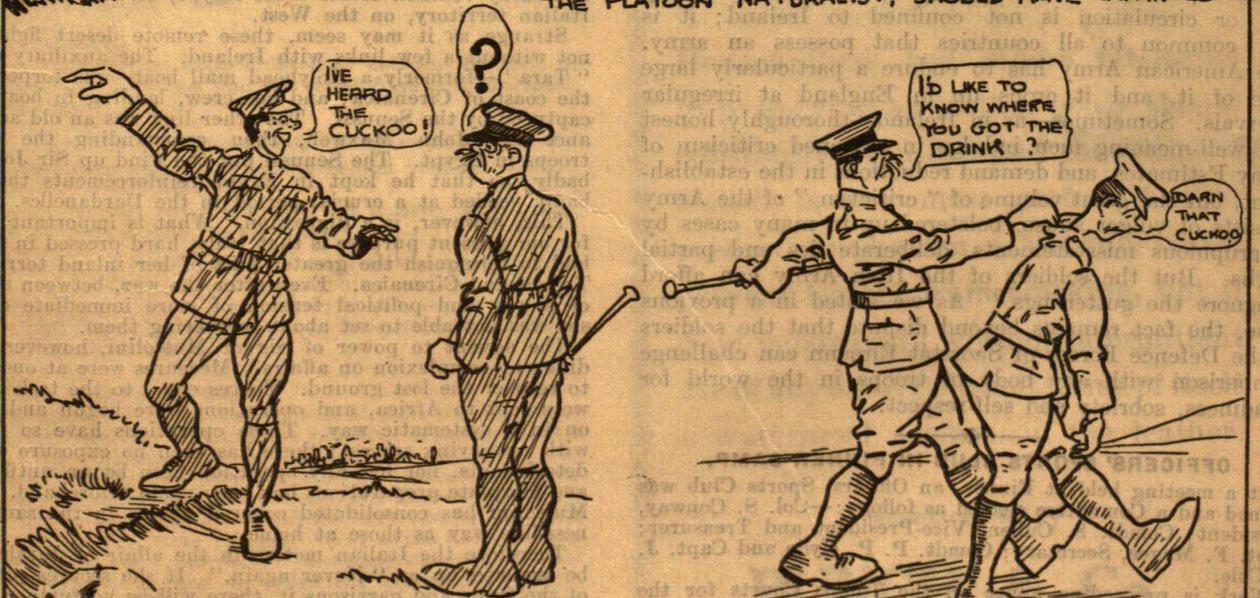
Vol. III. No. 9 (New Series.)

APRIL 25, 1925.

Price TWOPENCE.



IT WAS RATHER UNFORTUNATE THAT PTE. O'BRIEN THE PLATOON NATURALIST, SHOULD HAVE IMPARTED



THE FACT OF HIS HEARING THE CUCKOO TO A MILITARY

POLICEMAN WHO WAS BY NO MEANS A STUDENT OF NATURE

ARE THE P.A. IMPERVIOUS TO THE BREATH OF SPRING.

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AN T-ÓZLÁC

APRIL 25, 1925.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

THE Army seems to be regarded by some persons outside its ranks as existing only for the purpose of allowing them to work off their spleen. When decayed and disgruntled politicians, and amateur journalists of the muckraking breed find the commonsense of the people elbowing them out of the limelight, they cast about frantically for some means of retaining notoriety, and the happy thought occurs to them: "Let's throw a brick at the Army." It is a safe game, for they know that the Army cannot hit back. Soldiers have to suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous vilifiers in silence; they are forbidden by Regulations to take up the cudgels in the Press, even in their own defence.

HAPPILY, the vast majority of the soldiers of all ranks rate the fatuous venom of these diatribes at its proper value. In most cases the very origin of the attack reduces the whole thing to an absurdity, and it provokes only laughter. It is easy to see that anxiety for the welfare of the State is the least potent of the motives actuating these onslaughts, and it is gratifying to know that the general public pay very little attention to them.

THIS particular method of trying to achieve publicity or circulation is not confined to Ireland; it is common to all countries that possess an army. The American Army has to endure a particularly large dose of it, and it crops up in England at irregular intervals. Sometimes—as in Ireland—thoroughly honest and well-meaning men indulge in reasoned criticism of Army Estimates, and demand reductions in the establishment, but the great volume of "criticism" of the Army consists of vulgar abuse, bolstered up in many cases by unscrupulous misstatements, deliberate lies and partial truths. But the soldiers of the Irish Army can afford to ignore the gutterlings. As we stated in a previous issue, the fact remains beyond dispute that the soldiers of the Defence Forces of Saorstát Éireann can challenge comparison with any body of troops in the world for steadiness, sobriety and self-respect.

OFFICERS' SPORTS CLUB IN FINNER CAMP.

At a meeting held at Finner, an Officers' Sports Club was formed and a Committee elected as follows:—Col. S. Conway, President; Comdt. S. Cullen, Vice-President and Treasurer; Capt. F. Magee, Secretary; Comdt. P. P. Hyde and Capt. J. McCole.

Work is proceeding apace on the Tennis Courts for the coming season, and the Golf Course is receiving special attention. It is worthy of mention that this is the only official Army Golf Course, and is credited to be one of the finest 9-hole courses in the country. We hope to hear more of Golf from No. 1 Brigade Headquarters. The Rev. E. O'Harte, we learn, is doing a lot in this direction, and is an aspirant for honours in the Army Championships.

THE ITALO-EGYPTIAN FRONTIER DISPUTE.

We are told that an international sensation has arisen over an Italian Note to Egypt dealing with the frontier between Egypt and the Italian possession of Cirenaica. What is the precise matter at issue?

Long ago when all Northern Africa was Turkish and all its inhabitants Moslem, questions of boundaries between provinces—especially desert boundaries—were of no moment. Now, however, when the territory is divided up among a number of owners, it is a different matter. Accordingly, in the days of the Protectorate England and Italy came to an agreement as to the frontier; and it is this agreement that Italy is anxious to have confirmed by Egypt as succeeding to the control of England in the matter.

Actually, it is little more than a formality on the Egyptian side, and the probability is that that country will conclude a new arrangement with Italy embodying the same terms as the Anglo-Italian agreement. The territory in question—the Oasis of Jarabub—is unimportant and remote from Egypt proper, being about 400 miles west of Cairo. On the other hand, it is of very great value to Italy from the military point of view.

The reason of this is that Jarabub is a stepping-stone between the Mediterranean and the Kufra territory—500 miles inland in the Sahara. The Kufra Oases are the seat of rule of the Sheyk of the Senussi, the famed sect of fanatical Moslems who disposed of a formidable power in Northern Africa a very small number of years ago. Jarabub is about 130 miles from the Bay of Sollum, the western shores of which belong to Italy and the eastern to Egypt. For the coast-line is pretty well agreed on as to ownership.

During the World War the Senussi territory was the starting-point of a Jihad that spread across all Northern Africa from Egypt to Morocco directed against English, Italians and French alike. Jarabub was an intermediate point linking up with Sollum and other points on the coast, at which consignments of arms and munitions and parties of German and Turkish officers were landed from submarines. In this way the Oasis was a vital strategic point, and was not easily reached either from Egypt, on the East, or from Italian territory, on the West.

Strange as it may seem, these remote desert fights were not without a few links with Ireland. The auxiliary cruiser, "Tara"—formerly a Holyhead mail boat—was torpedoed off the coast of Cirenaica; and her crew, landing in boats, were captured by the Senussi. The other link was an old acquaintance—Sir John Maxwell, then commanding the English troops in Egypt. The Senussi put the wind up Sir John very badly; so that he kept in Egypt reinforcements that were badly needed at a crucial period in the Dardanelles.

This, however, is a digression. What is important to note for our present purpose is that Italy, hard pressed in Europe, had to relinquish the greater part of her inland territory in Tripoli and Cirenaica. Even after the war, between shortage of money and political tension of more immediate concern, she was not able to set about recovering them.

The advent to power of Signor Mussolini, however, put a different complexion on affairs. Measures were at once taken to recover the lost ground. Forces equal to the task in hand were sent to Africa, and operations were begun and carried on in a systematic way. These operations have so far met with unvarying success; there has been no exposure of weak detachments, nor has any operation been begun until proper and adequate preparations had been made beforehand. Signor Mussolini has consolidated colonial affairs in the same business-like way as those at home.

Therefore the Italian motive in the affair of Jarabub may be summed up as "Never again." If she secures possession of the Oasis and garrisons it, there will be no further danger of gun-running for the Senussi, should they again go into dissidence. Egypt is not likely to raise any serious objections; it seems certain that she never exercised any governmental power over the Oasis in question, and she will scarcely contend that Senussi gun-running was likely to be directed against herself—by co-religionists.

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WHEN SOLDIERS WORE PIGTAILS.

Prussian Army Regulations of the 18th Century.

DRILL SIMILAR TO THAT OF TO-DAY.

In the year 1757 a curious little volume was printed by one J. Haberskorn in London, and sold by booksellers in the English metropolis, by Edinburgh booksellers, and by "G. Faulkner, Dublin." It was a translation of the "Regulations for the Prussian Cavalry," and seems to have had a greater vogue than one would have anticipated at first glance. To-day, nearly two centuries later, it is of value principally as a curiosity, but there are passages in it which should prove of interest to the readers of "An t-Oglach."

The unknown gentleman who was responsible for circulating a translation of the Regulations in Ireland and Great Britain, must have flattered himself upon having achieved what modern newspapers designate "a scoop," for Chapter Eight stresses the importance of preserving them "with care and secrecy." Says Article I of this chapter:—"No Officer shall shew these Regulations to any Officer in foreign service, or other person whatsoever, to whom they don't immediately pertain; much less communicate or lend them; but must always keep them carefully locked up, so as to be able, whenever he is required, to produce them complete and clean."

Not only that, but (Article 2):—"When any Officer dies, or is killed, the Commanding Officer of the Regiment must take his book of Regulations under his own care, and give it to the Officer who succeeds him; and shall be answerable for every one, which is, for ever so short a time, wanting in the Regiment." And Article 3 adds:—"When subaltern Officers go on party, or leave the Regiment on any other account, their respective Captains must take care of their books of Regulations during their absence; and those belonging to the Captains are, on such occasions, to be left in the custody of the Commanding Officer; but when a Regiment is to march into action, all the Officers shall leave their books, under lock and key, behind them."

Nowadays they probably would have insured them and placed them in a Safe Deposit Vault.

Same Drill as Now.

There was remarkably little differences between the drill of those troopers 168 year ago, and the latest form now practised. As witness this:—

Face to the right-about!—3 motions.

1. Place your right foot nimbly behind your left heel.
2. Face to the right-about.
3. Lift up your right foot, and set it down again, with a strong motion, by your left.

"It is to be observed further," says this dead and gone drill instructor, "that in wheeling, marching, and on all duties, the men must carry their Firelocks firm and steady on their shoulders, and their right hands are to hang close and motionless down their right sides."

Survivor of a Duel not so Lucky.

The army authorities of those days in Prussia did their best to discourage duelling amongst the soldiers. They devoted a chapter of the Regulations to the subject. If any Officer was killed in a duel it was the duty of the senior Officer on the spot to send out Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers, on horseback, on all the roads to apprehend the survivor, in the event of the latter having "done a bunk." Any of the pursuers who wilfully permitted the "murderer" to escape was to be deemed guilty of the murder, and to suffer the punishment which, according to law would have been inflicted upon the duellist. These orders against duelling applied to all ranks in the army.

Subordinate Officers had to mind their "P's" and "Q's" in those days. Perpend. If an Officer on Duty is insulted by his Colonel, or Field-Officer, or is even *threatened to be caned*, he is not to take notice of the injury till he is relieved, after which he is at liberty to demand proper satisfaction; but if any Officer presumes, because he has been severely reprimanded or corrected for some irregularity by a Colonel or Field-Officer, to challenge him, *he shall be confined in a fortress for eight years; and during life, if he draws his sword; if he wounds him, he shall be shot without mercy; and beheaded if he does it while on duty.*"

The Italics are ours.

Discharges Must Have Been Few.

If a Captain desired to discharge any man in his Troop or Squadron he had to replace him with a *better* man. If he failed to supply the better man the Captain was to be cashiered!

There are scarcely likely to have been many unwarranted discharges.

They looked after the old soldiers in those days also—or were supposed to look after them. "When men, by reason of age or sickness, become incapable of longer service," say the Regulations, "his Majesty will on no account permit them to be discharged without his knowledge, but they are to be reported to him by their respective Regiments, that they may be taken proper care of, and not reduced to the necessity of begging for a livelihood."

Remarkable Sense of Decency.

It was also strictly enjoined upon the Officers that when a man was discharged he was to be "furnished by the Regiment with an old coat, waistcoat, and breeches, and not be dismissed naked."

