



AN ÓGLÁC

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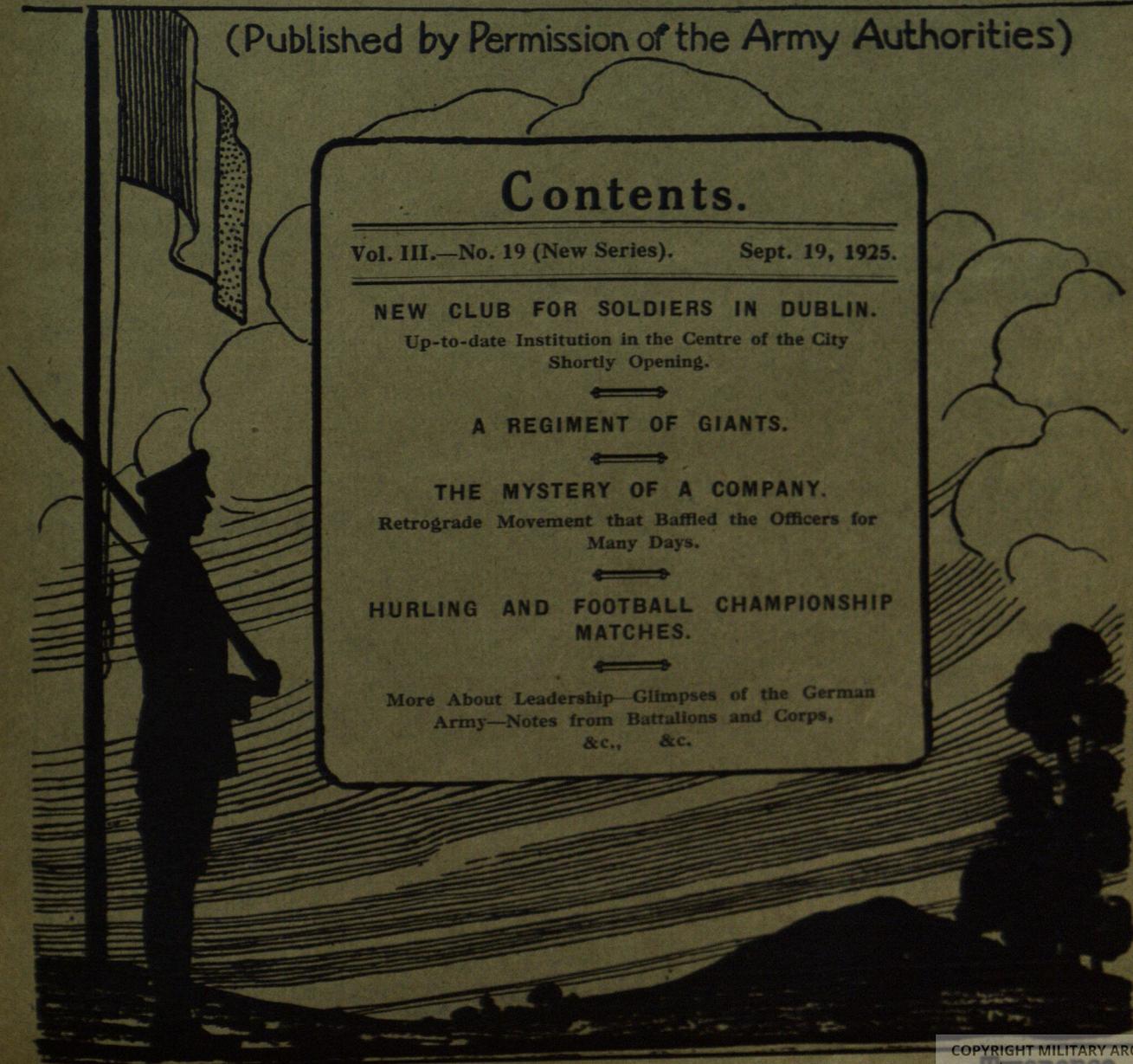
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An t-Ógláic

Vol. 111. No. 19 (New Series).

SEPTEMBER 19, 1925.

Price TWOPENCE.



Major-General MacEoin, G.O.C. Curragh Camp, presenting the Silver Cup for the Premier Company in the Army, to Captain Sean O'Mara, O.C. of "A" Co., 15th Infantry Battalion.



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na hÉireann
DEFENCE FORCES IRELAND

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An t-Oglach

SEPTEMBER 19, 1925.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

THE soldiers of the Irish Army are under a heavy debt of gratitude to that Association of patriotic Irishwomen and Irishmen known as Cumann Sugraídh an Airm. Unselfishly and indefatigably its members have laboured since the formation of the Cumann in 1922, to make the lot of the soldiers as comfortable and happy as possible. Their influence has made itself felt throughout the entire Army, and every soldier has benefited, directly or indirectly, by their efforts. Naturally their work was more manifest in Dublin than elsewhere, and the admirable dry canteens and recreation rooms in the barracks of the capital testify to their unflagging zeal. They are now about to crown their labours in Dublin by the creation of an up-to-date Soldiers' Club in College Street. In another column we give details of this excellent enterprise which will provide food, shelter and recreation for all soldiers of the Irish Army stationed in the city or passing through. The benefits to be derived from such an institution are too obvious to need emphasis. It will be a counter attraction to the temptations which beset all soldiers in a great city, and will provide a comfortable meeting place where comrades can spend their spare time enjoyably in a thoroughly national atmosphere. The Head Chaplain, Rev. Dominic Ryan, Mrs. Richard Mulcahy, and all who have assisted in making this club a reality are deserving of the warmest thanks of the soldiers themselves and of all who have the interests of the "Boys in Green" at heart.

* * * *

SOME good friends of "An t-Oglach" who are doing their best to push the sale of the Army Journal amongst the battalions and special service corps have, from time to time, let us know the excuses that are given to them by those who do not purchase the paper. The Acting Officer commanding a Brigade area recently wrote: "More space should be given to Battalion notes, as the men are more inclined to buy the paper when they can read the doings of their own units." This remark has evidently been prompted by statements forwarded to the Officer in question to the effect that notes were sent in from different battalions which were never published. It was sought to convey the impression that there was an editorial bias against battalion notes which resulted in reams of bright, interesting, well-written "copy" being dumped into the W.P.B. There is not the slightest foundation for such an innuendo. We have frequently appealed for notes from the different units and all such notes have been published when sent, save in cases where they offended against good taste and military discipline. As we have repeatedly stated, good-humoured chaff is one thing, and, within reasonable limits, adds piquancy to the gossip from a battalion or corps, but ill-mannered personalities and jibes cannot be tolerated. Notes in which the latter characteristics pre-

dominated have been unhesitatingly rejected, but it speaks well for the Army that such action on our part has been necessary in very few instances. In a number of cases where certain people have alleged that they sent us notes of their units, we can only state that we never received them. In certain cases we were officially informed by those in authority that arrangements had been made for some person in the battalion or corps to forward notes regularly—and then they followed a silence, unbroken to the present moment.

* * * *

IT is scant comfort to find that we are not alone in this trouble. Our contemporary, the United States "Infantry Journal," has the following plaintive paragraph in the current issue: "What is your regiment doing? It is certainly on the job. Why not let the other doughboys know what is going on in your outfit? We cannot procure news of the happenings unless they are sent to the 'Infantry Journal.' Jot down the facts on anything unusual and send them to us. We will appreciate it and so will your organisation, as well as will our many readers." "Them's our sentiments" too. Send along all the news you can gather about your unit—news, mark you, as far as possible—and send it so as to reach us not later than the Monday before the date of publication. Commanding Officers would greatly help by detailing a scribe, and making inquiries if the notes do not appear. All communications should be written on one side of the paper only, with wide spaces between the lines, and it is advisable to keep a copy in case of complaint later as to sub-editing.

* * * *

AND, while we are being personal, there is another matter to which reference must be made. It has been alleged repeatedly, and the statement is still being made, that in many instances "An t-Oglach" is on sale in the shops several days, or even a week before it reaches the barracks. This is rather curious in view of the fact that the sole firm of wholesale newsagents handling the journal does not receive its supply of any issue until all the parcels for the different units have been despatched. Furthermore, the firm informs us that the retail newsagents do not receive their supplies until at least one day after the consignment has reached the head distributing centre. If there is delay it is not in the office of the Journal, and we will be very glad if all cases of such delay are immediately notified to us so that steps may be at once taken to ascertain the cause.



THE LATE SEAN LYNCH.

The remains of Sean Lynch, ex-Captain, were interred with full military honours in Galbally Churchyard on Wednesday, 16th inst., and there was a remarkable demonstration of popular regret and sympathy. Sean Lynch was identified with the I.R.A. since its inception, and he was one of the party who rescued Sean Hogan from the British military in 1920. He had been in failing health for some time, and died on Monday, aged 30.

There was a crowded congregation at Galbally Church for the Requiem Mass, which was attended by about a dozen priests, and all business was suspended in the district.

A party of military from the 4th Brigade, Limerick, attended, under Col. D. Reynolds and Col. Liam Hayes, and the firing party of twelve was in charge of Capt. Keane.

The prayers at the grave were said by Rev. R. McCarthy, C.F., Capt., Cork.

GERMAN INFANTRY TRAINING OF THE PRESENT DAY.

Due to the fact that several of the higher officers of the Infantry School at Munich took part in Ludendorff's *putsch* in November, 1923, the school was closed. In the month of March, 1924, the course was started again, not in a city, but in the army camps southwest of Erfurt. Reichsrat in December, 1924, definitely authorized its transfer to the city of Dresden.

The rear sight of the rifle, which was graduated from 400 to 2,000 metres, has been graduated from 100 to 2,000 metres. This appears to indicate that the Germans consider more and more the rifle as an arm of close combat—the fire at long distances (above 800 metres) is normally executed by the heavy machine guns, the fire at middle distances (800 to 400 metres) by the light machine guns and telescopic rifles. Below 400 metres individual fire becomes important, to complete, according to the expression of General von Taysen, Chief of Infantry, the "great preliminary work of the automatic arms."

The regiments of infantry are assigned infantry guns. In order not to transgress the military clauses of the Versailles Treaty the barrel of the piece is of wood, but it is furnished with sighting facilities necessary to give instruction to the officers and men. These Quaker guns were used during the last Autumn manoeuvres.

Improvements on the Stokes mortars are in course of study or execution. Especial studies are being made on loading from the breech. They have commenced supplying the mortars of medium calibre with circular base plates, which permit them to fire in all directions and to change the objective rapidly.

The instruction appears to be particularly directed with a view to develop especially the mobility of the infantry, the complete utilisation of its many auxiliary means of fire, and the efficacy of the measures of defence against aeroplanes.

With regard to the mobility of the infantry, the 1st Division, during the Autumn manoeuvres, was exercised in the crossing of rivers. It has been stated that the recent accident which resulted in the drowning of a company of infantry was caused while training in a new system of rapid massed movement over the pontoons in an attempt to hasten the crossing and thus decrease the time under fire.

In addition, a type of raid has been organized which contemplates a journey of 45 kilometres per day for two or three days by a *Wanderpatrouillen*—small detachments of a dozen men conducted generally by two officers.

As regards the training in complete utilisation of infantry auxiliary weapons, the use of indirect fire by heavy machine guns is practised. Direct fire, the normal employment, is not abandoned. The idea is to have as great a concentration of fire as possible by using in indirect fire those machine guns which, due to distance or terrain, cannot join in the direct fire.

The infantry must fight now in "the three dimensions of space," according to the expression of a German military

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writer. The fight against the enemy aeroplanes is among the most important of its missions. The principal measures employed by the infantry in its defence against aeroplanes consist of marches by night—breaking up columns—a system of scouts for aeroplanes provided with means of communications and marching either in advance or on the flank of the marching columns—finally, the constant employment of heavy machine gun fire against aeroplanes (up to 1,000 metres in altitude) and light machine guns (up to 600 metres).

NO SUCH PERSON.

Thomas was not a prime favourite with his rich uncle. In vain did he try to impress him, but the old man was not easily impressed.

