



AN ÓGLÁC

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Contents

Vol. 2.—No. 3 (New Series).

9th Feb., 1924.

THE SILVER HAND.

Ancient Irish Miracle Worker—Earliest Army Medical Corps on Record.

PROCLAMATION OF DUBLIN IN 1798.

The Battle of New Ross—Rumours in the Capital—General Lake's Anxiety—Now First Published.

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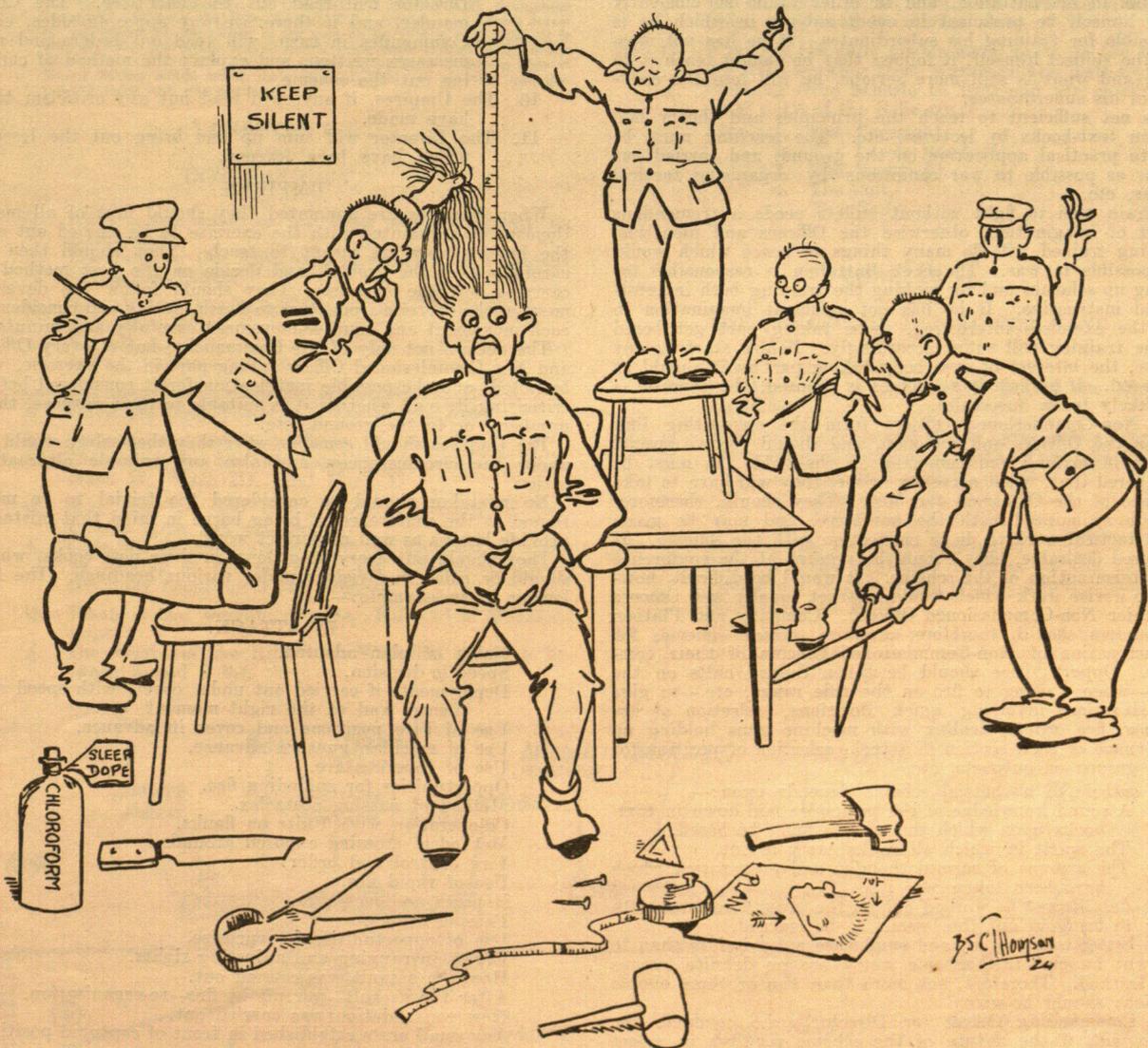
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Vol. II. No. 3. (New Series.) (Registered as a Newspaper).

FEBRUARY 9, 1924.

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AN T-ÓSLÁC

FEBRUARY 9, 1924.

TACTICAL SCHEMES AND UMPIRING.

The Battalion Commander is responsible for the training of all ranks in his battalion, and in order to do so efficiently should himself be proficient in every subject in which he is responsible for training his subordinates. If he has not mastered the subject himself, it follows that he cannot teach it to others, and what is still more serious, he will lose the confidence of his subordinates.

It is not sufficient to teach the principles and theory laid down in text-books by lectures, etc. The teaching must be put into practical application on the ground, and carried out as near as possible to war conditions by organising tactical schemes, etc.

To train men to fight without bullets needs a tremendous amount of imagination, otherwise the Officers and men who are being trained will do many things in peace which would be impossible in war. The O.C. Battalion is responsible for drawing up schemes and for making the training both interesting and instructive. If he has not sufficient imagination to make the exercises interesting, those taking part get bored and the training will suffer accordingly. Before starting any exercise, the interest of everybody taking part in it should be stimulated. If everybody's interest is aroused, the exercise is most likely to be successful.

The Non-Commissioned Officers form the connecting link between the Officers and the men, and should receive special training in leading and command in the field. It must be remembered that, when necessity arises, they will have to take the place of the Officer in the field. They should, therefore, be made acquainted with the narrative, and may be given special tactical work to do in connection with the scheme. If considered desirable, they should be present at the conference at the termination of the scheme. It would be difficult, however, to devise work which would instruct equally well Officers and junior Non-Commissioned Officers. Company and Platoon Commanders should, therefore, organise tactical schemes for the instruction of Non-Commissioned Officers of their commands. Opportunities should be taken during halts on the march—when waiting to fire on the rifle range, etc.—to give them situations involving quick decisions, selection of fire positions, fire orders, dealing with machine guns holding up the advance of their section in attack, selection of position for sentry groups on outposts, etc.

The success of a tactical scheme depends upon:—

1. A sound knowledge of the principles laid down in text-books upon which the scheme must be based.
2. The spirit in which all ranks carry it out.
3. The amount of careful thought and preparation which have been taken over it.

Each detail must be worked out on the ground selected with a view to bringing out the lessons to be learned.

It is better to bring out and emphasise a few points than to carry out an elaborate scheme which has no definite lessons to be learned. Therefore, not more than two or three simple situations should be given.

The Commanding Officer (or Director) who conducts the scheme will, if the nature of the scheme requires it, select sufficient Officers to act as umpires, who will note any points for criticism at the conference.

Every movement must be carried out as if troops were operating on service, and everyone must keep under cover as if in the presence of the enemy.

All orders and messages that would be sent must be written down.

The following method should be adopted:—

1. Decide on the nature of the exercise, keeping in mind the lessons to be taught.
2. Make out a scheme to bring out the lesson desired.
3. Decide on approximate locality for carrying out the scheme.
4. Reconnoitre the ground beforehand and select the actual locality suitable for the lessons to be brought out.
5. Write out the narrative, and orders, if any.
6. Detail Umpires, if required, and Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers to their respective duties.
7. Issue narrative with any necessary instructions to all concerned.
8. As Director, carry out the scheme and note all points for criticism at the conference.
9. On termination of scheme, hold a conference. The Director will read out the narrative. The Commander, and if there are any opposing sides, each Commander in turn, will read out orders and any messages written, and explain the method of carrying out the scheme.
10. The Umpires, if any, will read out any criticism they have made.
11. The Director will sum up and bring out the lessons which have been learned.

UMPIRES.

When Umpires are appointed they should first of all make themselves acquainted with the exercise to be carried out and the lessons they are meant to teach. They should then go carefully over the ground, and decide on the best method of carrying out the exercise. They should follow the development of the exercise from start to finish, noting and considering each movement and counter-movement carefully and minutely.

The action, not only of the Commander, but of every Officer and Non-Commissioned Officer taking part in the exercise, will be noted, and the possible justification for it considered before criticising it, e.g., whether it is suitable to their purpose, their numbers, or to the ground, etc.

The Umpires should consider what they themselves would do under the circumstances, and also any suitable alternative action.

No mistakes should be considered too trivial to be mentioned at the conference, it being borne in mind that mistakes provide lessons as well as perfect work.

They should put everything down in their note-books, which should be ruled in divisions under various headings. The following is an example:—

IN ATTACK.

Value of plan adopted.

Speed in decision.

Deployment, if carried out under cover, with speed and silence, and at the right moment, etc.

Use of Fire positions and cover in advance.

Use of machine guns in advance.

Use of covering fire.

Opportunities for enfilading fire.

Method of passing obstacles.

Co-operation with Units on flanks.

Method of crossing exposed ground.

Fire control and orders

Use of rapid fire.

Reports and messages.

Passing orders.

Use of opportunities for surprise.

Errors in ranging and adjusting sights.

How the assault was carried out.

After the assault—pursuit by fire—re-organisation.

How consolidation was carried out.

Any small posts established in front of captured position.

Good points.

Bad points.

Numbers put out of action as casualties, etc., by Umpire giving reasons.

Headings will be drawn up on similar lines for the Defence. Umpires must be absolutely impartial in their criticism.

A CATECHISM ON THE RIFLE.

Lee-Enfield Pattern—Marks III. and IV.