Leave of absence and furloughs were not too easily obtainable. "When an Officer wants leave of absence, he is to apply to the Commandant of the Regiment, who must inquire whether such Officer has real business abroad, which requires his presence, and in what time he will be able to get it

1912

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* We have to thank Captain R. Walsh, 9th Infantry Battalion, Buncrana, for having kindly sent us the portions of this work upon which this article is based.

despatched; after which the Commandant, when he sends in his monthly return, is, at the same time, to write to his Majesty thereupon; but if such leave is applied for by an Officer only to take a journey for pleasure, the Commandant shall not write to his Majesty concerning it, nor shall any Officer be permitted to leave his Regiment on such idle pretences."

How to Get Into a Fortress.

Two Officers only per Regiment were allowed to be absent at a time, "and in the spring of the year, from the 1st of April to the 1st of June, no Officer shall be absent, not even for four days."

Why this C.B. in the spring? Were they afraid that all the Carls would wish to go frivolling with all the Gretchens? Leave was also stopped from N.C.O.'s and men during the spring.

If an Officer stayed a month beyond his leave he was awarded two years in a fortress and subsequently cashiered.

The regulations for "preserving Cleanliness and Decency amongst Soldiers" were wholly admirable as far as they went, and many of them could with advantage be practised by all soldiers of the present day.

Where the Pigtails Came In.

Our own young blades who try to dodge the regulation hair-cut will be interested in the following:—"The hair is to be cut in such a manner as just to cover the ears; and no Non-Commissioned Officer or Soldier shall be allowed to have a wig, if he can possibly wear his hair; and such as are obliged to wear wigs shall have them made very thin and short. On duty or in the parade the hair is to be queued close to the head, and the queues are to reach down to the waist."

"When a Soldier, off duty, untwists his hair, he must double it up, and wear it tied close with a short ribbon."

The Soldiers must be habituated to cleanliness in general; must have their hands and faces always well washed, and their whole bodies clean, in order to escape the itch, and all such other cutaneous disorders."

WITH THE TWELFTH.

The following is the favourite chorus in Barrack at present:—

Soldier, get your hair cut, get your hair cut, get your hair cut,
Soldier, get your hair cut, that fleece will never do,
All the soldiers in H.Q., get their hair cut, why can't you?
Soldier, get your hair cut, or else you'll surely rue."

Each Company has been allotted a plot in the C.O.'s garden, and many varieties of vegetables, cereals, root-crops and flowers have been sown already. A certain N.C.O. has drafted a pro-forma in this connection, containing the following headings:—(1) Variety of Seed; (2) Quality; (3) Probable Date of Rising; (4) Prospective Yield, and (5) Remarks. As regards (3) he hopes the "rising" will take place sharply at Reveille, and with reference to (4) he mentions that in the case of potatoes, the small ones should be utilised as marbles for the amusement of the children in the Married Quarters.

We read with interest and admiration the leading article in the last issue of "An t-Oglach" concerning Corporal O h-Uiginn, the cheque and the Irish language. Dá mbéadh gach craobh 'sa tSaorstát ag obair chomh cruaidh ar son na Teangan is atá an fArm ní bheadh aon bhaoghal cúrthe. Go mairidh ár nGaedhealg slán.

Considering that several outposts are now being evacuated and the Garrisons being transferred to their Battalion Headquarters, would it not be a suitable time for an Army photographer to visit the various Battalions and have photos taken in album form? My idea for the copies would be as follows (where applicable)—(1) The entire Battalion together; (2) all Officers; (3) all N.C.O.'s; (4) Machine-Gun Team; (5) Battalion Staff; (6) Hurling Team; (7) Football Team; (8) Tug-of-War Team; (9) Cross-Country Team; (10) Boxing

Team; (11) Dramatic Class; (12) Concert Party, and (13) what we call the "Special" Coy., that is the N.C.O. and men undergoing special training presently. Despite the unlucky number of headings I have chosen, I venture to say that the copies in album form would be welcomed by every Officer, N.C.O. and man.

(The idea has many points in its favour, but is not feasible at the moment. We would like to have expressions of opinion on the subject from other Battalions.—Ed. "An t-Oglach.")

The "Students" are doing well at the School of Instruction, but are looking forward to the end of the course.

ROS CAIRBRE.

JOTTINGS FROM GALWAY.

N.C.O.'s' Successful Dance.—Good Relations With Civilian Population.—Crowds at Sports Meetings.

Over 200 couples attended the Annual Dance of the Non-Commissioned Officers, 6th Battalion, 2nd Infantry Brigade, in the Town Hall, Galway, on Easter Sunday night, which proved a most enjoyable and thoroughly successful function.

Arrangements for the dance had been made on an elaborate scale by a very capable committee, and the Hall was artistically decorated.

The catering, which was in charge of a committee of ladies from the city, was excellent, and supper was admirably served in the Council Chamber at 12.30 a.m. Music was supplied by Mr. G. Glennon's Band, with Miss Sutherland at the piano.

The dance was patronised by Comdt. Smyth, O.C.; Captain Dillon, Adjutant; Captain Coakley, B.Q.M.; Lt. Kelly, Asst.-Adjutant; Lt. Maguire, M.O.; Captain Hogan, Lt. Wall, and a number of other Officers of the Battalion. Mr. Gallagher, D.J.; W. Dolly, Esq., and a number of leading citizens and a large number of the Garda also attended. Sergt.-Major Lynch and Sergt. Lewis proved efficient M.C.'s.

The dance concluded at 6.30 a.m. with the singing of "The Soldier's Song."

The 6th Battalion has become very popular in Galway, as may be judged from the fact that the leading civil functions in the city are attended by the Military, and in return Military social functions are attended by the civil population.

Regular contests in Hurling and Football take place, and the Football Match in the Claddagh Park on Sunday fortnight between the local Gaels and the Battalion Team, which was witnessed by close on two thousand people, was a notable illustration of the good feeling existing between the Military and the citizens of Galway. The match, which was refereed by Captain A.Lohan, resulted in a win for the Military Team by 3 goals 2 points to one point. Comdt. Smyth, as usual, proved a great centre player, while Lt. Kelly's tactics as full-back have yet to be equalled. Comdt. Sweeney acted as goal-keeper and defended several onslaughts successfully. Lt. Maguire and Lt. McGrath also showed good play.

Afterwards a Hurling Match between teams representing the 25th Battalion, Athlone, and 6th Battalion, Galway, was witnessed by another large gathering in the Sports Field, Renmore. The Galway Team was victorious. Good play was witnessed and vociferously applauded by the large gathering. The result was:—6th Battalion, 3 goals 2 points; 25th Battalion, 2 goals 2 points. Captain Lohan proved himself an efficient referee. The 25th Battalion Team were afterwards entertained at a Banquet in the Sergeants' Mess.

Sports are still going strong in the 6th, and the monthly Sports organised by the Committee are proving very successful. Tennis is now a feature of the Committee's Programme.

A bank takes on a number of young men during the summer. On their salary receipts is printed a legend something like this:—"Your salary is your personal business—a confidential matter—and should not be disclosed to anybody else."

One of the new boys in signing this receipt added:—"I won't mention it to anybody. I'm just as much ashamed of it as you are."

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS UNIT EASTER CARNIVAL DANCE.



A very enjoyable dance, under the auspices of G.H.Q. Unit, took place in the Mansion House, Dublin, on 11th inst. Limelight effects were arranged, and carnival novelties were plentiful. Above is a group of the dancers, including some of the leading officials. Front Row—Sgt. J. G. Howe, Capt. P. McKenna, Miss L. Salmon, Capt. J. Johnston, Miss N. Ennis, Mrs. A. J. Kavanagh, Capt. A. J. Kavanagh, Camp Adjutant, G.H.Q.; Mrs. P. Ennis. Second Row—Miss P. O'Connor, Sgt. M. J. Walsh, Miss M. Webb, P. Connolly, Miss M. Walsh, Capt. P. Swan, Mrs. C. Darby, Lt. C. Darby, Comdt. P. Ennis, Camp Comdt., G.H.Q. Back Row—Lt. M. Moloney, Miss M. Connolly, J. Fox, Lt. M. J. O'Brien, Miss K. Figgis, Miss E. Daly, Capt. J. Fitzpatrick, Miss M. Murphy, Capt. D. Coates, Mrs. R. P. Kearney, Miss U. Kelly, Sgt.-Major R. P. Kearney.

BITS FROM THE BORDER.

The 9th Battalion Sports Committee are to be congratulated on their success in locating a suitable Sports Field. Their success is principally due to the untiring efforts of Capt. Fyans, to whom heartfelt thanks is due.

* * * *

This was one of the extraordinary difficulties with which the 9th had to contend since last season (even the townspeople being handicapped in this respect) until a little band set out in quest and succeeded, after considerable difficulties, in achieving their objective. The Captain was "the man at the helm."

* * * *

By the time these notes are in print, "D" Co. will have gained more fame. This time on the Sports Field.

* * * *

Musketry Instructor—Now, Murphy, what is the line of sight?

Bright One—The line of sight, sir, is an imaginary line travelling from back-sight to fore-sight, and from the fore-sight on to the object aimed at.

M. I.—Good. Could you hang clothes on that line?

B. O.—Sure. Imaginary ones.

* * * *

Great activity has been displayed by the Barrack Engineer since the big storm. Is it his intention to put the public roadway out of bounds?

Private Donovan, of Cross-word fame, states he is unable to devote any more time to Puzzles. No doubt he has an extremely responsible position, and a hard master, but "Busty" speaks highly of him, and says he is a treasure.

An extra Guard is now required at the Garage to await the long-promised cargo of electric bulbs. Sergt. Jimmie Gil. is active with the field-glasses scanning the horizon. Jimmie says she's "dew" any minute.

Kruger proceeded on leave on the evening of the 15th. A number of his old colleagues saw him off at the station, but there was no demonstration, the local Fife and Drum Band being engaged elsewhere.

Why the rush for the "Army Journal" nowadays? Sweeney the "runner" tells me he is unable to "be everywhere at the one time."

The last time I passed through the "Gap," a friend asked me, "Is this the country they sing all the songs about?"

A good programme is fixed for Sunday, 19th inst. All roads will certainly lead to the Sports Field on that day. Amongst the principal items are the matches between "D" Coy. and "A" Coy., and Right Half Battalion v. Left Half.

Larry Orr tells me he has no doubt but that HIS Company will be the victors. After that there will be big things.

The discovery of certain "clues" by Cpl. Nolan has been the subject of discussion. All attention is now directed to the next issue of "An t-Oglach."

Of course, it could not have happened here:—"Halt! Orderly Officer. Who goes there?"



* (Author of "Another Marseillaise," "The Stranger," "The Winecellar of Father Cozzoli.")

Episode Six: AN AFFAIR OF OUTPOSTS—(Continued).

Rather to the surprise of the two Irishmen, the prospect of a fight seemed to please the camp retinue. The natives developed quite remarkable energy after Henry James had explained the situation to them in their own language, and set about putting the place in a state of defence, with the utmost cheerfulness.

"Yes," said the little man, when O'Farrell commented on this, "they really like a scrap. They are Spaniards, not Mexicans, and whatever you may think about the old Castilians' campaign against the Riffs, their kinsmen out here can fight. The trouble with them is that the proletariat, of which our garrison is a good sample, prefer the knife to the gun. The French Officers who really handle the army, although the higher ranks are all held by native Puertorians, find that their men take more readily to bayonet-fighting than to musketry. These *rotos* of ours have all done their period of compulsory military training, and can use a rifle fairly well. I have told them to sight on that grove of cypress over there—it's about two hundred and fifty, I think. That's where we will first hear tidings of our friend, the enemy. He may ride up in an ostentatiously friendly and innocent manner, but if I know the gang that is with Garcia, he will sneak from *mattoral* to *mattoral* until he is in position behind that first line of trees. You see they know by this time that I have bagged Wilfred, the Boy Scout, here."

He nodded his head towards their prisoner, who was sitting sulkily on the ground with his back to a tree trunk. He could scarcely have been more than eighteen years of age, but he had evinced a remarkable stubbornness when, after recovering consciousness, he had been subjected to a scorching interrogation by Henry James. Henry, annoyed at the lack of information forthcoming, wanted to employ more drastic methods, but the Irishmen drew the line at torture, and the little man reluctantly abandoned his siege of the prisoner for the time being.

It was the Irishmen, too, whom the youth had to thank for his present fairly comfortable position. His feet were tied and he was fastened securely to the tree, but his hands were free to roll cigarettes, which he did almost continuously, and he was comfortably seated. James's kindly thought had been to tie him by the thumbs to one of the lower branches so that only his toes touched the ground.

"That would have soon made him talk," said the amiable little ruffian. The Irish vote having prevented the experiment, he intimated to them politely, but with emphasis, that they were altogether too refined in their methods to deal adequately with the malcontents of Puertoro, and prophesied dismal consequences if they persisted in such foolishness. They merely laughed, and he turned his attention moodily to seeing that the *rotos* were properly posted for defence.

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Time dragged lazily by in the tropic sunshine. The native garrison showed signs of relapsing into their habitual lethargy, but James made the rounds at frequent intervals and kept their interest alive. Whatever the Irishmen thought of his methods, it was indisputable that the natives responded to them with alacrity.