One evening the young man went to his uncle's home for a call, and in the course of conversation asked:

"Uncle, don't you think it would be rather foolish for me to marry a girl who was intellectually my inferior?"

"Worse than foolish, Thomas," was the reply. "Worse than foolish—impossible."

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LEADERSHIP.

Qualifications Necessary for its Proper Exercise.

It is necessary for officers always to remember that leadership is personal. Soldiers follow and obey their officers because they are their leaders. While love of country, patriotism, and loyalty to the flag are vital factors, nevertheless the matter of life and death in battle, the personal example and leadership of the officer carry the soldier forward to gallant and brave deeds. Men do not always analyse the underlying causes of war. It is sufficient for them to know that their leaders, whom they respect, wish them to do a certain thing in a certain way.

Battles are not won in dugouts, nor by headquarters directives alone. They are really won by officers and men carrying out well conceived orders. Consequently, leadership must be direct, personal, and visible. To make leadership really effective the soldier must have real affection for his officers. He must feel that they are interested in his welfare, that they will fight his battles, assist him when in personal trouble, and, above all, take a personal interest in his welfare.

Leadership, declared Colonel Dana T. Merrill, 10th U.S. Infantry, in a recent lecture, must be exercised by each officer within his own scope of command. High commanders do not lead firing lines except under very exceptional conditions and desperate circumstances, and then only at the sacrifice of the prestige of junior leaders.

Hardships will be cheerfully borne if they are necessary. They disturb good leadership seriously when they are unnecessary and come from neglect or incompetency on the part of the officer. Confidence in the officer is the basis of real leadership on his part. Take care of your men, get and retain their confidence, and above all, be *human*, and in war and in peace avoid the "Butt in and bawl out."

Don't exercise your authority by harsh means. Don't take authority away from your juniors unless under very exceptional conditions, and with the full knowledge that you are weakening their leadership. Don't assert your authority just because you have the power to do so. Avoid familiarity with your men, but also avoid aloofness. You don't have to set yourself up as a superior being to be able to command and to lead. You can be firm with kindness, and firm and human at the same time.

Leadership is really easier in time of war than in time of peace. In war there is an incentive on the part of the soldiers to serve their country. They have behind them the family and community influence. In time of peace this is absent and is oftentimes replaced by indifference, and even by positive hostility. A leader in time of peace is a teacher as well. He must be able to interest his men and hold their interest in their daily work. He must at the same time interest himself in their daily affairs, their recreation, welfare, and training. This interest must be direct and personal, and cannot properly be carried out at a desk, or delegated.

Loyalty is the common note of leadership both in time of war and peace. Loyalty is based upon confidence and affection. For men who lack education it is necessary to teach them the meaning of loyalty, and to include in the teaching the traditions and achievements of the organization to which they belong.

Real leadership includes a vital element, the development of esprit and morale, of great importance to an organization. Its final test may be expressed by the willingness of soldiers to do something which they really don't want to do, but will cheerfully do because their officers want them to do it. In a way it is the same team spirit of accomplishment which one finds in colleges and high schools in athletics, in the support of the team. In the military the regiment represents the school, and the company the team.

Leadership necessitates constant and proper stimulation, for in order to get the best results you must be as free with your praise as you are with your censure, and a little bit more. You get nowhere by always finding fault with your men and never praising good work. Many officers are too reticent in acknowledging special merit. You will find that the problem of handling men is about the same in the army as in civilian life. Be free with your praise for good work and efficiency and sparing indeed with your criticism. Never punish men for the doubtful pleasure of punishing, or award punishment when you are under the influence of anger. Never award a punishment unless there is a real reason, and the interest of discipline requires it.

In war, decorations are of great importance. They should be awarded promptly, and on the field of battle. The French, always great psychologists, understood this better than we do. They decorate their men right after a battle; no red tape, no boards, and no consequent heart-burnings such as often occurred with us.

Discipline may be defined as the willing and cheerful obedience to established authority. You don't get real discipline and morale when discipline is enforced by power alone. It must be human and based on common sense. Your leadership fails when your discipline fails. They are inseparably bound together.

Leadership in training consists in a thorough knowledge of your subject and ability to impart it to your men in a practical manner. You can't expect to impress your men unless you actually do what you are teaching. You don't always have to do this actual teaching, but the impression must be clear that you can do your "stuff." That is the reason why the War Department lays so much stress on thorough knowledge of training regulations and their practical application by simple methods. Once you have this your task is relatively easy. After you have it, devote your time to training your junior officers and non-commissioned officers and building up your unit as a team. This team must be well organized so that it will carry on without you. One-man organizations fail in a prolonged test because they are built around the personality of an individual. True leadership consists in developing a real team of which the leader is the recognized head, and by means of which he leads. Company officers, who have the most direct training contact, should be able to shoot, to execute the manual of arms, to use the weapons of his command, and to know their administrative and training regulations.

Every human being resents humiliation or threats of violence, either physical or by threatening language. Humiliation breeds resentment, and leaders must be careful to avoid arousing any form of resentment. When you make a mistake recognize it and promptly rectify it. You must have the reputation of being perfectly fair and just.

The influence of the leader who has the confidence of his men is paramount. Men think as their leaders think. Optimism, loyalty, and resolution must characterize their conversation, their orders, and their conduct. Proper care of your men, looking to their comfort and welfare, and intelligent communication to them of matters which interest them is essential. Intelligent leadership always insures that men are well informed of what their duties are to be. Inculcate a spirit of achievement in your unit. Never say you cannot do a task laid out for you. Instil into your unit, which you lead, a determined spirit, and strengthen this spirit by a record of accomplishment of difficult tasks.

Finally, it is necessary for a leader to be a man of established character before he can expect to reap the full rewards of leadership. No leader can accomplish his mission if he violates the proprieties of personal conduct or permits himself to be entangled in questionable doings which may be brought up against him at some future date. He must be able to face his task without fear, and with a clear conscience.

A REGIMENT OF GIANTS.

The Potsdam Grenadiers of Frederick William the First.

One of the outstanding performances of Frederick William the First, who ascended the throne of Prussia in 1713, was the creation of the regiment of giants known as the Potsdam Grenadiers.

With duty his standing order, and work his password, Frederick William toiled unceasingly, ungrudgingly, to establish his beloved Prussia upon a rock of bronze. Now for Frederick William there was no rock more adamant than an army. This was his purpose in life, and under him the whole country became one vast training camp wherein civilians were only tolerated as the hive tolerates drones, as necessary hewers of wood and drawers of water, but withal contemptible. Within the space of a single generation the army rose in numbers from 30,000 to 90,000, and became one of the strongest and best disciplined forces in Europe. In his militaromania, however, the king suffered from the curious hallucination that only tall men were really fitted to be soldiers. He must have, therefore, a body of troops taller and more magnificent than all those of the courts of Versailles and St. James put together. This passion for tall grenadiers at all costs is one of the most amazing inconsistencies of this most amazing man.

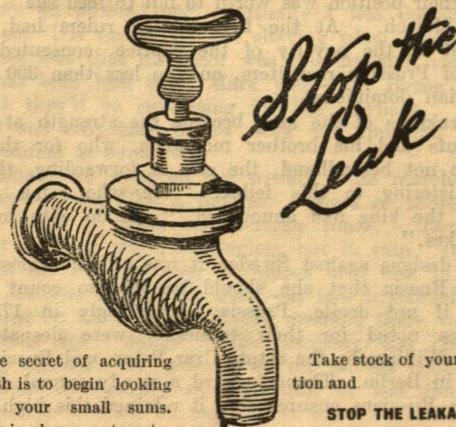
SEVERE DISCIPLINE.

In their heyday these Potsdam Grenadiers numbered some 600 officers, 165 non-commissioned officers, 53 drummers, 15 buglers, 15 surgeons, 195 grenadiers, and 1,965 musketeers, in all about 2,400 divided into three battalions of 800 each. Their pay (which most singularly went according to stature), their privileges, and the lavish care which the king never ceased to devote to them, might well have made them the envy and cynosure of every other European military establishment were it not for the restrictions and regulations under which these royal tin soldiers lived and suffered. Discipline, pronounced the king, was to be as exact as Euclid, and Frederick William saw that it was so. Furlough was a word not to be found in the Prussian vocabulary (Potsdam edition). Strong drink was strictly prohibited, and lest the cares of commerce should impair their virility, they were forbidden to engage in any real kind of trade. Discharge was only granted when after years of barrack-square manœuvring the knees weakened or the eyesight failed.

Not a man of them was under six feet, many were seven and upwards, and a few were well over eight feet in height. Their uniform, which was new each year, was gorgeous and superb. Yet such was the sartorial economy of the sovereign that it only just fitted—there was not a square millimetre to spare. To bid a grenadier to "stand at ease" was, it has been said to mock at his discomfort. A burnished steel helmet overtopped all, adding close upon two additional feet to their stature, and making them in very deed "a mountain of pipe-clayed flesh and bone."

THE RECRUITING PROBLEM.

The master problem before Frederick William was, of course (says W. Baring Pemberton in the "Fighting Forces") that of recruitment. Prussia's store of Anakim was by a process of intense and pitiless impressment very soon exhausted. No barrier was proof against the wiles of the recruiting officer, nor could any sentiment soften his steely heart. Churches were entered during divine service and the tall males of the congregation ruthlessly abducted. Stalwart peasants were



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"shanghaied" in lonely lanes; giant townsmen were carried off in the light of day, all protesting, but protesting in vain. "Let there be no arguing," the king would roar, when such a complaint reached his ears, "the man is my subject." But the paradise of the recruiting officer was the Prussian University of Halle. There strapping undergraduates were seized openly in the streets, in their beds, it mattered not where, so long as they eventually reached Potsdam and were credited to the offending officer's account.

If Prussia was bled white of her tall men what of it? There was all Europe from which to draw. In his passion for collecting Frederick William recognized no frontiers. Rather he took all the world for his province. "No head," wrote Lord Macaulay, "that towered above the crowds in the bazaars of Aleppo, of Cairo, or Surat, could escape the crimps of Frederick William." To him a six-footed man was a soldier by predestination, and in impressing them into his service he was merely the instrument of the Almighty. Giants from Russia to Morocco, from Scandinavia to Asia Minor, stood shoulder to shoulder delighting the heart of this royal showman.

ALL COUNTRIES SCoured.

To obtain them his recruiting officers began from 1718 onwards to cover the face of Europe, lynx-eyed, plausible, ubiquitous. They cajoled, enveighed, bribed, and in obstinate cases kidnapped foreigners with a local reputation for height. And like their master they stopped at nothing. It was as

much as their position was worth to fail to feed the "ingentivorous" Moloch. At the first foreign rulers had, out of amusement at the novelty of the caprice, consented to the invasion of Prussian recruiters, and no less than 300 prowled the Austrian dominions.

This weakness of the king became the strength at once of his servants and his brother monarchs, who for their own ends were not behindhand, the one in forwarding, the other in administering to this foible. "He who sends me tall soldiers," the king had announced, "can do with me whatever he likes."

In her designs against Sweden it was of the utmost importance to Russia that she should be able to count upon a friendly, if not docile, Prussia. Accordingly in 1714 "80 Muscovites noted for their tallness" were despatched to Frederick William by the astute Czar Peter, and Russian stock ran high in Berlin. Thenceforward a steady annual stream of Herculean Russians ensured that it retained this high level.

IRISHMEN, TOO.

George I. of England achieved the very useful Treaty of Hanover by means of this human "palm oil"—15 Irishmen under escort.

In these ranks also was to be seen James Kirkman, the Irish giant, who had been forcibly shipped from England at the instigation of the Prussian ambassador, von Berck, and who in the end had cost His Majesty no less than £1,200 before the resultant diplomatic rupture could be healed. There was to be seen McDowall, another Irish colossus; Redivanoff from Moscow, and the huge Saxon, Muller, who, bear-like, was later to be led round England and France on show by his enterprising and English wife. There, too, was Jonas, the Norwegian blacksmith, the top of whose head not even Augustus the Strong of Poland could touch standing on the tips of his toes.

TALL WOMEN ALSO KIDNAPPED.