NOTE.—The following articles seek to describe in simple, non-technical language the various parts of the Lee-Enfield Rifle Marks III. and IV. Their plan is first to enumerate the principal parts of the Rifle, and then, by means of catechetical descriptions, to locate them directly on the Rifle. Diagrams accompany each Chapter, but even without their aid, the soldier should be able to become acquainted with every visible part of the Rifle by carefully following the simple questions and answers. He should study the articles with the actual Rifle before him, and should have recourse to the diagrams only in cases of doubt, or for purposes of revision. The present articles describe only Marks III. and IV. patterns, but the difference between them and other patterns will be given subsequently. It is hoped that every N.C.O. throughout the Army will learn the Rifle through these articles, and having learnt it, will impart his knowledge to the men of his Section or Squad. It is also advisable that every Officer should bring these articles to the notice of his N.C.O.'s and men, and it is suggested that men off Sentry Duty in Guard Rooms would spend their time profitably in studying and discussing them with one another.

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTORY.

1. Q. What is the name of the Rifle used in Oglagh na h-Eireann?
A. The name of the Rifle used in Oglagh na h-Eireann is the Lee-Enfield.
2. Q. Are all the Lee-Enfield Rifles used in Oglagh na h-Eireann of the same pattern?
A. No, all the Rifles used in Oglagh na h-Eireann are not of the same pattern.
3. Q. Are there many patterns of Lee-Enfield Rifle?
A. There are many patterns of Lee-Enfield Rifle.
4. Q. Name some of these patterns.
A. There are, for instance, such patterns as Mark I., Mark II., Mark III., and Mark IV.
5. Q. How can you tell the particular pattern of Lee-Enfield Rifle you are using?
A. I can tell the particular kind of Lee-Enfield I am using by looking at the marks on the right-hand side of the Body Socket over the Trigger.
6. Q. What is the weight of the Rifle with Magazine empty?
A. The weight of the Rifle with Magazine empty is between 8 and 9 lbs.

7. Q. What is the length of the Rifle?
A. The usual or normal length of the Rifle is about 3 feet 9 inches.
8. Q. What is the Muzzle of the Rifle?
A. The Muzzle of the Rifle is the opening or mouth on the very front of the Rifle.
9. Q. Where is the Butt-End of the Rifle?
A. The Butt-End of the Rifle is the rear end of the Rifle which is covered by a brass plate.
10. Q. What are the chief visible metal parts on the back of the Rifle working from Muzzle to the Butt-End?
A. Working from Muzzle to Butt-end the chief visible metal parts of the Rifle are:—
 1. The Foresight.
 2. The Lower Band.
 3. The Backsight.
 4. The Bolt.
 5. The Body.

CHAPTER II.

THE FORESIGHT AND LOWER BAND.

11. Q. Where is the Foresight?
A. The Foresight is immediately behind the Muzzle of the Rifle.
12. Q. What are the principal visible parts of the Foresight?
A. The principal visible parts of the Foresight are:—
 1. The Foresight Protector.
 2. The Foresight Block.
 3. The Foresight Blade.
13. Q. Describe the Foresight Protector.
A. The Foresight Protector consists of the two large steel wings or ears which project upwards behind the Muzzle of the Rifle.
14. Q. Where are the Blade and Block of the Foresight?
A. The Blade and Block of the Foresight are inside the Foresight Protector.

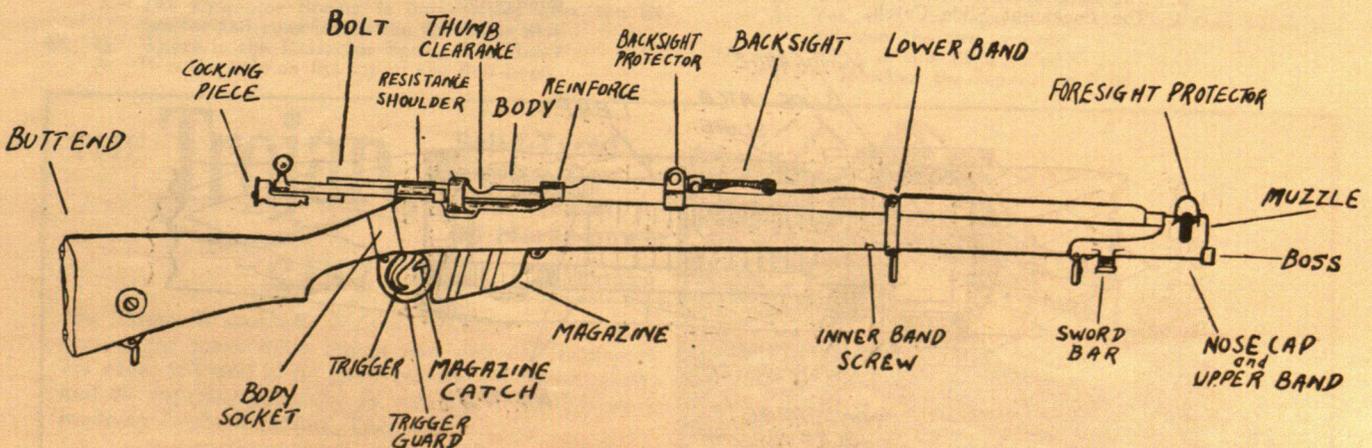


FIG. 1.

15. Q. Describe the Blade and Block of the Backsight.
A. The Blade is the small steel elevation and the Block is the part on which it rests.
16. Q. Where is the Lower Band?
A. It is the steel band carrying a swivel about 11 inches behind the Foresight of the Rifle.
17. Q. What is the Lower Band also called?
A. The Lower Band is also called the Outer Band.
18. Q. Why is it also called the Outer Band?
A. It is also called the Outer Band to distinguish it from an Inner Band which is near it.

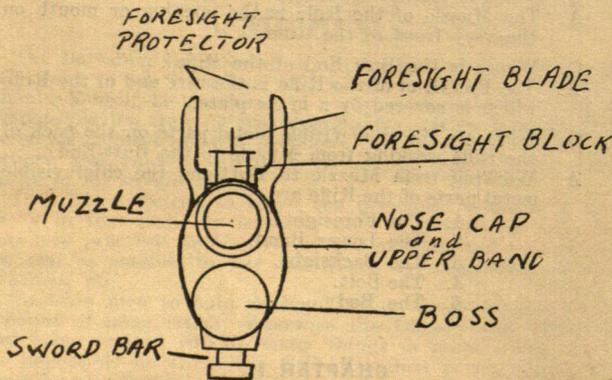


FIG. 2.

CHAPTER III

THE BACKSIGHT.

19. Q. Where is the Backsight?
A. The Backsight is about four inches behind the Lower Band.
20. Q. What are the principal visible parts of the Backsight?
A. The principal visible parts of the Backsight are:—
1. The Backsight Leaf.
2. The Backsight Slide.
3. The Backsight Slide Catch.

4. The Backsight Wormwheel.
5. The Windgauge.
6. The Windgauge Screw.
7. The Backsight Ramps.
8. The Backsight Bed.
9. The Backsight Protector.

21. Q. Describe the Leaf of the Backsight.
A. The Leaf is that part of the Backsight which can be lifted up and down, and on which the figures for sighting are imprinted.
22. Q. What does each figure on the Backsight represent?
A. Each figure on the Backsight represents 100 yards.
23. Q. Describe the Slide of the Backsight.
A. The Slide is that part of the Backsight which can be moved up and down the leaf.
24. Q. Where is the Slide Catch?
A. The Slide Catch is on the left side of the Slide.
25. Q. Where is the Wormwheel?
A. The Wormwheel is on the right side of the Slide and works on the rack on the right side of the Leaf.
26. Q. Where is the Windgauge?
A. The Windgauge is the small wide extension with three raised edges, and it runs across the rere end of the Backsight Leaf.
27. Q. What do you call the notch in the centre of the rere-end of the Backsight Leaf?
A. I call it the U or V of the Backsight.
28. Q. Where is the Windgauge Screw?
A. The Windgauge Screw is the milled screw on the right of the Windgauge.
29. Q. What do you mean by the Backsight Ramps?
A. By the Backsight Ramps I mean the two pieces of curved steel between which the Backsight Leaf rests.
30. Q. Where is the Bed of the Backsight?
A. The Bed is that steel portion which lies between the Ramps.
31. Q. Where is the Sight Spring Screw?
A. The Sight Spring Screw is the screw in the Bed of the Backsight.
32. Q. What is the common name for the Sight Spring Screw?
A. A common name for the Sight Spring Screw is "the Lazy Screw."
33. Q. Why is it called the "Lazy Screw."
A. It is called the Lazy Screw because it is always lying "in the Bed" of the Backsight.
34. Q. Where is the Backsight Protector?
A. The Backsight Protector consists of the two large projections which are in a line with the rere end of Leaf of the Backsight and between which lies the Windgauge.

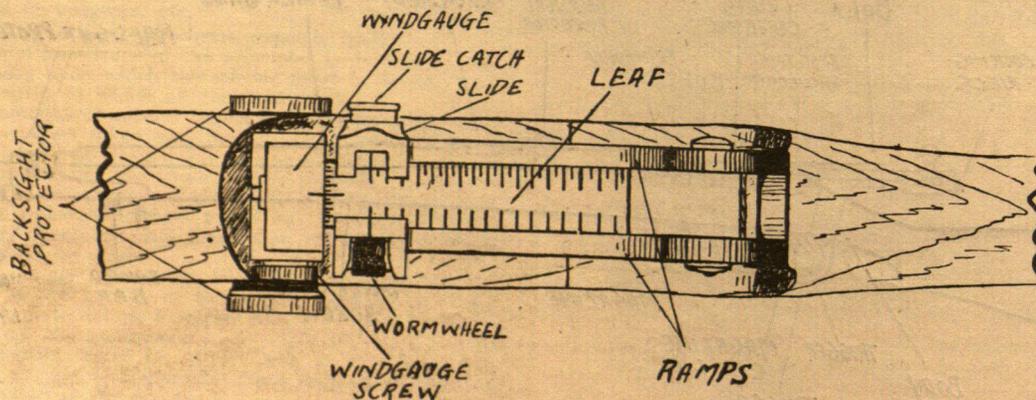


FIG. 3.

