



AN T-OGLÁC

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An t-Ózliac

Vol. III. No. 11 (New Series.)

MAY 23, 1925.

Price TWOPENCE.



SAD CASE OF TEMPUS REFUSING TO FUGIT.

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An t-Óglách

MAY 23, 1925.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

THE visit of the French Light Cruiser, *Quentin Roosevelt*, to Dublin and the reception of the Officers and crew by the heads of the Irish Army was an event of historical importance in its way, emphasising, as it did, the national individuality of Ireland. It was the first time in history that the personnel of a foreign warship had been officially received by an Irish Government and Irish troops, and it is gratifying to be able to record that the French naval men were thoroughly delighted with their visit. The Officers displayed a remarkable understanding of the Irish situation, and evinced keen interest in the movement for the rehabilitation of the Irish nation. They made a good many inquiries as to the position of the language both in the country generally and in the Army, mentioning that the French Navy had a large number of natives of Brittany on its ships, some of whom knew no language save Breton (one of the Celtic tongues) on first joining. They inquired as to what language was used in drilling the Irish Army, and asked if the Officers were compelled to know Irish, as the Officers of the Belgian Army were compelled to know both Flemish and French. They also displayed keen interest in the educational system and seemed surprised to learn that, in the majority of cases, our University lectures were delivered in English.

THEIR kindly-meant questions were to a certain extent embarrassing. They emphasised the fact that we have still a long way to go before we can face the world fully equipped with those essentials of nationhood—national language and national culture. Fortunately our visitors displayed an understanding of the circumstances and were quick to realise that we were making progress along the right path, both in the Army and outside it. And, in this connection, it is desirable that a correction should be made in the evidence at the Gaelteacht Commission, which gave the impression that only one office in the Army was utilising Irish in its official correspondence. As a matter of fact Colonel O'Connor's own Branch, Training and Operations, uses Irish in its correspondence, and some of the Air Corps letters which have reached us have been in the national language. We may not be progressing very rapidly, but we are indisputably progressing. Meantime the attitude of our visitors towards the language question may give some of our lukewarm friends and Doubting Thomases furiously to think.

IN another page we publish an extract from the last Army debate in Dail Eireann dealing with the encouragement of Irish in the Army. There was an error in the reports in the lay Press as to the holidays to be

granted to Officers who secure a proficiency certificate after spending their annual month's leave at an Irish Language College. Officers who acquire such a certificate will be given an additional fortnight's leave. In addition to this matter there was much of interest to members of the Army in the debate in question, and we regret that it is absolutely impossible to publish adequate extracts in our little journal. We would recommend all concerned to procure a copy of the official report of the debate (Vol. 11., No. 14, Thursday, 14th May) for sixpence from the Stationery Office, or Messrs. Eason and Son, when they will find the proceedings occupying 58½ pages, or 117 columns.

JAPANESE ARMY MANŒUVRES.

It should be made plain that the Japanese special grand manœuvres are never a true reflection of the Japanese army in action. While they give considerable experience in marching, the issuance of orders, communications, etc., the campaign is, no doubt, closely worked out in detail before it is started, and some of the engagements at least are anticipated and carefully planned in advance. There is, therefore, very little to be learned of Japanese strategy or tactics.

These manœuvres serve a special patriotic purpose. They are held in a different section of the country each year and usually three to six divisions participate. All the populace within reach turn out to observe the more important battles and frequently crowd the fields and restrict the action and movement of the troops. Several Imperial Princes and either the Emperor or Prince Regent graciously attend, and to these great respect is paid by the troops and the populace.

The special grand manœuvres are usually held each Autumn. Those of 1924, from November 1 to 6, were the first since 1922, owing to the earthquake of September 1, 1923. They were held on a minor scale, both as to number of troops engaged and cost (about £300,000). A war organisation was outlined, but full war personnel and equipment was not supplied.

SPORTS IN No. 9 BRIGADE.

An Inter-Company Hurling and Football Competition has been started in the Brigade. The first round has already been played off, and the display given shows that the Competition will be very keenly contested throughout. The Finals of both games should prove to be very exciting.

A Silver Cup is being presented to the winning Company in each game, and also a set of Silver Medals.

The Brigade Sports, in which every event should be keenly contested, will be run off, it is hoped, in the second week in June.

Arrangements are being made to organise a Rugby Team in the 15th Battalion under Lieut. Sean Collins Powell.

A Silver Cup has been set aside for 9th Brigade Inter-Company Drill Competition, which it is intended to hold in the near future.

The arrival of the 8th Battalion from Athlone has strengthened the Brigade in the Sporting line. Great credit is due to this Battalion for their fine march from their previous station to the Curragh.

JAPANESE MILITARY MISSION TO ITALY.

A Japanese Military Mission, composed of high army and navy officers, arrived at Pisa, Italy, recently. The object of the Mission was an inspection of the Dornier Aircraft factory. It is reported that Japan has purchased the rights to manufacture the Dornier Aeroplane.



COLLINS BARRACKS, DUBLIN.

The One and Only "Mick" was quick to observe a fellow-soldier a few days ago **IMPROPERLY UNDRESSED**.

The latest Volunteers for transfusion of Blood for a man and woman, lying at Mater and Mercer's Hospitals respectively are Private Michael Downes and Private T. Donohue, both of A Company, 21st Battalion.

Since last issue many pleasant happenings have taken place, individual mention of which space does not permit, but collectively congratulations go out to all concerned, it may be mentioned that all are not confined to Battalion.

A recent Army Record:—

Working at 12 Midnight,
Wed 8 a.m.

In the Land of the Leek next morning 7 a.m.

Have you ever heard of the **NOSE** of the **SNEER** of a Rifle?

If a certain soldier had to deal with some Cases, he would have them **DEMANDED** for Courtmartial.

"Bones" in Cross Puzzle of last issue caused some heart-burnings, one well-known N.C.O. was inclined to state that same had some French reference.

The N.C.O. that got a **COLD** reception after finishing in a nice hot bath gave some chase to the would-be Culprits. Some good jumping was noticed.

Why does a certain Soldier only purchase this Journal when his name is excluded from these notes? (Keep on excluding his name—Ed.)

The Bathman to Soldier seeking weekly bath, "You cannot have a Bath as your Ration of Water has not been drawn yet."

The 17th Battalion have been declared winners of 6th Brigade Hurling Championship.

The Orderly Room Sergeant got a little bit mixed up recently in a conversation regarding Ammunition. Of course he was capable of explaining that there were two kinds of Ammunition Boots.

The 24th and 21st Battalions will have settled their return League Football fixture by the time these Notes have appeared. Can 24th accomplish at the Park what they failed to do at Home?

The result of 24th and H.Q. Batt., League fixture on 13th inst. at Park was:—

Football—H.Q. Batt., 9 points. 24th Batt., 7 points.
The game was a good one, and the renowned "Cocker" was as usual in the limelight. He seems to go on for ever.

The friendly game (Hurling), on 13th inst. at Park, 6th Brigade (Selected), met 7th Brigade (Selected), and after a splendid display of Hurling the result was:—6th Brigade 7 goals, 3 points. 7th Brigade 4 goals, 1 point.

What did "MICK" say when he heard of a recent case?

The deepest sympathy goes out to Pte. John Doherty, M.T.C., Collins Barracks, whose brother died recently from accident, which unfortunately occurred while taking part in Football Match for Western Command. He was attached to M.T.C., at Finner Camp.

Those intending to visit outside Ireland should make certain of bringing bank notes changeable in England, as "one of ours" when across the water recently, found himself in a predicament, having only Irish notes, which would not be accepted by the sturdy British proletariat. Intending

travellers please make note. (Irish bank notes can be cashed at Cook's Tourist Offices, or most British banks on payment of a small commission—Ed.)

Another batch of N.C.O.'s have departed for a short sojourn, and carry with them the best wishes for success.

RECITAL BY NO. 1 BAND IN AID OF WOUNDED SOLDIERS' COMFORTS FUND.

No. 1 Army Band, under the conductorship of Colonel Brase, played a magnificent programme, in aid of the Wounded Soldiers' Comforts Fund, to a most enthusiastic audience at La Scala on Sunday, 10th inst. This was the first occasion on which Colonel Brase conducted at La Scala, and it was a matter for conjecture as to how the Band would sound in comparison with the Theatre Royal. From the opening item—"Les Preludes," Poem Symphonic by the famous composer, Franz Liszt—it was pretty evident that the venue enabled the large audience to hear the Band under ideal conditions. Although each piece was enthusiastically received, the most popular item was the Fantasia from "Samson and Delilah," which was vociferously applauded. Individual instrumentalists in the persons of Cpl. McCurtin, solo cornet; Band Sergt. Ashton, solo clarinet; Pte. Harty, flautist, and Cpl. Gallagher, French horn, deserve special mention. Mr. M. O'Connell Redmond, vocalist, made his debut on Sunday, and is a tenor of pleasing quality, being repeatedly recalled for encores.

Mr. Fleming very generously lent La Scala for the occasion.

HURLING MATCH AT MULLINGAR.

On Sunday, 10th inst., at Mullingar, 17th Battalion Hurling Team met Raharney (Champions of Westmeath County for four or five years) and, after a splendid exhibition of hurling, the result was:—17th Battalion, 6 goals 8 points; Raharney, 1 goal.

You are frequently recommended to support the products of your own country, even at a sacrifice of a little extra price, thus to create employment for the people in their own land—excellent counsel, for without employment you must have poverty and all its attendant evils.

Is there any excuse for the people not supporting an article made at home and put before them **on merit alone**, better quality, no extra cost?

Science Polishes stand **on merit alone**—don't buy solely because they are made in Ireland—buy and don't be put off with substitutes when you are convinced that they are the best value you can obtain for your money—Science Polishes for Boots, Furniture and Floor defy all competition.

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OUR CROSS-WORD PUZZLES.

Recruiting Staff at Kilkenny Carry off Design Award.

The best Cross-Word Puzzle submitted for this issue has been sent by

SEAN O CASIDE, SAIRSINT,
MILITARY BARRACKS,
KILKENNY.

on behalf of the Recruiting Staff in the Marble City. A cheque for one guinea has been despatched to them.

Half-a-guinea each will be awarded for the two first opened correct solutions of this puzzle which is given below. Enclose Coupon, and mark on upper left hand corner of envelope "Solution No. 8."

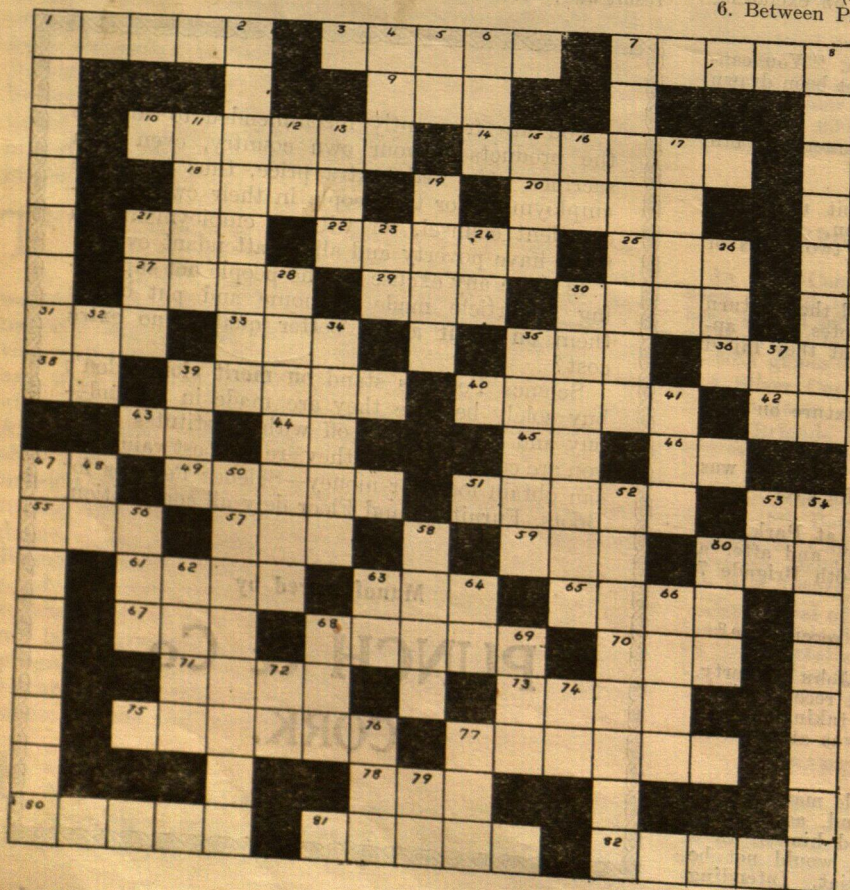
CLUES TO CROSS-WORD PUZZLE No. 8
ACROSS.

1. What defaulters are sent to do.
3. A subtle kind of sarcasm.
7. Soldiers carry—also smokers.
9. Evil (Irish).
10. Distributed by M.O. gratis.
14. Occupied by Editor of AN t OGLACH.
18. Part of a rifle.
20. Term for Oil (reversed).
21. Male offspring.
22. An Irish town.
25. A nervous disorder.
27. Wedding cakes are usually.
29. A military title (abbr.).
30. A River in Italy.
31. Predecessor of Garda Siochana.
33. Used in railway construction.
35. Consumed food.

36. Front name of once famous jockey.
38. Duty Officer (abbr.).
39. To give out (Army term).
40. Affectionate diminutive.
42. Type of Army vehicle.
43. Transpose (abbr.).
44. Military Office at G.H.Q.
45. Section of British Army.
46. Head of AN t OGLACH Staff.
47. A wasting disease (abbr.).
49. Capital of Afghanistan.
51. Ancient sepulchral monument.
53. A pronoun.
55. A town in Cambridge.
57. A fairy.
59. One (French feminine article).
60. A river in Switzerland.
61. City of Syria besieged by Crusaders.
63. Important in musketry training.
65. Part of a rifle.
67. A tree (reversed).
68. The trembling poplar.
70. Egg of small insect.
71. A bit cut off.
73. A philosophical Arabian.
75. Made hot.
77. Sort of bullet.
78. A mineral.
80. Bullet after passing out of effective range.
81. A military fortification.
82. May solve this Puzzle.