Nor did the married ones necessarily find domestic life more attractive or compensating. Just as every tall man was a grenadier in Frederick William's eyes by predestination, so by that same convenient Providence were all giant women, their brides, predestined. The king was too consummate an economist to encourage celibacy among his grenadiers. He was thinking of the coming generation. Thus side by side with the recruiting of his grenadiers there was an impressment of tall women. Here, too, the process was marked by the same absence of scruples and neglect of finer sentiments. Daughters were torn from the arms of their mothers or of their affianced bridegrooms and deported to Potsdam. Even Frederick William lent a hand. Happening one day during a walk upon a young giantess he despatched her with a note to the commandant ordering her instant marriage with a grenadier. Mated in such a fashion it can hardly be a matter of wonder if matrimonial felicity was rare.

The monarch died leaving minute instructions touching his beloved grenadiers, yet hardly was the breath out of his body when they were (it is hoped to their joy) disbanded by his practical-minded son Frederick, who discovered that for this one spectacular regiment he might keep up eight really serviceable battalions.

NO NOVELTY FOR HIM.

A doctor was examining a man who had come to him for the first time. Satisfied at last, the doctor looked at him gravely. "You are in bad shape," he said. "What you need is a sea voyage. Can you manage it?"

"Oh, yes," replied the patient. "I'm second mate on the *Anna Marie*, just in from Hongkong."

THE TURKISH MILITARY HEAD-DRESS.

From time immemorial the Oriental warrior has gazed with an eagle eye upon the Sun of Victory, but now the Ministry of Defence at Angora, or Mustafa Kemal Pasha, which is the same thing, has decreed that the head-dress of the Turkish soldier shall in future be furnished with an eye-shade or visor like that of his European rivals to protect his eyes from the glare of the sun, as briefly announced in a recent issue of "An t-Oglach."

The prejudice against a brim to the Turkish head-dress has been ascribed to the influence of the Koran, for there is a verse in the "Glorious Book" which says: "Thou shalt fight with thy face to the sun." But the objection to a peak to the cap is probably older than Islam, for in the Assyrian bas-reliefs unearthed at Nineveh and elsewhere the caps of the warriors have no such protection, and the same rule applies to the Pharaohs and their followers in Egyptian wall-paintings.

Ranjeet Singh, the Lion of Lahore, procured steel cuirasses of European pattern from France to equip his bodyguard, to replace the zira-jama or hauberk of chain-mail, which was the defensive armour of Indian horsemen, but he retained the helmet of Oriental pattern common to all eastern nations, a steel skull-cap crowned with a spike (which may have furnished the idea for the German *pickelhaube*) with a tube at the side to receive a plume, a movable steel bar for a nasal defence to save the face from a sabre-cut, and a hood or curtain of chain-mail to guard the back of the neck.

The British military authorities in India, whose desire it was for the first hundred years to assimilate the dress of the Indian sepoy as closely as possible to that of the British soldier, were never able to over-ride the prejudice against a brim to the military head-dress, and though they succeeded in replacing the turban by a shako, the peak of the latter had to be discarded before the men could be induced to wear it. And when helmets were issued to the men of the Constantinople Fire Brigade in the last century they had to be made without a shade over the eyes.



Practising Life-Saving has its risks. THE RIGHT MILITARY ARCHIVES

THE MYSTERY OF THE COMPANY.*

Retrograde Movement that Baffled the Officers.

"The real soldier knows the value of discipline to himself and exercises it of his own volition."—J. W. Weeks, U.S. Sec. of War.

He was the smartest soldier of the company and was remarkable for his popularity among his comrades. His uniform was always spotless as also was his equipment, rifle and bayonet. As well as being captain of the company's hurling and football teams he was the company champion in handball and boxing and the best rifleman in the battalion. The squad of which he was a member reflected his good example, and the other squads essaying to compete against it succeeded in making our company the best in the battalion. His officers, recognising his remarkable efficiency, had already noted him for promotion, and on the whole one would have thought that his success in the Army was assured. So much for the only man with an absolutely clean conduct sheet—Pte. Martin Byrne—as he was when I reported to the company to act as Quartermaster-Sergeant.

I was not long in the company before I noticed Byrne's good influence over his fellow-soldiers. With Martin as the leading light the men who disgraced their squad or section were unofficially punished. If a man was checked on parade he heard all about it off parade. He was left severely alone until he realised what was wrong and by paying more attention to the honour of his squad or company qualified for restoration to the fold.

'Twas the same in everything else. On the route march it was Pte. Byrne who struck up "Kelly, the boy from Killann," and produced a thundering chorus. He played the mouth-organ well, too, and made sure others did the same. He placed the money-box in the billet for the sports' fund, into which went a halfpenny for every curse uttered—no extenuating circumstances allowed. A soldier could have left five pounds on his bed-cot for ever and not lose it—Byrne again! The smartest soldier of the company, renowned for his popularity, and an asset to the Army.

I soon became accustomed to this young man's helpfulness and was beginning to understand why the captain could merely warn a man for trivial offences and yet have a well-disciplined company—the man was punished sure enough, but elsewhere.

Then the terrible thing happened!

The very morning that Pte. Byrne's promotion to the rank of corporal had come through and the captain was going to announce it on parade after the company's inspection there was not a man turned out satisfactorily. Dirty rifles, dirty equipment, dirty hands, buttons undone, safety catches not applied to rifles—the captain checked them one by one and finally came to Pte. Byrne who, extraordinary to relate, was unshaven! Can you realise how such a petty thing as this can show up when one has been inspecting for over a year a man who never missed his early morning shave? Why, 'twas like a bottle of ink spilt over a clean white tablecloth.

The captain stopped amazed, then, glancing for a second time at Byrne to make sure he wasn't dreaming, passed on to the next man. After inspection the captain, having decided to forego *pro tem*, the announcement of Byrne's promotion, told the C.S.M. and myself to follow him and his two officers to the office. Once inside and the door shut he turned to us and exclaimed: "What can be wrong with the company to-day? Did you notice Byrne?"

We were all puzzled and eventually I was despatched for Pte. Byrne. His excuse for not shaving when brought before the captain was that his razor was missing and none of the boys would lend him one. Mark you—lend Byrne a razor! I thought they'd be competing for the privilege. He was cautioned and sent back to his work and appeared to be as much mystified as ourselves.

After dinner we went on our weekly route march—such a route march—'twas like a funeral. None of those rousing choruses, none of those mouth-organ tunes. Byrne tried again and again to start the singing, but in vain. It became evident to all that the men no longer held him in friendly respect. He was ignored by them—in fact boycotted.

This went on for a week. Every morning there was someone or other for "orders." The company was up against something unusual. In spite of all the officers could do the men became increasingly careless until at last the captain was compelled to make an example of some of them.

In the meantime the C.S.M. and myself vainly tried to ascertain the root of the trouble. We even quietly tackled one or two of the men about it but could get no satisfactory reply.

The climax came when the captain whose company had been able to boast of being the best disciplined with the cleanest records in the command, was compelled to put one man forward for a court-martial—the first occasion for one for well over nine months!

At last I accidentally came across the solution of the mystery. Questioning one lad—Pte. O'Boyle—as to why he did not have polish or something he astonished me by saying he had no money. Now I had a distinct recollection of his being paid over £12 of back pay and by careful questioning soon dragged the whole story from him.

O'Boyle had left a £10 note in his tunic pocket and going for a wash had found on his return that the money was gone. Nobody except Martin Byrne had been in the room in the meantime, and O'Boyle having told his pals about it was asked not to report it for fear of getting Byrne, their one time friend, into trouble, but at the same time they all determined to have nothing more to do with Byrne, to boycott him, and to hound him sooner or later out of the company.

Having cautioned O'Boyle not to divulge the fact that he had told me I went away amazed. I could not believe that Byrne was a thief—that he had committed one of the worst crimes in the Army—stealing from a comrade.

I instituted discreet inquiries, but only found that the facts of the case were hard against Byrne. Another soldier was present when O'Boyle took the note from his shirt pocket—like a good many others he was not wearing an Army shirt—and transferred it to his tunic pocket, and both left the room together, leaving Byrne behind.

The following morning I reported to the company officer with the intention of informing the captain of what I had discovered. He was seated at the table reading a letter, a £10 note in his hand.

"Sergeant, did you ever hear of such carelessness?" he cried as I entered, and gave me the letter to read. It was from the local laundry and was to the effect that the enclosed £10 note had been found in the pocket of a shirt, the owner of which was Pte. O'Boyle.

Wow! I explained the whole story to the captain and Pte. O'Boyle was promptly marched in. That careless youth was given a lecture he won't forget in a hurry and told to go immediately and repair the great wrong he had committed.

The two o'clock parade that day was the occasion of the announcement of Byrne's promotion, and when the Captain had finished the C.S.M. called for cheers for Corporal Byrne. The men warmly responded and the parade ground echoed and re-echoed resoundingly, for O'Boyle had already informed them of the grievous mistake he had made, and Cpl. Martin Byrne was again the leading light of our company.

* In this sketch no allusion to any member of the Army is intended, and the names used are purely fictitious.—Ed.

SHRAPNEL.

HIS EYE ON THE BALL.

Sergeant—"How can you get so many bull's eyes when you shoot with both eyes open?"

Private—"Oh! that's easy. I aim with one eye and watch the bullet with the other."

* * * *

UNCLE SAM'S MIXED PERSONNEL.

Scene: Macon, Georgia. Year: 1918. Regimental headquarters had just been set up and the Colonel decided that he must have a flagstaff.

"Sergeant Springer," he told his Orderly, "go out and get me a tall pole—the tallest you can find."

Twenty minutes later Springer re-entered with a lanky and embarrassed companion.

"Colonel," he explained, "there ain't a pole in the outfit over five foot eight, but this guy is a Norwegian and whatever you want him for I don't believe nobody will ever notice the difference."

* * * *

SETTLED BY ARBITRATION.

History Teacher—"What is a Civil War?"

Cadet—"A war within a nation or family."

History Teacher—"Were you ever in a Civil War?"

Cadet—"Yes, between my brother and me."

History Teacher—"Who won?"

Cadet—"Mother!"

* * * *

TWO POINTS OF WINDAGE.

The old timer was a guest at a large garden party. An elderly lady, bubbling over with excitement, implored him to tell her some of his war experiences.

"Were you ever wounded?" she inquired.

"Yes'um," replied the O.T., "I had so many bullet holes in me that the rest of the men in my squad column complained of the draught."

* * * *

Captain—"Can your wife live on your income?"

Lieutenant—"Oh, yes, indeed. That's no source of worry at all. The worry is finding something for myself to live on."



UPSETTING THE CEREMONY.

A naval officer says that on one occasion during his destroyer's visit to the Philippine Island the sailors were lounging along the rail, throwing pennies into the water for a crowd of dusky, naked youngsters in the harbour to dive for. It was a lively scene. No sooner was a penny thrown into the water than a native boy dived and brought it to the surface. Many times a penny did not reach the bottom before a boy caught it.

On the wharf the native mayor, surrounded by his fellow-townsmen in full regalia, was awaiting the arrival of the American naval officers, to whom he was going to tender a grand reception. He watched the diving boys with keen interest.

A reckless sailor lad began throwing quarters and then half-dollars into the water. Then some one threw overboard, one after another, a number of big, glistening silver American dollars. What a scrambling! It seemed as if every boy in the entire town was either in air or in the water.

Suddenly an American resident came dashing breathlessly down the wharf, and shouted to the group of sailors, "If you want this ceremony to go on for goodness sake stop throwing those dollars. The chief of police has already kicked off his shoes and the mayor is just starting to take off his coat,"

WEXFORD MEMORIAL.

Officers and Men who Fell in the Civil Strife.

A memorial to the officers and men of the Army who fell in Wexford during the civil strife was unveiled at Crosstown Cemetery, Wexford, on 6th inst., in the presence of a large gathering.

Mr. Finian Lynch, Minister for Fisheries, who performed the unveiling ceremony, said on that occasion there was reason for both joy and sorrow, and their assembly that day was to add another to the many monuments erected throughout the country to the memory of the brave men who laid down their lives in the service of their country.