CHAPTER IV.

THE BOLT AND THE BOLT-HEAD.

35. Q. What are the principal parts of the Bolt?
 A. The principal parts of the Bolt are the Bolt itself and the Bolt-Head.
36. Q. Is the Bolt-Head a distinct part from the Bolt?
 A. The Bolt-Head is a distinct part from the Bolt.
37. Q. How is the Bolt-Head attached to the Bolt?
 A. The Bolt-Head is attached to the Bolt by means of the screwed tenon on the Bolt-Head.

46. Q. What is the large round hole which is low down on the left of the Bolt-Head?
 A. It is a gas escape.
47. Q. What parts of the Bolt can you see?
 A. I can see the
1. The Bolt Rib.
 2. The Bolt Lug.
 3. The Bolt Breech.
 4. The Bolt Lever.
 5. The Long Cam Groove.
 6. The Short Cam Groove.
 7. The Separating Stud.

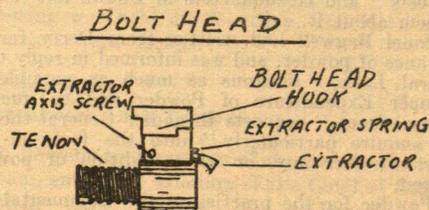
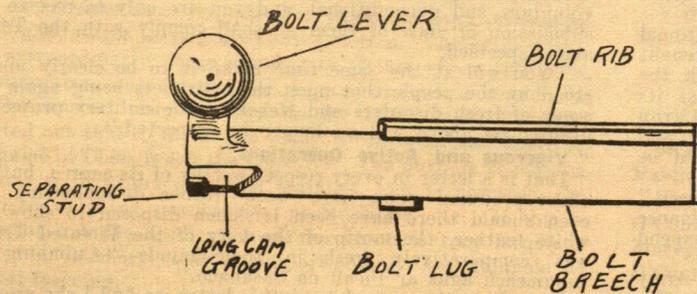


FIG. 4.

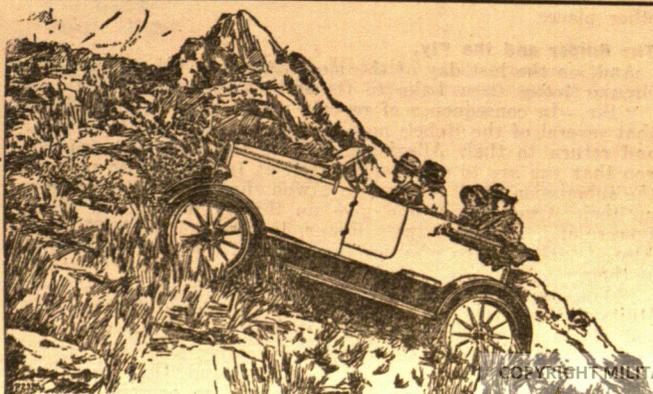
38. Q. What are the chief parts of the Bolt-Head?
 A. The chief parts of the Bolt-Head are:—
1. The Bolt-Head Hook.
 2. The Bolt-Head Extractor.
39. Q. Where is the Bolt-Head Hook?
 A. The Bolt-Head Hook is a part of the projection on the right of the Bolt-Head.
40. Q. Describe the Extractor.
 A. The Extractor is the Hook which projects from the face of the Bolt-Head.
41. Q. What parts of the Extractor can you see?
 A. The parts of the Extractor I can see are:—
1. The Extractor Slot.
 2. The Extractor Axis Screw.
 3. The Extractor Spring.
 4. The Extractor Spring Pin Hole.
42. Q. Where is the Extractor Slot?
 A. It is the Slot or opening directly over the Extractor.
43. Q. Where is the Extractor Axis Screw?
 A. The Extractor Axis Screw is the Screw on the right of the Bolt-Head underneath the Bolt-Head Hook.
44. Q. Where is the Extractor Spring?
 A. The Extractor Spring is immediately over the Extractor and runs inside the Extractor Slot.
45. Q. Where is the Extractor Spring Pin Hole?
 A. It is the hole on the top of the Bolt-head.

48. Q. Describe the Bolt Rib?
 A. The Bolt Rib is the long straight black projection on the Bolt.
49. Q. Describe the Bolt Lug?
 A. The Bolt Lug is the small projection on the side of the Bolt opposite the Bolt Rib.
50. Q. Where is the Bolt Breech?
 A. The Bolt Breech is that part of the Bolt which lies between the Lug and the front face of the Bolt.
51. Q. What is the Bolt Lever?
 A. It is the lever or handle which is used for working the Bolt.
52. Q. Where are the Cam Grooves?
 A. The Cam Grooves are at the rere end of the Bolt under the Bolt Lever.
53. Q. Where is the Long Cam Groove?
 A. It is the longer of the two Cam Grooves, and lies immediately under the Bolt Lever.
54. Q. Where is the Short Cam Groove?
 A. It is the shorter of the two Cam Grooves and lies under the Long Cam Groove.
55. Q. Are the two Grooves separated?
 A. Yes, they are separated by the little stud which lies between the two grooves.
56. Q. What is this Stud called?
 A. It is called the Separating Stud.

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WITH THE BRITISH IN 1798.

How the Derry Garrison Wasted Powder—Proclamation of the Irish Capital—Operations against the "Rebels"—The Battle of New Ross—News Late in Reaching Dublin—General Lake's Apprehensions.

NOW FIRST PUBLISHED. EXCLUSIVE TO "AN t-ÓGLACH."

Up in Derry they were wasting a lot of powder in the early part of 1798, practising assiduously for the annihilation of the "Rebels" and Headquarters in Dublin felt impelled to speak to them about it.

Colonel Bagwell had written from Derry for an additional allowance of powder, and was informed in reply that Lieutenant General Lake, "desirous as much as possible to check the improper Expenditure of Powder and to guard against its Embezzlement," requests Brigadier General the Earl of Cavan to "enquire particularly" into the facts of the case, and report whether any, or what addition of powder should be granted.

"Powder for the practice of the Regimental Field Pieces," declared General Lake, "should be drawn from the Ordnance Depot for that Service by special application, and not expend what is issued for Small Arms."

But in the midst of alarms and excursions the British Army had time for lighter pastimes, as witness the fact that Captain Browne, of the Invalids (the Crock Corps alluded to in our last issue) was granted leave of absence in May, 1798, "to go to Dundalk to attend the election for a Member of Parliament at that Borough."

A letter marked "Private," and addressed on May 19th from General Lake at the Royal Hospital to Lieutenant General Craig shows that the authorities were still apprehensive about Dublin.

When Dublin was Proclaimed.

"General Lake understands," says the writer, "there is a probability that the City of Dublin will be proclaimed this evening, and has desired me to suggest to you the propriety of your taking precautionary measures to prevent the Troops in garrison from committing any excesses in consequence. The General has heard that a Regiment in the neighbourhood of Dublin has, without orders, proceeded to live at free Quarters on the County being proclaimed. This induces him to desire that the Troops in Garrison previous to the proclaiming of the City may fully understand that they are not to molest the inhabitants in any shape without receiving express orders for that purpose from you."

"He therefore wishes you would direct Lord Chas. Fitzroy to assemble the Field Officers of the Corps in Garrison and explain to them his sentiments on this head; and order them to take any necessary precaution by the frequent calling of the Rolls in the Barracks to keep the soldiers in their Quarters at Night and to prevent any insult being wantonly offered to the inhabitants."

Further correspondence in the same month of May relates to encampments for militia and Regular troops in different parts of the country—on the Blackwater, near Mallow, amongst other places.

The Spider and the Fly.

And, on the last day of the month there is this interesting circular letter from Lake to General Officers of Districts:—

"Sir,—In consequence of reports which have been received that several of the Rebels now in Arms are inclined to submit and return to their Allegiance, I have the honour to inform you that you are to consider yourself at full liberty to receive the submission of all such persons who should come in, deliver up their Arms to you and give up their Leaders if in their Power, and, if not in their Power, to give you their Names. Also of such Yeomen who may have joined them or the Names of them."

"You are also to consider yourself at full liberty to give Military Protection to all such persons, taking their names and places of abode, such protection to be in full force so long as such persons shall continue peaceably at their respective dwellings. But you are to understand that the discretionary power which you are authorised to exercise is not in any manner to interfere with such active military operations

as are necessary for the suppression of the present Rebellion, nor are you warranted to enter into any Treaty, or negotiations with any Body of Rebels in Arms; their submission must be voluntary and unconditional, and you are only to receive the submission of such of them as shall comply with the Terms above specified.

"You will at the same time make it to be clearly understood by the people that upon their districts being again the scene of fresh disorders and Rebellion the military protection granted as above will no longer be respected."

"Vigorous and Active Operations."

That is a letter in every respect worthy of its source, but the effect produced must have been rather disappointing, for even should there have been Irishmen disposed to show the white feather, the motto of the City of the Violated Treaty was comparatively fresh in their minds—"Cúimhnig ar Luimneach agus ar fheall na Sasanach."

Just about the same date as this letter we find Lake sending the following peremptory despatch to Lieutenant General Dundas, at Kilcool:—

"Sir,—You are forthwith to commence the most vigorous and active operations with the Troops under your Command against any Body of Rebels in Arms, and you are by no means to suspend your operations against them until they deliver their Arms and their leaders into your hands to be dealt with at discretion."

June of 1798 apparently found General Lake in a state of feverish activity: all his official correspondence practically is signed by his deputy, and nearly every letter contains some such sentence as "Lieutenant General Lake being much hurried," or "Lieutenant General Lake being extremely hurried."