"I think," said Jack Maher, at last, "that, pending the opening of this historic battle, it is about time we had some grub. I don't seem to have eaten a square meal for years."

"Give them another half-hour," said Brendan, "and then we'll spread the banquet, if they haven't showed up."

"What's the matter with James?" inquired Jack. "Is he searching for shamrock, or going to eat grass?"

They studied James. He had just flopped to earth and was pressing his ear against it. Suddenly he sat up.

"Horse coming this way pretty quick," he informed them, and barked a few sentences at the garrison which had the effect of making them assume an appearance of intent alertness.

In a couple of minutes they sighted a horse and rider coming over a distant rise. The horse was one of the small, shaggy animals peculiar to the country, which can climb steep hills with the agility and sureness of a goat. The Rider—

"Hell!" exclaimed Henry James; "it's a skirt!"

Maher swung up his binoculars.

"Good Lord!" he cried; "it's Molly!"

"Tell those fellows not to fire," snapped Brendan to the little man.

"You bet," said James, and did so. But kept his revolver ready as the horse and rider dashed up.

A moment later Maher was tenderly helping Miss O'Driscoll—a dishevelled and panicky-looking Miss O'Driscoll—to alight. And Molly, the fire-eater; Molly, the dauntless champion of desperate causes; Molly, who had braved the Black-and-Tans with equanimity—lay in his arms regardless of appearances and wept hysterically.

James stepped up to them.

"The lady is my prisoner," he announced.

Jack paused in his efforts to comfort the stricken maiden, and remarked briefly over her left shoulder:

"Go to hell!"

A dull, brick-red colour surged into the little man's face, and his eyes flashed dangerously.

Seeing which, O'Farrell took him quietly, but very firmly by the shooting arm, and led him away, addressing kind and explanatory words to him, as he did so.

"That's all very fine," said Henry James, at length, "and I'm sorry for friend Maher, and all that sort of thing, but the fact remains that I have orders to arrest that woman on sight. She is one of the most dangerous members of the Garcia crowd. She has introduced new and up-to-date methods into their revolutionary stunt. She has made them more dangerous to the Government than they could possibly have been without her help. She is, in fact, the brains of the *rotos*."

Again O'Farrell spoke soothingly. He admitted that James probably was quite right in his estimate of Miss O'Driscoll's services to the Garcia Party. It took an Irishwoman, he said, with a touch of pride, to make the dry bones of Puertorian revolution live. Some day, when they had more time to spare, he declared, he would tell James of the part Irishwomen had played in the struggle for Irish freedom. It would give James a better understanding of Miss O'Driscoll's activities in Puertoro. She was well-meaning, but misguided. As governess to the daughters of the Senora Ventura, she had fallen in with the wrong people when she came to the country, and they had convinced her that the Garcia movement stood for the removal of a tyranny, and the betterment of the Puertorians generally.

"In the circumstances you might have been in the same boat yourself," he concluded.

"Not dam' likely, snorted James. He was prepared, he said, after friend O'Farrell's able speech for the defence, to make allowance for the young woman. But no amount of talk could get away from the fact that she was to be arrested on sight. He didn't know what had brought her into their camp, but there she was, and there she would stay, until she reached the *cartel* in San Isidro. He would question her as to the movements of the Garcians in the hills, and then they would strike camp, if there was no danger of an immediate attack, and return to the capital with the two prisoners.

If the little man had taken notice of O'Farrell's expression whilst he was making this declaration, it might have warned him of the approach of stormy weather. O'Farrell was one of those strange Irishmen who lose their temper icily. His voice, when he again spoke, was, if anything, softer than usual; but, as his friends back in the old country were wont to say on such occasions, "damned unpleasant."

"Mr. James," he said, "you compel me to remind you that I am the leader of this expedition, and that you are under my orders. Also, Miss O'Driscoll is a lady and comes from my country. She will travel with us to San Isidro, where I will see the President on her behalf. Meantime I will be responsible for her safe custody. And if by word, look, or action, you cause her any unpleasantness whilst she is our guest"—his eyes bored into the little man's—"you will regret it exceedingly."

With that he turned on his heel and walked back to Molly and Jack.

By this time the young woman had recovered most of her self-possession, much to the disgust of Mr. Maher, who discovered that it meant a cessation of the remarkably friendly relations that had obtained while she was telling her story. Whilst not as hostile, as before, she kept the young man at a distance, and when Brendan came up she made it clear by her attitude that only dire necessity had driven her to seek refuge with them.

Summarised, her story—which Brendan considered remarkable chiefly for its omissions—was that Blerk, on the day when Maher had last seen them, overtook her in the drapery shop which camouflaged a Garcia rendezvous, and warned her that the Government had discovered the source of the propaganda epidemic. He told her that it would not be safe for her to return to the Senora Ventura's *casa*, and prevailed upon her to leave the city with him and seek shelter with the Garcians in the hills. She was not long in the camp of Izquierda, Garcia's right-hand man, than she began to repent her excursion. Blerk had been barely endurable on the journey, and shortly after their arrival in camp proceeded to make violent love to her. Izquierda intervened when he discovered Blerk's overtures, and she thought she had found a friend, but it speedily transpired that the guerilla chief objected to Blerk's love-making only because he, Izquierda, regarded himself as the only Sheik in the neighbourhood. For some time the mutual hate of the two men had protected her, but that afternoon the quarrel had reached a crisis and Blerk had gone to press, as it were, with a knife between his ribs. There had been trouble in the camp then, because "the deceased" had a number of followers. Izquierda had tied her up hurriedly (and, it appeared, ineffectually) and slung her into his tent, whilst he went out to settle the dispute. During the row that ensued she had managed to free herself, crawl out under the back of the tent, seize one of the horses and make her escape. She was aware, from listening to the talk of the camp, that the two Irishmen were encamped some

miles away and she had made in their direction as the nearest refuge, knowing that once her escape was discovered she would be pursued relentlessly. At any moment now she expected to see Izquierda make his appearance.

"I wish he would," said Maher, grimly.

Even as he spoke there came a hail from the edge of the cypress grove, upon which the *rotos* had been told to concentrate their attention.

"You have your wish," said Brendan. "Miss O'Driscoll you will please go into the tent for the present. You, Sean, come with me."

As the girl disappeared, they walked over to James, who was leaning moodily on his rifle, looking towards the grove.

"What is it?" asked O'Farrell.

"That's what I'm waiting to see," replied the other shortly.

Again came the hail from the person hidden in the trees:

"*Hola! Companero! Queremos hablar.*"

"He calls us friends and says he wants to talk," interpreted the little man. "I'll give him a pill if he shows an ear."

"Don't be too hasty, my friend," said O'Farrell. "Tell him if he comes into the open we will talk, but not otherwise."

An interchange of Spanish followed between James and the unseen speaker.

"He wants a guarantee that he won't be shot," said James.

James gave the impression that he regarded this as a piece of unwarrantable presumption on the part of the man in the grove. What right had that fellow to make conditions?

"Tell him to advance 20 paces from the trees without arms, and we will consider him under a flag of truce until the talk is finished, and he can take cover again."

Followed more Spanish dialogue. Then James grinned sourly.

"The beggar doesn't trust me," he informed them. "He wants one of you to stand out and wave a white flag as a sign that you agree to a truce."

"All right," said Brendan, and stood out where the unknown watcher could see him, holding up a handkerchief.

"That's a dam' foolish thing to do," protested James, but stopped speaking as a resplendent figure emerged from the trees and advanced the prescribed 20 paces.

The new arrival was a young man, handsome in a dark Spanish way and dressed apparently in his Sunday best—huge *sombrero de pajo*, white silk shirt partly covered by a gaudy poncho of llama wool, elaborately-decorated leather leggings up to his waist.

Brendan, Jack and the little Secret Service Agent stood before the tent facing him. James had protested that with such treacherous dogs as the Garcians they should take cover, yet when Brendan told him he could take cover if he liked, but that they would not, he spat viciously and remarked that he was not going to be outdone by any blamed Irishman. The natives had dug themselves in and were squinting yearningly along their rifle sights.

At O'Farrell's request he asked the newcomer what he wanted.

"You said more than I asked you to say," snapped Brendan, when James had addressed the stranger in hissing Spanish.

"Sure," replied the little man, unabashed, "I told him that we knew all about him and his gang, and that he could cut out the lies and come to the business right away. I also told him that my men had him covered, and that if any of his crowd in the bushes made a hostile move he would not be alive to see the result."

Brendan was about to insist upon strict adherence to orders when the bright vision over by the cypress grove unburdened itself. He had been studying the language since their arrival in Puertoro, but could distinguish hardly a word in the stranger's rapid utterance, nor in the quick-fire reply from James. A moment later, however, a sentence spoken slowly detached itself from the Spaniards' speech:

"*Tenemos que llevar la niña.*"

Brendan understood that all right and so did Jack. The Spaniard had announced that his party wanted the girl. Only that and nothing more.

James grinned wryly.

"He is hankering for the return of the maiden," said he. "If we give back the young *Senorita*, who was so foolish as to run away from her friends in a moment of feminine temper, there is no reason, so far as he can see, why we should not part amicably."

If he thought to see the two Irishmen grow fiercely wroth after the fictional manner of their race, he was doomed to disappointment. They stared very steadily at the Spaniard, rather as if he were a curious and interesting type of animal which they were encountering for the first time.

"If that is all that the gentleman requires," said Brendan, very quietly, "inform him that the interview is over, and that as soon as he gets back into cover we will sweep the grove with bullets."

With every appearance of relish, James conveyed the message to the Spaniard, adding a few biting remarks of his own, as to that person's ancestry, his style and general appearance, and the future destination of his immortal soul, provided that such as he possessed a soul.

Across the sun-baked stretch of open ground they could see a bitter scowl transform the handsome face. Then the Spaniard recovered his poise with an effort and shouted something. After which he swept a cavalier bow with his broad-brimmed hat, and, turning slowly, sauntered unhurriedly into the grove.

"Drop!" yelled James, as the stranger neared the trees. "Drop, you flaming fools!"

But the two Irishmen had not needed his warning; they were fighters of experience, and had flung themselves down an instant before the little man spoke. Jack cried to the girl in the tent to lie down. As James himself dropped, and almost before the Spaniard had disappeared, the bullets from the cypress grove were whistling by.

With wild shouts the *rotos* loosed off in reply, their yells being answered by the enemy with equally discordant vocal noises. The Europeans reserved their fire.

For five minutes there was what Jack described afterwards as "a devil of a row." The *rotos* blazed away with manifest delight, and had to be called upon to cease fire a dozen times before they heard and obeyed.

The shots from the grove had ceased, too, and the ensuing silence was almost startling.

"I hope we got *Izquierda*, but I doubt it," said James.

"Was that fellow *Izquierda*?" asked Brendan.

"Yep," said the little man. "We should 'a' shot him on sight. We've handled the whole thing badly—dam' badly."

He continued to grumble for Brendan's benefit as they lay side by side behind a little hillock. Jack was not in the immediate vicinity. Immediately the firing ceased he had crawled to the tent, calling on the girl to know if she was safe.

She was. When it had become evident that a fight was likely, Jack had told her that she was to lie on the floor in the tent behind the rolled-up bedding, and she had obeyed his behest for once. Furthermore, she was calmer and more self-possessed than before the firing started. After Molly's experiences in Dublin during the Tan Terror, it took more than a little exchange of shots to upset her. Her predominant feeling when Maher crawled into the tent seemed to be annoyance at the escape of *Izquierda*. Jack gathered from her somewhat acrid remarks that she would like to have seen the Spanish gentleman badly punctured, and that she regarded Brendan and himself as having rather neglected their duty in allowing him a chance of escape.

Jack crawled out of the tent again meditating on the ingratitude of the female of the species.

"Its' all over," remarked James, at the end of a quarter of an hour.

"What do you mean?" asked Brendan.

"They've vamoosed. Usual practice—fight and run away. I'll bet if you go over to that clump of trees now you'll not find a single yellow pig there. Unless, perhaps, a dead one. They'd leave him there—after going through his pockets."

And it was even so. When they explored the grove cautiously some time later they found a few spatters of blood on the vegetation, but none of the enemy, dead or alive. On their own side nobody was even scratched.

EPISODE SEVEN—"Wireless"—will appear in our next issue.

"SCRAPS" FROM GORMANSTON.

The boxers are coming on splendidly, though the powers that be are rather slow in supplying the necessary furbishings. Great interest centres in the promised Roberts v. Comerton bout. If Roberts can manage to save his wind while attending to Archibald, he may prove himself a champion. Should anybody attempt to tackle Orange they will find themselves on slippery ground when he peels off.

What will become of the "Jazz Band" now that the pictures have been discontinued? Is it outside the grounds of possibility for a dance to be held before the present season expires? Where is our dance organiser?

If anybody doubts the presence of "Sprinters" and "Cross-Country Runners" in our midst, all such doubt can be dispelled by standing outside No. 4 Hangar any day of the week, at the hours of 12.30 and 6 o'clock p.m., at which hours a demonstration of the above takes place.