Mr. Batt. O'Connor, T.D., said they came there that day to honour the memory of the men who sacrificed their lives in defence of the sovereignty of the people.

Senator C. J. Irwin also paid a tribute to the memory of the dead soldiers.

After the monument had been unveiled three volleys were fired by a detachment of military under the command of Capt. Flanagan, Carlow, and the "Last Post" was sounded.

Large numbers attended from Dublin, Kilkenny, Wicklow and Carlow. The No. 2 Army Band, under the conductorship of Lieut. A. Duff, was in attendance.



GERMAN PRE-WAR MANŒUVRES.

The climax and the most important occurrence in a certain sense of the German military year in peace time were the Imperial manœuvres. To these the foreign Military Attaches were invariably invited. We were, it must be admitted, only allowed to witness such parts of the manœuvres as were considered suitable for us to see (says a former British Attache in Berlin), and at times our "bear leaders" swept up away in swift motors to some heavy meal or, in any case, off the scene of action, when one would far rather have waited to see the development of the military situation. As guests of the Imperial Government protests from us, though sometimes made, were neither suitable nor availing.

The Imperial manœuvres have often been derided as being unduly spectacular, but, though this criticism was in a sense not unjustified, there was much to be seen and learnt by those who had eyes to see. At the completion of these manœuvres the Emperor usually galloped for some distance into the country in order to withdraw from the crowd of spectators, followed by a numerous and brilliant staff as well as by the foreign Military Attaches. There was occasionally some "grief" at these scampers across country amongst the less skilful horsemen. The Emperor then related to his assembled officers what had occurred during the manœuvres, which he was enabled to do very ably and with a wealth of accurate detail thanks to an exceptionally retentive memory, but he was not on this occasion permitted by custom to make any criticisms.

The most important parade of the year was that held on September 1st annually on the Tempelhofer Feld near Berlin. The date of this parade coincided with the anniversary of the Battle of Sedan, and was held in commemoration of that day, which was fraught with such disaster to French arms. It can thus be readily imagined that my French military colleague was in the habit of making a diplomatic excuse for absenting himself on these occasions. The excuse usually took the form of an alleged visit to Paris on the score of his grandmother's or his great-aunt's illness. The Prussians, with characteristic lack of humour, used subsequently, in all seriousness, to enquire after the health of the said ailing relative.

The parades were invariably followed by a banquet either the same evening or immediately afterwards. At the conclusion of these the Emperor held a "circle" O'ghlaigh na hÉireann DEFENCE FORCES IRELAND

FIFTY-THREE QUALIFY IN LIFE SAVING COURSE.

Five Months' Instruction Foreshadowed for Next Year.

The instruction in Life Saving (rescue from drowning and resuscitation of the apparently drowned) for N.C.O.'s and men has concluded for the present year, having extended over three courses. It is contemplated resuming this instruction next year, probably in May, and continuing it to September, each course to cover a fortnight.

Out of 53 N.C.O.'s and men who completed the course this year only four failed to pass the examination for the elementary certificate. This is a very small percentage of failures, and there is every reason to believe that if better facilities for water practice had been available all the candidates would have passed.

A dozen of the entrants secured the maximum number of marks—no mean achievement—and very few were much below this standard. Copies of the Life Saving Society's Handbook of Instruction have been sent to all who passed, and in due course they will receive a Certificate on Vellum.

The following is a complete list of those who passed (the placings have nothing to do with the number of marks secured by the individuals):—

Sgt. Hannon, 13th Battalion, Gormanston.
 Sgt. McCarthy, 2nd Battalion, Finner Camp.
 Sgt. Spillane, P.A., Athlone.
 Sgt. Daly, P.A., Collins Barracks, Dublin.
 Sgt. McCracken, G.H.Q., Dublin.
 Cpl. Shannon, 8th Battalion, Curragh.
 Cpl. Curtin, 17th Battalion, Mullingar.
 Cpl. Duning, 19th Battalion, Buncrana.
 Pte. O'Shea, 22nd Inf. Batt., Portobello Barracks.
 Pte. Hyde, Camp Staff, Island Bridge Barracks.
 Pte. Reilly, 23rd Inf. Batt., Portobello Barracks.
 Pte. Boyle, A.M.S., St. Bricin's Hospital.
 Pte. Donnelly, 24th Inf. Batt., Dundalk.
 Pte. Desmond, 14th Inf. Battalion, Limerick.
 Pte. Ellis, 4th Inf. Batt., Castlebar.
 Pte. Keogh, Army Signal Corps, Portobello Barracks.
 Pte. Toomey, 11th Batt. (Inf.), Collins Barracks, Cork.
 Pte. Usherwood, 26th Inf. Batt., Curragh Camp.
 Pte. Neville, 18th Battalion, Haulbowline.
 Pte. Doyle, 2nd Inf. Batt., Finner Camp.
 Pte. O'Connor, Horse Transport, McKee Barracks.
 Pte. Farrell, 12th Inf. Batt., Templemore.
 Pte. Reidy, 10th Inf. Batt., Cork.
 Pte. Cardwell, Camp Coy., Beresford Barracks, Curragh.
 Pte. O'Halloran, 25th Inf. Batt., Athlone.
 Pte. Perry, 3rd Inf. Batt., Boyle.
 Pte. Thompson, 10th Inf. Batt., Tralee.
 Pte. O'Brien, 6th Batt., Athlone.
 Pte. Fitzpatrick, 7th Batt., Naas.
 Pte. McDermot, 19th Batt., Kilkenny.
 Pte. Doherty, Armoured Car Corps, Curragh.
 Pte. Laffey, 5th Batt., Curragh.
 Pte. Hamill, Army Corps of Engineers, Griffith Barracks, Dublin.
 Pte. Deegan, Army Air Corps, Baldonnel.
 Pte. McCluskey, Artillery Corps, Kildare.
 Pte. Deacey, 15th Battalion, Curragh.
 Pte. Timmons, 20th Batt., Carlow.
 Pte. Murray, Army Medical Services, St. Bricin's Hospital, Dublin.

Pte. Quigley, A.M.S., St. Bricin's Hospital, Dublin.
 Pte. O'Connell, A.M.S., St. Bricin's Hospital, Dublin.
 Pte. Clarke-Barry, Army Transport Corps, Gormanston.
 Pte. Ryan, Army Transport Corps, Athlone.
 Pte. Fallon, Army Transport Corps, Limerick.
 Pte. O'Malley, Army Transport Corps, Cork.
 Pte. Horan, Army Signal Corps, Portobello Barracks.
 Pte. Conway, Army Signal Corps, Portobello Barracks.
 Pte. Keogh, Army Signal Corps, Collins Barracks.
 Pte. Morrissey, Military Police, Limerick.
 Pte. Brennan, Military Police, Curragh Camp.



No. 5 GROUP GENERAL HEADQUARTERS.

Meeting held on 11th inst., Lt. C. S. Doyle presiding.

Sgt. Pigott reported that in the Command Competition (hard and soft ball) semi-final G.H.Q. beat Portobello in the soft ball and lost to Portobello in the hard ball. (An objection has been lodged in respect of the latter game owing to the alleged illegal status of one of the players). Gormanston were in the final in both hard and soft, but owing to their failure to turn out in the soft ball match G.H.Q. Club were awarded a w.o. Gormanston are still eligible in the final of the hard ball.

C.Q.M.S. Hodgins, Vice-Captain of the Football team, reported progress in his section of sport. His men and himself were in regular practice, and his possibles and probables in frequent "friendlies," and form was being noted for selective purposes.

Cpl. D. O'Neill informed the Committee that the Hurlers were out each night practising and the progress of their play was having his constant attention.

The Committee instructed the Secretary to request Sgt. McCracken, as custodian of the Sports Gear, to furnish a return of all stores that he at present holds; also a return showing what he has issued, and to whom, since he took over.

On the motion of Lieut. C. S. Doyle, seconded by Cpl. D. O'Neill, the Committee unanimously tendered its congratulations to Lieut. Owen O'Doherty on his winning the 880 Yards Championship of the Army at the Curragh on the 5th September, 1925.

Arrangements in connection with the Command Championship between G.H.Q. and Artillery in Football, and between G.H.Q. and Artillery in the final of the League in Hurling were discussed at length, and it was announced that a decision had been come to that both matches were to take place at Newbridge on the 4th October next.

The Secretary was instructed to write to the Officers Commanding Army School of Music, Remounts, McKee Barracks, Police, McKee Barracks, and Arbour Hill Detention Barracks, requesting them as they belong to this Group to send delegates to the meetings in future, beginning with the meeting of the Committee fixed for Friday night, 18th September, 1925.



SOMETHING IN A NAME.—Policeman (producing notebook)—“Name, please?”

Motorist—“Aloysius Alastair Cholmondeley Cyprian—”

Policeman (putting book away)—“Well, don't let me catch you again.”

D. McDEVITT, *Civil and :: ::*
Military Tailor,

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ARMY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

Hurling and Football Championships—Newbridge Tourney on October 4th—Excursion from Dublin—Matches in Cork—Training Facilities.

Captain O'Beirne presided at a meeting of the G.H.Q. Command Council on the 15th inst. There was a full attendance of delegates and important fixtures in connection with the Command Championships were made.

Arising out of the reading of the minutes a discussion took place regarding the replay of the G.H.Q. v. Artillery Hurling Match.

The representative of the Artillery Corps having intimated that the Sports Field in Newbridge had already been proctured by them for Sunday, 4th October, it was decided to nominate this venue and date for the replay match in question.

The Final of the Command Football Championship (G.H.Q. v. Artillery) was fixed for the same occasion.

It was arranged that the Council select neutral umpires and linesmen for both matches, Major McGrath to act as referee for the Hurling Match and Captain J. Fitzgerald to act in a similar capacity for the Football match.

The Council agreed to run an excursion from Dublin to Newbridge for the occasion and instructed the Secretary to make the necessary arrangements in connection with same.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Sergeant-Major Cummins:—"That the Adjutant-General be requested to grant the services of the No. 1 Band, or, failing the No. 1, the No. 2 Band for the Military Tournament at Newbridge on the 4th prox."

CHAMPIONSHIPS.

G.H.Q. was awarded the honours against Portobello in the semi-final of the Command Hurling Championship.

A report from the Secretary of the No. 5 Group was read, contesting the legality of a Portobello player and referred to the alleged unsportsmanlike attitude adopted by the Portobello players in their match against G.H.Q. in the semi-final of the Command Handball Championship.

After a lengthy discussion on the matter the Chairman ruled that the match be re-fixed for Wednesday, 23rd inst., at 3 p.m., on the Civic Guard Alley, the Command Secretary to inquire in the meantime as to the legality of the Portobello team.

WELL-MERITED TRIBUTE.

The meeting complimented the Command Hurling and Football teams on their recent successes in the All-Army Championships and expressed the hope that the G.H.Q. Command would once more add All-Army honours to its athletic history.

An explanation from Sergeant-Major Cummins as to the alleged failure of Artillery to cater for teams from Baldonnell and Islandbridge in Kildare was heard and accepted. The Chairman, Secretary and other members of the Council paid tribute to the hospitality shown to them at all times by Major P. Mulcahy and the other ranks of the Corps, and agreed with the remarks of Sergeant-Major Cummins that the failure in the case referred to occurred through the visiting teams not conforming to the arrangements made for their reception.

AFFILIATION QUESTION.

The advisability of affiliating Army teams from the G.H.Q. Command with the Dublin County Board for participation in next year's Championships was considered, and after a lengthy

debate the meeting decided to leave the matter in abeyance for the present as it was believed that the time was not yet opportune for such a step.

The adoption of the Balance Sheet submitted by the Treasurer of the old Command Committee was deferred until the next meeting, the Treasurer and Secretary to examine same in the meantime and make a joint report thereon.

FACILITIES FOR TRAINING.

The Secretary was instructed to communicate with the heads of the various Departments concerned with a view of securing facilities for the Command teams for training purposes in view of their forthcoming matches against the Eastern Command in the All-Army Championships at Croke Park on the 11th prox. A fortnight's training at Kildare was unanimously agreed to.

ALL-ARMY ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIPS, 1925.