The General had his doubts of the Irishry even when they were quiet. About this period he desired Lieutenant General Sir James Steward to be informed that "It gives the General pleasure to learn that the County in your neighbourhood is so quiet, tho' he is inclined to consider it, as in the other parts of the country, a temporary forbearance in waiting for events," and he approved, therefore, of the noble knight's "measures to guard against an eventual rising."

Anxiety as to what happened at Ross.

Official news of the Battle of New Ross was very late in reaching Dublin, and Lake was impelled to write reproachfully on the 7th June to Major General Johnson, who was in charge of the British forces down there:—

"Sir,—I cannot express my anxiety and astonishment at not having heard from you in so very interesting a moment as the present, not only in consequence of what has happened at Ross, according to the many seemingly authentic reports which have been coming in to this place since about three o'clock yesterday, but in consequence of my having written to you in pressing terms desiring to be informed of your actual situation, strength of the Troops with you, etc., that I might make such arrangements as might appear necessary from your reports. In a situation where so much may depend upon authentic and prompt Intelligence you would have done well to have sent Duplicate Reports, and by water, if you had any doubt of the safety of your Dispatch my land."

"The Reports which have arrived here say that the Rebels attacked Ross on the morning of the 5th inst., that the action lasted the greatest part of the day, and concluded in a total defeat of the Rebels with a loss of 2,800 men. This account is as generally received here from the authority of the Mayor of Waterford, and others of credit here, that my sanguine wishes will not allow me to doubt the truth of it, and I have for the last twenty-four hours looked for your confirmation of it with inexpressible anxiety."

It is to be hoped that he was satisfied with the true facts of the case when they finally came to his knowledge.

(To be Continued).

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

Many correspondents have written enquiring as to the name of a good text book, and whether any advantage is to be gained by the use of text books. To deal with the second question first—if proficiency and, indeed, excellence at the game of Chess is the object aimed at, the use of text books is practically an absolute necessity. Modern Chess has been reduced in the higher stages to an almost exact science. This is shown by the extraordinarily large number of draws which obtain in championship contests, and the pages of analysis in text books by the masters show the reasons for this. It is, however, pointed out that so far as the Army is concerned excellence in the game of Chess is not the objective. The purport of playing a game is to secure a mental training, and to accustom the mind to weighing possibilities, probabilities, etc. If this is done for one the application of the lesson is very largely a matter of memory, and is proportionately less valuable as mental training.

Further, Chess as a mental training for Army Officers, and particularly for junior Officers, should be played fairly quickly, and nothing like the usual five minutes to a move should be indulged in. The reason for this is that Officers must learn to think quickly, to size up a situation rapidly, and decide on their policy. It is quite obvious that an Officer in charge of troops on active service is not going to be permitted a couple of hours to study out all possibilities. It may sometimes happen that a General Staff can afford this time, but a General Staff is not composed of junior Officers. The junior Officer will have to do the tactical manœuvring on the field, and in this connection it would be useful to play games occasionally under different conditions, e.g., speed being the main objective when casualties will not count, the desideratum being to effect mate in the smallest possible number of moves. (2) The converse of this—to effect mate with the smallest number of casualties, and without consideration of the number of moves taken, etc.

There are some matters, however, in which the text book is useful, as no great purpose is to be served by finding out certain matters for one self. These are largely matters of technique, such as mating a Rook and King against a King, or mating with a King and a pawn against a King, or drawing in such a position with the weaker force. One can, of course, find this out for oneself, but it is not a profitable undertaking.

One of the best text books that I have come across is an elementary one written by R. F. Green, and it sells for a shilling or eighteen pence. There are, of course, a number of other text books which cover the ground adequately, and there is a good deal in personal predilection. For the more advanced text books, particularly those dealing with middle game positions, I have not much admiration, from an Army point of view, but from the point of view of one whose object is to become a first class finished Chess player, I do not think I could put any bounds to my admiration for the intelligence and energy which has been devoted to their compilation.

J.P.M.C.

G.H.Q. CHESS CLUB NOTES.

War broke out amongst the Chess-Players of G.H.Q. at the beginning of January, and still rages furiously. Victories and defeats pile on top of each other in swift succession.

The champions who proudly boasted of their valour, and flaunted their standards in open challenge have long ago bitten

the dust, and are now straining every nerve to survive the swarm of doughty opponents who, having determinedly overwhelmed them, promise to leave nothing but a "sad memory" of the "glorious champions."

It is anticipated that the "spirit of battle" will not die with the extermination of the old regime, but will spread and devour all the Command Clubs.

The G.H.Q. Chess Players are prepared for all comers, and invite the Rev. Chaplains to put forward teams to dispute their claim to the supremacy of the Army.

A general meeting was held on Saturday, 2nd inst., when the following matters were decided:—

Annual Subscription	5/-
Entry Fee to each Club Tournament	1/-

Selection of 6 players to represent Club against Board of Public Works team, subject to sanction of the Chief of Staff.

Players selected.—Capt. Cotter, No. 1 Board; Lieut. O'Connor, No. 2 Board; Lieut. Tuke, No. 3 Board; Capt. Mervyn, No. 4 Board; Capt. Nolan, No. 5 Board; Corpl. O'Connor, No. 6 Board.

Reserves.—Comdt. Egan, 1st; Sergt. Myers, 2nd; Capt. Daly, 3rd.

It was decided to postpone decision on the January tournament until 15th of February.

Following is chart of play to date:—

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost
Capt. Cotter	21	18	—	3
Lieut. O'Connor	20	16	—	4
Lieut. Tuke	21	16	—	5
Capt. Mervyn	24	15	3	6
Capt. Nolan	15	12	—	3
Corpl. O'Connor	22	12	—	10
Comdt. Egan	15	11	1	3
Sergt. Myers	22	11	—	11
Capt. Daly	19	10	1	8
Lieut. O'Duffy	13	8	—	5
Sergt. Morrison	16	7	—	9
Col. O'Brien	12	7	—	5
Sergt. Loughrey	17	6	1	10
Colonel O'Connor	13	5	—	8
Comdt. O'Donohoe	9	3	2	4
Capt. Doyle	11	3	1	7
Major General Davitt	9	2	—	7
Comdt. O'Brien	7	2	—	5
Comdt. Cullen	10	1	—	9
Comdt. Guilfoyle	2	1	—	1
Col. Ahern	5	1	1	3
Sergt. Calman	6	1	—	5
Capt. O'Reilly	9		(Not placed)	
Lieut. O'Doherty	2	"	"	
Sergt. McCracken	9	"	"	
Col. Henry	5	"	"	
Sergt. Magee	6	"	"	

No games.—Major General McMahon, Col. Morcan, Comdt. Brennan-Whitmore, Capt. Kelly, Capt. Armstrong, and Sergt. Kearney.

A Specimen Game.

The game given below is one of the finals played by members of the G.H.Q. Club in their January tournament. It is chosen as an admirable example to the learner of how a win, seemingly certain in the middle play, was lost by poor End Game.

Black made a remarkable development of position while on the defence to the guerilla tactics of White, who overdid his sniping of Black's vulnerable points and would have deservedly lost the fight had Black been experienced enough in End Play. As it was, however, White was driven to bay and, by cute End Play, succeeded in just wresting the laurels of victory from his opponent. As a lesson in interpreting moves, an analysis of the match is appended.



WHITE (Lt. J. P. Tuke.)	BLACK (Lt. D. O'Duffy.)
1. P — K4	... P. K4
2. Q + B3	... Q. Knt. B3
3. B. B4	... Knt. K.B.3.
4. Knt. KR3.	... Knt. Q5.
5. Q. QB3.	... P. Q4.
6. B. QKnt. 3.	... P. Q. Knt. 3.
7. B. R4 check	... B. Q2.
8. B. Knt. 3.	... B. B4.
9. P. × P.	... Castles.
10. Q. Q3.	... B. B4.
11. Q. R6.	... B. × P.
12. Knt. B3.	... B. × B.
13. Castles.	... B. × P.
14. P. Q3.	... Knt. Knt. 5.
15. B. Knt. 5.	... P. K.B.3.
16. B. R4	... Q. Q2.
17. QR. K. sq.	... B. Knt. 5.
18. P. B3.	... B. × Knt.
19. P. × B.	... Knt. Q.B.7.
20. R. K2.	... Knt. K.6.
21. R. Knt. sq.	... R. K. sq.
22. B. B2.	... B. × Bp. pawn.
23. R. Q2.	... B. × P.
24. B. × Knt.	... Q. × Knt.
25. Q. B4. ch.	... K. R. sq.
26. R. × Knt.	... P. K5.
27. R. × B.	... Q. × B. ch.
28. K. R. sq.	... Q. K.B.6.
29. R. K. Knt. sq.	... P. × P.
30. Q. Knt. 4	... Q. × Q.
31. R. × Q.	... P. Q7.
32. R. Q4.	... R. K.7.
33. R. Knt. 3.	... R. K. sq.
35. R. Q3.	... R. K.8. ch.
36. K. Knt. 2.	... P. Q.8. (Queen declared)
37. R. × Q.	... R. × R.
38. R. × R.	... P. Knt. 4.
39. R. Q7.	... R. K.7. ch.
40. K. Knt. 3.	... R. K.6. ch.
41. K. Knt. 4.	... R. × P.
42. P. K.R.3.	... P. Knt. 4.
43. K. R.5.	... R. B4.
44. K. R.6.	... R. B.3.
45. R. Q.8. checkmate

ANALYSIS.