There has been a lull in the activities of the Chess players lately, but the arrival of the new Chess sets should set things going again. Some of our men are really good players, though, like the Depot itself, they are SLOW to MOVE.

I am glad to hear that the Whist Drives are being revived, though this game is rather hard on our gramophones, a Record attendance is hoped for.

The "Dramatic Class" is, under the guidance of Capt. J. P. Tuke, about to embark on what it is hoped will be a successful career. P.P. was suggested for the part of "VILLIAN," but he was given the job of Whip instead.

HEARD IN THE CANTEEN.

Sgt. X.—"Speaking of boxers, the best thing for our men to do would be to challenge a Scotch team for a try out."

Sgt. Z.—"Why a Scotch team?"

Sgt. X.—"Because they never stand a round." After this DRY remark SGT. Z. had the glasses re-filled. Who said Stew?



GAVE BLOOD TO SAVE WOMAN'S LIFE.

AN t-OGLACH photograph of No. 373, Private P. McNally, Army Police, who was selected from amongst a large number of soldiers at General Headquarters who responded to the call for volunteers to give a pint or more of blood to save the life of a woman in the Coombe Hospital. A pint and a half of Private McNally's blood was taken on the 8th inst., with the result that the woman, who had been in a very critical condition, rallied and made a complete recovery. Private McNally belongs to Eadstown, Rathmore, Co. Kildare. On another page we publish a photograph of the other men at G.H.Q. who answered the call for volunteers on that occasion.

ANSO IS ANSUD 'SA SEANCHAS

II.—COGHLÉASA AIRM NA ROMHANACH.

Sul a dtabharfaimíd fé-n-a thuille d'eachtraí na gCeilteach do luadh anso, b' fhéidir nár mhísdé dhúinn tuairim éigin do thabhairt do'n léitheoir ar an saghas eagar do bhíodh ar airm na sean aimsire, agus ar an sort úirlis cogaidh do bhíodh in úsáid aca san allód. Agus, ós fearr an teolas atá le fáil againn indiu ar eagar slógh agus ar úirlise cogaidh na Rómhánach seachas mar atá againn ar aon cheann eile des na sean náisiúin b'fhéidir nár bh fearr rud d'fhéadfaimís a dhéanamh ná beagáinín de'n eolas úd do nochta anso.

'Sa chéad dul síos, níorbh arm seasta ach saghas Militia a bhí ag na Rómhánaigh i dtosach agus bhíodh ar gach fear infheadhma idir áoise a 17 agus 46 bliana freagairt do ghlaoch an náisiúin agus téarma do chaitheamh i seirbhís míleata na tíre pé uair d'eirigeadh an gá chuige sin. An túsce, ámh, agus do bheadh deire leis an toisc sonnrádhach fér cruinníodh iad do déantaoi a sgaípe thar nais a bhaile arís. Le himtheacht aimsire, ámh, do réir mar do bhí an Impreacht á leathnú agus ag dul i méid níor ró annamh do thárla gurbh éigean na fir do choinneáil breis is an tréimhse speisialta dár liostáladh iad. Bhídís ró fhada i gcéin ó bhaile chun iad do thabhairt thar nais in am, nó b'fhéidir go mbíodh riachtanas éigin míleata ann chun iad do choinneáil níos sia. D'eirigh d'á dhruim sin gur cuireadh arm seasta ar bun mar aon leis an ngnáth mhilitia. Arm ana bheag dob' eadh an tArm Seasta so i dtosach ach diaidh ar ndiaidh, do réir mar d'eirigh géar ghá éigin leis—in am cogaidh mhóir cuir i gcás—do méadúidh air. Legio no léigiún do tugadh ar an arm ó thosach agus b'é an léigiún aontán speisialta na Romhánach ó thuis go deire; B'é bun agus ceap an Airm Rómhánaigh é. Is dócha gur chualamar go léir trácht ar an eagar catha iongantach úd. Léigiún na Rómhánach. Tá an focal féin ana choitchian in úrlabhra an domhain, agus ní gan adhbhar. Le míle bliain, ó aimsir Hannibal go dtí an tochtú aois bhí slóighte caithréimeacha na Rómha ag scrí na hainme sin go doimhin i gcuimhne agus i stair an chine dhaonda. Ar feadh an ama úd bhí smacht agus forlamhas

ollchomhachta an mhór-náisiúin so curtha i bh feidhm ar an gcuid ba mhó de'n domhan, an méid de a bhí ar eolas ag muintir na linn úd, agus cuireadh lán bhrí an fhocail léigiún i gcéill agus i dtuiscint do náisiún na haimsire sin ar chuma nár dhóichí go ndéanfaí dearmhad go grod luath air.

D'athruíodh coirú an léigiún o am go ham-díreach fé mar chuaidh athrú ar gach aon arm a bhí ann ó shin—do réir mar do chuir an teolas a thagann as taithí agus as céill ceannaigh i gcéill do na taoisigh airm go raibh gá le hathrú. Phalan a bhí ann idtosach ach do tréigeadh é mar chóiriú catha go luath i stair an Airm agus glacadh leis an gcóiriú a chuireann an focal léigiún i dtuigsint go sonnrádhach agus do dheineann an cóiriú Rómhánach d'idir-dhealú ó phalan na nGréagach.

Bhí an cóiriú nua níos so ghluaste agus, dá bhrí sin, b'oiriúnaí go mor i gcóir ionnsaí é.

Do bhíodh ceithre aicme sa léigiún de ghnáth, agus do córuighití i gceithre líntí. 'Sa chéad líne díobh so do cuirtí

"Ní dhéanfaidh Éire aon mhaith go bráth, muna bhfuil misneach is muinghin aice aiste féin, rud nach féidir muna bhfuil teanga, béasa agus seanchas Gaedheil aice, ní h-íad teanga, béasa agus seanchas aon mhuintire eile ar domhan." (Risteárd de Hindeberg.)

na fir óga. Na Hastati do tugtaí ortha so ós na sleaghanna a bhíodh mar airm aca. Airm is éide éadtroma is gnáthaí do bhíodh aca. Fir groí cumasacha láidre is mó bhíodh 'sa tarna líne. Na Principes a tugtaí ortha so agus airm troma a bhíodh aca. 'Sa tríú líne do cuirtí na seana sheadairí. Na Triarii do tugtaí ortha so agus bhídís lúirithe agus airm is éide trom de ghnáth aca. Annsin do bhí na Velites, trúipí éadtroma, gur ab é a ngnó é an oiread díobháil is dob fhéidir do dhéanamh ar an námhaid, ach cath is dluth coisgear do sheachaint. Siad so leanas na ranna do bhí ar an léigiún. Cohort, Maniple agus Centuria. Deich gCohortes a bhí ann agus do bhí trí maniples 'sa cohort agus dha chenturái ins gach maniple.

VOLUNTEERED TO GIVE BLOOD TO SAVE WOMAN'S LIFE.



N.C.O.'s and men of General Headquarters, Parkgate, Dublin, who responded to the call on 8th inst. for volunteers to give blood to save the life of a woman in the Coombe Hospital, 27 men of the No. 1 Battalion also volunteered.

ARMY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONVENTION

Abolition of All-Army Week—Election of Officers—Major-General Hogan Resigns Chairmanship—New Scheme of Organisation as Adopted—
Better Standard Reached in Past Twelve Months.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

The Third Annual Convention of the Army Athletic Association was held at General Headquarters, Parkgate, on Wednesday, April the 15th, at 11.30 a.m. Major-General Hogan, Chairman, presided, the other delegates present being:—Major-General Cronin, Major-General MacNeill, Revs. T. J. O'Callaghan, S. Pigott, R. Feehily, R. McCarthy, Colonel Byrne, Colonel McGuinness, Major T. McGrath, Hon. Treasurer; Major Doyle, Comdt. Ryan, Comdt. Ennis, Captains Lohan, Wilson, Boland, Delamere, Lieut. Cowan, Comdt. Colgan, Secretary; Captain O'Brien, Assistant Secretary.

GROUNDS IN COUNTRY TOWNS.

The Minutes of the last Convention having been read, a discussion on the following questions arose out of same:—

The claiming by the Army from the G.A.A. of Provincial Status.

Procuring of grounds for Youghal, Castletownbere and Kilkenny.

The decision in the first case was to leave the matter in abeyance for the present.

In connection with the necessity of having grounds at the places mentioned, it was explained that in such cases Command Quartermasters should make application to the Quartermaster-General, General Headquarters, Parkgate.

The Minutes were then adopted on the proposal of Colonel Byrne, seconded by Major T. McGrath.

SECRETARY'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

The first item on the Agenda was the Secretary's Report and Treasurers' Balance-Sheet.

The Executive Council recommended through the Report to the Convention the advisability of the abolition of the holding of an All-Army Week, as heretofore, and recommended the holding of different events at different times and centres.

This recommendation was accepted by the Convention, the new Executive Council to make the necessary arrangements.

The Secretary in his Report recommended that an Athletic Trainer be procured for the Association. After a discussion, it was decided to leave the matter over for the present.

HANDBALL MEDALS.

Arising out of the Balance-Sheet, Colonel Byrne, Southern Command, stated that the finalists in the Handball Championship (Soft Ball Section) had not received their medals. Father O'Callaghan stated that he had personally presented the medals to the competitors entitled to same.

It was decided to consider the matter on receipt of communication from Hon. Sec., Southern Command Council, if possible, at the first meeting of the Executive Council.

On the motion of Father O'Callaghan, seconded by Major-General Cronin, the Secretary's Report and Hon. Treasurer's Balance-Sheet were adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The Convention then took up the election of officers for the ensuing year.

Major-General Hogan, the outgoing Chairman, informed the meeting that he desired to be relieved of the position of Chairman, which he had held for the past two years. In tendering his resignation, he stated that he believed it was in the best interests of the Association to have a change in the chairmanship. The prime reason for his decision in not seeking re-election was the fact that he wished to give more time and attention to athletics within the Eastern Command.

Major-General Hogan then proposed that the Rev. T. J. O'Callaghan, Vice-Chairman of the Association, be Chairman for the coming year. Major-General Cronin seconded. Rev. T. J. O'Callaghan was unanimously elected.

Father O'Callaghan, in returning thanks for his election, said that he felt he was speaking for the Convention as a whole in stating that he regretted the decision of Major-General Hogan to vacate the chair. To Major-General Hogan more than any other member fell the heavy work of carrying through the Association in its early days. Were it not that Major-General Hogan had himself nominated him for the position, he felt like declining the honour.

Father O'Callaghan proposed Major S. Doyle as Vice-Chairman. Major McGrath seconded. Colonel Byrne proposed Colonel McGuinness for the same position. Colonel McGuinness declined to allow his name to go to the meeting, and Major Doyle was unanimously elected.

On the motion of Major-General Cronin, seconded by Colonel McGuinness, Major McGrath was unanimously re-elected Hon. Treasurer.

Comdt. Colgan and Captain O'Brien retained the positions of Secretary and Assistant Secretary respectively.

After transacting the above business, the Convention adjourned for lunch.

NEW SCHEME OF ORGANISATION.

On resumption at 2.30 the Scheme of Organisation, as recommended by the Standing Committee, was considered and adopted in the following form:—

The name of the Association shall be—"The Army Athletic Association."

SPORTS.

The Sports which the Association will cater for are:—Hurling, Gaelic Football, Handball, Running, Cycling, Weight-throwing, Jumping, Swimming, Water Polo, Rowing, Boxing, Rounders, Tug-of-War, Golf, Tennis, Gymnastics, Motor Cycling, Polo, Hunting, and Horse-Riding.

MEMBERSHIP.

Every member of the Army shall be considered a member of the Army Athletic Association.

BASIS.

For athletic purposes the Army shall be divided into five Commands—viz., Eastern, Southern, Western, Curragh and General Headquarters.

A Command shall be composed of all Brigades and attachments stationed therein.

In the case of the General Headquarters Command, the following Units are attached thereto for athletic purposes:—

Personal Staffs—

Chief of Staff.
Adjutant-General.
Quartermaster-General.

Headquarters Section—

Army Medical Service.
Military Police, General Headquarters.
Military Police, Depot Company.
Transport, Portobello.
Transport, Gormanstown.
Engineers (Barrack Services).
School of Music.
Air Force.
Artillery, Kildare Barracks.
Signals, Portobello Barracks.
Remounts, McKee Barracks.
Ordnance and Supplies, Quartermaster-General's Department.
Island Bridge and Magazine

(Continued in Page Twelve.)

PORTOBELLO INSTITUTE.

Good Work Continued in Many Directions for Soldiers' Benefit.

The usual fortnightly meeting of the No. 7 Brigade Area Institute Committee was held in the Dry Canteen, Portobello Barracks, on Monday, 6th inst., at 11 a.m. Colonel McGuinness presided. Also present:—Rev. Father Casey, C.F.; Commandant Devlin, Commandant Colgan, Captain Kelly, Sergeant Collins, Sergeant Kenedy, Sergeant Kelly, Corporal Kelly, Corporal Connolly and the Secretary.