The All-Army Athletic Championships were held at Keane Barracks Sports Field, Curragh Training Camp, on Saturday, the 5th inst. A showery morning delayed the start, but the weather cleared up during the day, which enabled the officials to finish a good programme in record time.

Much enthusiasm was displayed amongst the spectators during the different events, particularly in the Relay Race, in which Captain McKenna, Curragh Command, finished first with a great turn of speed.

At the conclusion of the Championships, Mrs. Sean MacEoin, wife of the G.O.C., kindly presented the prizes.

Below are the results as officially supplied:—

100 Yards Flat—Lt. O'Flaherty, Curragh, 1; Lt. Hogan, Curragh, 2.

Throwing 56 lbs. with follow—Pte. Quirke, Eastern, 1; Sgt. Hayes, Eastern, 2.

880 Yards Flat—Lt. O'Doherty, G.H.Q., 1; Pte. McCarthy, Curragh, 2.

High Jump—Pte. Manning, Curragh, 1; Pte. Pringle, Curragh, 2.

Half-Mile Cycling—Cpl. Lennon, Curragh, 1; Pte. Mullins, Eastern, 2.

Hop, Step and Jump—Sgt. Fox, Curragh, 1; Cpl. Horgan, Southern, 2.

Throwing 56lbs. over Bar—Capt. Ryan, Southern, 1; Sgt. Fitzgerald, Curragh, 2.

220 Yards Flat—Lt. O'Flaherty, Curragh, 1; Lt. Hogan, Curragh, 2.

Long Jump—Sgt. Fox, Curragh, 1; Lt. Hogan, Curragh, 2.

Throwing Discus—Capt. O'Doherty, Curragh, 1; Pte. Cur-tain, Curragh, 2.

One Mile Flat—Pte. Farrell, Curragh, 1; Pte. Hendy, G.H.Q., 2.

120 Yards Hurdles—Lt. Hogan, Curragh, 1; Pte. Manning, Curragh, 2.

Pole Vault—Capt. Tuite, Eastern, 1; Cpl. Ahearn, Curragh, 2.

One Mile Cycle—Cpl. Lennon, Curragh, 1; Cpl. Cassidy, Curragh, 2.

Relay Race—Curragh, 1; Eastern, 2.

Throwing Javelin—Pte. O'Mahony, Eastern, 1; Lt. Hogan, Curragh, 2.
 Three Miles Flat—Pte. Whelan, Southern, 1; Pte. Cuffe, Curragh, 2.
 Tug-of-War—G.H.Q., 1; Eastern, 2.
 Putting 16lb. Shot—Pte. O'Mahony, Eastern, 1; Lt. Cotter, Southern, 2.
 440 Yards Flat—Sgt. Hennessy, Eastern, 1; Capt. McKenna, Curragh, 2.

ORDER OF COMMAND PLACINGS.

Command	Firsts	Seconds
Curragh	11	13
Eastern	5	4
Southern	2	2
General Headquarters	2	1

Western Command, owing to manœuvres, did not compete.



ALL-ARMY HURLING AND FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS AT CORK.

Two important matches in the above were played at the U.C.C. Grounds, Mardyke, Cork, on Wednesday, September the 9th, before a fair attendance. Both games were fought out in a fine, sporting spirit by the teams concerned, Eastern Command and Southern Command, and resulted in a win for the former in hurling as well as football.

HURLING.

Eastern Command	5 goals 3 points.
Southern Command	3 goals 3 points.

This was a closely contested game right through, and, taken all round, was a very fine exhibition of hurling, and well appreciated by those present. Many well-known All-Ireland exponents of the game were in evidence on both sides. Lieut. Horgan (Curragh Command) refereed the match in a capable manner.

The teams were as follows :—

Eastern Command—Lieut. Lanigan (Capt.), Lieut. Ahearne, Sergt. Bannon, Sergt. Culleton, Cpl. J. Higgins, Cpl. Meagher, Cpl. Scully, Cpl. Ford, Cpl. Kealy, Pte. Hegarty, Pte. T. Kelly, Pte. Kinearney, Pte. McCarthy, Pte. Barry, Pte. Power.

Southern Command—Captain P Ryan, Lieut. T. Gleeson, C.Q.M.S. Tumpane, Coy. Sergt. P. Ryan, Sergt. M. Mockler (Capt.), Sergt. M. Duggan, Cpl. Murphy, Pte. Aherne, Pte. McCarthy, Pte. Leahy, Pte. Swaine, Pte. Catterol, Pte. W. Higgins, Pte. Daly, Pte. Fitzgibbon.

FOOTBALL.

Eastern Command	3 goals 6 points.
Southern Command	1 goal 3 points.

This game was not so closely contested as the hurling, but some very fine play took place, and although the Southern defence tried hard time and again to stem the many attacks of the Eastern forwards, they failed to avert the disaster of defeat. In this, as well as the hurling, many notable All-Ireland players took part, no fewer than ten prominent County football teams having players on both teams. Captain Wilson (Curragh Command) made an efficient referee.

The teams were :—

Eastern Command—Captain Murphy, Captain Brannigan,

Lieut. O'Brien, Lieut. Kenny, Lieut. Tummon, C.Q.M.S. Price, C.Q.M.S. P. Doyle, Sergt. J. Higgins, Sergt. J. Conlon, Cpl. Sexton, Pte. Noonan, Pte. Quinn, Pte. Ebbs, Pte. Mooney, Pte. McDermott.

Southern Command—Captain Brosnan, Lieut. Nolan, Lieut. McMahon, Lieut. Kearney, Lieut. Brady, Sergt. Duggan, Sergt. Douglas, Cpl. Dowling, Cpl. Hennessy, Pte. Kelly, Pte. Fitzpatrick, Pte. Cooney, Pte. Hanrahan, Pte. Maddock, Pte. McMahon.

THE FINALS.

General Headquarters Command and Eastern Command have now qualified to meet in the finals in hurling and football. The matches will be played on October the 11th at Croke Park, where it is expected there will be a good muster of the followers of both teams. Evidence of first-class exhibitions in the earlier rounds of these Championships can be taken as a good guarantee of two rousing struggles in the Finals.

Prices of admission to suit all ranks' "wallets" are being arranged. Now then, "down-country" Battalions, what about your excursions for these events?



LAST SUNDAY'S CHAMPIONSHIPS AT NEWBRIDGE.

Dual Honours for General Headquarters.

On Sunday last, 13th inst., close on 1,000 people assembled at the Grounds of the Dominican College, Newbridge, kindly lent by the Reverend Prior, to witness the semi-finals of the All-Army Hurling and Football Championships between teams representing the G.H.Q. Command and the Curragh Training Camp.

Favoured by glorious sunshine and with the ground in splendid condition, the contestants gave a brilliant and scientific display in both matches, the hurling in particular at various stages reaching the best All-Ireland standard.

The Army Band from Curragh Headquarters played during the afternoon and added greatly to the enjoyment of all present.

A display by the Curragh Gymnastic Class enlivened the proceedings at the interval between the matches and evoked well-merited applause from the audience.

FOOTBALL MATCH.

The Curragh won the toss and played with the breeze. G.H.Q. got away and after some brilliant tackling in midfield Walsh got possession and with a lovely shot annexed the first point for G.H.Q. From the outset it was evident that the fine tactics and superior combination of the G.H.Q. team would secure them victory and before ten minutes had elapsed a major score was registered for the visitors per O'Sullivan. O'Doherty, O'Reilly and Hogan were effecting fine clearances in the Curragh defence, while O'Beirne and O'Shea at centre field were seen to advantage for G.H.Q. The Curragh men were pressing hard for a score, but the fine efforts of O'Sullivan, Hodgins, Donohoe and O'Toole rendered their efforts abortive. G.H.Q. attacked again and scored a minor. From the kick out the Curragh got away, per O'Doherty, who passed to Rogers, the latter registering the Curragh's first score—a point. Play continued in midfield without any further scores when the half-time whistle sounded, leaving the teams :—

G.H.Q.	1 goal 2 points
Curragh	1 point

On the throw in G.H.Q. dominated the situation and registered a point without delay. Play centred in the Curragh area

and after an exciting struggle G.H.Q. went further ahead with a major. Cannon was now working hard for G.H.Q. and added two more points. The G.H.Q. defence was severely pressed and in an effort to clear had to concede a free, from which O'Doherty sent over the bar for the Curragh. From now on the match was a one-sided affair and yet another point was piled on to the G.H.Q. score. All efforts to break through the G.H.Q. defence were futile and the game continued without change until the final whistle sounded, leaving the scores as under:—

G.H.Q.	...	...	...	2 goals 5 points
Curragh	...	...	...	2 points

HURLING MATCH.

G.H.Q. won the toss and played with the breeze. Brisk exchanges at midfield and rapid passing marked the opening of the game until Keane got possession and registered a minor for the Curragh in less than 5 minutes from the start. G.H.Q. got away from the puck out, the Curragh citadel was stormed, and Leeson scored a goal for G.H.Q. The pace was now very fast and G.H.Q. added a major through the services of the youthful Grimes. The Curragh country was again invaded, but Culleton effected a fine clearance for the defenders. Brilliant hurling was now witnessed the ball travelling with lightning-like rapidity up and down the field. G.H.Q. were having the better of the game at this period and a brace of goals and a point were added in quick succession by the G.H.Q. forwards. The G.H.Q. end was again invaded, and Sanders from far out scored a well-earned point for the Curragh men. The puck-out found G.H.Q. again attacking when the half-time whistle sounded, the score being:—

G.H.Q.	...	...	...	4 goals 1 point
Curragh	...	...	...	2 points

On resuming the Curragh forced the pace and were rewarded with a minor. Play was again in G.H.Q. ground and smart clearances were effected by Finlay, Hayes and Murphy. The homesters were having the better of the game at this period and Power in the G.H.Q. goal stopped some marvellous shots, his work evoking considerable applause. The Curragh men were still pressing and secured two goals by their efforts. G.H.Q. again attacked and were rewarded with a minor. A stoppage occurred through a slight accident to one of the Curragh players. On resuming, G.H.Q. got away and after a brief tussle in the Curragh territory scored another goal. O'Neill and Aylward in centre field were working like Trojans for G.H.Q., and the latter from far out increased the G.H.Q. lead by a point. Cordial, Culleton and Fitzpatrick cleared time after time in the Curragh rear division and play was once more centred in the visitors' ground. Vigorous hurling now prevailed and the Curragh representatives reduced the lead by a minor. The Curragh were now having the mastery and the long whistle found them pressing hard, but they failed to reduce the lead, and the final scores were:—

G.H.Q.	...	...	...	5 goals 2 points.
Curragh	...	...	...	2 goals 4 points.

NEXT!

An advertisement that appeared in the columns of an Indian paper must be among the best examples of Babu English. Here it is, word for word:

"Mahomedsmen, hair-cutter and clean shaver. Gentlemen's throats cut with very sharp razors, with great care and skill. No irritating feeling afterward. A trial solicited."

HANDBALL.

G.H.Q. Club's Double Success.

On Sunday, 13th September, at Marshalsea Alley, Dublin, at 12 noon, G.H.Q.'s "B" team were matched against Clontarf "B" team, in the County Dublin Inter-Club Competition, G.A.A. G.H.Q. Club was awarded the match by 3 rubbers to nil. These rubbers were in the soft ball section.

At 5 p.m. same day G.H.Q. met St. Catherine's in the hard ball division at the Dublin Castle Alley, G.H.Q. defeating St. Catherine's by two rubbers to one.

Whelan and Brown (Gormanston) played well though hard pressed in the first game of the rubber. The advantage of knowing each other's play helped them considerably.

The feature of the play on the part of G.H.Q., however, was the tossing and returning of both Lieut. McKeown and Sgt. Pigott. Lieut. McKeown has improved very much; his strong tossing was very embarrassing to his opponents, and the material is there for the making of a first-class player, given the necessary practice. This coupled with Sgt. Pigott's double-handed play put the ultimate issue beyond doubt, though playing against a very strong pair.

Scanlan (the Army Soft Ball Champion) was in great form and is coming on well with the hard ball, his tossing at times being difficult to return.