1. To bring Queens and Bishops into play quickly.
2. White threatens big attack on Black's K.B. pawn. Black is not perturbed.
3. White develops attack. Black defends best with knt. and at the same time attacks White's centre pawn.
4. White maintains attack on K.B.P. Next move, if all went well, Knt.—Knt.5, followed by B. x P. ch., thus spoiling White's chance of castling on K. side. White repulses him with loss of position. White Q. must flee.
6. White on defensive as Black threatens Knt. x B.P. ch. Knt. x Rook. Move forestalled. Black attempts to smash White's centre by inviting P. x P., Knt. x P., B. x P., Q. x B., leaving Black control of centre
7. Maintaining attack on K.B.P.
8. Black cleverly checks any further immediate attack on K.B.P. and turns the whole position against White, and in a superb middle game totally outclasses White up to the 24th move.
24. A grievous mistake on Black's part. Allowed White to bring Queen into play effectively with a check that gives White leading move again as in 25.

26. White now recovering his morale. From this move onward White displays remarkable foresight, playing intuitively to Black's responses.
30. The culmination of White's clever ruse to exchange Queens. Black has no alternative.
31. Black collapses completely. He should have protected pawn for queening.
35. White, now formidably entrenched, gains breathing space to develop his end game.
40. Black makes panicky and useless check which enables White to bring his King up eventually to Rook 6.
42. A risky bluff on White's part. Had Black ignored it and moved R—K. 2 or K.—Knt. 2.
44. Black, blind to impending danger, makes the fatal move and White victoriously brings Rook to Q. 8 and
45. The battle is lost and won.

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE EXAMINATION.

Twenty-five Vacancies for Army Candidates.

Elsewhere in our columns appears a notice of an examination for 50 places in the Customs and Excise, 25 of which are reserved for Army candidates. The examination, as will be seen, is of a high standard, but the position is an attractive one, the commencing salary being £208, including Bonus.

Any candidate who has served in the Army for a period of nine months since 1st June, 1922, will be eligible if he is between the ages of 19 and 35 on 1st March, 1924.

In each of the compulsory subjects no marks will be counted except the excess obtained over 40 per cent. The standard in these subjects will be much lower than in the remainder of the examination.

In the optional portion of the examination 300 marks are assigned to Irish, Mathematics, Chemistry and Latin, and 200 marks to each of the other subjects. To qualify in this section a total of 400 marks must be secured.

Forms of application may be obtained on payment of a fee of two pounds at the following Post Offices:—College Green, Dublin; Curragh Camp, Cork, Galway, Limerick and Waterford.

They may also be obtained at other Post Offices on a few days' notice being given. Applications must reach the Civil Service Commission not later than 23rd February, 1924.

To any man who is about to leave the Army and who has passed through the Intermediate, this examination should be an attractive proposition, especially as the chance of limited competition now offered may not occur again.

AGE LIMITS FOR N.A. CANDIDATES.

ALFRID O BROIN, in Dail Eireann on the 23rd January, asked the Minister for Finance if he will state whether, in the proposed examination to be held early this year for the Officers of Customs and Excise, special facilities will be granted to demobilised and serving officers and men of the National Army; whether the age limit will be extended to 35 in that examination, and, if not, whether he is aware that the age limit, which it is stated is about to be fixed, will disqualify many men who rendered valuable service to the State within the past few years.

MINISTER for FINANCE (Mr. E. Blythe): The previous examination for the Customs and Excise service to which the Deputy refers, was confined to officers and men of the Army, and fifty posts were given as a result of that examination to Army candidates.

The forthcoming examination is an open competition for candidates between the ages of 19 and 22. Candidates who have served in the National Army will, however, be given special privileges at this examination. Twenty-five posts will be reserved for Army candidates who reach a qualifying standard in the examination, and I propose to recommend to the Civil Service Commissioners an extension of the age limit to 35 in the case of Army men entering for this particular examination. It must, however, be understood that in view of the disadvantages of admitting men to the Civil Service up to the age of 35, I cannot undertake to recommend a similar extension of the age limit in the case of any future examinations.

IRELAND'S ANCIENT BATTLEFIELDS.

North Moytura—The De Danann's Victory over the Fomorians—An Irish Æsculapius—Artificial Hand for Irish Chief—First Irish Army Medical Service.

The second Battle of Moytura was fought between the De Danaans and the Fomorians, a race of piratical freebooters, who are said to have swarmed in the neighbourhood of the German Ocean, and to have ruled the Shetland Islands and the Hebrides. This Moytura is situated in the Co. Sligo, and is about 50 miles distance from the Mayo Moytura, where the Firbolg dynasty was overthrown. It is referred to in the annals as North Moytura, or Moytura of the Fomorians.

This savage race of sea robbers was a perpetual menace to the inhabitants of Northern and Western Europe. They had at various periods descended on the inhabitants of Ireland, plundering and devastating all before them.

Early Emigrants.

The Nemedians, an early pre-historic colony, are recorded as being in continual conflict with these Fomorians, and in a fierce and bloody encounter that took place between them at Conang's Tower, at Tory Island, the contending forces all but exterminated each other. The remnant of the Nemedians decided on abandoning the country and seeking the hospitality of shores less exposed to the depredations of this fierce and savage race. Bardic tradition traces the succeeding colonies of both Firbolgs and the Tuatha De Danann to the descendants of the grandsons of Neimheadh, who emigrated with their respective followers, proceeding in different directions.

In the first Battle of Moytura, it will be remembered that Nuadh, leader of the Tuatha de Danann, lost one of his hands, which was cut off by a blow of Sreang's sword. As, according to ancient laws, no king who suffered from either mental or bodily infirmity could retain the kingship, Nuadh was obliged to abdicate for a time and the Champion, Breas, was appointed to the Regency. The celebrated surgeon, Diancecht, undertook to restore a perfect substitute for the lost arm. Cerdne, the chief worker in metals, was instructed to furnish an arm of silver, perfect in every detail. When Ceirdne had accomplished this task, the surgeon operated on the king and contrived to make the silver hand perform all the functions of the natural arm.

Regency Reluctantly Relinquished.

Nuadh, being now again eligible for his rightful office, Breas was obliged to relinquish the Regency and did so very reluctantly. He had, during his seven years of office, become very unpopular with the people, whom he had subjected to many cruel injustices, and who were long clamouring for his removal.

Breas, on his part, seemed to think that his removal had been contrived by his enemies, and considered himself very badly treated. He was, on his father's side, a Fomorian, and when he was obliged to relinquish the Regency, he withdrew to the Fomorian Court and sought their assistance in again placing him in the Kingship of Ireland.

The Fomorian Chiefs were impressed by his plans and ultimately yielded to his importunities. A powerful fleet under the command of Balor of the Evil Eye was placed at his disposal. The invading fleets of the Fomorians are described in the annals as forming an unbroken bridge of ships and boats

extending from the Hebrides to the north-west coast of Ireland, where a landing was effected.

The battle that ensued was a fierce and bloody one. Nuadh and the principal chiefs of the Tuatha were slain, as was also Balor and many of his chiefs. The Fomorians were utterly routed, and their defeat must have been complete, as no further mention of their incursions is recorded in the annals.

The tract wherein the particulars of this battle are recorded is in many ways interesting. The details of the mobilising of the De Danann forces by the Daghdha and Lugh of the Long Hand are minutely set forth. Representatives of the smiths, carpenters, metal workers, surgeons and druids are assembled in a Council, and Lugh questions each as to the exact nature of the service these different sections of the Nation were in a position to render.

The First Army Medical Service.

There is also an account of the Army Medical Service organised by Diancecht, which rendered invaluable service in the fight. Healing baths made from medicinal herbs were contrived wherein the wounded heroes were treated for their wounds.

Nor is the tract without its interest even from the view point of such writers as trace all the principal Tuatha de Danann characters to an early Celtic mythology, for most of the characters appear in the story of the fight. We have the Daghdha Mor, or Great God, a kind of Gaelic Jupiter; Diancecht, the Irish Æsculapius, Oghma, whom some writers identify as the Gaulish God, Ogmios, and whom Lucian equates with Hermes and Hercules; Lugh the Long-handed is the Irish Apollo, while the Sea God, Manann, is a kind of Gaelic Neptune.

The supporters of the mythological origin of the Tuatha argue that the euphemising tendencies of the early Irish had given to the ancient gods a real human existence. O'Donovan, owing to the extent to which our topographical nomenclature was connected with them, and the many existing Tumuli ascribed to them, believed the Tuatha to be a real race of men, and speaking of these ancient relics, remarks:—"These monuments are of the most remote antiquity and prove the Tuatha de Danann were a real people though their history is so wrapped up in fable and obscurity."

Enniskillen from earliest times is derived from Ceithlinn, the wife of Balor, who is said to have slain the Daghdha. Oghma is reputed from earliest tradition to have been the inventor of the ancient system of writing, which still bears his name. The Isle of Man still speaks the name of Manann. Lugh of the Long Hand is immortalised in the Irish name for the month of August, Lughnasa, i.e., Lugh's games. These games, said to be instituted by Lugh, were held in honour of his foster mother, Táilte, who was wife of the King Eochaid slain in the first battle of Moytura. The place where the Aonach was held became known as Tailteann and the period of the year was Lughnasa. For thousands of years our pagan ancestors celebrated the festival in honour of Táilte during the early days of August.

ARMY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

Notes and Comments—"Flu" Postpones Football Contest—Cross-Country Running—The Tailteann and Olympic Games—Tancy Lee's Opinion of the Army Boxers—Limerick Command Meeting.

The Football Contest, Dublin All-Ireland Champions v. The Army, listed for January 27th, was unavoidably postponed, owing to the majority of the Army team being down with the Flu.

The players are now quite well again; training is in full swing at the Curragh under Sergt. Major Joyce Conlan, the famous Kildare player.

* * * *

An Army team played a friendly with the Kildare County team at St. Thomas's College Grounds, Droichead Nua on Sunday last. The game was witnessed by a large crowd. The Army team defeated the All Whites, the final scores being:—The Army, 5 points; Kildare, 4 points.

The Army team showed very good form, and, with the inclusion of O'Doherty, Murphy, Branagan, Kelly and Curtis, will certainly give the All-Ireland Champions a great game. It is possible the match will be re-fixed for Croke Park on the 25th inst.