TENNIS.—A letter was received from Colonel McGuinness regarding the use of Tennis Courts for all ranks, conveying the decision that Officers could play with N.C.O.'s and men in actual competition, but they could not under any circumstances be permitted to practise together.

SUPPERS.—A complaint by the 22nd Battalion regarding the issue of supper was received, and the Brigade Quartermaster undertook to have same remedied immediately.

LIBRARY.—Sergeant Kelly reported that the membership is steadily increasing, and urged the necessity for the acceleration of the grant of £65 for the purchase of books, as the present stock is inadequate.

BILLIARDS.—Sergeant Kennedy reported that the Billiard Handicap had come to a successful conclusion, the prize-winners being:—

- (1) Private Morrissey, 22nd Battalion.
- (2) B.Q.M.S. Munster, 23rd Battalion.
- (3) Private Barr, 22nd Battalion.
- (4) Private C. O'Brien, Stationery Office.

The special prize presented by Commandant Devlin for the best loser was won by Private Whitty, Records Office. Arrangements are being made for a further series of inter-Barrack matches, and every endeavour is being made to secure a suitable Bagatelle Table.

LISSANFIELD.—Commandant Colgan proposed and Sergeant Kelly seconded a resolution that Lissanfield House Grounds be put out of play from 9th to 15th instant for the purpose of effecting necessary repairs.

It was decided that notice of all Sports under the auspices of the Institute Committee be published in Brigade Orders in future.

TRACK.—Corporal Kelly asked that the Brigade Quartermaster be approached with a view to having a portion of the Gym field rolled for the purpose of making a Sprint Track.

HANDBALL.—A communication from the Command Quartermaster was read by Commandant Devlin regarding the building of a Double Handball Court in Portobello, and Commandants Devlin and Colgan were deputed to select a suitable site for the erection of same.

PREMISES.—Colonel McGuinness notified the meeting that he had endeavoured to secure the evacuation of the Institute by Marriage Allowance Branch, and had secured a definite promise from Colonel Morcan to vacate the premises by the 15th prox.

The members agreed that in view of this undertaking further action in the matter was unnecessary.

CO-OPTION.—The suggested co-option of Mr. Comerford, of the Army Finance Office, was agreed to unanimously, subject to the approval of Colonel McGuinness.

CANTEEN.—The situation regarding Canteen Hours was considered satisfactory.

RATIONS.—Sergeant Collins reported that no action had been taken in Portobello regarding the issue of rations to residents in Married Quarters, and informed the meeting that 20 men in G.H.Q. were drawing rations.

Commandant Colgan agreed to see Commandant Devlin on the subject.

The next meeting was arranged for Monday, 27th instant. A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

SUCCESS OF "AN t-OGlach" CONTRIBUTOR.

The heartiest congratulations of our readers will, we feel sure, be extended to "Em. de V.," the G.H.Q. lady typist who has contributed a number of clever and amusing articles to our columns, upon her success in securing First Place in the Saorstáit in the recent examination for Civil Service Shorthand-Typists.

COLLINS BARRACKS, DUBLIN.

"Whist" Ceases—Baseball Commences : Boxing Again?

The 21st Battalion Football Team were at Gormanston on 15th inst., and succeeded in adding 2 more points to their credit in 6th Brigade League Championship. No Hurling Match took place. The 13th Battalion thoroughly maintained the Irish reputation for hospitality, both before and after the game.

H.Q. Battalion Football Team at Collins Barracks are pressing hard the heels of the 21st Batt. in the League Table, being only 2 points behind their friendly rivals, and it was their neighbours that defeated them. The meeting of both teams in a return League fixture should be a rousing match.

Heartiest congratulations from all ranks go out to Brigade Commanding Officer on his recent marriage.

Are the boxers being resurrected? If so, it is to be hoped that training will be taken more seriously. "Crooky" is bent on doing his part.

The musicians of "A" Company are practising hard. The best of us are guilty now and again of a "slip of the tongue," but who said he had received a "verbal note?"

Who sent Tommy McAvay a card with two fishermen? And why?

Willie O'Neill had a novel experience lately.

The Clock Man was much discussed in all corners of the Barracks for his hour advance which he made certain would not be overlooked. He finished the job 12 hours in advance of Summer Time.

Our local friend who takes great interest in route marches was much to the fore at the recent Battalion Sports Meeting.

Some enthusiastic supporters of the 21st celebrated the Dundalk victory by a few hours' tour around the town on a hackney car.

In talking over a recent sea story, a soldier mentioned that the sea was rolling "mountains high." Asked by a comrade if he knew what a mountain was, he replied that it was "a field with its back up."

Weekly "Whist" has ceased—at least for a few months. On the closing night, cheers were given for the Officers, and one soldier wanted to know "What about the new plates?"

Private "X." has his own method of describing titles. Recently he rushed into a certain office, saying, "The Brigade Adjutant-General Quartermaster wants you on the 'phone."

Now that baseball training has commenced, it is hoped to be able to field a good team in the near future.

The 21st Battalion Tug-of-War Team are open for practice matches.

"Alfy," despite rumours to the contrary, is still in possession of his "Tilting the Bucket" Prize. Good!

The Comedy Pair are still in the limelight. The former can tell a good story of the "In like a lamb and out like a lion" business.

G.H.Q. COMMAND LEAGUE HURLING.

G.H.Q. "A" Team travelled to Kildare on Wednesday, 15th inst., to play their second round League tie with Artillery Corps.

Artillery started off with the advantage of a strong wind, and showed improved form. Before the visitors had settled down the gunners had a good lead, scoring goals in quick succession. Headquarters' backs played a stubborn game, but the Artillery forwards were accurate in front of goal, and were well ahead at the short whistle. On resumption, G.H.Q. played a fine passing game, and soon began to wipe off arrears. The big lead, however, obtained by the Artillery proved insurmountable. Score:—Artillery, 7 goals 3 points; G.H.Q. "A," 3 goals 2 points.

This result leaves the teams level at the top of the League, and a play-off will be necessary, probably at Naas, which will be a neutral venue.

COMPETITIONS.

- (a) Inter-Company, Inter-Battalion, Inter-Brigade and Inter-Command Championships shall be held each year.
- (b) In the Eastern, Southern, Western and Curragh Commands Brigade Championships shall be on Inter-Battalion lines. Command Championships shall be on Inter-Brigade lines. For this purpose attachments at Command Headquarters may be graded as an extra Battalion.
- (c) Championships within General Headquarters Athletic Command may be played Inter-Departmental, or in such manner as the Command Council decides.
- (d) Not more than two representatives from each Command shall be entitled to compete in any event in All-Army Athletic Championships. Relay races excepted.

COMPOSITION OF TEAM.

- (a) The Company or Unit to which the man belongs on the opening day of the Championships or Competitions—Chaplains' or Medical Services Cups—and the date on which the draws for the Championships are made will be considered the opening day of the Competitions, is the only Company or Unit for which the man can play, except he is transferred by the Executive Council.
- (b) Where Battalions are transferred after taking part in a Command Championship, the Battalion is entitled, if undefeated, to take part in the Championship of the Command to which it is transferred, but if defeated prior to transfer, it shall not be competent to take part in its new Command Championships. Players transferred with defeated Battalions may play with Command in Inter-Command Championships.
- (c) In the case of individual transfers from one Command to another, notification of the transfer should be made to the Standing Committee. Such persons shall not be legal to take part in further Competitions of Championship nature, except with the sanction of the Standing Committee.

Note.—(a) Officers attached to the A.S.I., Curragh Training Camp, are eligible only to play with own Unit, Battalion, Brigade or Command Teams in Championships.

Note.—(b) In the case of Battalions being transferred after playing a draw in their Command Championships, the Battalion must carry out the replay to give effect to Paragraph (b).

CONTROL AND ORGANISATION.

(1) Individual Sports of a kindred nature shall be controlled by Sub-Committees consisting of one representative from each branch of sport from each Command, together with the following members of the Executive Council:—Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Major-General MacNeill, Major-General F. Cronin, Major-General D. Hogan, Hon. Treasurer, Secretary and Assistant Secretary. For the purpose of the formation of these Sub-Committees, Sports shall be graded as under:—

- (a) Hurling, Gaelic Football, Handball, Rounders.
- (b) Athletics, Cycling and Field Events.
- (c) Boxing and Gymnastics.
- (d) Swimming, Water Polo and Rowing.
- (e) Golf and Tennis.
- (f) Horse-Riding, Hunting and Polo.
- (g) Motor Cycling.

The Hon. Secretaries of these Sub-Committees shall become members of the Executive Council. Where a Command has not a Sub-Committee Hon. Secretary as representative, such Command shall have one representative on the Executive Council.

In addition to the Hon. Secretaries of the Sub-Committees, the Executive Council shall be composed of:—Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Major-General H. MacNeill, Major-General F. Cronin, Major-General D. Hogan, Hon. Treasurer, Secretary and Assistant Secretary.

The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Major-General H. MacNeill, Major-General F. Cronin, Major-General D. Hogan, Hon. Treasurer, Secretary and Assistant Secretary shall form a

Standing Committee to deal with administrative work, as empowered by the Executive Council.

The duties of the Sub-Committees shall be:—

- (1) The detailed organisation of the particular sport throughout the whole Army.
- (2) Arranging of Training, Programmes, public fixtures, and All-Army Championships.

Duties of Executive Council:—

- (1) Control of Central Funds.
- (2) Consideration of Training, Recommendations, Fixtures and Programmes.
- (3) Hearing of appeals against Sub-Committees.
- (4) Consideration of affiliation and carrying out of same to National Bodies where considered necessary or advisable.

Note.—Command and Brigade Councils shall be formed on a basis similar to the Executive Council.

PLAYING RULES.

The playing rules of the parent body of each sport shall govern the Competitions.

REFEREE'S ASSOCIATION.

A Referees' Association shall be formed in each Command, and only such referees shall officiate in Championship matches.

SUSPENSIONS.

Suspensions passed on any of our members by any Association playing similar games under similar rules will not be binding on the A.A.A., the latter body reserving the right to take such action against its members.

PLAYING ILLEGAL PLAYERS.

A resolution standing in the name of the Eastern Command as follows was defeated:—

"That the team that plays an illegal player or players in any Competition under the jurisdiction of the Army Athletic Association be suspended from the Competition, and in addition to be fined the sum of £5, such sum to be paid before offending team be allowed to take part in any further Competition under the jurisdiction of the Army Athletic Association. The date of the opening of the Competition shall be the date after which no legal player can be attached to a team."

OTHER RESOLUTIONS DEFEATED.

A resolution standing in the name of the Eastern Command as follows was defeated:—

"That we recommend the Executive Council, Army Athletic Association, to discuss the advisability of playing the All-Army Championships in Hurling and Football Brigade *versus* Brigade, instead of Command *versus* Command, as heretofore."

The following resolutions standing in the name of the Western Command were defeated:—

"That All-Army Championships be played Inter-Battalion and Inter-Corps, each Corps to have status of a Battalion. Members of Corps cannot take part except with their own Corps. All Corps to form a G.H.Q. Command."

"In addition to Command Council there be a Brigade Council in each Brigade. The Command Council to have two representatives on the Executive Council, and Brigade Council to have one."

A resolution standing in the name of the Southern Command as follows was defeated:—

"The Southern Command Sports Committee express the feelings that any extra games should not be catered for by the Army Athletic Association, but that no objection be raised to the promoting of any game by those in the Army who are interested."

Resolutions from General Headquarters Command:—
"That all ranks on strength of Corps and Services serving on detachment in Dublin are for athletic purposes on the strength of G.H.Q. Command." Defeated.

"That the Team which wins the All-Army Hurling and Football Championship have the privilege to select a team to represent the Army in the event of the Army playing matches against G.A.A. Champions, etc." Defeated.

RIDING, HUNTING AND MOTOR-CYCLING.

"That Riding and Hunting be considered a Recreational Training." Adopted.

"That Motor Cycling be catered for by the A.A.A." Adopted.

"That Gymnasia be fitted up and equipped in the various Barracks and Camps." Referred to Training Department.

"That a person who plays games not catered for by the Army Athletic Association (outside the Army) may be still eligible to compete in any Army Championship or Sports catered for by the Army Athletic Association." Adopted.

HOSPITAL STOPPAGES.

"That Hospital Stoppages and Stoppages of Proficiency Pay, Sub-Para. 2, Sub-Section 1, Section 3, Para. 38 (D.F.R., 1924), Order No. 7, and likewise Sub-Section (c) 1, Para. 56, be not applicable to soldiers admitted to Hospital through injuries received while playing games catered for by the A.A.A." Adopted and referred to the Adjutant-General for consideration.

"That civilians employed (directly) for duty in Army offices and who are paid under Army Vote be eligible to play all games catered for by the Army Athletic Association for the Command to which they are attached." Defeated.

The Convention ordered that the names from the Commands for the Sub-Committees should be forwarded to the Secretary not later than the 1st of May.

A letter in reference to the proposed formation of a Confederation of Sport for Ireland was read. The Secretary was directed to reply, stating that if notification was sent of the date and hour of the next meeting, the Army Athletic Association would appoint delegates to attend same.