The following are the scores:—

HARD BALL.

Lt. McKeown and Sgt. Pigott (G.H.Q.)	21, 21
Conlon and Austin (St. Catherine's)	13, 1
Whelan and Brown (G.H.Q.)	21, 21
Hendrick and Hegarty (St. Catherine's)	19, 14
Scanlan and Sullivan (G.H.Q.)	14, 18
Kiernan and Gunning (St. Catherine's)	21, 21

SOFT BALL.

G.H.Q.	3 rubbers
Clontarf	Nil

THEOLOGICAL ITEM.

Parson: "You love to go to Sunday School, don't you, Robert?"

Bobby: "Yes, sir."

Parson: "What do you expect to learn to-day?"

Bobby: "The date of the picnic."

In a Wexford Protestant church, the minister announced his text, "Paul we know and Apollos we know, but who are these?"

Just then the verger was showing two strangers into a pew, so in an audible whisper he said, "Two commercial travellers from White's Hotel, your reverence."

SOLID MAHOGANY.

"There is not another boy in this town as clever as my Charles!"

"Go on; how is that?"

"Well, look at those two chairs. My Charles made them all out of his own head, and he has enough wood left to make an armchair!"

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE ARMY AND THE LANGUAGE.

(To the Editor of AN t-OGLACH.)

A Dhuine Uasal.—It cannot but have been noticed that in spite of the efforts of "An t-Oglach" and of individual officers and men the use of the Irish language in the Army is not increasing. This is a great pity, for, after all, if the Army gives its entire support to the language and unstinted efforts are made to further it in the Army its complete revival throughout Ireland is to a great extent assured. Think of that! For many years the best of Irishmen have given their whole energy to its furtherance only to find that so far away are they from its being adopted by the people to-day that an Irish Commission was found necessary. Think of that again, the Army of Ireland coming to the rescue!

Since the establishment of the Army a considerable number of officers and men have been trying to bring our language into its own in the Army. But with what success? Only one—an important one it is admitted—the organising of an Irish-speaking Battalion. Let us be candid. Has the language otherwise been more generally adopted? No, to-day the major portion of the Army's correspondence is wholly in English. The non-Gaelic speakers in the Army are apathetic and those that should be not furthering its cause. In fact, in almost every Army unit the general opinion is that Irish is on the decline and its study a mere waste of time.

Am I candid enough? No, much more could be said, but let that suffice. It's no good replying that so-and-so is doing this and that, or that something else is being done in another place. I am perfectly aware of what is being done in one or two isolated places. Irish classes are always being held in G.H.Q., thanks to Lieut. Sean O'Connor, whose valuable work for the Irish language is everywhere appreciated. The same in a few, but only a few, other places. The Chief of Staff's secretariat correspondence is ALWAYS in Irish. But, after all, weigh these up and what are they worth when the rest of the Army besides being apathetic is biased?

What about yourself, may be asked. Alas, I am only one of the many others. For over five years I have studied Irish. I did Senior Grade in it, but from want of practice, and the fact that I never had sufficient speaking knowledge of it, as well as perhaps mental dulness, I am not proud of the extent of my knowledge. This much I can say—I had intended going to an Irish College for a month this summer and had I gone I am sure would have been fairly proficient after it. But I did not go! Why? Well, I had not been on leave for over a year and there was a bigger attraction for me, namely, HOME. Could I be blamed for spending two weeks there? No, I don't think so; it was at least my duty. Having returned off fourteen days' leave I applied for permission to attend the Irish College and gave full particulars. Sixteen

days were due to me, the other fourteen would have been special. The reply to my application was that I could get sixteen days and at the end of same return to duty with the usual certificate from the college and then I might get fourteen more days after at least a week's delay. I was further informed that if I had intended going to the college I should have gone on the month's annual leave due to me and afterwards applied for the fourteen extra days to go home. Satisfactory perhaps to some, but not to me.

Of course it's no use blaming the Army authorities; indeed they have done more than their share for the language. Let it be fully realised that the persons responsible are ourselves, the officers, N.C.O.'s and men.

"I," someone will exclaim, "what can I do?" Ah, there's the point. Have you ever read "An t-Oglach" and the numerous little methods given in it for helping to further our language? There should be no need to repeat them. Write your name, your rank, the heading and ending of your letters, your address—in fact anything you can—in Irish. But when you write anything in Irish make sure the person who is to read it can do so or at least easily, mind—easily! ascertain what it means. There is nothing so disgusting to a non-speaker as to receive a letter he can't possibly understand. Not only is it highly pedantic, but tends to create the exact opposite of its intention—a hostile feeling for Irish.

I do not want to weary the reader with facts. As has already been said the higher authorities can do no more for the language; they are responsible for the little Irish that is extant, the result of their energetic endeavours. It is ourselves who are to blame. Then why not organize all the various individuals who are struggling to further the language and all the others who would like to assist them? Why not establish an organisation for this cause, as has been done for sport? Look at what such an organisation could do? It could unite these individuals, encourage and assist the struggling beginners, advise them, demonstrate to them and to every member of the Army the best methods for increasing every one's little knowledge of Irish; render help to units badly needing same; bring to notice actions detrimental to the cause of Irish, and organise instruction for all. Then as a responsible organisation the Army authorities would welcome it and give it every assistance. So would the Gaelic League and other kindred associations.

This Club or Cumann need not necessarily, in fact should not, be composed only of Irish speakers, and the members are already there in the shape of those officers, N.C.O.'s and men who are doing their bit so well in the various units.

Let criticism on this at least be constructive.

Name and address enclosed.

Mise, le meas,

"O'Fáilín."



Our idea of an egotist is the man who thinks his wife ought to call him "Colonel" just because he parts his hair with military brushes.—*Dallas News*.

HIS TRAGIC EXPERIENCE.—"Why don't you work? Hard work never killed any one!"

"You are wrong, lady. I lost both of my wives in that way."

DUBLIN SOLDIERS' CLUB.

Commodious Premises acquired in
the Centre of the City.

BEDS, BATHS, MEALS & RECREATION

Early in October it is hoped to open commodious premises at 5A College Street, Dublin, as a Club for all soldiers stationed in the city or passing through.

Before the erection of the present police station at the corner of Pearse Street and Townsend Street the premises in question were utilised as the headquarters of the Dublin Metropolitan Police and were known as the College Street Police Station. During the European War they were transformed into a British Soldiers' Home, and were subsequently used as the offices of the Aonach Tailteann Committee.

It would be difficult to find existing premises more admirably adapted for the purpose to which this building will be devoted in future. The situation is as central as could be desired and the accommodation is ample. It has been acquired through the kindness of the Ministry for Defence and the Ministry of Finance, and under the direction of Cumann Sugraídh an Airm should prove a "boon and a blessing" to all N.C.O.'s and men.

The final plans have not yet been completed, but it is probable that the Club will be open from 5 p.m. until 10.30 p.m., with earlier opening on Saturdays and Sundays.

A limited number of beds will be provided for soldiers passing through the city, and good baths will also be available.

Teas and other light refreshments will be provided at prices well within the means of the soldier, and the supervision of Cumann Sugraídh an Airm is a guarantee that the catering will leave nothing to be desired.

Ample facilities for recreation will be found in the club. It is proposed to instal a first-class billiard table, fully equipped and equal to any in the city. A piano will be provided and the winter programme will include concerts, whist drives, lectures, etc. Facilities will also be found in the club for those who wish to play chess or draughts.

A splendid library of 500 volumes will be available, and the entire contents of the bookshelves will be changed twice a year. In addition, there will be a spacious and well-equipped reading room which will contain the principal daily and weekly newspapers, picture papers and other periodicals.

There will also be a writing room, where writing materials, including notepaper and envelopes, will be supplied.

The entire building has been re-decorated and is splendidly lighted by electricity.

There will be a nominal charge for the use of the billiard table and for the bedrooms, but otherwise the facilities afforded by the club will be free to all soldiers in uniform.

The club is the crowning achievement of Cumann Sugraídh an Airm, whose efforts for the comfort and happiness of the soldiers are too well-known to need recapitulation here. The association came into existence in 1922, when a number of volunteer workers met together to cater for the needs of the fighting men, and even at that early stage the idea of a central rendezvous such as this club was in the minds of those patriotic pioneers. Owing to a variety of circumstances, however, it was impossible of realization until to-day.

In the meantime the Cumann did remarkably good work by providing and managing dry canteens in the different city

(Continued in next column).

IN THE GLEN OF IMAAL.

Historic Venue Reverberates to Guns
of Irish Artillery.

An incident that pointedly emphasises the changed conditions in Ireland was the recent shoot of the Artillery Corps in the historic Glen of Imaal.

For some time the Corps have been encamped amidst the rugged beauty of the Glen, where Michael Dwyer, famed in song and story as "The Wicklow Chieftain," held out against the British troops in 1798.

The artillery practice was attended with a considerable element of the picturesqueness which has almost disappeared from modern warfare. Communication was established by field telephone, and provision was also made for visual signalling if necessary.

The first firing practice of the Artillery of the Irish Army was carried out on Friday, 11th inst.

No. 1 Battery, consisting of 4 guns and wagons, paraded in drill order at Coolmoney Camp at 10.30 hours, and moving off without delay reached a point close to the selected firing position at 11-15 hours.

The Minister of Defence accompanied by the Minister of Finance, the Chief of Staff, D.A.A.G., Q.M.G., Major-General Hogan, G.O.C. Eastern Command; Major-General MacEoin, G.O.C. Curragh Camp; Major-General Brennan, G.O.C. Southern Command, and Col. Dunphy arrived at 12 noon, and were received by Major Muleahy, O.C. Artillery, with whom they proceeded to inspect the Battery on the roadside. After the inspection the Battery proceeded to occupy the selected position.

The target consisted of two lines of figures representing infantry entrenched at a range of about 5,000 yards, and the Ministers and General Officers having taken up a position from which to observe the shooting, the O.C. Artillery directed the Battery Commander to open fire.

The range was quickly found and effective fire was brought to bear on the target, firing continuing for about an hour.

Subsequently the Ministers and General Officers inspected the targets and were highly pleased with the results of the shooting.

The party returned to Coolmoney, and after lunch the Artillery Camp was inspected.

DUBLIN SOLDIERS' CLUB—contd. from col. 1.

barracks, and establishing comfortable recreation rooms in Collins, Portobello and McKee. All the time, however, the members felt that their real objective must be a club such as that now established, and they have been fortunate, thanks to the cordial co-operation of the Minister for Defence and the Finance Ministry in securing these splendid premises for £500. They are now in a position to equip the place in a first-class manner throughout and it is scarcely necessary to say that no pains or expense will be spared to make the club equal to any institution of the kind in existence.

The trustees are Rev. Dominic Ryan, Head Chaplain; Mrs. R. Muleahy, and Senator John O'Neill, who have laboured indefatigably in bringing about this happy consummation, and in whose names the Editor of "An t-Oglach" assures all soldiers of the Irish Army of a hearty welcome at 5A College Street.

THE LAST STAND AT KINSALE.

Spanish Landing in the 17th Century.

The year of grace, 1599, saw the Irish nation, united under a chieftain of the House of Niall of the Hostages, at the threshold of that final victory which would restore her to the independence she enjoyed before MacMurrough brought the Norman knights and their followers to her beach. The arrogant lady who ruled in London, however, was determined that Ireland should not be easily surrendered, and expedition after expedition was fitted and despatched thither at much cost, but again and again did discomfited warriors and disgruntled statesmen send their crestfallen messages to "Her Most Gracious Majesty" announcing fresh defeats and hinting with ever increasing iteration that "that subtle arch-traitor O'Neill and his allies must surely have covenanted with the "powers of darkness," and that "if Her Majesty pleased, other and less open stratagems must be resorted to in order to bring about the triumph of her armies." That the advice thus tendered was acted upon is apparent from incidents which followed the appointment of Lord Mountjoy as Deputy, and the installation of Sir George Carew as Lord-President of the Province of Munster. Fraud was now destined to prevail where force of arms had met with defeat.