* * * *

The Hurling Final, Cork v. Limerick, will be played at Cork Athletic Ground on Sunday next, February 10th. The game is timed to commence at three o'clock sharp. Col. Cronin is referee. Many Dublin enthusiasts will be disappointed to learn of the fixture going South. No grounds being available in Dublin, the Executive Council had no option but to fix the match for the South. Limerick certainly is a sporting Command. On learning that the only grounds available for the match were the Cork Athletic Grounds, they immediately agreed to the fixture at Cork.

* * * *

Cross-country running is being taken up with great spirit in the Army. The Curragh Command team is competing in the Junior Championship at Phoenix Park on the 23rd inst. This team may create a surprise. Sergt. Major Holohan, Claremorris Command, at present attending the P.T. Classes at the Curragh, has thrown in his lot with the Command team. We are anxious to see Holohan in action. Many of the old-timers think Holohan is the real thing. Tom Hynes, the famous Galway runner, believes Holohan is the best middle distance runner at present performing in the country. Let us hope he runs up to form on the 23rd.

* * * *

The Irish Olympic Council Selection Committee (whoever they are) intend to be present taking stock of the runners with a view to the selection of an Irish Cross-Country Team for the Olympic Games.

An Irish team, we learn, is at present in training under Supt. Carey at the Gymnasium, Kevin Street.

* * * *

We wonder if the Selection Committee has ever heard of Capt. Farrell, the Waterford Command and All-Army quarter mile champion. Farrell, untrained, made the very good time of 51 2-5 at the Army Sports in August last. He is years younger than some members of the Irish team now in training. Yet we haven't heard of any invitation being offered to prepare for the Tailteann or Olympic Games.

* * * *

We are glad to learn that our request in the last issue addressed to the Dublin Command Council has been noted.

* * * *

Col. McNeill and his men were out for the first cross-country spin on Saturday last. Another meet is arranged for this week-end.

* * * *

Boxing is booming in the Army at present. The following Tourneys have been arranged:—

At Cork, February the 23rd, in the Gymnasium, Micheal Barracks, Cork Command Championships.—It is predicted some championships may change hands here. If so, Cork is a Command which will be heard of very much in the next All-Army Championships.

At Portobello, on March 5th.—The Curragh and Cork meet at all weights. This is sure to be a great Tourney. The Army boxers have invited the Scottish Champions to battle in Dublin. The invitation has been accepted, and the Tourney will be staged in Dublin in the near future.

Dublin Command intend holding their Boxing Championships at Collins Barracks before the end of the month.

* * * *

We were informed unofficially last week that our Olympic Council had decided that it was not possible to send an Irish team to Paris for the Olympic Games. The Council consider the Irish Amateur Boxers are not up to the standard.

The Olympic Council may be, for all we know, quite capable of passing judgment on certain athletes. We prefer to accept for guidance in boxing the advice of Tancy Lee. This is Lee's opinion of the Irish Amateur Boxers:—

"I have at present under me at the Army Boxing School boys whom I am quite confident will, within three months, more than hold their own with any amateurs I know."

Lee knows many amateurs, having trained all the present-day Scottish Amateur Champions. He also trained Alex Ireland when he won the world's Amateur Championship. So Lee ought to know something of our boxers' chances.

Guard O'Brien recently challenged the Army at 11st. 6lbs. Murphy of Cork accepted the challenge. We tried to arrange the bout for the 27th February, but O'Brien failed to answer the call. We have again written O'Brien, and will have more to say about the challenge in the next issue.

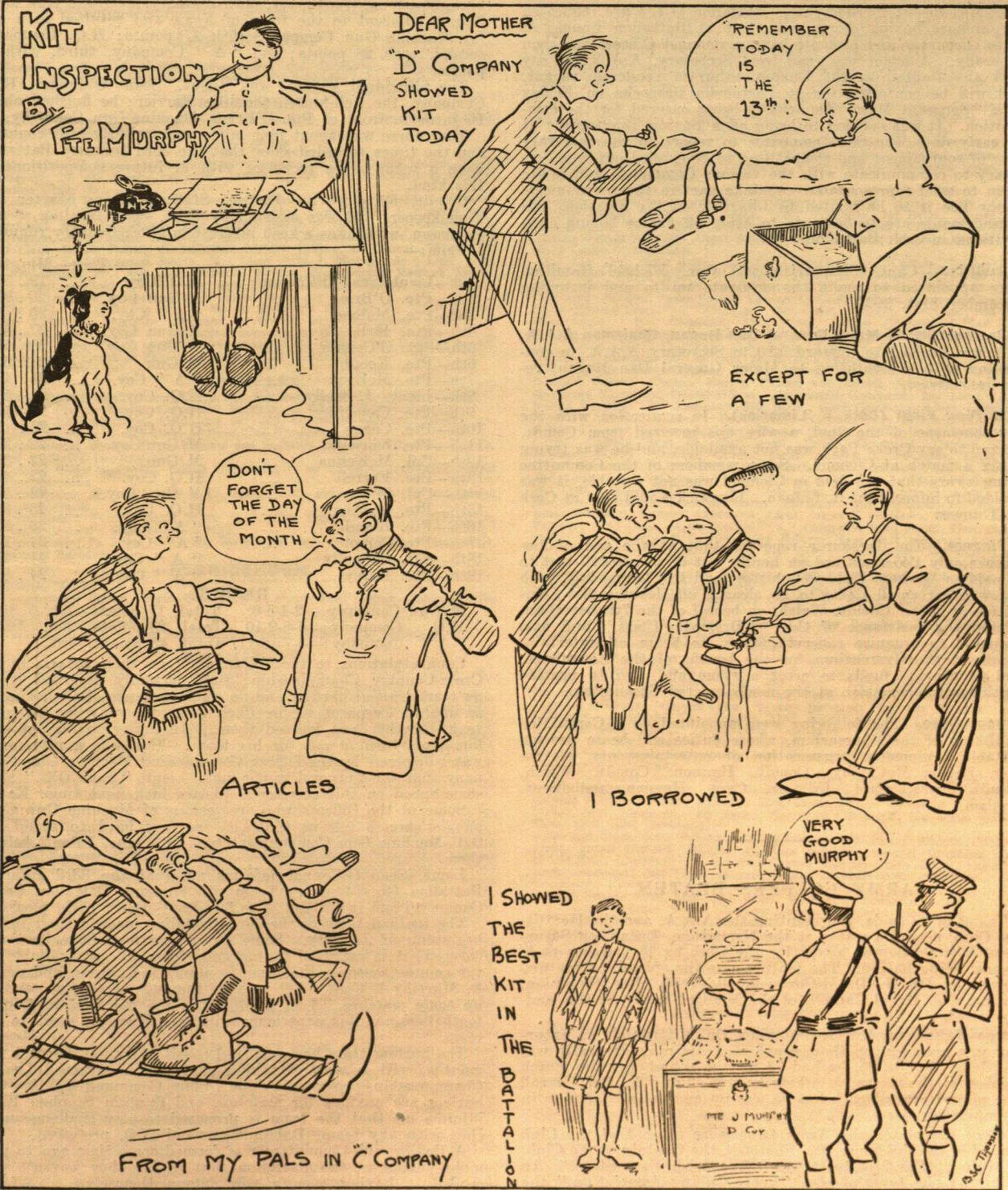
LIMERICK COMMAND.

A meeting of the Limerick Command A.A.A. was held at Command Headquarters, January 25th, Rev. Father McCarthy in the chair. There were also present:—Col. T. McGrath, Secretary; Lieut. Crean, Treasurer; Comdt. James Hannon and Capt. J. Gilleece, 31st Battn.; Comdt. Liam Walsh, 7th Battn.; Capt. Sean Lynch, 11th Battn.; Lieut. Chris. Ryan, 39th Battn.; Capt. Fitzpatrick, Comdt. Joyce and Sergt-Major Bowles, Boxing Sub-Committee.

Trophies.—The Secretary reported that two sets of gold medals had been handed over to the 11th Battalion, winners of the Command Hurling and Football Championships. One of the sets had been presented by Major-General Brennan.

Cross-Country Championship.—A general discussion took place in connection with Cross-Country Championships, when it was explained by the Secretary that efforts to train athletes were being nullified by the fact of so many men being demobilised at the present time. On the suggestion of Comdt. Walsh, it was agreed that all Battalion O/C's be communicated with and requested to purchase out of Battalion funds half a dozen sets of jerseys, knickers and running shoes for the purpose of encouraging athletes, and every possible facility should be given to those who take an interest in athletics. It was also decided that a half holiday be given to the troops every week for athletics. On the half holiday all men less those actually on duty will be required to take part in some games, such as football, hurling, handball, boxing, weight-throwing, jumping, sprinting, cross-country work, etc., men who will not take part in those or some such contests to be confined to barracks, or put on a route march. Those games can be made part of the general training of the Troops. It was also suggested that part of the half holiday on Saturday might be devoted to athletics.

Boxing.—Comdt. Joyce, on behalf of the Boxing Sub-Committee, gave a report of the progress made with regard to training, etc. Six boxers are at present in training at New



KIT INSPECTION
By **P. MURPHY**

DEAR MOTHER
"D" COMPANY
SHOWED
KIT
TODAY

REMEMBER
TODAY
IS
THE
13th!

DON'T
FORGET
THE DAY
OF THE
MONTH

ARTICLES

I BORROWED

VERY
GOOD
MURPHY!