After transacting the above business, the Convention adjourned.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.**Better Standard Reached During Past Twelve Months.**

The Secretary's Report was as follows:—

A CHAIRDE,—I have the honour to submit the following report on the working of the Army Athletic Association since our last Convention:—

Whilst not in a position to report any outstanding successes in the athletic arena, the standard reached was much better than the standard of 1923.

In the various Commands, Hurling, Football and Athletic Championships were decided, and knowing the circumstances existing due to demobilisations and transfers, the Command Council's achievement in the carrying through of their programmes was most meritorious.

The All-Army Championships were held in Dublin during the month of September and embraced Hurling, Football, Handball, Athletics, Swimming, Tennis and Golf.

Whilst the Championships were athletically successful, from the financial view-point they were a failure, our expenditure exceeding our income by over £600. Of this large sum, advertising and printing were the prime burdens.

The Boxing Championships were carried out at the Curragh during the month of December and were successful competitively and financially.

The Executive Council, having past experience to guide them, are unanimous in recommending to the new Council the advisability of adopting a less expensive and more interesting method of carrying out the Championships, and advise the abolition of the holding of an All-Army Week as being expensive, cumbersome, and failing in the objects aimed at. With this end in view, it is recommended that the Championships for the different events be decided at different times and different places.

The Standing Committee of the Executive Council desire to place before you an amended Scheme of Organisation. This scheme has received careful consideration and is recommended for adoption in its entirety.

Once more I desire to stress the necessity of procuring the services, even for a time, of a competent Athletic Trainer, or, failing this, securing sanction for the sending of a small number of our athletes to a Continental or American centre to undergo a course of training. By either means I am convinced we would be undertaking a work which would be of

great benefit, not only to the Army Athletic Association, but to the country as a whole.

The Army now being mainly composed of men between the ages of 18 and 25, is placed in a favourable position in comparison with similar Institutions or Civilian Associations, and we may look to the future with much hope of success.

In conclusion, I desire to thank the members of the Executive Council and Sub-Committees for their unselfish work so unsparingly given at all times.—Mise le meas mor.

PADRAIC Ó COLGAIN,
Runaidhe, Cumann Cleas-Lut an Airm.

THE AUDITORS' REPORT.

The report of the Auditors, Messrs. McNally and Co., 21 Anglesea St., Dublin, contained the following:—

A CHAIRDE,—We have pleasure in informing you that we have completed the audit of the books and accounts of your Association for the period from 4th June, 1924, to 31st March, 1925, and we wish to report on same as under:—

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT.

The opening balances to the debit of this account as set out in our last report amounted to £1,367 11s. 3d. The total receipts for the period, as set out in detail in the account, are £322 8s. 10d., and the other debits to this account are balance due to the Bank of Ireland 31st March, 1925, £52 6s. 3d., and 19s. 10d. due to Capt. O'Brien for petty cash, the total debits for the period being £1,743 6s. 2d.

The credits to this account are, balance due to other funds at 4th June, 1924, £23 1s. 7d., as previously explained. Total expenditure for the period £1,645 13s. 3d., cash in hands of the Treasurer at the 4th June, 1924, £74 11s. 4d. Thus the total credits are £1,743 6s. 2d.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT.

The Fixed Charges apportioned, and Working Expenses incurred for the period, amounted to £1,589 5s. 8d.; as against this expenditure there were receipts from the various sources, indicated in the account, amounting to £322 8s. 10d., leaving a deficit for the period of £1,266 16s. 10d.; offsetting same, however, there was a surplus on the Income and Expenditure Account for the previous period of £1,309 18s. 4d. Thus your final Surplus at the 31st March, 1925, was £43 1s. 6d., and this represents your Capital at that date (being the excess of assets taken into account over liabilities, as shown in the Balance-Sheet).

GETTING READY FOR G.H.Q. COMMAND SPORTS.

A meeting of No. 5 Group was held on Friday, 17th inst., at General Headquarters. Commandant P. Ennis, President, in the chair. Also present:—Sergeant P. Glennon, Secretary; Lieuts. S. McKeown, C/Sergt. Coffey, C.Q.M.S. P. Hodgins, Sergt. J. Quirke, Sergt. W. Pigott, Sergt. E. McCracken, Cpl. T. Hayes, Cpl. D. O'Neill, Pte. Twohig (Island Bridge), Pte. J. Kinsella, Pte. T. Malone, Pte. J. Price.

The President said he was pleased to see the large attendance, as it reflected the enthusiasm of all the athletes attached to the Group. In view of the coming G.H.Q. Command Sports, which were due to take place early in June, training would have to start immediately. Island Bridge had only given a few good footballers and hurlers, and they were very backward as regards all other branches of sport.

Pte. Twohig (Island Bridge) promised to let the Secretary have details of all athletes in his Barracks, and also a report on the facilities for training.

Handball.

The result of the Novice Handball Competition is as follows:—

Pte. J. Kelly, Winner.

Pte. J. Farrell, Runner-up.

Senior Competition starts on Wednesday, 22nd April, 1925.



Sub-Committees.

Sub-Committees were formed for the following branches of sport:—

HURLING.—Cpl. O'Neill, Capt. Lennon, Lt. Doyle, Lt. Cannon, Capt. McDonnell (Island Bridge), Cpl. Henrick, Pte. Stapleton, Sgt. J. Quirke.

FOOTBALL.—Captain O'Beirne, Pte. Price, Lt. Cannon, Sgt. Harvey, Pte. M. Keogh (Island Bridge), Pte. Gorman, Pte. Graham, Sgt. T. Duffey.

RUNNING.—Pte. O. Murphy, Pte. Dooley, Sgt. Connolly, Pte. Wylie.

HANDBALL.—Lt. McKeown, Sgt. Pigott, Sgt.-Major Cork, Pte. Fitzgerald, Pte. Byrne.

WEIGHT-THROWING.—Sgt. Harvey, Sgt. P. J. Walsh, Sgt. Hughes, Pte. D. Keenan.

SWIMMING.—Captain Power, Lt. Daly, C/Sgt. Lindsay, Cpl. Lynch, Pte. Browne, Lt. Mulrooney, Sgt. McCracken.

ROWING.—Sgt. Coffey, Captain Nolan.

BOXING.—Cpl. Perry, Sgt. McCarthy, Pte. Malone, Pte. Kinsella, Cpl. McCormack.

TUG-O'-WAR.—C.Q.M.S. Hodgins, Lt. Giblin, Sgt. Hill, Sgt. Stroud.

The Secretary was instructed to make arrangements for the opening of the Swimming Season. A lengthy discussion took place regarding the advisability of renting Open Air (Sea Water) Baths. The matter was held over pending information from the Swimming Sub-Committee.

The next meeting was fixed for Friday, 24th inst.

[Note.—Since the meeting on 17th inst. it has been ascertained that the Sea Swimming Baths around Dublin have been booked up for the year by civilian clubs.—ED.]

MEETING OF G.H.Q. COMMAND COUNCIL

A meeting of G.H.Q. Command Council of the A.A.A. was held at General Headquarters on Monday, 20th inst. Major McGrath (Chairman) presided, and there were also present Commandant Mackey (Vice-Chairman), Sgt. Glennon (Assistant Secretary), Captain Delamere, Sgt.-Maj. Brophy (Baldonnel), Sgt. Keogh, Sgt. Gahan (Gormanston), Vol. Walsh, Vol. McCormack (Artillery), Cpl. O'Neill (G.H.Q.), Cpl. Hughes (Baldonnel). Portobello was not represented.

The Convention.

Captain Delamere (delegate) reported *re* the Convention, and also read extracts from the minutes. A Sub-Committee, as per Page 3, Para. 1, of the Convention minutes, was elected as under:—

FOOTBALL AND HURLING.—Commandant Mackey (Artillery), proposed by Vol. Walsh, seconded by Sgt.-Maj. Brophy. Passed unanimously.

ATHLETICS, CYCLING AND FIELD EVENTS.—Commandant Ennis (G.H.Q.), proposed by Captain Delamere, seconded by Comdt. Mackey. Passed unanimously.

BOXING AND GYMNASTICS.—Pte. C. Gaffney (Gormanston), proposed by Sgt. Keogh, seconded by Vol. Walsh. Passed unanimously.

SWIMMING, WATER POLO AND ROWING.—Sergt. Kennedy (Portobello), proposed by Captain Delamere, seconded by Sgt.-Maj. Brophy. Passed unanimously.

GOLF AND TENNIS.—Captain Delamere (Baldonnel), proposed by Sgt.-Maj. Brophy, seconded by Commandant Mackey. Passed unanimously.

RUGBY FOOTBALL.—Held over for further discussion, next meeting.

HORSE-RIDING, HUNTING AND POLO.—Captain Brennan (Artillery), proposed by Commandant Mackey, seconded by Sgt. Keogh. Passed unanimously.

MOTOR CYCLING.—Captain Quirke (G.H.Q.), proposed by Captain Delamere, seconded by Sgt.-Maj. Brophy. Passed Unanimously.

The Secretary was instructed to forward copies of minutes of All-Army Convention to each of the Group Secretaries.

Resignation.

No. 1 Group (Baldonnel) report the resignation of Captain Delamere as Secretary of that Group. Cpl. Hughes (Baldonnel) takes the position. Captain Delamere, however, remains delegate together with Sgt.-Maj. Brophy to this Council, as heretofore.

Swimming.

The Secretary was instructed to communicate with Sergt. Kennedy (Portobello) requesting his attendance at next meeting of the Executive Council to discuss the possibilities of improvement as regards swimming in the G.H.Q. Command.

League Fixtures.

FOOTBALL.—G.H.Q. "A" v. Portobello, Phoenix Park, 3 p.m., 29/4/1925. Referee—Lieut. O'Brien.

Portobello v. Artillery, Kildare, 3 p.m., 6/5/1925. Referee—Cpl. O'Neill.

HURLING.—G.H.Q. "A" v. G.H.Q. "B," Phoenix Park, 3 p.m., 22/4/1925. Referee—Cpl. Hayes.

G.H.Q. "B" v. Artillery, Kildare, 4.15 p.m., 6/5/1925. Referee—Cpl. O'Neill.

The following points were awarded:—

Football.—To Artillery—2 points for match against Gormanston.

Hurling.—To Artillery—2 points for match against G.H.Q. "A."

Absence of Delegates.

On the suggestion of Sergt.-Maj. Brophy, the Secretary was instructed to write No. 4 Group Committee requesting an explanation of the absence from Command Meetings of their delegates. Also an explanation of the delay in forwarding the report regarding finance in the Group.

Sub-Committee—Handball and Boxing.

Members were elected as under:—
Baldonnel.—Sergt.-Maj. Brophy. Proposed by Captain Delamere, seconded by Cpl. O'Neill. Passed.

Gormanston.—Vol. C. Gaffney. Proposed by Sgt. Keogh, seconded by Sgt. Gahan. Passed.

G.H.Q.—Comdt. Ennis and Sgt. Pigott. Proposed by Sergt.-Maj. Brophy, seconded by Comdt. Mackey.

This Sub-Committee to have powers to co-opt one other member, preference to be given to No. 4 Group (Portobello).

Libraries.

Cpl. Hughes, Baldonnel, stated that the Librarian, in his Group, had approximately 200 books which he was willing to exchange. Group Secretaries are requested to make arrangements with their librarians with a view to exchange. Full particulars will be forwarded by them to the Secretary, G.H.Q. Command, A.A.A., who will arrange details and particulars of exchange.

The next meeting was arranged for Monday, 4th May, 1925.

BLOOD TRANSFUSION.—ANOTHER CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS EVOKES BIG RESPONSE.

On 22nd inst. a parade of N.C.O.'s and men was held at G.H.Q. in response to a request from Mercer's Hospital, Dublin, and volunteers were called for to supply blood for a patient in that institution. Over seventy immediately volunteered. At the time of going to press the medical authorities had not arrived to select the soldier for the operation.

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OUR CROSS-WORD PUZZLE.

Prize for Design Number Six Goes to Collins Barracks.

Owing to the Easter holidays some parcels of the Army Journal, although despatched earlier than usual, have been late in reaching their destinations, and we have received complaints that the paper was not on sale in some battalions in time to give the soldiers a fair chance of competing in Cross-Word Competition No. 5.

In these circumstances we have decided to extend the time for sending in entries until Wednesday, 29th inst. The coupon published in this issue can be used when sending in entries.

The prize of One Guinea for Design No. 6 goes to

**T. Ua CONGHAILE, Captaen,
Collins Barracks,
Dublin.**

This puzzle will be found much simpler than any of the preceding ones. Solutions will be received up to and including Saturday, 2nd May.

In addition to the word "Solution" in the upper left-hand corner of the envelope, Competitors must mark the Number of the Competition distinctly in the same corner. Where this condition is not complied with the entry will be disqualified.