The events of the following months, interesting though they were, must be passed over, and the curtain rung up on the scene that presented itself on that bright day in the early autumn of 1601, when the news of the landing of a Spanish force at the town of Kinsale was conveyed to O'Neill and his allies in their Ulster strongholds. The statecraft of Mountjoy had succeeded in detaching from the Irish cause certain of the southern and midland princes and leaders, and garrisons were thickly planted in every available post outside the territory occupied by O'Neill and O'Donnell. When the Spanish force landed the English garrison at Kinsale immediately took a hurried departure, and Don Juan del Aguila entered the town at the head of about three thousand men. The landing of this force contrary to expectations did not rouse the southern chiefs to immediate action, and now all hopes were centred upon the Ulstermen making an immediate junction with the Spaniards. Don Juan, although an intrepid soldier, was a poor tactician, and moreover appears to have had little real sympathy with the cause he had come to assist. After seizing the forts in the vicinity of the harbour of Kinsale he sent messengers to O'Neill requesting him to march southward with as little delay as possible.

In the meantime Mountjoy collected all his available force and pushed rapidly south with the object of reaching Kinsale before the Irish from the North. On October 16th he arrived before the Spanish lines and pitched his camp on a hill which commanded a view of the town and harbour. A brisk fire was opened on Ringcurran fort and at the end of three days the Spanish commander here was forced to surrender. The other fort also surrendered a few days afterwards, and then Don Juan found himself completely hemmed in by an army of about 15,000 men, whilst a strong English fleet rode at anchor outside the harbour.

Aodh Ruadh O'Donnell on receipt of the news that the Spanish force had landed immediately set out upon his march south, and in addition to his own clansmen was joined by the O'Doghertys, the O'Boyles, the MacDonoughs, the MacDermotts, the O'Connors, and the O'Kellys. These clans augmented his army by about 2,500 fighting men. On arriving at Holy Cross he waited for O'Neill, but learning that Carew lay at Cashel with an army of superior numbers he resolved to march northwards, and next day arrived at Croom, a distance of forty miles. "The greatest march," says Carew, "with

baggage that hath ever been heard of." O'Donnell then marched through Muskerry and arrived in Castlehaven in time to effect a junction with the remainder of Don Juan's expedition.

Hugh O'Neill, having made arrangements for the safeguarding of his own territory during his absence, arrived at Bandon at the head of 3,500 soldiers, and on the morning of December 30th the whole Irish army, with the Spanish auxiliaries from Castlehaven, amounting to about 6,500 men, moved towards Kinsale. O'Neill's generalship was now called upon to give proof of its capability. With great foresight he resolved to cut off Mountjoy's supplies, and so effectively was this plan carried out that within a few days the English were reduced to desperate straits. Don Juan now demanded that a general attack should be launched forthwith, and the fiery Aodh Ruadh urged upon O'Neill the necessity of immediate action. The latter, however, held to his original plan of first wasting the English by famine, and then when exhaustion had set in to deliver a crushing blow from the Spanish and Irish lines. Councils were held, and notwithstanding the soundness of Hugh O'Neill's judgment he was overborne and orders were given to attack the English that night. The despatch detailing the plan which was sent to Don Juan was intercepted by the English, and when the Irish troops moved forward on the night of January 2nd, 1602, the English were fully prepared. O'Neill, completely taken by surprise, was obliged to retreat under heavy fire to a place named Whitecastle, about a mile from Kinsale. For several hours he made a gallant stand here, and then O'Donnell arrived with a force which drove off the attackers. Fresh orders miscarried and O'Donnell's cavalry retreated among the ranks of the Irish infantry which threw the latter into disorder, and the English coming up at that moment completed the confusion. Panic now appears to have set in among the Irish troops, and about 600 were killed. The Irish after a desperate running fight at length disheartened and disorganised fell back on Innishannon. Don Juan curiously enough remained inactive during the progress of the fight, but when the news of the retreat of the Irish reached him he sent messengers to Mountjoy bearing proposals for capitulation, which were readily accepted.

The Four Masters speak of the gloom and desolation that enveloped Ireland after Kinsale, where, they sorrowfully record, were lost "nobility and honour, generosity and great deeds, hospitality and goodness, courtesy and noble birth, polish and bravery, the authority and sovereignty of the Irish of Erin to the end of time."

J. J.

BROADCAST THE BAND.

The imminent approach of Saorstát Broadcasting has raised the question of variety in the programme. We would suggest that all possessors of wireless receiving sets would welcome performances by the No. 1 Army Band. If precedent is sought it is not so far to seek.

The band of the 31st U.S. Infantry is the latest on the wireless. It is composed of white and Filipino soldiers and is stationed in Manila, where it enjoys a vogue equal to that of our No. 1.

When Master Sergeant Robert Livesay, Service Company, 29th U.S. Infantry, retired the other day after 30 years' service a battalion review was held in his honour.

"The Artillery conquers the ground, the Infantry occupies it," is a principle of war developed by the French General staff at the end of the European War and after years of bitter experience.

MUSIC FOR THE SOLDIERS' MESS.

Gramophone Records of Irish Music which are worth getting.

In our last issue we mentioned a number of the cheaper gramophone records of an Irish character which we considered suitable for soldiers' messes. All those mentioned can be obtained at Henecy's, in Dame Street, where every facility will be afforded for hearing them. Mr. John Henecy was mainly responsible for the recording of the No. 1 Army Band and the Irish violin solos of Miss Edith Kelly Lange, and the firm deserve the support of all Army gramophonists. From the 1st October the weekly half-holiday of the establishment will be changed to Wednesday, which will mean that soldiers will find the shop open every Saturday afternoon.

Among the slightly more expensive records which soldiers should ask to hear at Henecy's the writer would strongly recommend the Columbia 12-inch disc of "Emer's Farewell to Cuchullain" (described by the gramophone people as "The Londonderry Air"). It is played best by the Symphony Orchestra under the baton of that well-known Irish musician, Hamilton Harty (L1573), but Columbia also have the Grainger version on a 12-inch disc played admirably by the London String Quartette (with "Molly on the Shore" on the other side), and a 10-inch piano record by William Murdoch. There is also a H.M.V. 12-inch record by De Groot and his orchestra which leaves little to be desired. It was to portion of this air that the words of "Danny Boy" were written.

Another 12-inch Columbia record well worth getting is that of the late Gervase Elwes singing Yeat's poem "The Lake Isle of Innisfree" (L1398), which, by the way, is *not* the Innisfree where the bailiffs' boat was scuttled recently. On the other side Elwes—whose name is perpetuated at our Feis Ceoil by the Gervase Elwes Cup—sings Shakespeare's "Sea Dirge."

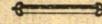
Reverting to the cheaper records the Beltona list will be found worth studying. This firm deserves much credit for its Irish recordings, all of which can be heard at the Gramophone Stores, Johnson Court, off Grafton Street, the proprietors of which, Messrs. Moisselle, have been responsible for getting many Irish singers and instrumentalists recorded.

Many of these Beltona records are wonderful value for the money. Space does not permit mention of all the first-class half-crown discs, but readers can rest assured that they are acting wisely in purchasing any of Minnie Mearns' recordings of Irish songs. It is a curious thing that this Scottish Contralto has made better records, on the whole, than any of our Irish lady vocalists.

Amongst the Beltona records specially made for the Gramophone Stores are Gerard Crofts' singing of "The Maid of the Sweet Brown Knowe," with "The Three Flowers," "Fineen the Rover" with "She Lived Beside the Anner," and "Boo-lavogue" with "Thank you, Ma'am, says Dan." These three are priced at three shillings each and are good value. For half-a-crown there are a few score of 10-inch recordings of

Irish airs by vocalists and instrumentalists. One or two songs are of the "Mother Machree" type, but the great majority are quite satisfactory. The accordeon, melodeon and bagpipe soli are everything that could be desired and will carry many listeners back in fancy to the cross-roads dances and the ceildh in the neighbour's farmhouse. The Erin Trio provide an unusual but very attractive combination of violin, harp-guitar and piano (with a piccolo in some instances as substitute for the harp-guitar) and well-known Irish dances assume a new virility when heard through this medium.

Readers of "An t-Oglach" should patronise only the firms which advertise in the Army journal, and they will find that on mentioning the paper special attention will be given to their requirements. In the meantime we will be pleased to answer any inquiries which our gramophonist readers may like to put to us as regards records or machines.



EQUAL TO THE OCCASION.

Teacher: "Sammie, name the four seasons."
Sammie: "Salt, mustard, vinegar and pepper!"

SLIGHTLY AUTUMNAL.

There's a hint of sophistication in the reply of a youngster to the question regarding his auntie's age. "I don't know 'zactly how old she is," he replied, "but a cup of tea rests her."

MORE EFFORT NEEDED.

"I can't remember the words of that new song," said the girl.

"That makes it easier," returned her father. "Now all you've got to do to make home happy is to forget the tune."

MORE ECONOMICAL.

"Do you keep a dog?"
"No. If we hear a noise we bark ourselves."

ONLY SAW THE ROAD.

Ned: "Where did you tour on your vacation?"
Ted: "Gosh! I don't know! I was driving the car!"

GETTING DOWN TO BRASS TACKS.—Employer (to applicant for a position who has handed in testimonials from two ministers)
—"We don't work on Sundays. Haven't you a reference from someone who sees you on week-days?"

HENECYS

54 Dame Street, Dublin

EASY
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ARRANGED.

GRAMOPHONES and RECORDS.

Write for Catalogues, Records and Machines.

**THE GRAMOPHONE
JOHNSON COURT
(Beside Clarendon St. Chapel), STORES
GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.**

For Latest "BELTONA" RECORDS. Lists Free.
Open till 9 p.m. Look for Electric Sign.

GOSSIP OF THE BARRACKS.

G.H.Q. CALLING (PARKGATE AND MCKEE BARRACKS).

OVERHEARD IN THE MESS.

Committee Man.—“ Well, Mac, what are you grouching at now?”

Mac.—“ My cha is full of tea leaves.”

Committee Man.—“ Well, what do you want for your tanner subscription—coffee berries.”

THE SOLDIER CLERK (2nd HOOKUM).

I'm a jolly young soldier clerk, Tra la,
And my chateau's above in the Park, Tra la,
My club's in McKee,
Subscription 6d.

I dine there, and wine there, and lark, Tra la,
At fast chukkars, in Polo, I'm “ It,” Tra la,
And my ponies the Remounts keep fit, Tra la,
And as Deauville's so dear,
And the Dog Pond's so near,
My ninepence I spend in the Park, Tra la.

ECONOMY IN MCKEE BARRACKS.

An N.C.O. who got a billet opposite the Barrack Clock stopped his watch.

Mac (with a two-day growth of beard) to Headquarters barber.—“ I want a shave, can you manage?”

Headquarters Barber (after a critical survey).—“ Yes, if the razor handle doesn't break.”

Now, tenors are few,
Up here in H.Q.,
We'd one who “ Flew over the Foam ”;
The boys in “ B ” Block
Would bear with the shock
If a “ Gink ” would be “ Shown the way Home.”

OVERHEARD IN THE Q.M. STORES.

“ Aye, Paddy, it's a hard ould station. The price of everything is going up except the headed notepaper, and that's Stationery.”

Our new Mess—A “ S'table D'note.”

Old man Tut's Tomb has nothing on our mess now that your man Micks has completed his Abyssarian Cornucopian frescoes on the Mess walls. They alone are worth an extra “ tanner ” subscription. Old man “ Dadelum ” should be pleased.

The Portobello Institute intend starting Irish Dancing and Minstrel Troupes for the winter months according to the last issue. We go one further in G.H.Q. We have already started Fire Pickets, “ Pontoon ” Schools, and “ Dark Day ” Yarns Competitions for the long evenings.

Yes, we may be “ Rookers,” but we have a “ Crow ” on pay days.

Fire Pickets are necessary, it's true,
Both in McKee and G.H.Q.,
But the Leggings-Breech stunt
A la the Ward Hunt,
Tally hose, Tally ho, Tally hu.

Recent statistics show that 75 per cent. of the world's rubber is consumed in the United States. Well, judging by the num-

ber of “ Hard Necks ” floating round, the other 25 per cent. is consumed by budding N.C.O.'s.