DOWN.

1. Part of a soldier's equipment.
2. Kept in No. 1.
4. Bird that carried off Sinbad.
5. To drink (Irish).
6. Between Private and Commissioned Officer.
7. Love potions.
8. Ships' ropes.
11. Important Irish port (reversed.).
12. Steamship (abbr.).
13. Suffix.
15. Not a friend.
16. An augmented fourth—diatonic scale.
17. A piece of money.
19. To dislike intensely.
21. Thus.
23. Heraldic term.
24. Officer dealing with railways (abbr.).
26. Baby's bed.
28. To place "Hors de Combat."
30. Reaches.
32. Important Officer.
34. Musical composition (reversed).
35. A town in Switzerland.
37. Young (Irish).
39. To weary.
41. A Japanese coin.
47. Soldier Knights of olden days.
48. A degree.
50. Found in Baldonnell.
52. Acts afresh.
53. Irish Army (abbr.).
54. Three-jointed.
56. A Thibetan beast of burden.
58. Accessory to "My Lady Nicotine."
60. Painters are devoted to.
62. A box.
63. An Adverb.
64. Pronoun.
66. Attention (Irish).
68. To imitate.
69. Conjunction.
72. Pronoun.
74. Mother (English diminutive).
76. A female deer.
77. Cheers, but does not inebriate.
79. Road (abbr.).



The prize winners in Competition No. 7 are:—

CAPTAIN O'CONNOLLY, **SERGEANT R. J. MEREDITH,**
Collins Barracks, 7th Infantry Battalion,
Dublin. Naas.

Cheques for half-a-guinea each have been posted to these successful competitors.

The solution of Puzzle No. 7 was as follows:—

ACROSS—1. Cooks. 3. Guard. 7. Scars. 9. Sot. 10. Gentle.
14. Octroi. 18. Stay. 20. Legs. 21. Sti. 22. Sword. 26. Esk.
27. Hens. 29. Roc. 30. D.A.A.G. 31. Lee. 33. Etc. 35. Ken.
36. Tir. 38. Sr. 39. Glory. 40. Lofts. 42. T.D. 43. Fa. 44. M.A.
45. Re. 46. En. 47. B.A. 49. Draft. 51. Lance. 53. O.C.
55. A.M.C. 57. Act. 59. N.C.O. 60. M.F.H. 61. Path. 63. Hat.
65. Erne. 67. Oft. 68. Sepoy. 70. Pan. 71. Alto. 73. Edom.
75. Trials. 77. Stores. 78. Oxo. 80. Sting. 81. Lieut. 82. Learn.

DOWN.—1. Colonels. 2. Sentinel. 4. Use. 5. A.O. 6. R.T.O.
7. Sergeant. 8. Scabbard. 11. Esté. 12. Ta. 13. Lys. 15. C.L.D.
16. Te. 17. Ossa. 19. Loot. 21. She. 23. W.R. 24. R.C.
26. K.G.T. 28. Stomach. 30. Defence. 32. Er. 34. Craft.
35. Koran. 37. It. 39. Gad. 41. See. 47. Bayonets. 48. A.M.
50. Rattling. 52. Corporal. 53. Of. 54. Chaplain. 56. C.P.O.
58. Maps. 60. Men. 62. Afar. 63. He. 64. To. 66. Name.
68. Sol. 69. Yet. 72. Ta. 74. Do. 76. Soi. 77. Sou. 79. Xe.

8

COMPETITION COUPON.

Competition

One of these Coupons must accompany every entry.
State which Competition in small square above.

BITS FROM THE BORDER.

The suggestion put forward by "Ros Cairbre" re the photographing of Battalions in album form has certainly many points in its favour. The idea will be welcomed by many Battalions, but it must be taken into consideration that unless a small army of photographers was employed the plan would have many drawbacks. Say, for instance, one or two camera men set out from one centre. By the time that they had reached certain areas, (Buncrana for instance) some of our best athletes would (like the competitors in the Curragh) billiard handicap portrayed by B. S. C. Thompson in "An tOglach") be going about on crutches, or perhaps drawing the Old Age Pension. At least this is our view.

"Well," said Tim "Haily" as he surveyed the boat to which his attention has been called in a recent issue of "An tOglach," "if you chaps intend launching her, let there be no 'Acton' about it."

I could not avoid playing evesdropper some days ago in the vicinity of the Tailors' Shop, and from what I heard I gather that the nautical section of the Ninth are about to embark on something entirely new. It is not uncommon now to hear such expressions as—"shiver me timbers" and "starboard yer helm." Pte. Coyle is now affectionately known as "the Bo'sun."

A meeting of Officers was held on April 27th for the purpose of considering the proposal at a previous meeting for the purchase of a small yacht from an Athlone firm. Lieutenant Finnerty who stated he had personally inspected the craft, reported favourably. On the proposal of immediate purchase by Comm. Frank Davis, it was unanimously carried that arrangements be proceeded with in connection with same.

Inclement weather has prevented the holding of many fixtures on the Sports field.

"Now look here," said the B.S.M. (not ours), "I want to see you all here at 2 o'clock and any man that's not here will be absent."

The Amusements Committee are about to get to work and in the near future suitable productions will be staged.

In the meantime we would like to know—

Who is the gentleman in Athlone that enquired for the "bright boy" in Buncrana?

What did he think of OUR representative billiard player?

Are they thinking in Athlone of sending a challenge?

Does he know that the 9th have touts practically everywhere?

Do they require any tips on wireless?

"Walls have ears," it is said. So have billiards balls. One never knows where one is. Does one, Athlone?

However, we are noted for our hospitality and we can assure Custume of a hearty reception at all times.

I have just witnessed twenty successive cannons by our representative billiardist.

Who is the man that stated a certain match could not be played owing to the "undated" condition of the Sports Field.

At a meeting of the 9th Battalion Sports Committee on May 14th, Lieut. E. Tierney was unanimously selected as delegate to attend the Brigade Sports Meeting with Cpl. Duff as referee to hurling and football matches. New colours—red and white stripes, as suggested by Commandant Frank Davis—were also decided on. On the motion of Lieut. Liam O'Mara the following sub-committee or working committee was elected for the actual training of athletes for the coming Battalion Sports. Capt. M. Kilkelly, B.S.M. Moraghan, and Corporal W. Beirn. On the motion of Commandant Davis it was unanimously decided to hold the Battalion Sports Meeting on Monday, 15th June.

Yes. All are back from the Curragh and seem satisfied. Captain M. Ballesty had a great reception when he arrived. He was "enveloped" in envelopes.

We would like to inform certain distant comrades that:—

Tracey now has "an English wan."

Pat Hays has a box camera (he calls it a magic lantern).

Jimmie Gill once more dresses the rere rank.

And Larry Ryan has now taken over from Tommy Feeney.

It is strange that when "The Twenty-fourth talks" no mention is made of one or two gentlemen well-known to the Ninth, so we venture to ask—

Are the slopes, trails and orders as perfect as ours?

Is Tiney's right arm in perfect order?

Who is the unknown sprinter?

We would "Sutton"-ly like to have a reply to those little queries, and in the meantime—More power Mick.

A large crowd witnessed a match between the Battalion Hurling Team and the Locals, played on Sunday, 17th inst. The match was fast and furious right from the beginning, and both teams gave an excellent display of hurling. The Civilians scored first goal, but the Military quickly drew level and after a hard fight the match concluded thus:—Military, 3 goals 3 points; Civilians, 3 goals 3 points.

This was the first hurling match to take place between military and civilians, amongst whom the best relations exist, and it is to be hoped that a re-play will take place at an early date.

"BRIGHT BOY."

MATCHES IN PHOENIX PARK, 20th MAY.

6th Brigade League Championship (Football)—

21st Battalion, 5 goals 4 points.

24th Battalion, 1 goal.

Commissioner O'Duffy's Gold Medal Tournament (Hurling)—

Garda Siochana, 2 goals 4 points.

G.H.Q. Command League, 2 goals

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ARMY CHESS.

Report on Activities to Date— Proposed Federation.

From the inception of Ogláigh na h-Eireann there have been votaries of Chess in various Messes throughout the Army. No regular clubs were formed in the early months, and indeed at present the number of clubs is comparatively few. This notwithstanding, it is quite obvious that the vogue of Chess is on the increase, and now that the A.A.A. has, for good and sufficient reasons, ceased to cater for Chess, it is felt that the time is ripe for an Army Chess Federation which will develop the latent talent amongst the enthusiasts, initiate Inter-Unit Competitions in the Army, and regulate competitions amongst Army Units with outside clubs. In this connection, it may be of interest to review the activities of members of the Army and Army Clubs in competition.

In 1923, the G.H.Q. Chess Club was formed for Officers at G.H.Q. A Shield was provided for Annual Competition, and the names of the winners appear thereon. The first name on the Shield, for the year 1923, is Captain J. P. M. Cotter. For the year 1924, Sergt. I. Myers captured the honour, and the 1925 competition is rapidly approaching conclusion. This competition is run on a handicap basis.

G.H.Q. Club's Record.

The G.H.Q. Chess Club has also tested its mettle against outside clubs, and competed all through in the Armstrong Cup Chess Competition. This competition is confined to Dublin clubs affiliated to the Leinster Chess Union. The Cup has been won this year by the Dublin Chess Club, and G.H.Q. is, as was to be expected, down the list, sharing 5th place with Trinity College Chess Club, against whom they won once and drew once. This result, whilst nothing to crow about, is, nevertheless, quite a creditable achievement for a new club without any experience of competition play. The Universities, of course, were also prejudiced by the fact that in the nature of things they cannot expect to retain the members of a team for any considerable time; but, against this, many of the members of both University teams have had previous experience in Armstrong Cup play. Although G.H.Q. Club had to strike their flag to most of the other teams, they have made a host of friends in the Chess world, and, indeed, are indebted to all the Dublin clubs for much valuable advice and assistance. Particular mention, in this respect, should be made of the Dublin Chess Club, whose advice and assistance has been invariably at the disposal of G.H.Q. Club, and many of whose members have promised to give assistance in coaching our team in the 1925-1926 season.

In individual play the Army members have been, perhaps, even more successful. In the Tailteann Games Chess Tournament, Commandant J. P. M. Cotter secured first place in the Minor Tournament, and it would appear that this is one of two trophies which the Army secured in the Tailteann Games. In this competition, Comdt. Egan had very hard luck in being just outside the first three. He secured fourth place and was indeed unfortunate not to have won his game with the winner. His match with Comdt. Cotter was one of the most gruelling of the whole competition, and the fact that Comdt. Egan lost can only be ascribed to the fact that the Fates were unkind.

Proposed Annual Chess Week.

In the Columcille Feis Competitions, Army players were well to the fore, and Lieut. Sean O'Connor, who is regarded as the doyen of Chess in the Army, secured first place. A movement is on foot to have an Annual Chess Week, and it is suggested that it is desirable that the best of our Army players should take part in such a competition. Players belonging to the G.H.Q. Club are, at the moment, the only players whose strength is known, but it is by no means certain that this club includes the strongest and best players in the Army. It is now proposed to form an Army Chess Federation, but it is during the summer months that the spade work of organisation must be done if Army clubs are to be in the running during the next season. Usually, a team is from 4 to 8 Boards (8 Boards in the Armstrong Cup) and wherever a

number of Chess players are stationed it is desirable that they should form a club, and link up with the Army Chess Federation. All Club Secretaries should, therefore, communicate with the Hon. Sec., G.H.Q. Chess Club, Parkgate, and any interested Chess players in the Army should also communicate, with a view to forming clubs, if they do not already exist.

SAYS THE SEVENTH.

With complexions rivalling the hue of the Science polish on their leggings, hale and hearty, our warriors who were absent on foreign service at the Curragh have returned. They are B.S.M. Dunne, B.Q.M.S. Downey, C.Q.M.S. Byrne, and C.Q.M.S. McEvoy. For them the fatted kipper has been slain, and verily their re-appearance with the "Old Battalion" was the occasion of much rejoicing.

The No. 1 Army Band, under the direction of Colonel Brase, played a very pleasing programme at Naas Barracks on the 17th inst. The general public, to whom admission was gratis, and the officers and other ranks of the Battalion appreciated the event to its fullest extent.

Propounded in the Recreation Room:—

"Beside a large clock which chimes the hours stands a wooden man, mechanically controlled, armed with a mallet. Each time the wooden man hears the clock chime once, he strikes an adjacent bell twice, how often does he strike the bell in twenty-four (24) hours. Some of our bright ones are calculating yet. Hurry up President, enlighten them; for that's a dark one. (How often does a WOODEN man HEAR a clock strike?—Ed.)

What do the "toffs" think of the new drill?

C.Q.M.S. Browne of "C" Company, reported to the Curragh on the 15th inst., to undergo a course of training. The best wishes of the Company go with him.

Now that our initial billiard handicap is nearing its conclusion, what of the dark horses? Are there any other surprises in store, and is there any truth in the rumour that the Q.M.'s Department, will in the next handicap, provide food for reflection, if nothing else?

Who was responsible for the suggestion that if "An Bioranach" essayed to work off some of his chestnuts on telling effect.

"Tho' stars may fade," recruiting goes on apace in Naas centre, for—

"From out each glen,
Come Higgins' men
To wear the Jackets Green."

AN BIORANACH.



THE CASTLE OF DUBLIN.

Sieges of the Past—How the Garrison was Provisioned—Law Courts There Before.