The usual prizes are offered this week:—

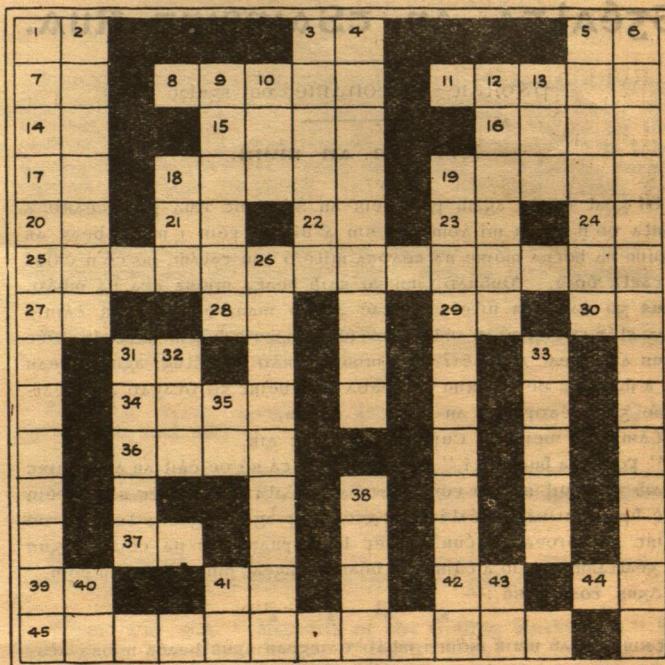
One Guinea for the best design received by Saturday, 2nd May. Envelope to be marked "Design."

Half-a-Guinea each for the two first opened correct solutions of each puzzle.

CLUES TO CROSS-WORD PUZZLE No. 6.

ACROSS.

1. Civic Guards (Initials).
3. Order of the Crown of India (abbrev.).
5. Battalion Officer (abbrev.).
7. Half beer.
8. Neither Christian, Jew, nor Mohammedan.
11. Leavetaking.
14. Negative.
15. Saucy.
16. A girl's name.
17. You (Latin).
18. Cattle driven in a body.
19. An Oriental ascetic or begging monk.
20. British Navy (abbrev.).
21. Two-thirds of "Yeo."
22. Suffix.
23. Initials of a very high-class motor car.
24. And (Latin).
25. Pertaining to administration.
27. Linnaean Society (abbrev.).
28. National Schools (abbrev.).
29. Name of a Northern Athletic Club (abbrev.).
30. Same as No. 7 across.
31. Diphthong.
34. Found in forests.
36. To receive by report.
37. Rural district (abbrev.).
39. Initials of journal published by the Christian Brothers.
41. Doctor of Divinity (abbrev.).
42. A curate.
44. An election system.
45. Quality of being without a name.



DOWN.

1. To bring to one centre.
2. Found in coffee.
3. Cuts the joint.
4. To die without having made a will.
5. To hold as an object of Faith.
6. Every Battalion has one of these Officers.
9. Worn by female section of the Army Medical Service.
10. Man's Christian name (abbrev.).
12. Scarcity.
13. Same.
18. God (Latin).
19. Quality of being fraudulent.
26. Entertainments between acts of play.
31. Not the same.
32. Ere.
33. Major.
35. Irish poet's *nom de plume* (reversed).
38. The Greek god of war.
40. A degree.
41. A law degree.
43. A high Army position (abbrev.).

DEPARTURE OF 1st (IRISH-SPEAKING) BATTALION.

On Tuesday, 21st inst., the above Battalion left the Hibernian Schools, Phoenix Park, enroute for Galway. On the night of the 19th the Officers of the Battalion were entertained by General Mulcahy at Lissanfield House, and on the night of the 20th they were the guests of the Officers of the 27th Battalion, who also are quartered in the Hibernian Schools. On the morning of departure the Irish-speaking Battalion was paraded at 11.30, and, after a brief address in Irish by Colonel Padraic O Conchubhair, was inspected by Colonel McGuinness, O.C. 7th Brigade. Subsequently, accompanied by the No. 2 Army Band, the Battalion marched to the Broadstone Railway Station, where it entrained for Athlone. Remarkable scenes were witnessed at the terminus. The men seemed in great good humour and indulged in Irish songs and choruses before the train moved out. They will remain in Athlone for a few days before proceeding to the City of the Tribes.

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| <p>6</p> <p>COMPETITION COUPON.</p> | <p>Competition</p> |
| <p>One of these Coupons must accompany every entry. State which Competition in small square above.</p> | |

SZÉALTA AN TSAIRSINT RUA.

pádraic ó conaire do sgríob.

XVI.—AR AN MUIR.

Bí gearr ágam féin leis an Sairsint Rua faoi céard a éarla do'n triúr mí-ádmaraic sin a bí leo féin i mbáto beas ar úrúim na bóena móire na céarta míle ó aon talaín, nó cé'n críoc a éarla dóib. Dubraó linn go raib beata míosa aca sa mbáto, agus go rabhadar uile cleactac ar an maraítheact: ar éamie siao slán i dtír, nó an amlaíó gur slus an muir mór na seacránaróche agus a soíteac suarac? Bí mise as ráó gur slus, agus eisean ar a malairt ve tuairim: b'fada linn beirt go dtasacó an széal-airé go b'féarparóe an gearr a sócrú.

Éamie sa veire. Cuiread an ceist air.
 "Foirgí a buacailí," ar seisean, "tá sé ve cáil ar an mbeirt asair go b'fuil sib go tosta leis an széalairéact, acé silim féin nac b'fuil mianac széalairé i gceactar asair agus a leitéro ve ceist seapótheac a cur." Acé beró fuasgailt na ceiste agus na gearraimna asair a túisge is béas mo széal mnsigthe asam féin."
 agus tosais sé:—

* * * *

Triúr ar an muir móir i mbáto dainsean agus beata míosa aca, céard na maraítheacta aca—céard a héadó orra nac b'féarparóis óul i dtír?

Oróche go tub le aon pic dá n'oeárnaó ariam a bí ann nuair a u'fós an murcaóac gearr ó ciarraíóe agus an murcaóac tub ve bunadó na hdiprice an long maic sin "an asaram" ar a raib an t-eirge-amac ar siubal agus nuair a éogadur an mainnéalac eile amac ó'n b'parrge. Smio níor labrad go rabéas acar maic ó'n luins, acé easla orra uile go szaoilpróe na piléir púta ruo a véanparóe cimnte acé nac b'pacas iao toisg gleó agus véine na trosa.

Fear ós, fear íseal beataíóe a bí sa b'hear a tárrtáluisgead, fear ve bunadó sasana agus é 'n-a luige ar éoin an báto. Labair sé faoi veire, agus is ar éisim gur túis ceactar ve'n dá murcaóac é leis an mbarróis lonvannac a bí ar a chúio camnte. Acé b'óel dóib go raib an veine boct traócta ve bárr a n'oeaca sé tuíó.

"Deoc atá uairó, silim," ars an murcaóac gearr, "tabair deoc uisge ve'n créatúr.

"B'féarr óó an rum," ars an murcaóac tub, "agus chúir mise neart ve sa mbáto."

Tusaó soíteac beas ve rum na luinsge ve'n fear traócta. U'ól sé go cíocrac an deoc sin. U'ól an beirt eile roinnt preism, agus amsim tosais an éamnt. Go veimim, ní ar an gceamnt aham a tosuisgead acé ar na hainráim éoin maic.

Cluinead aimirán ve sean-aimiránab na muir na sa mbáto beas sin, amuis ar úrúim na bóena, na céarta míle ó aon talaín, an oróche tub óorca sin; uisigsead éanlaic na mara móire le ceóltaib allta na hdiprice ó szórnac pliué an murcaóacis sin a bí éoin tub le gearr ceardóean; agus gan bréas a ráó, ní féarparóim mnsaect gur chúir ceól gearr an fíra ó lonvann cun suam aris iao. Acé tis liom an méro seo a ráó go n'oeanparóe daimsa féin an oróche iongantac sin dá mbéadó áit ar an mbáto le haig daimsa a véanam.

* * * *

Bí sé 'n-a lá gearr nuair a uisig an triúr. Bí oróche ragairneacta as gearr veine dá b'fuil as éistaect liom tráé dá szaoil—agus muna raib ba éeart go mbéadó, acé tá fíos asam uile go léir cé'n tart diabalca a bíos ar veine ar ar a leitéro sin u'ocáio. An tart sin a méadó faoi céad, agus tuisgear tub cé'n bail uacéasac a bí ar fuirinn an báto.

"Deoc!" an t-aon focal aham dár féadó an murcaóac gearr a cur ve.

"Deoc!" an focal aoubairt an lonvannac preism.

Acé ní raib an fear tub éoin dona sin amac 's amac. U'eirig leis a óul go dtí ceisim rum agus deoc eile tabairt ve na fearaib bána. Ólao é. Éamie cróíóe beas agus misneac ionnta éar éis sin, acé níor lasuisgead ar a dtart móran.

"uisge!" ars an murcaóac gearr ve las-ólorac.

"uisge!" ars an fear ó lonvann.

Cuaró an triúr aca go dtí baraille móra a bí i gceann an báto. Ossluisgead é. Uóirteadó curó ve amac i n-árac. Breacnaig an triúr aca ar a raib ann. Baluisgead ve. Ulasadó ve. Leat na síule orra.

"An uisge beircas tú ar an scuip seo?" ars an murcaóac gearr leis an murcaóac tub, "an uisge beircas tú ar an nim seo, a éneamaire óuib?"

"Ní headó, ar éor ar bié, a máistir," ars an fear tub, agus a órad piacal as veallraim n-a ceann, "ní headó, ar éor ar bié a máistir, acé ruo níos féarr i b'pao—rum atá ann, rum látoir!"

"agus cá b'fuil an t-uisge, a óiabail an tsaosail?" ars an beirt eile go tasoac.

Rinne an fear tub gearrú leam.
 "Níor cummigeas ar an uisge!"

* * * *

Céard a bí le véanam amsin? Uíodar amsin amuis ar an b'parrge móir na céarta míle ó'n talaín agus gan deoc uisge aca sa mbáto! Céard ba córa dóib véanam leis an amadóan a rinne vearmad ar an uisge agus a túis rum leis n-a ionta? é márbadó láitreaé? Acé cé'n maic a véanparó sé sin dóib? ní féarparó uisge a véanam dá énaimab ná dá craiceann tub. Acé uíoltas a baint ve—cé'n éaoi? Bí an cuirpéac, bí an murcaóac tub 'n-a luige i dtóim an báto agus é as tabairt na súl nac leispróe óó a tuille ve'n rum a cáiteam, nár cáitnis rum níos féarr ná uisge le n-a b'raire gearra. Cé'n uicéillróe a bí orra nac rabhadar as ól?

Cuiread speac sa b'hear tub. "Do horóuisgeadó uó eirge.
 "agus an biaó, a óiabail, cá 'l sé?" ars an murcaóac gearr leis an b'hear tub.

Ossluisgeadó bosca a raib banndáí iaramm éart air, agus go raib trí nó ceitre cinn eile dá macasamail cáitce i dtóim an báto. Cáiteadó amac a raib istig sa mbosca sin ar blár an báto. Leat na síule ar ár dtiúr, nuair a éonnacóadur sruc ve'n ór buróe as teact amac as an mbosca sin.

"Acé cá b'fuil an féoil agus an t-arán asac, a uicéamais?" ars an murcaóac gearr, a bí mar treóraitóe ar an triúr faoi seo.

"Nac féarr ór ná biaó?" ars an murcaóac tub, agus é as gearrú go sásta uó féin.

Tuit an cróíóe ar an mbeirt fear gearr. Triúr fear i mbáto beas na céarta míle ó aon talaín, agus gan sa mbáto sin aca acé baraille móra rum agus veic mbosca a bí lán leis an ór buróe!

* * * *

U'iméig lá.
 Bí an beirt fear gearr 'n-a suróe leo féin ar ceann ve na boscaib a raib an t-ór ionnta. Ocras agus tart agus mí-óócas orra. An fear tub 'n-a córolao i dtóim an báto agus é as brionglóitóis—as brionglóitóis faoi 'n tír bréas n-a rugadó é, b'éitior. An beirt fear gearr as breacnú air agus samnt agus meisge an ocras 'n-a súlib mire.

"A' n-íospa píosa ve, a eireannaig?" ars an lonvannac.

"Ué!" ars an murcaóac ó ciarraíóe, "cé'n éaoi a labarécá faoi agus an oac gearraó tub atá ar an gceariceann atá air."

"Acé nac u'áon tsloimne aham leat féin é?" ars an lonvannac, "agus na daoime atá ar aon tsloimne, bíonn siao ar aon bunadó ve gearraé," agus rinne sé gearrú gan sult gan suairceas.



PORTOBELLO-INGS.

Great activity on the 'Bello Front.

* * *

The Old Gym now looks like Madame Taussaud's after the fire.

* * *

Between Bayonet Fighters, Boxers and Tennis Players and buckshee duty men looking on and followers of the "WILLIAM TELL," stunt outside, one wonders.

* * *

However, peace reigns in the 22nd Mess and en passant I must pay tribute to the Mess Executive on their selection of a Billiard Table. The 'Bello team have now great facilities to enhance their already good name in the billiard line.