I SHOWED
THE
BEST
KIT
IN
THE
BATTALION

FROM MY PALS IN "C" COMPANY

PTE J MURPHY
D Coy

P.M. Murphy

Barracks. All Command Secretaries were communicated with in connection with a proposed tournament at Limerick. Only Secretary, Curragh, replied asking for information as to what was meant by amateurs. Battalion O/C's are requested to purchase boxing gloves, etc., out of Battalion Funds, so as to encourage and promote boxing amongst Officers and men generally. A letter was read from Secretary, A.A.A., to say that the Bantam-weight Championship is rendered vacant, and will be contested for at Portobello Barracks on Friday 27th. Sergeant Major Kennelly is being entered for the competition. It was decided to bring off a Boxing Tournament at an early date, the Sub-Committee to report to the Secretary date of tournament and competition to be carried out, the Secretary to communicate with the various Commands and invite them to send representatives to take part in the tournament. Tancy Lee is to be invited to Limerick on the occasion, and arrangements are to be made to bring off novice boxing competitions in each Battalion.

Auditors.—Capt. Fitzpatrick and Rev. Michael Hamilton were appointed to audit the accounts up to and including December 31st, 1923.

Presentation to Major General Dan Hogan, Chairman A.A.A.—It was decided to forward £10 to Secretary A.A.A. in connection with presentation to Major General Dan Hogan, recently married.

Hurling Final (Cork v. Limerick).—In connection with the postponement of the final, a wire was received from Comdt. Colgan to say Croke Park was not available, and he was trying to fix a match at Clonmel. Some members of the Committee being aware that the field in Clonmel was not suitable, it was decided to inform Comdt. Colgan. Limerick would play at Cork or Thurles.

Finance.—The Treasurer reported that at the end of December only £45 remained on hands, out of which £29 had to be paid to Markets Field Committee, and £18 for medals, with a few other small items to be cleared off, leaving the Committee in debt. Comdt. Walsh, on behalf of the 7th Battalion, offered the assistance of their "Dramatic Class," and also proposed to organise concert parties, to bring off entertainments at the Gymnasium for the benefit of the Committee, and to provide funds to erect a stage and also to provide seating accommodation at the newly-erected Gymnasium.

Committee.—The following were appointed on a Committee in charge of the Gymnasium, whose duties will be to provide suitable equipment, organisation of entertainments, etc.:—Rev. Father McCarthy, Comdt. Hannon, Comdt. Walsh, Comdt. Joyce, Capt. Gillece, Capt. Hession, and Lieut. English.

ARMY GOLFERS BEATEN.

Teams of 30 aside, representing the A.A.A. and the Hermitage Club, played a match at the Hermitage, Lucan, on Saturday. The result was a win for the Club by 18 matches to 5, several being halved. The feature was the splendid form displayed by Dr. J. D. M'Cormick, the Irish close champion, against Col. Donal Carroll, of the Medical Dept., in the leading match.

One of the longest drivers playing, Dr. M'Cormick, on Saturday was even longer than usual, and his play generally was faultless. Out in 35, he had 73 for the round, but the match finished at the sixteenth, where he won, 3 and 2. Col. Carroll also played capital golf, but he was up against a champion in championship form.

After the match the Army team were present at the Club dinner in the clubhouse, Dr. Sherlock, the Captain of the Club, presiding. The first toast was "The Irish Free State." In proposing the toast of the "Army Golfing Association," the Chairman congratulated the Army on taking up an international game like golf, and expressed the hope that in the near future they would have the Army participating in other international games.

JOTTINGS FROM NAAS.

The Cross-country Championship of the Battalion was brought off on Wednesday, 30th January, over the New Race Course adjacent to the town of Naas, and resulted in a win for Machine Gun Company, with 17 points; H.Q. Company, second, with 28 points; and "A" Company, third, with 43 points.

The individual winner was Lieut. Sean O'Connor, H.Q. Company, the well-known Clonliffe Harrier; he finished about 10 yards in front of Pte. O'Brien, Machine Gun Company.

The course was about four miles over a fairly stiff country, and the times recorded show that the 33rd Infantry Battalion have a team to be reckoned with in future competitions of this kind.

Comdt. Felix Devlin, District Staff, acted as Starter and Time-keeper, and was assisted by Capt. Sean Dowling, "A" Company, who takes a keen interest in Cross-Country running. Details:—

		Time—Min. Sec.
1st—Lieut. Sean O'Connor	H.Q. Coy.	19.55
2nd—Pte. O'Brien	M/Gun Coy.	20.00
3rd—Pte. Malone	"A" Coy.	20.5
4th—Pte. Hall	M/Gun Coy.	20.35
5th—Sgt. O'Connor	M/Gun Coy.	20.50
6th—Pte. Keogh	M/Gun	21.30
7th—Pte. McEvoy	"A" Coy.	21.45
8th—Lieut. J. Kelly	H.Q. Coy.	21.50
9th—Pte. Carpenter	H.Q. Coy.	21.52
10th—Pte. Carey	H.Q. Coy.	22.5
11th—Pte. Kinsella	M/Gun Coy.	22.20
12th—Cpl. McKenna	M/Gun	22.35
13th—Pte. Farrell	H.Q. Coy.	22.40
14th—Cpl. Fitzharris	M/Gun Coy.	22.50
15th—Pte. McGarr	H.Q. Coy.	23.30
16th—Pte. Keogh	"A" Coy.	23.55
17th—Pte. Carroll	"A" Coy.	24.17
18th—Sgt. Connolly	"A" Coy.	24.45
19th—Pte. Carey	"A" Coy.	24.55

RESULT.

M/Gun Company:—2-4-5-6. Total, 17 points—1st.
H.Q. Company:—1-8-9-10. Total, 28 points—2nd.
"A" Company:—3-7-16-17. Total, 43 points—3rd.

Congratulations to the "Gunners" on their success in the Cross-Country Championship; they certainly deserved it, as no team trained harder, and no small measure of their success is due to Corporal Kevin Phelan for the way he kept the team together and trained them. An injury to his leg kept him from turning out for his team. This was a pity, as it was whispered by the Officer Commanding Machine Gun Company that the Corporal would make Lieut. "Sean O'C." show some speed on this occasion. Better luck next time, Kevin.

Some of the Officers who are jealous of Machine Gun Company's success tell us that it is very hard to stand the O/C Machine Gun Company lately. Of course, I don't believe them.

Lieut. Sean O'Connor informs me that the 33rd Infantry Battalion Cross-Country Team will run any Battalion Cross-Country Team in Ireland, 4 to 6 miles. Don't rush, please.

The football team of the 33rd Battalion made a start in the beginning of January. Some likely new men have been discovered; it is expected that a good team will be available for the coming season. Pte. Tom Goulding is Captain, and Sergt. P. Murrily V/Capt. Let us hope they get a move on, and fix up some matches. Tom Goulding is the old Kildare County footballer, and his experience will be a valuable asset to the team.

The hurling team has practised consistently for the past two months, with a view of taking part in the proposed League Championship, promoted by the Dublin Command A.A.A. Our hurlers are anxious for matches, and Captain Stephen Kelly informs me that the team is prepared to play challenge matches with any team, Dublin Command H.Q. preferred.

A Boxing Sub-Committee was formed some time ago to promote boxing in the Battalion, but so far they haven't succeeded in having even a row among themselves. What's wrong, Sergeant Major?

There is not an atom of truth in the rumour that the O/C Machine Gun Company has to put his cap on with a shoe-horn.

OFFICIAL NEWS.

Appointment, Resignations and Discharges.

General Staff—Staff Duties—Appointments and Discharges Memo. No. 9, issued under date of January 26th, contains the following:—

APPOINTMENT.

Adjutant-General's Department.—Charles Godfrey to be 1st Lieut., Medical Officer, St. Bricin's Hospital.

DELETIONS.

The following Appointments which have appeared in Staff Duties Memo. No. 7, paragraph 20, are hereby cancelled, having already been published in General Routine Order 30:—

Lieut. John Bonham, Army Corps of Engineers; Captain Patrick J. O'Brien Malone, do.; Commandant William Downes, do.; Captain John J. Noonan, do.; 2nd Lieut. Michael McManus, do.; Captain Joseph F. Gantly, do.; Captain John Garraghan, do.; Captain Edward O'Reilly, do.; Commandant Tim Hannon, do.; 2nd Lieut. Morris Dalton, do.; Captain Andrew Killeen, do.; Lieut. Thomas St. John, do.; Captain James Smyth, do.; Lieut. John J. Murphy, do.; Lieut. John F. Prendergast, do.; 2nd Lieut. John G. Keegan, do.; Captain Matthew Kenny, do.; Lieut. Michael Higgins, do.; 2nd Lieut. James J. Heaney, do.; Captain James Wynne, do.; Captain Joseph Doyle, do.

The following appear in S.D.M. No. 6, paragraph 18:—Captain Henry Kenny, Army Corps of Engineers, appeared in G.R.O. 30; Commandant Michael A. O'Connor, Army Corps of Engineers, appeared in G.R.O. 30; Captain John J. Coleman, Army Corps of Engineers, appeared in G.R.O. 19; Captain Patrick Colman, Army Corps of Engineers, appeared in G.R.O. 25.

TRANSFERS.

Major General Sean Quinn, Corps and Services, to Kildare Military College. Colonel Francis Martin, Corps and Services, to Kildare Military College. Captain John Chisholm, Corps and Services, to Kildare Military College. Above transfers to take effect as from 17th November, 1923.

Commandant Thomas Ryan, Reports and Statistics Branch, to Training Branch, Chief of Staff's Department.

Colonel Roger McCorley, Dublin Command, to be Camp Commandant, Island Bridge Barracks.

Commandant Michael Joseph McCormack, S.I.C., to be Camp Adjutant, Island Bridge Barracks.

Commandant Patrick Denis Scott, O/C. 10th Battalion, Cork Command, to Adjutant General's Department, G.H.Q.

Commandant P. Ryan, O/C. Air Service Infantry, to be Camp Commandant, Baldonnel Aerodrome.

CORRIGENDUM.

S.D.M. No. 8. Commandant Robert Halpin, Staff G.H.Q., should read Captain Robert Halpin, Staff, G.H.Q.