The Castle of Dublin was erected as far back as the year 1205 by one Meizler Fitzhenry, a Norman Knight, and within its precincts were a chapel dedicated to the memory of the martyred Archbishop of Canterbury, a mill, and a gaol. The walls were, as was customary, strongly fortified and contained several gate-towers, the doors of which were guarded by stoutly-built portcullises. The chief entrance was situated on the southern side of the present Castle Street, and here the moat which ran around the walls was spanned by a drawbridge. In fourteenth century records there are frequent references to this drawbridge, recording the purchase of ropes, bolts and rings, as well as wood for its repair. The Constable of the Castle was usually a highly-placed official, who appears to have had a somewhat onerous post, for, according to the terms of his appointment, he might not absent himself from the Castle for more than 12 days, except by the special permission of the King himself. His salary was £18 15s. per annum!

Dried Ling—and Thirst Quenchers.

In the days of Henry VIII, the Castle was besieged by the famous Silken Thomas, and there is extant a curious record of the victualling of the Castle by the quartermaster of the day. That worthy individual laid in the following provender for his garrison:—

- 22 Tuns of Wine;
- 24 Tuns of Beer;
- 2,000 Dried Ling;
- 16 Hhds. of Beef,

as well as sundry barrels of flour. The lack of sufficient artillery forced the besiegers to retire, and subsequently Silken Thomas was executed in London.

The fortress in those days contained four towers, of which the Birmingham was the strongest. This tower was the

ancient keep, or "Ballium," and was used as a State prison for several centuries. Here, in 1586, was confined the famous Aodh Ruadh O'Donnell. Cornelius O'Devany, Bishop of Down and Connor, was another distinguished prisoner. Dermot O'Hurley, Archbishop of Cashel, was confined here prior to his execution in 1584. Peter Talbot, Archbishop of Dublin, died in this tower after two years' imprisonment. The Blessed Oliver Plunkett, Archbishop of Armagh, was incarcerated here prior to his removal to the Tower of London. But these are only a few of the many distinguished Irishmen who were confined in the gloomy dungeons of Birmingham Tower prior to their, in almost every case, barbarous execution.

"Heads We Win."

The old Castle gates were, in former times, furnished with a series of spikes upon which were impaled the heads of many distinguished Irish soldiers during the days of the Tudor and Stuart kings. The name of Shaun O'Neill occurs to one in this connection, and, doubtless, many will recollect the stirring poem on this incident by the distinguished young '48 patriot, John Savage. The head of Feagh MacHugh O'Byrne, the Wicklow chieftain, was impaled here before being sent to Elizabeth.

When the projected plan to seize Dublin Castle in 1641 was betrayed by the drunken Owen Connolly, the defence of the fortress was entrusted to one, Sir Francis Willoughby, a veteran soldier-adventurer, who immediately set about strengthening the defences. Two hundred men-at-arms were drafted into the great courtyard, and then the wide-awake commander hit upon a novel plan for providing food for his garrison. He sent messengers to the principal merchants in the city and informed them that a vast army of marauders were marching on the capital, and that if the traders desired to preserve their goods they must forthwith convey them to a place of safety within the Castle walls. This "advice" was immediately acted upon, but when the danger had passed, and the unlucky traders appeared to claim their property it was found that the garrison had lived upon the goods entrusted to their care, and consequently there was a very small amount left for the rightful owners.



Reproduction of an old print, showing the "Departure of the lord deputy, sir Henry Sidney" from Dublin Castle. Note the heads of the "Irishry" over the Castle gate.

Remarkable Scenes.

In 1663 certain disgruntled Cromwellian officers formed a plot to seize the Castle, but informers got busy and the plan was discovered. Colonel Blood, in 1664, made another effort to capture the stronghold, but his plans were betrayed. James II. lived in the Castle in 1689. Courts of Law were held there up to the middle of the sixteenth century, and Parliaments also assembled there in bygone days.

Some very curious and extraordinary incidents are recorded as having taken place at those assemblies. In 1613, much tumult arose over the election of a Speaker, and the matter was finally decided by one faction dragging their opponents' choice from the chair, and holding their own nominee in the seat by sheer force.

In 1634 an order was issued that each member of the House of Lords on entering the Chamber should deliver up his sword to the Black Rod, who was commissioned to receive the weapons. All went smoothly until the advent of James, Earl of Ormond, who refused to part with his sword. The State official repeated his request for the weapon in somewhat peremptory tones.

"If," said Ormond, in the forcible and impolite diction of the day, "If you must have my sword, it shall be through the guts."

This alarming threat, which was accompanied by a menacing gesture, thoroughly frightened the unfortunate Castle official, who made no further attempt to deprive the haughty nobleman of his property, and Ormond had the unique distinction of being the only person in the assembly who wore a sword.

The Castle's Last Defenders.

Towards the end of the seventeenth century the Castle began to lose its formidable aspect, and since then it has been altered to suit the requirements of civil government. In 1848 it was placed in a state of defence, and again in 1867 the gates were barricaded and cannon mounted on commanding positions.

But never were such elaborate precautions taken as those which met the eyes of the citizen in the years anterior to the taking over of the building by the Saorstát Government.

SENEX.

THE VARIOUS IRISH FORCES IN ELIZABETH'S TIME.

In a book entitled "A Treatise on Ireland," John Dymmok, an Englishman, who was in attendance upon Essex when he was Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, gives the following account of the Irish soldiery of the period:—

"Their forces consist of three sorts, horsemen, gallowglass and kerne. The horsemen are armed with head-pieces, shirts of mail or jacks, a sword, a skein and a spear. They ride upon pads or pillions without stirrups, and in this differ from ours; that in joining with the enemy, they bear not their staves or lances under arm, and so put it to the rest, but taking it by the middle, bear it above arm, and so encounter. Every horseman hath two or three horses, and to ever horse a knave; his horse of service is always led spare, and his knave, which carrieth his harness and spear, rideth upon the other, or else upon a hackney.

"The gallowglass are picked and selected men of great mighty bodies, cruel without compassion. The greatest force of the battle consisteth in them, choosing rather to die than yield, so that when it cometh to bandy blows, they are quickly slain or win the field. They are armed with a shirt of mail, a skull, and a skein; the weapon they most use is a battle-axe or halberd, six-foot long, the blade whereof is somewhat like a shoemaker's knife, and without pike; the stroke whereof is deadly where it lighteth. And being thus armed, reckoning to him a man for his harness bearer, and a boy to carry his provision, he is named 'a spare' of his weapon so-called, 80 of which 'spares' make a battle of gallowglass.

"The kerne is a kind of footman, slightly armed with a sword, a target or wood, or a bow and sheaf of arrows with barbed heads, or else 3 darts, which they cast with a wonderful facility and nearness, a weapon more noisome to the enemy, especially horsemen than it is deadly; within these few years they have practised the musket and caliver, and are grown good and ready shot.

"Some will have the Dalonyes or horseboys to be a fourth sort, for that they take them into the fight; they are the very scum, and outcast of the country, and not less serviceable in the camp for 'meatings' and dressing of horses, than hurtful to the enemy with their darts."

ANSO IS ANSUD 'SA SEANCHAS**IV.—Arm is Coghleasa na Seana Cheilteach.**

Maidir le hairm na gCeilteach is suarach le rádh an teolas atá le fagháil againn ar an Saghas coghleasa míleata abhí aca. Mar a dubharamar cheana is ó n-a náimhde do fuaramar na tuairiscí na dtaobh atá againn indiu. Pé Sgéal é is dócha go bhfuighimis a rádh le deimhne ná raibh coghleasa míleata an tseana chine seo in aon ghaor le bheith chomh foirbhthe leis an coghleasa míleata do bhí ag na Rómhánaigh, an t-inneal cogaidh iongantach úd do fág a rian go doimhin i Stair an domhain agus gur lean ar a chómhacht do chur i dtuigsint na mílte bliain thar éis míchadh a impireachta.

ARM SAORANACH na gCEILTEACH.

Níorbh Arm Seasta abhí in aon linn ag na Ceiltigh. Ní ghlacfaidís le n-a leithéid. B'aithis leo é. Dá bhihin seo, do bhí an tArm Smacht, an céannachas agus an taithí ar chúinsí cogaidh do bhaineann le hArm Seasta in easnamh ortha; agus b'é an teasnamh so do bhris is do Chaill ortha i ndeire na dála. Bhí fir troda na gCeilteach 'na Saoránaigh i gcómhnui riamh. Bhí sé de chead is de cheart ag gach uile dhuine aca páirt do thógaint 'sa bhótáil a ndeanfaí sul tosuighití ar aon choga. Do ghlacaidís airm go fonnmhar, agus le n-a saor thoil féin, agus is meannmach mórdháladh do théidís ar an slóghadh. An túsce, ámh, agus do bhíodh deire le cogadh no le stáir cogaidh d'fhillidís ar a ngnáth ghnó arís. Ar nós na mBórách i gcogadh na hAifrice Theas níorbh annamh iad ag fileadh ar obair na bhfeirm 'sa linn idir dhá chath. D'eirigh de'n nós so go raibh faillige dhá dhéanamh aca ar an dá thaobh de'n sgeal. Ní bhfuaradar an dá thráigh d'fhreastail, agus dá ráinigheadh go leanfaí ar an gcogadh ar feadh aon tréimhse thar chuimse, ní ar fógnamh do tháinig leo obair an chogaidh ná obair na bhfeirm do dhéanaí mh. Mar gheall air seo, ar shon go mb'fhéidir go mbíodh ana shlóighte líonmhara aca i dtosach cogaidh, ba ghnáthaí iad do bheith fágtha ag brath ar uathadh díorma dá mbeadh sé de mhí ádh ortha go mbrisí dian chath ar a slóighte nó muna n-eireochadh go maith leo 'sa chéad iarracht. Léiríonn stair an tsean shaoil go cruinn Soiléir an t-árd bhuntáiste abhí ag cine an bhuan airm do bheadh oile foirbhthe ar a gcéird, ar fiú árd shlóighte na bhfeirm ba thréime.

NA HAIRM FAOBHAIR.

Rud eile dhe bhí na hairm faobhair do bhí ag na Rómánaigh i bhfad níos éifeachtúla ná na hairm do bhí ag na Ceiltigh. Bhíodh éide leathair ar legiún na Rómha agus do bhíodh bannaí miotail mar chosaint ar ucht agus ar shlinneán aca. An lúireach nó an Lorica a tugadh mar ainm ar an áis cosanta so. Na theannta so bhí clogad catha (galea) mar chosaint ar cheann, agus sciath éadrom (scutum) mar chosaint do'n chorp aca. Úirlisí cosanta iad so. Chun ionnsuí, claidheamh gearr (gladius) agus gath fada is mó agus is gnáthaí do bhíodh aca. Ar an gcéad ionnsuí fé námhaid, do dhemidís na gathanna do theilgean go haicill, fuinnidil fútha; annsin do dhruidís isteach leo ag oibriú an claidhimh ghairid go fíochmhar, fraochmhar ortha.

"Na choinne seo go léir, ní raibh faic ag na Ceiltigh go bhfuighifí a chur i gcomparáid le húirlisí na Rómhánaigh. Ní raibh lúireach na aon rud i bhfuirm lúirigh aca chun an corp do chosaint ar faobhar na námhaid. Agus, ar shon go mbíodh clogad ar an taoiseach, ní raibh fiú an oiread san sgátha ag na Rangaigh. Bhíodh an gnáth shaighdiúir seo ag brath ar a chosaint ar sgiath árd trom. Ní dócha go mbídis i ngrádh leis an sgeith seo tráth bidís ag cur bóthair díobh. B'ualach do dhuine láidir teann an sgiath so d'iomchair.

AN CLADHEAMH MOR.

B'é an claidheamh mór an príomh úirlis ionnsuí do bhíodh aca. Ní misde a rádh nárbh aon dóithín an claidheamh so i láimh marcaigh agus é gá imirt ar choisithe. Ucht le lucht ámh ní raibh sé in aon ghaor le bheith chomh marbthach millteach le gladius na Rómhánaigh. Munar tháinig leis na Ceiltigh a ranga siúd do bhriseadh 'sa chéad ruthag is annamh d'eirigh leo an buaidh do bhreith leo. Ach b'uathbhasach millteach an chéad ruthug ud agus is minic do chuir sé sgeoin agus anaithe ar idir Gréagaigh agus Rómhánaigh.



VISIT OF FRENCH CRUISER.

WITH THE TWELFTH.

Officers and Crew Entertained by the Irish Army.

For the first time in history a foreign warship was officially welcomed to Ireland by a native Government and native troops, when the French light cruiser, Quentin Roosevelt, put into Dublin on Sunday, 17th inst.

The officers and men were entertained on Monday by the Saorstát Government. The Commander and officers were the guests of the Ministry of External Affairs at luncheon at the Shelbourne Hotel, and a party of the men were motored to the many beauty spots of the Wicklow coast, under the guidance of Lieut. Tully, G.H.Q.

Prior to this the Commander and officers had, accompanied by M. Blanche, Consul General of France, paid a visit to G.H.Q., where they were most cordially welcomed by the Minister for Defence (Mr. P. Hughes) and Major-Gen. D. Hogan, Acting Chief of Staff.

In the evening Commander Cayol, Lieuts. Launcelot, Guioit and Bataille were entertained at dinner at Collins Barracks.

Mr. Hughes, who presided, proposed the toast of the visitors, which was seconded by Major-Gen. Hogan. Mr. Walsh, Sec., Ministry of External Affairs represented Mr. Desmond Fitzgerald, who, owing to a slight mishap, was unable to be present. M. Blanche attended. No. 2 Army Band, conducted by Lieut. A. Duff, contributed musical selections.

Luncheon by French Consul-General.

M. Blanche, Consul-General of France, entertained the officers of the French fishery patrol boat, Quentin Roosevelt, now in Dublin Harbour, in Jammot's Restaurant on Tuesday, 19th inst.