THE ORDERLY MAN (4th SPASM).

Oh, Orderly Man, there should be a pay grade for you,
Because at 9.30 there's special parade for you,
And the Clerk's Unit, too, have a precedent made for you,
You've such a way with you, Orderly Man.
So here's ninepence a day to you, Orderly Man,
Good as flowers in May to you, Orderly Man,
May the sun shine for you,
“ Pay and Acc.” prove a mine to you,
(Hope it keeps fine for you),

ORDERLY MAN.

“ Me Larkie ” hopes that the Portobello Scribe is “ O.K.” He missed Portobelloings from the last issue and wants to know what the Blue Blazes of Ballyporeen is meant by it.

No, there is no truth in the rumour that our Tug-of-War team is transferring its energies to the game of “ Crown and Anchor.”

French courses, you see,
They've now in McKee,
It's “ Votre Homme ” now in lieu of “ Your Man ”;
They don't yet compré
The French for “ Dark Day,”
We're thankful—“ Sans ferri Anne.”

Even our Orderly Room has a “ Harte.”
Young Murphy has returned off leave, and I hope a C.S.M. “ did not give him a look.”

His numerous friends will rejoice to hear that Johnny Toye is doing well. He is at present wintering at the Lido.

Great preparations have been made for the “ spasm ” organised by the “ Ancient Order of Me Larkies.” The demand for tickets has been in excess of the available accommodation. We are all eagerly looking forward to it—“ more sharper ” as your man O'Malley says.

OVERHEARD.

Sergeant.—“ Stand still in that rere rank, No. 2.”

No. 2.—“ I can't help it, Sergeant, the wind's blowing off my cap.”

Sergeant.—“ Well, hammer a nail in it.”

Cpl. Reilly and a few “ lads of the village ” have started a new Social Club—“ The Phoenix.”

N.C.O. i/c Room.—“ Oh, Sergeant, Private Murphy has swallowed another nail.”

Sergeant.—“ Humph! There's more in that lad than meets the eye.”

We note that “ Light Out ” is now at 11 o'clock p.m. It is a concession all right, in view of the fact that there is no gas in the pipes, and naked lights, candles, etc., are forbidden in billets. Darkness sets in at 8.30, so we've only two and a half hours now to sit in the darkness. Look at the fun we're having.

OVERHEARD AT RECENT MANŒUVRES.

Private (acting as Scout).—“ But, Sargen', what will I do if I get lost in the mountains?”

Sergeant (sarcastically).—“ Keep your head covered in case there are any Woodpeckers knocking round.”

Things we would like to know :—

What Paddy Carr thought of the car ride on Sunday night.

Who is the gink in “ B ” Block who evidently got the early morning wire about his singing abilities?

What is the attraction that brings Jack McSherra (of Athlone fame) and Me Larkie out on those nocturnal rambles around Blanchardstown?

What the "footballers" in "B" Block thought when they clicked fire picket?

Who is "Tricky Mickey" from the Railway Transport?

What your men "Mick Duane, Billy Malley and Micky Rawl" thought of Galway?

What Maurice thought of the black crows in Henry Street last Saturday?

Is a certain Corporal collecting White Mice, and what Eugene thinks?

What Jeff thought of the 16lbs. Shot at the Curragh Sports?

Does "McKee Barrack still stand fast" now that Old Mister Dadelum is away?

Did Tommy Behan enjoy his leave?

Was Paddy Doherty judge in the recent singing competition in Sergeants' Mess?

What Bill Daly thinks of the "poor ould farmers" now?

What Bill Stroud thinks of the new Laundry Regulations—another wash-out!

What became of the cake that "Kerry" brought up from the South?

Is Bill Lynch collecting Bees, and has he found any "Queens" yet?

Where the Acting B.S.M. got the stick?

THIS WEEK'S SLOGAN:—"Cut out that talking."

"ME LARKIE."



COLLINS BARRACKS, DUBLIN.

The Battalion Mascot has arrived, and is looking well in charge of Pa Reilly. Its abode will be in readiness for habitation one of these days, thanks to the exertions of a few.

The Recreation Corporal wishes to return thanks for par. in last issue concerning Library Books. Outstanding ones have been coming in rapidly, but a few are still out.

A well-known soldier, thinking baths not large enough, selected a much deeper spot, but the genial "Cocker" saw to it that he did not break any Swimming records.

McAree, D Coy., was pleased with his little prize recently received.

Congratulations to Eastern Command Football and Hurling Teams on their double victory against Southern Command. All got back safe and well, and speak highly of their treatment from our Southern Command friends.

The McAlinden of P.A. fame is coming on by leaps and bounds, and has now some prizes to his credit, his latest being secured at Drogheda, where he won the 100 Yards and the Quarter. May many more come along, say I.

"Con," of A Company, is seriously considering writing a book on "How I learned to Ride a Bicycle." When able to get "On and Off" a second edition may be published.

Entries are now being taken for the much boomed "Scratch" Competition.

A certain B. Q. M. S. appearing at a recent Concert performed the "Doctor" well. In fact all the items at the same concert were of a high standard.



5th INFANTRY BATTALION, CURRAGH CAMP.

To all whom it may concern:—The gentleman who spins the yarn about my being the compiler of these notes is telling an untruth!

The most important item to note this week is the epidemic of slight accidents occurring in the battalion. What between

broken specs., black eyes, sprained wrists and ankles, and missing teeth, it would seem as though the manoeuvres are already over. And this is the battalion that was noted for its good appearance! What, what!

Talking of manoeuvres—wasn't that a gallant charge by some of "A" boys last Tuesday!

There are always amusing features about field work. For instance, that yarn of the captured scout about his company being in the hollow near by, and how some of us broke our hearts surrounding them, only to find they didn't exist.

On a previous field day an armoured car was put out of action, but in spite of its being ordered not to fire back on our line our scouts reported that it was continually "back firing."

"C" Coy. is now digging in around Newbridge, having successfully relieved "A" Coy. of the onerous task of minding that barracks. Some of "A" Coy. are already looking for a transfer on the plea that they want to keep their prowess in the boxing line dark. However, I am given to understand that "B" Coy. will soon challenge them to show their true form. By the way, what's the delay in putting up the punching ball? No room in the Curragh Camp?

Has anyone prowled around "D" Block lately? With twenty mouth-organs practising nightly a free concert can be had.

Is Captain Harpur working hard to get for this battalion that prize offered for Irish national airs during the manoeuvres.

"Mutt" of "B" Coy. should get after that chap "Kerry" and make him keep quiet.

The Christian Brothers were overjoyed at the handsome collection made in the battalion the other day.

Weary Willie of "B" Coy. is reported not to be friendly with Tiny Tim of "C." Now, then, get the gloves. "Split the Wind" of "D" Coy. will referee.



12th INFANTRY BATT., TEMPLEMORE.

An interesting article on the utilisation of spare time appeared in the last issue of "An t-Oglach." Though the contents may apply to Officers and others in our Army, the fault mostly lies with our libraries. The only books we have seen in the N.C.O.'s and Men's Libraries are those which are written solely to sell.

We have had a great Summer for outdoor games, which was availed of to the utmost. Outdoor games should be practised by *all* soldiers. It would be well if one adopted some game, if only for a hobby, because a hobby might, and can become a saving grace in a soldier's life, and an antidote to moral and national decay.

There is great jubilation in Templemore over Tipp's victory in the hurling championship, in which every Munster man proudly shares.

HEARD DURING THE MANOEUVRES.

Private: "Aren't those mountains terrible high, Sergeant?"

Sergeant: "Only the tops of them."

On Thursday, 27th ult., the three Battalions of the 4th Brigade (10th, 12th and 14th) left the New Barracks, Limerick, on a route march. The 12th Battalion covered the distance (20 miles) in the record time of five hours, or at an average of four miles per hour. While the other Battalions did not complete the distance until considerably later they also had several of their men "falling out." None of the Twelfth "fell out"

ROS CAIRBRE.



24th BATTALION, DUNDALK.

The recent N.C.O.'s Smoker was a great success, many hitherto unknown "Turns" made a name for themselves.

The boys had a great reception on arriving back from their Dublin sojourn and the 21st were sorry to part with them (it is whispered that others were glad).

How did the boys like the new B.S.M.?

Who mentioned Iron Rations?

Did Hooks get his Kit?

Who saw the Flying Fish?

Will Steve's Clerk get the P.P.?

How did a certain soldier get along at a "Posh" hotel for 4/9?

How does "Spotty" like the moving to and fro?



SHRAPNEL FROM "DIAL SIGHT" OF THE ARTILLERY.

Once more we find ourselves in Glen Imaal.

* * * *

We knew the "stitcher's" buttock would slip on the "Edge." He did. The result is that his nerves are "Shook."

* * * *

The "doc" does not want leave now. All his time is taken up by gold digging. He had better stake his claim before the big rush starts.

* * * *

No. 1 Battery made "some rush" to see the Pathe Gazette.

* * * *

When No. 1 Battery was half way on the road from Dublin who spread a rumour that the canteen in camp was closed down? A joke's a joke, but cruelty is another matter.

* * * *

The Q.M.'s Stores in Camp is a very popular place. Why?

* * * *

We would like to know:—

Is it a fact that a Sergt.-Major is about to take shares in the Blessington Steam Tram Company?

Is there any "H-Apex" in Kiltegan?

Who is the gunner who "lost two mules"?

Did No. 1 of "B" get his "droop"?

What happened "John's" false teeth?

What made "Spud" stutter "H-H-H-Hello"?

Sergt. X— seems to be having a lot to do with Red Flags. We hope he is not going "Bolshie."

* * * *

No. 2 Battery held a concert in Kildare recently. We believe it was a "Howling" success. Let's hope we will have more of the same.

* * * *

The 1st Battery have been promised a "night" on their return to Kildare. All ranks in the Battery are looking forward to it.

* * * *

Our Corps Q.M. has "taken the plunge." We wish him the best of luck.

* * * *

There should be no scarcity of "H-eggs" in the Corps now—Alonzo is back.

* * * *

We knew the tug-o'-war team could do it.

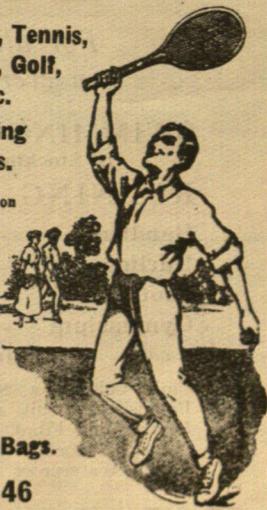
* * * *

Opposition has appeared in the person of "Range taker." Perhaps he has the range, but let him remember "Dial Sight" sees a lot.

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Transfer.

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

Dependant's Allowance.

"Victim" (Dublin).—Write to the Officer i/c Dependants' Allowance Branch giving full particulars of your claim.

"R. J." (Curragh).—No replies by post. You will receive a reply in the next issue.

Pension.

"Fair Play" (Cork).—We do not know of any save that provided under the Military Service Pensions Act, 1924.

Grade Pay.

"Interested" (Portobello).—Your appointment does not warrant payment of additional pay under the terms of the existing regulations, which confine such issues to Technical Storemen.

"Veteran" (Limerick).—Pay as a Class II. Private is issuable on the completion of twelve months' satisfactory service, subject to your Commanding Officer's approval, and is paid automatically on the publication of the appointment through Orders.

Back Pay.

"Alarmed" (Dublin).—Write to the Officer i/c of Arrears of Pay Department, Portobello Barracks, giving your Army number, home address, and address from which claim was sent.

Civilian Clothes.

"Interested" (Cork).—Permission may be given by a Commanding Officer or Camp Commandant to dress in plain clothes when on furlough or on pass.

Proficiency Pay.

"Justice" (Athlone).—The existing Pay regulations do not permit of the issue of additional pay in respect of your appointment.

"T. E." (Dublin).—Refer the matter to your Commanding Officer.

"Hopeful" (Island Bridge).—See reply to "Justice" above.

Leave.

"Worried" (Curragh).—Make application in the usual manner to your Commanding Officer.

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