* * *

The sartorial side of the 'Bello denizens is improving remarkably. Between Sergt.-Majors' new uniforms and buckshee Sergeants' fancy socks, well, we are coming on

* * *

The Gym field is now becoming more like a recreational ground and less like a dump, but why, oh why, make Peter Pans of the Goal Sticks? Is it retrenchment of timber—or is it meant to compress Gaelic, Rugger and Soccer into one?

* * *

Yes, I am afraid the erection of a Ball Alley was merely a Utopian Dream after all.

* * *

The mens' suppers have proved a great boom. Again congrats. to the Institute Committee.

* * *

The departure of Hughie M. and Jerry L. from our midst has proved a great loss to all. However, best of good luck to them in their new sphere.

* * *

Congrats. to J. O'B.—another wee Records' Cross-Country Runner.

* * *

Woodie's toothbrush is coming on nicely—thank ye, kindly.

* * *

Listening in—Yes we are—all day! "ONE, TWO, THREE," now appears to be the slogan of the 'Bello

* * *

The 23rd are getting a jerk on in view of their forthcoming sports, and under the able guidance of Corporal Kelly great things are expected.

* * *

In the long jump I give Buckley as Double Nap, and as regards the Headquarter Company Relay Team—well I need only mention Pte. Neil, the Donoghues and McEvoy—'nuff said. Joner should be proud. Mon, aye!

Táim mairé i súilib an Éireannaí. Aet ní raib sé ve éoróie ann an fear eile a ionnsaíre. Ní fonn troda bí air aet mire an ocras. Táim creataó ball ar an bfeap ó lonnoan. Síl sé gur mótaí sé fiacla lárore an Éireannaí a tól istead n-a curo peóla. Síl sé gur mótaí sé a curo pola féim as toul síos sgórnae an Éireannaí. . . . mara marbóeáre an fear toub, bí sé cainte so n-ionnsóeáe an tÉireannae é féim.

* * *

Cuir an sgealaróe veire le n-a curo cainte. Da cosaíat gur éur ocras agus tart na mairnéalae pán ocras agus tart air féim. Ar éaoi ar bit, o'iméíe leis san smit eile a ráo.

"Méadóeáe me an sgeall paoi óo leat so tóamie síao slán i tóir ó'n mbáe beas sin," ars an sáirsint Rua liomsa.

"Óeántar ann," arsa mise.

[San sgeáo umir eile : XVII—long paoi Seól.]

SAYS THE SEVENTH.

Panoply of War and tented field have been forsaken during the week by three of our popular N.C.O.'s, who have, not without some regret on their part, and deep regret on the part of their comrades still serving, left the Battalion to take up positions in civil life. They are C.Q.M.S. O'Reilly, Sergt. Carroll and Cpl. McGrath, to whom our best wishes are extended.

* * *

At a Battalion Sports meeting held on 11th April, 1925, it was unanimously decided that the "ban on foreign games" should not be removed.

* * *

When will the "Rogues' Gallery" in the Billiard Room be completed? Who will be the next addition?

* * *

Has our Artist some fell design in portraying C.Q.M. Sergeants, and why?

* * *

Why are Letter Boxes sources of bewilderment to young soldiers, and who is the N.C.O. that has developed a habit of dropping Treasury Notes into the Post Box?

* * *

What caused our Chiropodist to imagine a cornet was a small corn? Was it because both caused pain?

* * *

When will the "Memoirs of the Golfing Enthusiast" be published, and who, despite "Lights Out," is burning the midnight oil on its composition?

* * *

Who are the young soldiers who display a marked predilection for brown bread?

* * *

Who will be the runner-up in the wet Sunday evening sleeping competition in "N" Block?

* * *

Post Corporal to P.O. Lady Assistant—Have you got any stamps?

Lady Assistant (displaying a large sheet of stamps)—Yes, plenty.

Post Corporal (gruffly)—Are they all the same price?

Lady Assistant—Yes.

Post Corporal—Then I will have that one in the middle.

Collapse of Lady Assistant.

* * *

What did the Charioteer say when the "Twins" went "wallop" on the road to Baldonnell, and was he not declared the winner of the "Cross-Words" Competition that then ensued?

AN BIORANACH.

THE TWENTY-FOURTH TALKS.

The 24th would like to know:—

Did a certain N.C.O. buy the hammer, or did the hire of the car suffice for all his earnings?

What does Sergt. Jack mean when he says "Big Tom" has only two more chances?

Why has Frank B. such a dislike for the poor roller?

Has a well-known individual yet got over the "Parth" business?

Did "Dolly" learn the game of "Whist" in foreign fields?

The No. 2 Band is being well spoken of in Dundalk yet.

What is the attraction at Clones in view of the recent threat to march back there?

Will the 24th win their return fixture against the 21st? What says their trainer?

Are we to follow in the footsteps of the 21st Boys, and run an excursion to Dublin on the occasion of Return League Fixture, which will be due shortly? We hope so.

"SPOTTY."

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THE OLD SWEAT.

(A STUDY.)

The Old Sweat. We all know him, and yet, with all his faults we have, deep down in the corner of our hearts, a warm spot for him.

We all know him:

"Hair a-greying, ashen eyes and uncemely ridges,
Autumn of things done, but mostly undone."

To the newly-joined he stands for "glory gained," but "fortune unattained," for oft they gaze and still the wonder grows, how one man's tongue can utter all the lies he knows. What a vocabulary he has! What a memory! And what a terrific "chancer!" Still, though we listen to his yarns *cum grano salis*, we are interested in our own despite, as if witnessing a Wild West "movie." We are, for the moment, entranced, though we know that both are merely illusions.

The Old Sweat is seen at his best in the "Wet" Canteen. Sitting with his cronies and their short pipes they have their reserved sanctum, and heaven help the unsophisticated rookie who strays where angels fear to tread.

On pay night they are at their best. They arrive and settle up for the week, and down for the night! The settling up for the week process is a study in high finance. The barman's account is settled first, and then the entire company's financial compilation starts, when things are amicably squared up and they settle down. Conversation is at first limited to Battalion topics; then (as the rounds increase) the topics embrace the entire Barracks, and when "Time, Gentlemen, Time," is called, the discourse has travelled several times around the world and reached a heated debate between Nobby Clarke—all Clarke's are Nobbies—and Jockser Farrell as to whether the upteenth Battalion were in his place or that on a certain date. The Provost-Sergeant's entrance quickly decides. "Clear out of this, ye lot of ould Scallywags."

Disgustedly they reach the Square, where they hold a verbal post-mortem on the idiosyncrasies of life in general, and the Provost-Sergeant's in particular.

Just before pay night when finance is at its lowest ebb, there may be that greatest tragedy—a new barman—swiftly dispelling their visions of "one on the slate." However, they "club in," and then the King of Canteen games starts—"Sup Chum." Should you be unsophisticated I'll explain the game of "Sup Chum." It can be played with pints or pipes. Take an example. Four pints between six thirsty men. The men sit in a circle and the pints are passed around. It evolves itself into "I sup, Thou sup, He sups, We sup, Ye sup." If the smokes are short the same applies.

The Old Sweat you will find safely hibernating or "dug in" on some cushy job. Never, OH! NEVER on the Square. Should there be rumours of parade there is "wind up;" rumours of an inspection creates a "cyclone," and rumours of a turn-out causes a "tornado."

"Before ye came up, me lad," appears to be his slogan. However, certainly before most of us came up the Old Sweat picked up a few wrinkles, and it must be admitted that he is generous with them. If you are in a fix or want any kit and—should I breathe it?—want temporarily to flog kit, the Old Sweat is your man! "Ah! God be wid the ould days when ye could flog kit, but now, if ye have any to flog, there is no one to buy it."

The dear Old Sweat! What a psychological study! Well might I quote:—

"The tumultuous swell of worldly combat and the wreck of change,
And emotions struggling with afflictions strange."

ME LARKIE.

CLIENT—"I don't think you have done my daughter justice."
ARTIST—"It isn't justice she needs—it's mercy."

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Very few Catholic soldiers stationed in Dublin seem to be aware of the existence of the above institution at 18 Hawkins Street. It owes its existence to Rev. Stephen J. Brown, S.J., who, as a member of Cumann Sugraídh an Airm, has shown keen interest in providing bright and suitable reading matter for the soldiers in Barracks, and has recently given valuable help in compiling a list of works suitable for inclusion in Barrack libraries (of which more anon). Father Brown tells us that he hopes the library in Hawkins Street will be largely availed of by the soldiers. As well as distinctively Catholic literature, readers will find at the Library the most authoritative and best known works relating to Ireland, such as "The Annals of the Four Masters," etc. There are also many books from the Library of Henry Grattan. One of the chief aims of Leabharlann an Chreidimh (such is the Irish title of the Library) is to counteract the pernicious literature which is dumped on us from abroad, and there are already in the Library six hundred volumes of interesting and wholesome fiction. Connected with the Library is a Lending Department, and the terms of subscription and membership are very reasonable. The entry fee for reader's ticket is 1/-. The yearly subscription is 10/-, or else 5/- deposit (refunded on demand) and 1d. per book per week. All particulars may be had from the Secretary, 18 Hawkins Street.

LAWYER—"Well, I've proved that you are crazy, and you are, thanks to me, a free man. My fee is £1,000."
CLIENT—"But I'm not that crazy."

* * * * *
If a goods train at a crossing
Hits a motor fair and square,
There's the goods train—Where's the motor?
Echo answers, "Where?"

Our Information Bureau.

Promotion.

"Anxious" (Dublin).—(1) If you have completed twelve months' satisfactory service on your first engagement (i.e., prior to re-enlistment in February, 1925), and declared such service on re-enlistment, you should bring the matter to the notice of your Commanding Officer, who, on verifying same through the Officer i/c Records, is empowered to have you posted in Orders as a Class II. Private, thereby entitling you to pay at the rate of 2/9 per diem. (2) The question of being graded as a Class I. Private is solely one for your Commanding Officer, on whose special recommendation all such appointments are made. Length of service does not establish entitlement to appointment to this Grade.

"Cross Words" (Island Bridge).—See reply to "Anxious" above.

Arrears of Pay.

"Hopeful" (Curragh).—Write to the Officer i/c of Arrears of Pay Department, Portobello Barracks, Dublin, giving full particulars of your claim.

Transfer.

"Interested" (Cork).—Apply for transfer in the usual manner through your Commanding Officer.

Pension.

"Wanted" (Dublin).—A soldier can draw his pension anywhere. In the case of a Military Service Pension or a Wound or Injury Pension he need not apply in person, but may be called upon to do so if circumstances render this action necessary.

Dependants' Allowance.

"Victim" (Portobello).—Your case is at present under investigation, and you will get a definite reply later on.

Proficiency Pay.

"O. B." (Portobello).—Your Commanding Officer can only put forward recommendation if the establishment for his Units, as laid down in Defence Forces Organisation Order, Order No. 7, affords a vacancy for a Clerk.

"Worried" (Athlone).—You should refer the matter to your Commanding Officer, who will take the matter up with the Officer i/c Records, with a view to securing the necessary verification to enable him to publish the appointment to Class II. Private in Battalion Orders. The publication through Orders automatically carries the pay of the appointment.

Railway Warrants.

"Inquisitive" (Curragh).—Married quarters in Barracks count as home address.

Leave.

"Interested" (Curragh).—Make application in the usual manner through your Commanding Officer.

Postman's Pay.

"J. P. H." (G.H.Q.).—Under the terms of the new Regulations you are not entitled to additional pay. Defence Order 30 is now cancelled.

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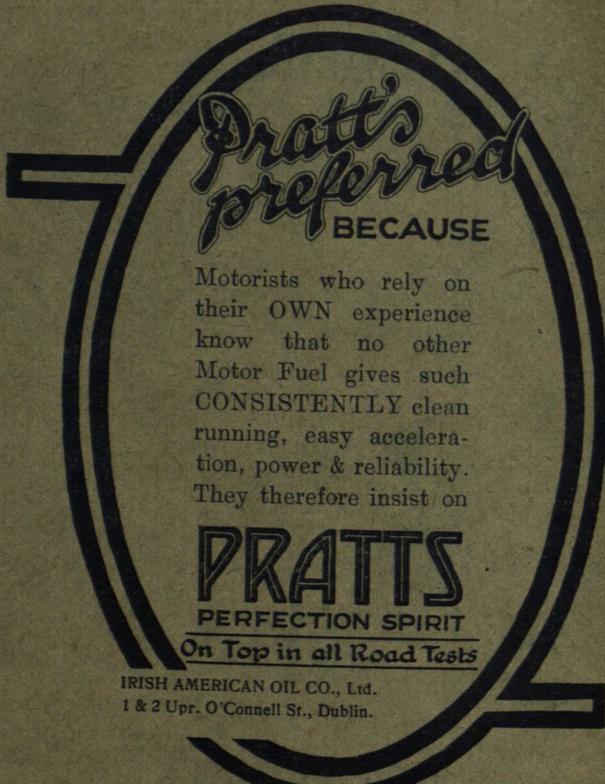
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