Those present included:—The American and Belgian Consuls, Commandant Cayol, captain of the Quentin Roosevelt; Dr. Lombard Murphy, Mr. O. Esmonde, T.D.; Major-Gen. Hogan, Col. O'Reilly, Col. O'Connell, Mr. J. Walsh, Ministry of External Affairs; M. Seprevost, Enseigne de Vaisseau de Bataille, S. Murphy, Mr. Deegan, Lieut. de Vaisseau Guioit, S. C. Moriarity, Prof. Chauviré, H. Meade, Dr. Morrin, J. O'Dowd, Capt. Webb, W. Starkie, F.T.C.D.; C. Green, Lieut. de Vaisseau Launcelot, Dr. Tierney, and M. Brugeie.

After lunch, M. Blanche expressed his keen gratitude to all for the honour they had done him in accepting the invitation. He proposed the toast of the "Irish Free State," coupled with the name of the Minister for Defence.

Mr. Hughes, responding, said it was a pleasure to him to be on what might be termed French territory for the moment. Representing the Irish Government, he welcomed the officers, and hoped that there would be many opportunities of meeting in the future. They had present representatives of the two nations, and he trusted that by such meetings they might work in closer association for the mutual benefit of each.

It was, he believed, the wish of all that they might fraternise in the future, as their soldiers had fraternised in the past.

Mr. Walsh (Ministry of External Affairs), speaking in French, in proposing the toast of Capt. Cayol and the officers, apologised for the unavoidable absence of the Minister for External Affairs. The Minister had commissioned him to state that their visit had afforded him great pleasure. His long sojourn in France, and the many friends he had there, was proof of his admiration for the French people. All Frenchmen who came to Ireland were assured of a cordial welcome (applause).

Commandant Cayol briefly replied on his own behalf and on behalf of the officers. He desired to thank them most cordially for the very splendid reception they had been given. Everyone had been most kind to them, and they had enjoyed the visit very much.

The cruiser, which is engaged on fishery patrol, sailed at 6 p.m. on Tuesday. Prior to her departure, the Minister for Defence, Major-General Hogan and a number of other officers were entertained to tea on board.

Glad to be able to place on record a victory for our hurling team at the outset of their season. The venue was Limerick, the opposing team represented the Fourteenth, and the result was as follows: 12th Batt., 14 goals, 2 points; 14th Batt., 2 goals. Despite the difference in the scores the game was not without its exciting passages. Our best men were Pte. Bentley, Pte. Cusack, Pte. Hamilton, Pte. Sage and Corporal Mick Kennedy.

Subsequently—on the 14th inst—in one of the inter-Battalion fixtures of the 4th Brigade, we met the 10th and 14th Battalions at Limerick in hurling and football respectively. And although we climbed all over the 14th in the hurling on the earlier occasion, the 14th were more than a match for our fellows in the football. They excelled in speed combination and style. The 10th won the hurling match after a strenuous tussle, and there is little doubt that theirs was the better team.

In the various cities and towns where our troops are stationed there will be Army athletic fixtures during the summer. Would it not be possible to have them conducted on lines similar to those on which the feiseanna and aeridheachtanna of the Gaelic League are conducted? It should be possible to introduce a more pronounced Irish-Ireland element into these gatherings.

When are they going to change the name of our Barracks at Templemore to something more worthy than "Richmond"? I made some suggestions on this matter in a previous issue of the Army Journal.

We are sorry to be deprived of the services of Lieutenant Graham in our sporting activities. He was transferred to the 14th Battalion and our loss is their gain in athletic matters.

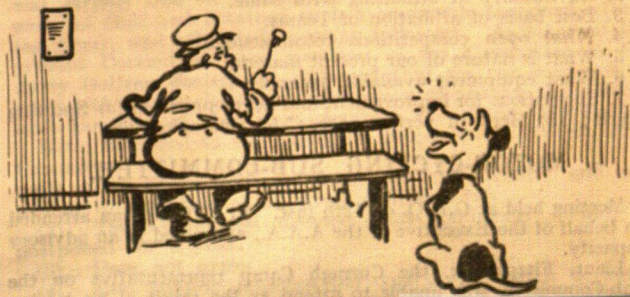
The B.Q.M.S. of the 14th visited our camp recently and was hospitably entertained by our senior N.C.O.'s. He was, in fact, the St. Le(d)ger favourite with them.

The exam. for our students of the School of Instruction has taken place and most of the candidates believe that they have done well. Certainly the Company Sergeants of "A" and "B" companies have spared no pains with them on the square and the students themselves are very grateful to a certain soldier in "D" Company for sound educational instruction.

More cause for lamentation. Not only are we losing Lieutenant Graham, but another of our athletic stars is going in the person of Corporal "Jackie" Browne, who is returning to civilian life. He joined the Volunteers at an early date and saw much service during the pre-Treary conflict. His brother (also in the Army) was killed during the post-Truce fighting and his home in the "banner county" was wrecked on two occasions. His comrades wish him the very best of luck in his future career.

ROS CAIRBRE.

Beauty Hint for Girls.—There recently appeared in the advertising columns of a popular newspaper an offer, for one shilling, of a recipe by the use of which the hands would become soft and beautifully white. Many thousands of girls responded, and in due time they received a piece of paper containing the following words, which could not be bettered: "Soak the hands three times a day in dishwater, while mother rests."



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BIG PUSH IN ARMY ATHLETICS.

General Meeting of Sub-Committees—Special Reports from Special Meetings—Activities in the Groups—Command Councils' Deliberations.

A general meeting of the Sub-Committees was held at G.H.Q. on May 11th, when the following members of the Executive Council were present:—Rev. T. J. O'Callaghan, Chairman; Majors-General Hogan, MacNeill and Cronin, Major Doyle, Vice-Chairman, Major McGrath, Hon Treasurer, Comdt. Colgan, Secretary.

The Chairman, having explained the business for which the meeting was called, the following Hon. Secretaries were appointed:—Hurling, Gaelic Football, Handball, Rounders:—Comdt. Mackey, G.H.Q.

Athletics, Cycling and Field Events:—Comdt. Ennis, G.H.Q. Boxing and Gymnastics:—Batt. Sergt.-Major Doogan, Curragh Training Camp.

Swimming and Water Polo:—Sergt. Kennedy, G.H.Q.

Golf and Tennis:—Captain Delamere, G.H.Q.

Horsemanship:—Rev. S. Pigott, C.F., Eastern Command.

Motor Cycling:—Captain Quirke, G.H.Q.

It was resolved that a Sub-Committee personnel should not exceed seven in number.

It was decided to allow proxies to attend Sub-Committee meetings if the regular members were debarred from officiating through illness, military duty, etc.

The first meeting of each Sub-Committee was arranged to be held at General Headquarters at 2 o'clock, p.m. that day.

The following members of the Executive Council were appointed to assist as under:—

Hurling, Gaelic Football, Handball, Rounders:—Major McGrath and Comdt. Colgan.

Athletics, Cycling and Field Events:—Major General MacNeill and Major Doyle.

Boxing and Gymnastics:—Comdt. Colgan.

Horsemanship:—Majors-General Hogan and Cronin.

Swimming and Water Polo:—Rev. T. J. O'Callaghan.

Motor Cycling:—Major General Cronin.

The general meeting adjourned until 4 o'clock, p.m., after transacting the above business.

On resumption, the Hon. Secretary of each Committee submitted a report on the findings and recommendations of its meeting, as per minutes. (Same are published in this issue).

It was decided that all minutes be forwarded to Secretary, Executive Council, same to reach the Athletic Office not later than Friday, 15th inst. Secretary to forward copies of minutes to members of Standing Committee and Sub-Committees.

A meeting of the Standing Committee will be held as early as possible after the receipt of the minutes of the Sub-Committees.

The general meeting, having disposed of all business, adjourned at 6 o'clock, p.m.

POINTS SUBMITTED TO SUB-COMMITTEES.

The following points were submitted for the consideration of the Sub-Committees:—

1. Attitude of parent body of Sport.
2. Advisability of affiliating with same.
3. Best basis of affiliation of Teams.
4. What open competitions recommended.
5. What is nature of our present material.
6. What equipment available generally.
7. Suggestions for improvement and development of (a) Sporting Spirit; (b) Merit of performances; (c) Championships.

MOTOR-CYCLING SUB-COMMITTEE.

Meeting held at G.H.Q. on 12th inst. Fr. O'Callaghan attended on behalf of the Executive of the A.A.A., and acted in an advisory capacity.

Lieut. Fitzpatrick, the Curragh Camp representative on the Sub-Committee, was unable to attend as the result of his having recently sustained a minor accident.

No representatives were available from the Southern and Western Commands. It was decided to invite the Secretary to the Executive Council to draw the attention of the Command Councils concerned to the necessity for nominating members to this Sub-Committee.

Subject to the consent of the Executive Council, it was decided to co-opt on the Committee Captain F. Crossley, Baldonnell, and Captain S. Neligan, A.S.C., Portobello.

It was recommended that the various Command Councils be requested to call meetings of all members of the Defence Forces within their Commands who are interested in Motor-Cycling, with a view to forming Motor-Cycling sections in each Command. For the present it was decided that the Army Motor-Cycle Club, G.H.Q. Command, be instructed to cater for the needs of these new sections as formed, the membership of each section being absorbed in the A.M.C.C.

It was reported that the Membership Roll of the Club at present contained the names of several who might reasonably be expected to do well in competitions during the season as reliability trials competitors. There were also several members possessed of ultra efficient super-sports machines, who proposed to compete in the various Irish road races.

It was decided to arrange for a series of social runs throughout the season, as, owing to the A.M.C.C. having been formed but very recently, a more ambitious programme would be difficult to carry out, while social runs would afford a good recruiting medium.

It was nevertheless recommended that the Executive Council give their fullest support to the one big fixture which the club proposed to run this year, viz., the All Army 25 mile Speed Championships.

The Phoenix Park course had already been secured for this event, and it was considered that the holding of this fixture would tend to popularise both the Army and the A.A.A.

It was reported that no sports gear was at present available. At the same time little would be required, since each rider would normally provide for his own needs.

It was, however, requested that the Executive Council consider the propriety of granting to the Army Motor Cycle Club—

(1) The loan of three stop watches, each registering to one-fifth second.

(2) Three Cups for (a) Senior Solo 25 miles Army Championship, (b) Junior Solo 25 miles Army Championship and (c) Sidecar 25 miles Army Championship.

(3) The sum of £4 10s. 0d. to provide for the making of 60 sets of Competition Number Plates.

It was decided that all Club members who wished to compete in open events in Ireland be encouraged to do so, with the proviso that they ride under their Army name and rank.

BOXING SUB-COMMITTEE.

Meeting held at G.H.Q. on May 11th, at 2 o'clock, p.m. Present: Captain Duffy, Southern Command (in the chair); Q.M.S. Nolan, Eastern Command; Pte. Gaffney, General Headquarters; Comdt. Colgan attended on behalf of the Executive Council.

The Committee considered the various matters submitted by the Executive Council, and decided as follows:—

Re attitude of parent body and advisability of affiliating with same—held over pending report from representative on I.A.B.A. Council.

Re best basis of affiliation—As in above.

Re present material at our disposal—Good.

Equipment available generally—Fair supply.

Re improvement and development of material—Recommended that Boxing Instructors be appointed immediately, as per Physical Training Organisation Establishment. That facilities be given for the holding of Courses in each Command, so as to ensure that each Battalion shall have the services of an Instructor. That Championships be held on an inter-Unit and Individual basis.

ATHLETICS AND CYCLING SUB-COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the above was held at Parkgate Street on 12th and 13th inst., the following being in attendance:—Major-Gen. MacNeill, Major-Gen. Cronin, Major Doyle, Major McGrath, Comdt. Ennis, Comdt. Colgan, Capt. O'Beirne, Captain Harkins (Eastern Command), and Lieut. Lewis (Southern Command).

The following motion was proposed by Major Doyle and seconded by Major-Gen. Cronin, and passed unanimously:—"That inasmuch as athletic training plays the most important part in producing and maintaining the physical fitness of the soldier the Operations and Training Branch, Chief of Staff's Department, be requested to give facilities to the Athletic Sub-Committee for the discovery, testing and training of athletes."

It was decided that the A.A.A. be requested to put up an Inter-Company Shield for competition as a stimulus for the production of new material; each company to subscribe 5/- entrance fee before the completion of the second round, which cash would be devoted to the provision of gold-centre medals for each member of the winning team. The Shield to be won twice in succession or three times in all before becoming the property of a company.

It was decided that the programme for the Inter-Company contest should include the following events:—

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| (1) 100 Yards. | (12) Pole Jump. |
| (2) 220 Yards. | (13) Throwing Hammer. |
| (3) 440 Yards. | (14) Putting 16 lbs. Shot. |
| (4) 880 Yards. | (15) Javelin. |
| (5) 1 Mile. | (16) Discus. |
| (6) 120 Yards Hurdle. | (17) 1 Mile Relay (220 yards). |
| (7) High Jump. | (220 "). |
| (8) Long Jump. | (440 "). |
| (9) Hop, Step and Jump. | (880 "). |
| follow. | (18) ½ Mile Cycle. |
| (10) Slinging 56 lbs without | (19) 1 Mile Cycle. |
| follow. | (20) Tug of War (120 stone, 10 |
| (11) Slinging 56 lbs for height. | aside). |

Points will be allotted as follows:—6 points for 1st, 5 for 2nd, 4 for 3rd, 3 for 4th, 2 for 5th, and 1 for 6th: the Company scoring the most points to win the Shield. Not more than four competitors to be entered by a company for each event.

The Secretary of the Sub-Committee was directed to make enquiries as to the constitution of the N.A.C.A. with a view of the affiliation of an Army club or clubs and the appointment of a representative or representatives to the parent body.

It was decided to affiliate each Battalion and Corps as a Club with the N.A.C.A.

Major Doyle was appointed representative of the A.A.A. to the N.A.C.A.

It was decided that the suggestion be put forward to the A.A.A. to request the proper authorities to cause notification of the Inter-Company competition to be published after Part II. Battalion Orders immediately.

The representatives of the various events in each Company are to be picked on or before Saturday, June 13th.

The first round of the Inter-Company competition in the Battalion is to be decided on or before the 27th June, and the second round Inter-Battalion to be decided on or before July 11th. The third round Inter-Brigade on or before July 25th.

Command Headquarters is to be divided into Companies, not exceeding 100 men.

Roadster machines are to be used in cycling events.

Men will compete for the Company on whose nominal roll their names appear on Saturday, May 16th, 1925.

It was recommended that athletes who have proved their mettle in the Army contests should be given facilities for outside sports and encouraged to take part in Championships, etc., under their Army rank and name.

If it is decided by the N.A.C.A. that men cannot be members of two clubs, the men will give the Army first preference.

CHAMPIONSHIPS.

- Battalion Championships to be held on or before July 4th.
- Brigade Championships to be held on or before July 18th.
- Command Championships to be held on or before August 8th.
- All-Army Championships to be fixed later.

The Sub-Committee believe the material in the Army is good, but particulars cannot be given until Inter-Company contests are held.

There is no equipment available.

Secretaries of Commands will forward their reports to Secretary of this Sub-Committee, who will have them sent to Comdt. Colgan.

GOLF AND TENNIS SUB-COMMITTEE

Meeting held at G.H.Q. on 12th, May. Present:—Rev. Fr. O'Callaghan (Executive Council), Presiding; Comdt. M. O'Connor (Curragh), Medical Mess, Curragh Camp; Lieut. I. Barry (Southern), 16th Battalion, Collins Barracks, Cork; Captain Delamere (G.H.Q.), Hon Sec., Baldonnel. Captain Grey (Eastern), Collins Barracks, Dublin—not present.

TENNIS.

Questions 1, 2 3 and 4 of the agenda with reference to the affiliation of the parent body, i.e., the I.L.T.A. did not arise, as the Committee were unable to say, at present, what the attitude of the I.L.T.A. was. Secondly the Committee did not think it advisable or necessary to become affiliated to the Association this year.

With reference to 5 and 6. The interest taken and quality of the Tennis within the Army was fairly good, but development was retarded by the want of courts, especially hard courts. The Committee recommend that at least one hard court be made at each Command Headquarters. The courts at present available were as follow:

G. H. Qrs.—2 Hard Courts.

Curragh—Nil. 3 Grass and 3 Grass under construction.

Cork—1 Hard Court under construction at their own expense.

Western—Not known.

Eastern—2 Hard Courts in poor condition.

No information concerning any other Hard or Grass Courts was available.

The Committee recommend that an Army Championship be held each year, and consist of Singles and Doubles. The Inter-command competition to be abolished, and the present Cup to go to the Command with whom the winners of the Doubles are stationed. Also, that each Command hold a Command Championship and that the six best players be sent to the All-Army Championship; other players to go at their own expense, and in their own time. That the Command representative form a small sub-committee in his own Command of those interested in these games, to promote Inter-brigade and Battalion matches. Where possible, and when the expense is not too great, it is hoped that Inter-command matches can be arranged.

It is greatly desired that Battalions and Brigades, where possible will arrange matches with the local Clubs.

GOLF.

The attention of the meeting was next directed to Golf. In this branch of sport, the work of the Army Golfing Society had largely paved the way for us.

This Society had been functioning for two years, and it was largely due to the energy of its Committee that the game of Golf had attained such a creditable standard within the Army, and attracted so many followers. As many of the present Committee were members of the Committee of the Army Golfing Society, it is hoped that we can continue to carry out the work and programme outlined by the Society with the help of the three members we intend co-opting.

With reference to the questions proposed by the Standing Committee:

- (1). The Irish Golfing Union are sympathetic and are willing to accept us as an Army Golfing Club.
- (2). The Committee decided that affiliation should be postponed for a year.
- (3). Does not arise.
- (4). Two outside matches per year; one which is likely to be a permanent fixture with the Hermitage Golf Club.

It is suggested that in the present year at least four Army Officers should compete in the Irish Close Championship, and next year enter as a team for the Irish Junior Cup.

(5). Good.

(6). Does not arise.

(7). Golf in itself is different to any other form of sport catered for by the A.A.A. It is absolutely individualism. The actual playing of the game is expensive, and needs a fair amount of time, therefore it is more suitable for the officers than the men. Due to this individualism a code of honour and sportsmanship peculiar to itself must be developed. We are glad to be able to say that in the Army this code is very marked. Another point of equal importance is the social side of Golf. In Golf the individual soldier must meet and play with the ordinary citizen, be a member of the latter's Clubs, and take up a certain social standing. It is most desirable that this should take place.

With regard to the programme, the Committee are of the opinion that the Golf Championship, Command and Brigade, should be on the same lines as those already outlined for Tennis.

The players of Inter-Command and Brigade matches to be encouraged, and that each Command run its own local competitions, as it is impossible to run those satisfactorily from one headquarters, the distances involved being too great.

SUB-COMMITTEE FOR HURLING, FOOTBALL, AND HANDBALL

A meeting of the above was held at G.H.Q., Parkgate, on 12th May, when the following attended:—Captain J. Tynan, 18th Infantry Battalion, Cork, for Southern Command, (President); Captain J. P. Murphy, Collins Barracks, Dublin; C/Sgt. Major Cunningham, Curragh Camp, for Curragh Command; Comdt. D. Mackey, Artillery Corps, Kildare, for G.H.Q. Command; Major P. McGrath attended on behalf of the Executive Council, A.A.A. The Western Command was not represented.

The questions put by the Standing Committee were answered as follows:—

1.—The attitude of the parent body of sport, the G.A.A., was considered very favourable to Army Athletics.

2. The advisability of affiliating with the G.A.A. was taken into consideration, and it was pointed out that at present Cork and Kilkenny Barracks have teams entered in the G.A.A. Championships. It was eventually agreed that no obstacles should be placed in the way of Army teams entering G.A.A. Championships, Tournaments, Cup Ties, etc., at Battalion Teams, Brigade Teams, Command Teams or Barrack Teams in the County in which they are stationed, but that the teams should not lose their individuality as Army Teams. Each man's name in full with Army number and rank should be registered, and players should play under their full Army titles. At the same time it was felt that Army players who are at present playing with civilian teams should be given the option of continuing to play with those teams.

3.—Dealt with in No. 2.

4.—Do., do.

5.—The nature of our present material was discussed and it was generally conceded that Hurling and Football were never in a better condition, and that excellent teams in both can be provided to represent the Army.

6.—The equipment available was considered good, each Command being fairly well provided.

FIXTURES.—The following fixtures were made in the competition for Medical Service's Hurling Cup and Chaplains' Football Cup.

Eastern Command v. G.H.Q. Command to be played in the University College Grounds, Terenure, on June 3rd, 1925. Hurling at 3.0 p.m., and Football at 4.30 p.m. Referees:—Hurling Lieut. Fitzpatrick, A.M.S., Curragh. Football—Capt. M. Wilson, Engineers, Curragh.

Curragh Command v. Southern Command at Cork, on June the 14th, 1925. Hurling at 3.0 p.m. Football at 4.30 p.m. Referees:—Hurling—Commandant Kingston. Football—Mr. P. O'Keeffe.

The Cork Command representative agreed to arrange for grounds, make a gate, entertain, and if possible pay teams' expenses.

If this is not possible each Command will receive 50 per cent. of the gate receipts.

The Curragh Command representative stated that they would have no difficulty in arranging and running an excursion train, at a reduced rate, to Cork for the fixture. The Balance Sheet of the gate receipts and expenses must be submitted immediately after the match to the Hon. Sec., Hurling, Football and Handball Sub-Committee, by the Cork Command Hon. Sec.

SECOND ROUND.—Winners of Eastern Command v. G.H.Q. to play Western Command in Athlone on June the 28th, or if grounds are not available on that date, on the weekly half-holiday in Athlone before the 28th of June, 1925. Referees to be appointed.

FINAL.—The final will be arranged at a later meeting.

ALL-ARMY CHAMPIONSHIPS.—The fixtures for the All-Army Championships will be made immediately after the final for the Medical Services and Chaplains' Cups so that the Championship will be completed in the Autumn Season.

HANDBALL.—It was agreed that no real progress could be made with handball until Courts are provided in the Army. Civilian Courts are generally available and Commands should compete their Championships in the Courts available, and send the names of their representatives in hard and soft ball, single and double, to the Hon. Sec., by the 31st July, 1925, when draws and fixtures will be made for the All-Army Championships.

AFFILIATION.—The following resolutions were unanimously passed:—

"Where Army Handball Teams desire to affiliate for outside competitions, they will do so with the Irish Amateur Handball Association."

"Where a man knowingly plays any games catered for by the A.A.A., for a side stake or money prize breaking amateur rules he automatically suspends himself from All-Army Championships."

It was decided to invite the Western Command to send a representative to next meeting.

ARMY REFEREES' ASSOCIATION.—When the above minutes were read at the A.A.A. Meeting held later at G.H.Q., it was suggested by Major-General Cronin, Q.M.G., that a Referees' Association be formed in the Army and this was agreed to. Commands should forward the names of really efficient referees to the Hon. Sec., for consideration at next meeting.

ALL-ARMY HURLING TEAM. Rev. Father O'Callaghan mentioned that an All-Army Hurling team must be selected to play the Civic Guard team on July the 4th in Dublin. Command Secretaries should forward the names of their very best hurlers, giving the places in which the men play, to the Hon. Sec., Sub-Committee as soon as possible so that a team may be selected in good time for the event.

MEETING OF SUB-COMMITTEES.—The next Committee meeting will be held at Kildare in or about a fortnight's time, when the Command representatives will be notified and the meeting must be in possession of Referees' names for the Association and the names of our hurlers.

STANDING COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the above, held at G.H.Q., on 11th, inst., Rev. T. J. O'Callaghan, Chairman, Presiding. Also present: Majors-General Hogan, MacNeill and Cronin, Major Doyle, Vice-chairman, Major McGrath, Hon. Treasurer, Comdt. Colgan, Secretary.

Arising out of the minutes, the Secretary informed the meeting that he had conveyed to the Boxing Instructor the decision of the former meeting re dispensing with his services. A suggestion from the Boxing Instructor as to remuneration for his services was rejected, the original order to hold good.

Majors Doyle and McGrath were deputed to interview Mr. Laverty at the Athletic Office, Portobello, on Thursday, the 14th inst., at 7 o'clock p.m.

The first item on the agenda was the proposed Band Concert, and the Rev. Chairman explained the action taken since the last meeting, viz., the suggested postponement of the entertainment until the month of October, if permission from the responsible authorities be procured.

The question of arranging the Sub-Committee meetings to be held on the following day was considered. The suggestions submitted for the Committee's consideration were approved.

It was decided to recommend to the Sub-Committees the advisability of having Chairmanship of their bodies held alternately.

The meeting recommended for consideration by the Athletic Sub-Committee the importance of having athletic contests held, if possible, on an Inter-Platoon basis.

Western Command having decided to refrain from appointing representatives on Sub-Committees owing to lack of finance to meet travelling expenses, it was agreed to give Sub-Committees the power to nominate members to act, to be referred to Standing Committee for sanction.

It was decided that the Wednesday half holiday on two days in each month should be set aside for Athletic training, as from Wednesday, June 3rd., to August 5th., inclusive.

It was decided to hold the first meeting of Executive Council at the earliest date possible.

NO. 4 GROUP.

Meeting held, Portobello Barracks, 5th May, 1925. Present: Major T. McGrath (Contracts), Commandant M. A. O'Connor (Engineers), Lieutenant Kavanagh (Records), S.M. Woods, Q.M.S. Anthony, Sgt. Roche, Sgt. Murphy (Signals), Sgt. Kennedy (Records), Sgt. Morgan (Pay and Accounts), and Sgt. Flood (Contracts).

FINANCE.

Suggestions for improvement were discussed. Major T. McGrath gave his views on the position re the ex-Treasurer, Sgt. Foley, and, with a view of augmenting Group Funds, made the following proposition, which was seconded by Commandant O'Connor, and carried unanimously:—

"That all Officers of the Group be asked to contribute voluntarily to the Group Funds, and receipts for moneys so obtained be furnished by the Group Treasurer, Sgt. Flood. That contributions also be asked from N.C.O.'s and Men within the Group who may be willing to contribute."

It was further proposed by Commandant O'Connor, seconded by Lieutenant Kavanagh, and carried, that Major McGrath and Major Liston be asked to interview the Quartermasters of the Units in the Group, with a view of obtaining contributions from Battalion Funds for the use of No. 4 Group in the interests of sport.

SWIMMING.

Commandant O'Connor stated that he had made arrangements for the use of Tara Street Baths by the Group on Wednesday afternoons during the swimming season. He asked for the co-operation of Sgts. Kennedy and Flood in promoting the sport, and the two members named willingly assented.

CHESS.

Sgt. Roche expressed his satisfaction that Captains Nelligan and Irwin (Signals and Engineers, respectively) would shortly arrive from their course of training on the Curragh, when, it was decided, the game would be given further impetus, the two officers named being indispensable members of the Group team.

NO. 5 GROUP, G.H.Q. COMMAND.

Meeting on 8th May. Present: Sgt. P. Glennon (Secretary), Lieut. S. McKeown, Sgt. W. Pigott, Corporal T. Hayes, Corporal J. Perry, and Corporal D. O'Neill, Sgt. Harvey, Q.M.S. Hodgins, Sgt. McCracken. In the absence of Commandant P. Ennis (on duty), Sgt. Pigott was unanimously moved to the chair.

BOXING.

Cpl. Perry's report on boxing in the Group was satisfactory. He was preparing for the Boxing Contests which the A.A.A. proposed holding at General Headquarters in June. He suggested that a Floor and Ceiling Ball would be very useful for training, and that with the exception of this item his Gym was fully equipped.

The Secretary promised to procure one for him as soon as possible.

GROUP DELEGATES.

Corporal D. O'Neill stated that the delegate appointed to attend Command Meetings with him was never in attendance, and suggested that a new delegate be appointed. Corporal Hayes proposed and Corporal O'Neill seconded that Lieutenant McKeown be appointed delegate. Passed unanimously.

LEVY:—G.H.Q. COMMAND SPORTS.

The Secretary stated that the levy from No. 5 Group was ready to be sent forward.

Lieutenant McKeown stated that it was unfair to levy the N.C.O.'s and Men of the Group and allow Commissioned ranks to go free. He suggested that a levy be made immediately of, say, five shilling per officer. This money would greatly help to defray the heavy expenditure which would arise out of the running of the Sports.

The Secretary promised to bring the matter up at next meeting.

ISLAND BRIDGE SEEKS TO BECOME A GROUP.

Meeting held at G.H.Q. on 15th inst. Present:—Commandant P. Ennis, President; Sergeant P. Glennon, Secretary; Lieut. McKeown; Sgt. McCracken; Cpl. Hayes; Pte. Kelly; Sgt. Pigott; Sgt. Quirke; Captain Stapleton, and Lieut. Giblin (Island Bridge).

The Island Bridge representatives stated that they were of opinion that Island Bridge, as a group, would be far more useful to the Command than they were proving at present as part of No. 5 Group. Under the present grouping system there was much talent overlooked, because committees had very large numbers of men to deal with. As a group, Island Bridge could enter a football and hurling team in the Command leagues, and they would also hold their own in any other branch of sport catered for by the A.A.A.

Commandant Ennis agreed and suggested the possibility of entering Island Bridge Barracks as No. 6 Group.

It was decided to bring this matter forward at the Command Council meeting on Monday, 18th May, 1925, and Commandant Ennis requested the two delegates present to attend same.

HURDLES.

On the suggestion of Captain Stapleton, that hurdles be made for practice purposes for all those who wish to enter for this event, the Secretary was instructed to Communicate with the Secretary, G.H.Q. Command Council requesting him to put same before his committee for consideration.

HANDBALL.

Sergeant Pigott reported the Handball Competition ended. The winners and runners up were as follow:

Novice—Soft Ball.

Pte. J. Kelly—Winner.

Pte. J. Farrell—Runner-up.

Senior—Hard Ball.

Lieut. McKeown—Winner.

Sgt. Pigott—Runner-up.

The Prizes had been distributed by Commandant Ennis with the exception of the Runner-up Medal for Pte. Farrell who had been transferred from G.H.Q. some days ago.

Sergeant Pigott was instructed to get in touch with his late Commanding Officer and hand the medal over to him.

HOSPITAL STOPPAGES.

This matter was discussed at length and it was agreed that pending instructions from the Adjutant General's Department, compensation be given to all men losing pay whilst in Hospital as a result of injuries received whilst playing games catered for by the A.A.A.

A letter was read by the Secretary from Pte. Watters (G.H.Q. "A" Hurling Team) who had been injured playing on the recreational half-holiday, requesting information regarding the stoppage of his additional pay.

The Secretary was instructed to request the Quartermaster, G.H.Q., to pay him the sum of £1 1s. 0d. as compensation.

Next Meeting—Friday, 22nd inst.

HURLING CHALLENGE.

Civic Guard, 4-5; D.M.P., 2-1.

In this match, which was played at D.M.P. ground on Wednesday, 13th inst., Martin Power, the Kilkenny hurler, scored 3 goals for the Guards.

G.H.Q. COMMAND COUNCIL.

A meeting of G.H.Q. Command Council was held at General Headquarters on Monday, 4th May, 1925, Major McGrath presiding. Also present: Comdt. Ennis (Treasurer), Sergeant P. Glennon (A/Secretary), Captain Delamere, S/Major Brophy, Cpl. Hughes (Baldonnel), Sgt. Gahan, Sgt. Keogh (Gormanston), Lieut. Kavanagh, S/Major Woods, C/Sgt. Roche, Sgt. Kennedy (Portobello), Cpl. O'Neill (G.H.Q.), Artillery not represented.

FIXTURES.

Portobello representatives were desirous that the fixtures made for them at the last meeting (Portobello v. Artillery—Football—at Kildare on 6th May, 1925) be cancelled, as they had great difficulty in obtaining transport to enable their teams to travel.

After lengthy discussion it was agreed that the Football match be played in Dublin on Wednesday, 13th May, 1925, and that the Hurling match between Portobello and Artillery be played at Kildare on Wednesday, 20th May, 1925. In the event of Artillery not being agreeable to said fixtures, both matches to be played at Naas on 13th May, 1925. The above fixtures were made definite, and it was to be understood by the teams concerned that failure to appear at appointed venue would result in matches being awarded to teams not offending.

HURLING: G.H.Q. "A" v. Portobello; Civic Guard Ground, 2.30 p.m., 6/5/25. Ref.—Cpl. Hayes.

The following points were awarded:—

FOOTBALL: To G.H.Q. "A"—2 points—for match against Portobello.

HURLING: To G.H.Q. "A"—2 points—for match against G.H.Q. "B" (Walk Over).

NO. 4 GROUP FINANCES.

Lieutenant Kavanagh made a report on the financial situation in his Group. After lengthy discussion the matter was held over for further consideration at next meeting.

G.H.Q. COMMAND SPORTS.

A Sports Sub-Committee was elected as under to deal with all matters in connection with the coming sports:—Captain Delamere (Baldonnel), Sergeant Gahan (Gormanston), Commandant Mackey (Artillery), Major McGrath (Portobello), Lieut. Murray (do.), Lieut. Kavanagh (do.), Sgt.-Major Woods (do.), Comdt. Ennis (G.H.Q.), Sgt. Carr (do.).

It was decided that the following events be open to Army and Civilians:—

Two and Three Miles Cycle Events.

100 Yards, 440 Yards, and 1 Mile Running Events.

COMMAND HURLING FIXTURE.

The first round of the League for a set of Gold Medals, presented by Chief Commissioner O'Duffy, started on Saturday, 16th May, 1925.—Civic Guard v. G.H.Q. Command, on the Civic Guard Ground.

On the proposal of Commandant Ennis, seconded by Captain Delamere, Cpl. D. O'Neill was unanimously elected captain of the Command Hurling Team.

On the proposal of Commandant Ennis, seconded by S/Major Brophy, Captain Finlay was unanimously elected Vice-Captain of the Command Hurling Team.

Elections for the G.H.Q. Command Football Team were then proceeded with:—On the proposal of Commandant Ennis, seconded by S/Major Woods, Captain O'Beirne was unanimously elected Captain of the Command Football Team. On the proposal of Commandant Ennis, seconded by S/Major Brophy, Commandant Mackey was unanimously elected Vice-Captain of the Command Football Team.

SWIMMING.

Sergeant Kennedy outlined the situation as regards swimming in the Command. He suggested that a Swimming Sub-Committee be formed in the Command. The Committee was formed of the following:—Sergeant Kennedy (Portobello), Sergeant Flood (do.), C/Sergeant Lindsay (G.H.Q.), Sergeant McCracken (do.), Lieut. Carroll (Baldonnel).

Sergeant Kennedy was instructed to call meetings regularly and report all matters in connection with swimming to the

Command Council. In the course of a lengthy discussion Commandant Ennis promised every help as far as General Headquarters was concerned.

HANDBALL.

It was decided to open a Command Handball Competition, and for this purpose all Group Secretaries were instructed to forward names of contestants immediately. The competition will be run off with Hard and Soft Ball—single and double events in each case.

PERPETUAL CUPS.

The Secretary was instructed to write No. 2 Group (Gormanston) in reference to Perpetual Cups which they held, and which were competed for in Camp Sports, requesting that they be put forward for Command Championships and not Camp Sports, as heretofore.

FINAL OF G.H.Q. HANDBALL COMPETITION

The Final of the G.H.Q. Competition for prizes presented by Commandant P. Ennis was played in the Civic Guard Court on Wednesday, May 13th, the contestants being Lieut. Sean McKeown (Pay and Accounts Dept.) and Sergt. W. J. Pigott (G.H.Q.).

Lieut. McKeown's play was a great improvement of his semi-final display, when it was only by his tossing that he got the verdict over Pte. Sullivan (Island Bridge), who will take some stopping if he improves his present form. Not one of the large gallery expected Lieut. McKeown to run out the first two games and be within four aces of the rubber before his experienced opponent got a game. As it was, Lieut. McKeown, playing with a fast ball, won the first and second on the scores 21-12, 21-3, and then, after leading all through the third, he lost a good chance at 17, when Sgt. Pigott, with good tossing, passed him and won the game.

The fourth game was featureless, except for the tossing of Sergt. Pigott, which was very difficult to play, with the result that he drew level at two games all by winning the game, 21-4. Continuing the tossing, he led 8-0 in the deciding game, but Lieut. McKeown made a great rally and, going for every ball and placing well, he had even play at 11 all. For a while play was very even, hands being exchanged without a score until, from 13 all, Sergt. Pigott went ahead on his tossing to 18. On getting the inside position Lieut. McKeown played very steadily and with a toss around the left corner he passed his opponent at 18 all and went ahead to win the game for the rubber. Scores:—Lieut. McKeown beat Sergt. Pigott, 21-12, 21-3, 17-21, 4-21, 21-18.

Comdt. P. Ennis, Camp Commandant, G.H.Q., who very kindly presented a wristlet watch and a medal to the winner and runner-up, respectively, in the competition, was an interested spectator of the match, and was accompanied by Capt. A. J. Kavanagh, while all the branches at G.H.Q. were well represented.

After the final an interesting double-handed match was played between Ptes. Byrne and Sullivan (Island Bridge), and Sergt.-Major Carney and Pte. Durcan (G.H.Q.). The pairs were well matched, but the good play of Sullivan and the tossing and "neat" play of Byrne got them many aces and they won by two games to nil, on the scores 21-9, 21-18. Sergt.-Major Carney played very well, but his partner has yet to get in form.

A doubles match, McKeown and Pigott against Sullivan and Byrne, would be a good contest.

On Monday night at a meeting of No. 5 Group, Comdt. Ennis presented the prizes to Lieut. McKeown and Sgt. Pigott, and in a brief speech referred to the progress made by the G.H.Q. Handball Club during its short existence.

Sgt. Pigott, on behalf of the Club, thanked the Comdt. and Committee for their very acceptable prizes and assured them that he would do all in his power to enable the Club to maintain a high standard of play. He added that they were about to enter the arena outside against civilian Clubs.

5th BRIGADE SPORTS.

A good programme has been arranged and there should be a big gate at the Sports organised by the 5th Brigade, which are being held in Kilkenny on Sunday, 14th June. There are both open and confined events and, in the latter, two Army Championships—100 yards and 440 yards.



ARTILLERY TRANSFER REFUSED.

Lively Interchanges at Meeting of G.H.Q. Command Council.

Island Bridge Becomes a Group.

At a meeting of the Command Council A.A.A., held at G.H.Q. on the 18th inst., Major T. McGrath presided, and the following were also present:—Commandant Ennis, Captain Delamere, and Sergeant-Major Brophy, Baldonnel; Sergeant Gahan and Sergeant Keogh, Gormanston; Commandant Mackey and Gunner Hayes, Artillery; S.M. Woods, Portobello; Corporal O'Neill, and Lieutenant McKeown, G.H.Q.; Corporal Hughes, Captain Quirke, Captain Stapleton, Captain Fitzgerald, Lieutenant Giblin, and Private Tuohig.

Command Sports.

It was stated that although representations had been made to the authorities at Croke Park re holding above sports, no reply had been received. It was decided that the officials at Croke Park be pressed for a definite answer.

Group Levy.

Arising out of the question of Levies on groups within the command, Commandant Mackey (Artillery) said his Committee had decided that it was under no obligation to pay, as it was very likely that they would be now severed from the G.H.Q. Command.

Commandant Ennis (G.H.Q.) reminded Commandant Mackey that the Levy had been decided upon two months ago, and that irrespective of that evening's proceedings—as to whether or not Artillery were retained in the G.H.Q. Command—they were still liable.

Special Services Cups.

It was decided that the Council claim the Special Services Cups from the Executive Council, and, on the suggestion of Commandant Ennis, that they be competed for in the Command Sports.

Hurling Final.

The much-discussed Hurling test match of the G.H.Q. Command League was fixed (provisionally) for Newbridge on Sunday, June 7th. The referees mentioned being Major McGrath and Lieutenant Fitzpatrick. There is no match more eagerly discussed in Army circles, and it is expected that the Dominican Fathers will offer no objection to the grounds been availed of on this date.

Artillery Wish to Secede.

Commandant Mackey (Artillery), stated that it was with reluctance that he had to propose that Artillery be attached to the Curragh Command for Sport. He gave as his reasons that it was more economical to do so, and that it was the unanimous wish of his Committee.

Commandant Ennis (G.H.Q.), vigorously opposed the motion. He stated that he was the very person to support Artillery when they themselves expressed the desire to remain in the G.H.Q. Command. They did so at their own behest, and when at the Army Convention it was proposed that Artillery be merged in the Curragh Command, he (Commandant Ennis) opposed it, because it was the wish of Artillery to remain in G.H.Q. Command. He could not understand the changed attitude of Artillery, and he could not now see their idea in wishing to transfer their allegiance.

Major McGrath (Chairman), said that if the Artillery motion was carried it would mean the breaking up of the organisation as it now stood. When this matter was discussed at the Convention it was fought out.

Commandant Mackey said that they had no facilities from the Railway Company, and that they had very heavy expenses which would justify them in dropping out of the G.H.Q. Command.

Captain Quirke (G.H.Q.), was of opinion that were Artillery allowed to drop out of G.H.Q. Command, at their own request, a precedent would be established that might be detrimental to the best interests of Sport.

The Chairman said that there was no question of precedent. It was decided at the Convention, at the request of Artillery, that

they be part of G.H.Q. Command. They had their option then.

Commandant Ennis pointed out that Artillery were a special unit, and consequently attached to G.H.Q. for Sport. He recommended to the meeting that they form part of G.H.Q. Command for this year, at least.

Commandant Mackey stated that it was dangerous to keep a team against its will.

Captain Fitzgerald (Island Bridge), resented this remark, and said that he had changed his mind during the discussion. He came to support Artillery, but he was now convinced that, as it was the decision of the Convention—with the consent of Artillery—they should abide by the ruling of that body that Artillery considered their parent Association.

After a prolonged discussion it was decided, by 9 votes to 3, that Artillery remain within G.H.Q. Command for this year. Artillery were the only voters in favour of the motion.

Railway Company and Vouchers.

Arising out of the previous discussion, it was pointed out that the attitude of the Railway Company towards teams travelling was very unsatisfactory. There seemed to be no facilities offered, and teams travelling on vouchers almost every week were not allowed any concessions.

It was decided that Captain Delamere prepare a statement, to be submitted to the Council before forwarding same to the Railway Co.

A New Group.

Commandant Ennis moved, and Captain Delamere seconded, that Island Bridge be allowed to form a group on its own. G.H.Q., said the Commandant, had at present a claim on them, but when the interests of the Island Bridge man had to be looked at, nothing should stand in the way of offering them the status of a group.

Captain Stapleton said that they in Island Bridge could never make progress unless they obtained the status to enable them to pay more attention to their individual wants, and to promote a healthy spirit of rivalry as a group.

The motion was unanimously carried.

Inter-Company Athletics.

With reference to the Scheme of Inter-Company Competitions already laid down,

The Chairman said that the different groups would require to have their sports carried out as soon as possible. Each Company would have its chance, and the best all-round Company in each group would represent that group. Likewise the best group would represent the Command in the All-Army Championships.

Group Secretaries.

The Chairman mentioned that the matter of Group Secretaries, and their reports of minutes of group meetings, was very important. That Council should have a report from each Secretary after each meeting, as it was the only way of keeping the Council in touch with the groups.

Referees' Association and Rough Play.

Commandant Ennis referred at length to the necessity of a Referees' Association. There was, he said, in a great many cases, a lack of proper control. Filthy language, and rough play, was not a part of the Army games generally, especially as regards the players, but very often spectators indulged in language quite foreign to our people, and referees should take note of it. He advocated stern measures where either players or spectators misconducted themselves.

Captain Fitzgerald remarked that it was a great tribute to our Army Athletes that during the past season there was no necessity in any of the matches to send a player off. At the same time referees should meet often, and discuss matters so as to arrive at a unanimous interpretation of the rules.

It was decided that each group forward, for next Monday's meeting, the names of a hurling and football referee for sanction by the Council.

Handball Championships.

The lack of handball courts in some of the group areas was discussed. This was a great hardship imposed on some of the groups who were trying to keep the game alive. As the championships must be finished before the end of July, it was decided that each group hand the names of their representatives in as soon as possible after the conclusion of their trials.

(Continued on Page 17.)



Széalta an tsáirsint Rua.

pÁTORAIC Ó CONAIRE, DO SGRÍOB.

XVIII.—Dealg sa mbeó.

Tosaíḡ an Sáirsint Rua agus cuir sé an cáint seo de, o'don iarrairí aḡáin ḡan ceao éabairt do "Spasac" píú don focal aḡáin a ráo, bíor is ḡur síl an tóime cainnteac sin cur-isteac aḡir ó am go ham :

An sean-concertina sin an dealg ba measa o'ar cuiread sa mbeó ionnam ariam, (ars an Sáirsint Rua), aet aḡáin "Spasac" eall annsin a síleann go bfuil sé i n-ann sḡeal a innseac, ruo nac bfuil, mar is eol do'n uile tóime aḡaib a bí aḡ eisteac leis an oróce éana.

Aḡ obair aḡ na tógannaib eall i lonnmam a bíos an tráe sin, mé féin aḡus conluadar beag eireannac eile, aḡus ní hé aḡáin go rabamar aḡ obair le céile de lo, aet bí comharde oraim i n-aon teac aḡáin o'oróce. An teac sin ! Beró cuimne aḡam ar an áit go lá mo báis, aḡus ós ruo é nac tuisḡrúe mo sḡeal i ḡceart ḡan eólas beir aḡaib aḡ, aḡus aḡne aḡaib ar curo o'á áitreab, innseóac beagán púta.

Sean-teac aro a bí ann cois na haibne, san limistéir ba brocaíḡe sa ḡcatair, sean-teac éire-staíḡe, aḡus an uile staíḡe oib com lúbac ḡiosḡánac crónánac le n-a céile. Nuair a leaḡpá cos ar céim don sḡaíḡe oib, do cloispeá ceól nac ceól sírúe ná aḡgeal ar fuo an áruis ; nuair a séropeac an ḡaoristeac éri na fuinneóḡaib briste, beáó séis ceól aḡ tóime i pé ar bit seómna n-a mbeáó sé. Truaḡáin aḡus oriovar na caetrae is mó bí sa teac, aḡus nuair a tuisḡrúis aḡ aetann aḡus aḡ brurdean le céile, mór mór oróce saetairn ba ḡeall le hiprionn féin an áit.

Seao, beró cuimne aḡam ar an áit sin go ḡcuirpear faoi'n bfuó mé.

Tá pios aḡ an uile tóime aḡaib ḡur fear le ceól mé, aḡus go nḡoilleann an tormán ar mo éluais ḡeir aibrí ; aet o'á méro potram aḡus ḡleó aḡus raic o'á mbíor sa teac lóistín sin, ní sin é a bí aḡ brisead mo éroirde aḡus aḡ poirḡneam buile na buile 'mo éann aet ceól sean-concertina a bfuó ḡá seimnt i n-aireagal beag i n-aice linn.

Tuḡas ceól ar na fuaimneannaib oiaḡalta a bfuó aḡ teac ó'n inneall uacḡásac sin, aet a tḡearna ! Rinneas an bréas. Níor ceól é aet mar beáó tóimam sḡiseamla aḡ fuo—maḡaó faoi a tóearna de maí ar an saḡal seo ariam.

É cosḡ an eao ? An ceoltóir mallaiḡe a éacáó le n-a inneall oiaḡalta féin ? Is mimic a beaḡuḡeas a leitéro a tóearna, aet nuair a tóearpaim ar fear seimnte an ceól, ní leigpead mo éroirde tóim a leitéro a tóearna. Seanóir go raib polt bán go ḡuailníb aḡ, aḡus éadan soibir soeanta, a cuiread maóise na n-aíeanna i ḡcuimne tuit a bí sa ḡceoltóir ; tabairt suas maí aḡ aḡus o'áḡ-beasa—b'forus o'áíne aḡ go b'paca sé saḡal níos fear ná an saḡal sin tráe. Ní tóime de na lóisteoirí a bí ann ar cor ar bit, aet truaḡán ḡur tuḡaó ceao o'ó a sean-ḡeas a sínead ar seanócaib i b'póirse beag i n-aice linn-ne le ḡráó Dé.

"Cé'n sḡeacáonil aḡus cé'n eíḡne sin ort, a míc an mī-áda ?" arsa mise leis oróce aḡus mé ar mire o'oireasa covalta de bárr a curo ceól. É éacáó láirteac an ponn a bí orm.

"Caíḡpú tóime a éacáó a éleacáó," ar seisean go someanta o'áḡ-beasac.

"A éacáó a éleacáó !" arsa mise go taḡaḡac, "an amlaró go tuisḡann tú ceáo ar an nḡiosḡán mallaiḡe sin, an amlaró go—"

Cum sé isteac orm.

"An ceól is ceáo tóim," ar seisean aḡus é com b'róamail as is o'á mba é bach féin é, "an ceól is ḡráó aḡus is, ceáo tóim," ar seisean, "bíor is narb sin i mo ceáo tóitcasac, aḡus nac bfuilim pios aet 'mo p'rintiseac, aet má éleacáóim i moe mall tóireanna, is i b'péabas a tóas mé aḡ tuit.

A tḡearna ! Céáo o'féatpáirde a tóearna le n-a leitéro ?

Cur mé féin aḡus mo cáirde an sḡeal éri n-a céile oróce tar iés obair an lae. Ní raib don tóime aca a raib éluas aḡus aḡam an ceoltóra ann aet mé féin, aḡus is ar eíḡin a éreioevar an éaoi a raib an tormán tóamanta sin a bfuó ar siubal ḡá oróce aḡ an seanóir soibir tóim' cur ar mire molaó seo sírú aḡus eile, aet níor ḡlacaó le don molaó aca go tui ḡur labair tóime :

"Má tá an seanóir boet sin aḡ cur as com mór sin tuit," arsa an tóime sin liomsa, "aḡus ós aḡat atá an ceól, nac b'péapá beaḡán de do curo ceól maí féin a mumead o'ó i leabará beir aḡ síor-élaimsán faoi 'n tóime boet."

Ceól a mumead o'á leitéro aḡus ḡan don ceól n-a éroirde ! is beaḡnac o' mḡeḡ na cosa uaim le ionḡnaó !

"Aḡus," arsa mo tóime aetair, "aḡus" ar seisean, "ba mór an ḡráó Dé tuit é. Céáo tá aḡ an truaḡán boet aet a curo ceól i tóire a saḡail ? Má cuireann tú peabas ar a eabólam, le ḡráó Dé, beró lasḡanaróe le p'ḡáil aḡat i b'p'urḡaóir amac annseo."

Níor labair mise, aet bí an smaoinead mo éann aḡ tuitim 'mo éovlaró tóim.

Tar éis sin, tosaíḡ na ceactanna ceól oob' ionḡantaíḡe o'á raib ariam ar an saḡal, sa sean-teac lóistín sin a bí com lán le tóime is tá uib le peól. Ceoltóir mar mise a bfuil an oiread sin don aḡus tóais aise de bárr peabas a curo ceoltóireac aḡ mumead ceól o'ó truaḡán nac n-aíeacáó "Aḡáin an tsaiḡ-tóira" éar "péarla an brollaíḡ báin," aḡus é lán-cimnte n-a éann féin nac raib a sárú de ceoltóir ar éalam an tóimam ! Mise is mó a bfuó aḡ seimnt ar an seanconcertina sin éar éis tamail, aḡus eisean tóearbta go raib sé tóim'mumead ! O'eiríḡ cáirdeas mór roir an mbeirt aḡam ar an tóis sin, aḡus ar ór na stáit ní leigpim orm aet go raib an seanóir soibir o'áḡ-beasac sin go raib cion aḡam aḡ, ar sár-ceoltóirí na cruimne. An creioeam a bí aise n-a cúmaet féin ba mór, aḡus b'áluim an ruo é, aḡus ní tóime de luēt réabta creioim ná áilneaceta an mac seo. É molaó tóearpaim i ḡcomharde aḡus panta iprim o'á b'pulaḡe aḡam de bárr a tóoc-ceól. O'á tóearpaim a málairt, o'á sḡappaim an mearbáil a bí an an seanóir sin, o'á ḡcailpead sé an creioeam a bí aise ann féin, com cimnte is tá mé beó, do b'rispúe a éroirde. aḡus an ceól a ḡnitéas éroirde o'á b'risead, ní ceól caíḡneamac é. Mar sin de, leanas de'n b'reíḡ.

Aet níor maí don bréas ariam aet seal. Oróce o'á raib mé ciapta céasta aḡ an saḡal, aḡus an éroirde o'á sínóim 'mo lán istiḡ, tosaíḡ an seanóir leis an ḡceoltóireac. Síleas an ḡléas ceól a baint de aet ní ḡeillpead sé tóim. Eisean a mumead an ceól tóim ; eisean a tóearpaim o'ó n saḡal mór ceáo ba ceól ann ; eisean a—ac is cuma ceáo eile a tóearpá sé, nó nac tóearpá sé—ac a mī-ádmaraíḡe ar tóimam, níor seim sé ariam níos measa ná an oróce sin, aḡus sin focal mór.

O'panas féin p'oisḡeac, aet go raib rabarta p'irḡe aḡ coipead istiḡ ionnam. Aet sa tóire, pléasḡ mé :

"A sean-amadain an tsaoḡail móir," arsa mise, "an é aḡ éaoi go ḡceapann tú go bfuil ceól aḡatsa ?" aḡus éasáḡeann aḡ léimriḡ ar an úrlár ós a comair amac le tóim buile, "an amlaró ḡur tóis leat ḡur ceoltóir tú ? a p'laróce ! nac é an

caoi go rabas as píosaíocht fúit ar feadh an áchair? Nac raib a fíos agat é sin, a leib? Ceól! Ceól! Ceól a tabairt ar an ngiosáinac sin!"

Ní fios dom céard eile aoubras leis an seanóir soilbhir nac raib aise ar an saogal seo aet an creireadh a bí aise go raib buair na ceoltóiríeacta aise péin. Tuir an seanconcertina as a lámhaib. Dearc sé orm le súilib boga truaigiméalacla a easbáin dom gur tuis sé go raib an fírinne óa ráó agam péin. Cuasas a creirde óa braiseo; cuasas an ceól uaebásac sin nár eairiis ariam aet le cluais óiaibail.

* * *

Amac liom ar an tsráio, agus mé beagnac as mo céill. Cosuigeas as ól, aet óa méao óar ólas is amlaio is mó a bí an buile as méaoú. A leirero sin de cuina ní raib orm ariam gur braiseas creirde an tseanóra sin ba éaraio liom. Agus céard o'féarainn a óeanaib? Óul ar ais agus an tóul a cur n-a seol air? Sin é éeapras óeanaib.

Glais liom éir na sráioeanna, agus ó'n scaoi a mbreathuigeao an oaoime orm, tuigeas ní hé amáin go rabas ar buile aet go raib an cosamlaet sin orm.

Bí sé deireannac nuair a sroiceas an teac lóistín. Mar ba gnátae ann, ní raib glas ar óoras na sráioe. Brúigeas óiom isteac é. Bí an halla coim óorca is nac breicpea óo méar ann, agus ní raib cipín soluis péin agamsa. Aet bí eólas na háite agam. Rinneas ar an stáigre a bí ar aiaio an óorais móir. Suas liom cúpla coisméas, aet nuair a síleas a tóul suas níos aoirde, bualaó ruo trom éisin i n-aiaio mo colna agus cuireao siar arís mé. Suas liom arís. Bualaó arís mé. Caiteao siar arís mé. Iarraet eile agus na láma since amac rómain. Ceang-buigeaoar le cóta fir. Duime éisin de na lóisteoirí a bí oio mo ionnsaige síleas. Tuigas cae agus coimrac oó agus mé óa leaoarao go millteac, aet buille péin níor eus sé oom aet é óa caiteam péin 'mo coimne agus as cúla arís.

Rugas greim éart ar a colaim. Tuigas cor oó, agus sleaimaig an beirt agaim síos an stáigre ar mulla a céile, sa óorcaoas móir. Aet b'é an t-uaebás ar paó é nuair a cuasas giosgan an tseanconcertina fúinn ar an úrlár agus mé as coimline leis an t-é o' ionnsaige mé.

* * *

Seao, tá an ceart aguib. Mé péin agus an seanóir soilbhir a bí as ionnsaige a céile ar an stáigre sa óorcaoas. Aet, a óia móir na trócaire! Ní seanóir deó a bí oom ionnsaige aet corp! Nuair a euis sé an fírinne, nuair a baimeas-sa óe a raib aise sa saogal leis an bfeirinne uaebásac i ótosac na horóce, fuair sé téao cnáibe agus croc sé é péin as an mbainistéir, agus b'é a corp a bí ar luasao de éeann téirde a bí oom' bualaó agus mé as iarraio óul i n-aírode stáigre. Bí cos leis greamaigete i strapa an tseanconcertina, agus nuair a luasao an corp éar éis mise a bualaó de baintí ceól neam-saogalta as. Ué! Céno erle atá le ráó aet gur óuinharótoir ariam a ó'innseóao an fírinne i gcoimraioe?

(Sa gCéao umhír eile: XIX.—Seao ná ní heao?).

CZECHO-SLOVAKIAN ARMY MARRIAGES.

New Orders have been issued regarding the marriage of Czech army officers. It appears that no officer is to be allowed to marry until he has passed his twenty-ninth year; or until he has reached a specified rank; or if his marriage is at all likely to endanger his military ambitions; or if it is likely to injure the good name of the Czech army; or place the officer in material difficulties.

(Continued from Page 15.)

Transport Difficulties.

Commandant Mackey raised the question of Army Transport on Wednesdays. Very often he was told—in fact notices had been put up—that no transport was available on Wednesdays.

Several delegates spoke on the matter, and it was decided to have the matter taken up with the Transport Branch.

Golf and Tennis.

Captain Delamere was requested to draw up a scheme for Championships, and to submit it to next Monday's meeting.

Fixtures.

May 27th (Wednesday)—Artillery v. Portobello, Hurling Ground, Phoenix Park, Football Command League.

May 27th—Baldonnell Sports, which includes One Mile and 440 yards Open Events.

June 7th (Provisionally)—Artillery v. G.H.Q. "A." Test match, Command Hurling—At Newbridge.

EASTERN COMMAND COUNCIL MEETING.

A meeting was held in the Men's Recreation Room, Collins Barracks, Dublin, on 9th inst. Rev. S. Pigott (Chairman) presided, and there were also present Col. MacCorley, Lt. O'Brien, Capt. Murphy (6th Brigade); Col. MacGuinness, Capt. Cosgrove, Capt. O'Byrne (7th Brigade); Col. Gilheaney, Comdt. T. Ryan, Comdt. T. Fox (5th Brigade).

Capt. Murphy was elected to represent the Command on the Hurling, Football and Handball Committee; Capt. Harkins to represent the Command on the Athletic and Cycling Committee; Brigade Q.M.S. Nolan to the Boxing and Gymnastic Committee; Capt. Gray to the Tennis and Golf Committee; Rev. S. Pigott to the Horsemanship Committee; Capt. MacDonagh to the Motor Cycling Committee.

With a view of getting the best hurlers of the Eastern Command for the All-Army Hurling Selection, which is to play the Garda in July, the following matches were arranged:—

6th Brigade v. 7th Brigade, Wednesday, 13th May, Civic Guard Grounds, Phoenix Party, at 4.15 p.m.

5th Brigade v. Selections from 6th and 7th in Maryboro', on Wednesday, 20th, at 3 p.m.

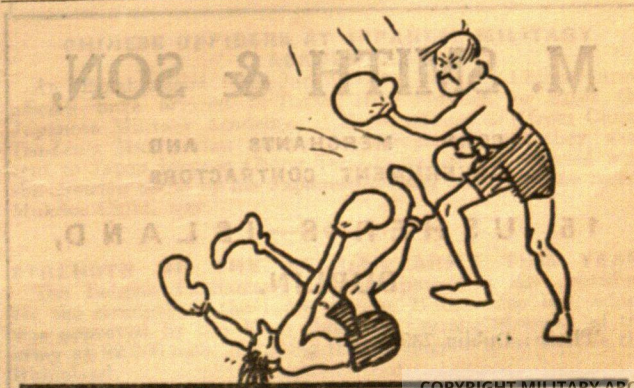
Reports from the three Brigades showed that sport was pretty brisk in all parts of the Command.

It was arranged that the Sixth Brigade Championships in Hurling and Football be finished on May 27th; Seventh Brigade Championships on June 7th; and the Fifth Brigade Championships on May 27th.

The Fifth Brigade Sports will be held at Kilkenny on the 14th June.

The Sixth Brigade Sports will be held on the Esplanade, Collins Barracks, Dublin, 23rd May.

It was decided that in future Battalion Council Meetings be held weekly; Brigade Meeting fortnightly; and Command Meetings monthly; and that a report of each Battalion meeting be forwarded to the Brigade Secretary and a report of each Brigade meeting forwarded to the Command Secretary.



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"SCRAPS" FROM GORMANSTON.

The long-promised General Meeting was held on Wednesday, April 29th, and was a very successful one, carried out in a businesslike manner. The following new members were elected on the Committee: Sgt. J. Jacob, Cpl. P. P. Kelly, Privates J. Gaffney, F. Allen and D. Murphy.

* * * *

"Rounders" has become quite the rage here and it is expected that we will soon have a first-class team. One sturdy blacksmith gave an exhibition of how "Boundaries" are made, which made the fielders "SAVAGE." It is a splendid game, but we could do with less of the "BAWL" in it.

* * * *

The boxers are still hard at work, but when is the promised tournament going to be held? Buck up, "G."

* * * *

It appears that the Irish Class, like the "Dance," is a 3 o'clock in the morning dream.

* * * *

Some of the Dramatic talent is showing itself already. One of them, is a NU-GENT.

* * * *

Some say that to attempt to make a Tennis Lawn, is to COURT disaster, I can't say if this is true or not, but I have it on the S/M.'s authority, that "ROLLERS" are very hard to tame.

* * * *

That old song, "Where did you get that Hat?" has become very popular here recently.

* * * *

"What's wrong with that," asks Matty, when he sings, "Will you love me in Civies as you did in Uniform?"

* * * *

The Dentist has left us with a lot of "Gumsuckers," they complain of not being able to eat their food. Well, at least they cannot "Chaw the Fat."

* * * *

What means the machine shop's slogan—"HERE HE COMES?"

* * * *

The members of No. 1 billet are never pulled up for their sticks. This is accounted for by the presence of "KEANE" in their midst!

* * * *

Who was it said, that "There's always a bit of a 'Barney' in No. 5 billet?"

* * * *

The Billiard Handicap provided some very keen games and also some very surprising results—as for instance the defeat of Maxon. The fact that all the best players were knocked out before the final, speaks well for the manner in which the players were handicapped. The winners were:—1st., Pte. G. Gissane; 2nd., Pte. P. Smith.

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"PORTOBELLO-INGS."

The inevitable has happened—all the "heads" have taken their departure to seek fortune on the broad plains of Kildare. No more the sweet voice of the S/M will whisper, "Pardon me, old man, but it's really time to get up," or "words to that effect."

But they'll come back, yes! They'll come back!! And then—

Sgt. C. has five entries in the children's race due to happen on the 20th. Now sportsmen! I'm told a real good double is *Sgt. C's Selected* for that event and Solario for another race which will probably be run in England.

"Oh its cooky this and cooky that, but what about the stew?"

Spring is at us, our mad poet breaks forth:—

Cooky stewing stupid stews intensely,
Stupendous stews, a stupor to create,
The stew he stews you could enjoy immensely,
If ? ? ? ? ?

There he begs to be extewsed, and gladly offers a prize of 10/- to the one who will supply the last stew.

A further long instalment of this most interesting stew will probably appear in our next issue. (Perhaps—Ed.)

We would like to know:—

If H.B. yet discovered how to write his name in Irish?
If the Tennis Court in the Gym will not soon be a washout?

If some of the "leggings" we saw leaving Portobello the other day, en route for the Curragh, were not the Brightest yet?

If (judging by the present rates of extra pay), the authorities have not a very poor opinion of their "higher clerks"?

If one of these higher clerks is not more entitled to three bob than the plumber who fixed the gas-jet in his bunk?

A Dublin firm recently offered cash prizes for Ford Car stories. How's this one:—A near sighted old lady while crossing the street collided with a huge dog, and while lying on the ground narrowly escaped being run over by an Army Ford. A kindly old gent coming to her assistance inquired if the dog had injured her. "Oh no, Sir; thank you kindly," replied the old lady, "but the tin can tied to his tail gave me an awful fright."

If only Collins Barracks would extend the hand of generosity and send us down some of that salmon they caught. The fish down here is the "frozen limit," and our nearest waterway (the canal) has so far failed to yield anything (eatable).

Big preparations afoot for the 23rd Batt. Annual Sports. Paddy Murrihy, just back from the Curragh, is again to the fore.



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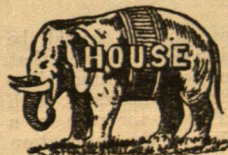
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CHINESE OFFICERS AT JAPANESE MILITARY ACADEMY.

An official report from Japan states that 21 Chinese army officers have arrived in Tokyo, from Mukden, to enter the Japanese Military Academy. These officers are from Chang Tso-Lin's Manchurian army. It is reported that they were sent to Japan because Chang Tso-Lin was so well pleased with the showing made by his Japanese-trained officers in the recent Mukden-Chihli war.

STRENGTH OF THE BELGIAN ARMY THIS YEAR.

The Belgian Parliament recently passed a law providing for the strength of the army during, 1925. The law, which was approved by the King, fixes the average strength of the army at 82,300 men, including the contingent to be kept in the Rhineland.

Our Information Bureau.

Proficiency Pay.

"Interested" (Dublin).—Special financial sanction has been procured for the increase from 9d. to 1/6 per diem referred to in the case of clerks employed on certain duties in Brigade Pay Offices. The concession has not been extended to clerks employed in departments outside those mentioned.

"Wondering" (Curragh).—No additional pay is issuable save in respect of N.C.O.'s and Men engaged at the trades specifically covered in the pay regulations.

Pension.

"Pioneer" (Portobello).—(1) We do not know of any save that provided under the Military Service Pensions Act, 1924. (2) Refer to Major Liston, Officer i/c Personnel, Portobello Barracks.

"Neighbour" (Limerick).—Forward information under the following heads to the Adjutant-General's Department, G.H.Q., Parkgate, and the matter will be investigated:—(1) Date of joining the Army, (2) Unit or units under which you served, (3) Names of officers under whom you served, (4) Address at the time of enlistment, (5) Date of discharge and reasons for same.

Back Pay.

"Justice" (Curragh).—Your case is being investigated.

Grade Pay.

M. Doherty (Curragh Camp).—Representation should be made to your Commanding Officer, pointing out the fact that you had over twelve months' service prior to re-joining. The matter should then be referred to the Officer i/c Records, with a view to having such service verified. Pay at the rate for a Class II. Private will be automatically issued on the publication of your appointment in Battalion Orders.

Marriage Allowance.

"Salmon" (Collins).—Marriage allowance will only be granted to N.C.O.'s and Men who were married prior to the 10th November, 1923. The question of marriage allowance according to the above regulations is under consideration.

Legal.

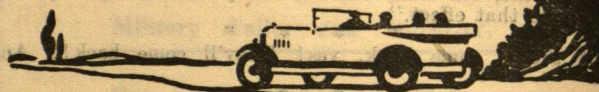
M. J. Roberts (Gormanston).—No replies by post. (1) If the matter is unofficial the advice of the Legal Officer is not available. (2). If it is an official matter an application for permission to interview the Legal Officer should be made to your Commanding Officer, together with a brief statement of the facts of the case. (3). Direct communication with the Legal Officer is not permissible.

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EXAMINATION OF TEMPORARIES IN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS FOR 135 POSTS AS CLERICAL OFFICERS.

Date of Examination.....30th June Next.

Latest date of entry.....SATURDAY, 23rd INSTANT.

Candidates holding over entry until last moment do so at their own risk.

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