G.R.O. 24, paragraph 94. Captain James McGuinne should read Captain Michael Leo McGuinne.

DISCHARGES.

The following Officers are demobilised as from 31st January, 1924. An asterisk (*) before the name denotes that the Officer has resigned:—

B.—Lieut. Peter Bishop, Military Customs Brigade; Lieut. Michael Francis Boyle, do.; Lieut. Thomas Bradley, do.; *2nd Lieut. Denis Branney, Army Corps of Engineers; Lieut. Patrick Brennan, Military Customs Brigade; Captain John M. Brophill, Department of Adjutant General; Lieut. James Butler, Military Customs Brigade; 2nd Lieut. Edward Joseph Byrne, "C" Company, 6th Battn., Kerry Command; *2nd Lieut. Joseph Patrick Byrne, Army Corps of Engineers; 2nd Lieut. John Byrne, Q.M., Military Hospital, Curragh; Lieut. Joseph Patrick Byrne, M.G. Company, 17th Battn., Curragh; 2nd Lieut. William Byrne, "A" Company, 15th Battn., Cork Command.

C.—2nd Lieut. Leo Capper, Department of General Staff; Lieut. John Carmody, Tintown "B," Curragh Camp; Captain Terence Casey, Tintown, Curragh Camp; 2nd Lieut. Thomas Claffey, "B" Company, 11th Battn., Limerick Command; Captain Thomas Clarke, Q.M., 59th Battn., Cork Command; 2nd Lieut. James Colery, Assistant O.M., 20th Battn., Dublin Command; *2nd Lieut. Patrick Collins, Assistant O.M., 28th Battn., Limerick Command; *Lieut. Edward Connolly, "C" Company, 64th Battn., Waterford Command; 2nd Lieut. James Coppinger, "B" Company, 30th Battn., Cork Command; Lieut. John Curley, Hare Park Internment Camp, Curragh Command. *Lieut. Thomas Corr, M.G. Company, 8th Battn., Dublin Command; *Lieut. Patrick Cott, Staff, 42nd Battn., Cork Command; *Lieut. Patrick Cotter, "A" Company, 64th Battn., Waterford Command; *2nd Lieut. William Cotter, M.G. Company, 42nd Battn., Cork Command; 2nd Lieut. John Joseph Coughlan, Staff, Athlone Command; Lieut. Martin James Coyle, "C" Company, 62nd Battn., Curragh Command; 2nd Lieut. Thomas Coyle, Assistant Adjutant, 45th Battn., Dublin Command; 2nd Lieut. Nicholas Crilly, "A" Company, 6th Battn., Kerry Command; Lieut. Thomas Crowley, Military Customs Brigade; 2nd Lieut. Myles Cullen, "C" Company, 50th Battn., Dublin Command; 2nd Lieut. James Cullinane, "B" Company, 62nd Battn., Curragh Command; Lieut. William P. Cullinane, Military Customs Brigade.

D.—Lieut. James Daly, D.A.P.M., Dublin Command; *2nd Lieut. Anthony Deane, "A" Company, 26th Battn., Claremorris Command; Comdt. James Dempsey, O.T.C., Curragh Camp; Lieut. Michael Denning, Military Customs Brigade; Lieut. Louis Devine, do.; 2nd Lieut. James G. Dorgan, Assistant Adjutant, 10th Battn., Cork Command; Captain Joseph Duffy, Q.M., Gormanston Camp; *Captain Denis Duggan, Army Corps of Engineers; Captain Patrick Dunphy, Military Customs Brigade.

E.—Lieut. John Egan, M.G. Company, 42nd Battn., Cork Command; *Lieut. Frederick Elton, Army Signals Corps; 2nd Lieut. Michael English, P.O., 7th Battn., Limerick Command.

F.—*Captain Patrick John Farrell, Assistant Adjutant, Curragh Command; Lieut. T. V. Fitzpatrick, M.O., 42nd Battn., Cork Command; *Lieut. John Flavin, Claremorris Command; Lieut. Bartholomew Fogarty, Assistant Adjutant, 9th Battn., Kerry Command; *Captain William Foley, "A" Company, 9th Battn., Kerry Command; *Captain Patrick Fullam, O.M., 32nd Battn., Cork Command.

G.—Lieut. Edward Gallagher, "C" Company, 46th Battn., Donegal Com-

mand; Lieut. J. W. Garry, M.O., 12th Battn., Limerick Command; Lieut. Henry Gaylor, Military Customs Brigade; Captain John Gibbons, M.G. Company, 5th Battn., Athlone Command; 2nd Lieut. Joseph Gilling, O.T.C., Curragh Camp; *Captain J. P. Gleeson, Q.M., 64th Battn., Waterford Command; 2nd Lieut. Laurence J. Gilmartin, Army Corps of Engineers; *Captain Sean Golden, Special Infantry Corps; Lieut. Sean Guiney, Staff, 17th Battn., Curragh Command.

H.—2nd Lieut. Michael Harrington, Claremorris Command; Captain Bartholomew Harte, Tintown, Curragh Camp; Captain Albert A. Healy, Adjutant, 59th Battn., Cork Command; Colonel Michael Joseph Heaslip, D.A.A.G., Waterford Command; Captain William Patrick Hennessy, Adjutant, O.T.C., Curragh Camp; Lieut. Edmund Hogan, R.T.O., Limerick Command; *Comdt. James Holohan, Waterford Command; Captain Patrick Horgan, Tintown "A," Curragh Camp; *Lieut. Patrick Horgan, Military Customs Brigade; Captain Sean Houston, Department of General Staff; Lieut. Patrick Joseph Hughes, Tintown "A," Curragh Camp; Lieut. Seumas Hussey, Armoured Car Corps.

I.—*Lieut. Robert Jackson, "B" Company, 30th Battn., Cork Command; Lieut. Philip Patrick Jacob, Military Customs Brigade; *Lieut. Nicholas Jordan, M.G. Company, 5th Battn., Athlone Command; Lieut. Edward Alphonsus Joyce, Legal Staff, Waterford Command.

K.—Lieut. Joseph Kavanagh, Military Customs Brigade; *Lieut. Thomas Kavanagh, Department of Adjutant General; V/Brig. Martin Kealy, O.T.C., Curragh Camp; Lieut. John Keane, "B" Company, 1st Battn., Dublin Command; Lieut. Daniel John Kelleher, Staff, 39th Battn., Limerick Command; Captain Patrick J. Kelly, Legal Staff, Athlone Command; Captain Michael Kieley, Army Corps of Engineers.

L.—2nd Lieut. John Lacey, O.T.C., Curragh Camp; Captain Thomas Lavin, Q.M., 42nd Battn., Athlone Command; Lieut. V. Lawless, M.O., 20th Battn., Dublin Command; Captain Francis Lawlor, "A" Company, 15th Battn., Cork Command; *Comdt. Peter Francis Lawlor, O/C. 62nd Battn., Curragh Command; Lieut. Edward Leen, "A" Company, 29th Battn., Curragh Command; 2nd Lieut. John Logie, "B" Company, 33rd Battn., Dublin Command; *2nd Lieut. William Louth, Assistant Adjutant, 17th Battn., Curragh Command; Captain John Lynch, M.G. Company, 11th Battn., Limerick Command; Lieut. Bridgid Lyons, i/c Statistics and Records, St. Bricin's Hospital.

M.—Captain James Mallon, Q.M., Stewart Barracks, Curragh Command; *Comdt. General Thomas Morris, Coastal and Marine Services; Lieut. J. P. Morrissey, Command Dental Officer, Claremorris Command; 2nd Lieut. Charles Murphy, Adjutant General's Department; *Captain John Murphy, 2nd i/c 7th Battn., Limerick Command; Lieut. Thomas Murphy, Q.M., North Dublin Unit.

MAC.—Captain Sean W. MacConnell, Dublin Command; Captain Thomas McAteer, O.T.C., Curragh Camp; Lieut. Andrew J. McCarthy, Legal Staff, Dublin Command; *Lieut. Daniel T. McCarthy, M.O., Military Hospital, Curragh; 2nd Lieut. John McCarthy, "A" Company, 36th Battn., Waterford Command; 2nd Lieut. Charles MacConnell, M.O., 6th Battn., Kerry Command; Lieut. Francis McCourt, Mechanical Transport Corps; 2nd Lieut. John McElhinney, "B" Company, 3rd Battn., Donegal Command; Lieut. James K. McGarry, Military Customs Brigade; *2nd Lieut. Myles McGee, "A" Company, 62nd Battn., Curragh Command; Lieut. Bertie McGetrick, Line Officer, Hare Park, Curragh Command; *Captain Conway McGinn, Adjutant, 61st Battn., Claremorris Command; Captain Thomas McGivney, Claims Officer, Donegal Command; *Lieut. Matthew McGranahan, Army Corps of Engineers; *2nd Lieut. Thomas McLoughlin, "A" Company, 34th Battn., Claremorris Command; Lieut. F. J. McLoughlin, M.O., Carlow District, Dublin Command; Captain H. Russell McNabb, M.O., North Dublin Unit.

N.—Lieut. Bernard Neilan, Military Customs Brigade; 2nd Lieut. Terence Nugent, Department of Adjutant General.

O.—Lieut. Patrick O'Brien, Military Customs Brigade; Comdt. Walter J. O'Brien, Q.M., Carlow District, Dublin Command; Captain John O'Callaghan, Military Customs Brigade; Lieut. Joseph O'Connor, O.T.C., Curragh Camp; Captain Michael O'Connor, Q.M., 9th Battn., Kerry Command; 2nd Lieut. Patrick O'Donnell, "C" Company, 3rd Battn., Donegal Command; *Captain Francis O'Grady, Coastal and Marine Services; Captain Thomas Joseph O'Hanlon, Armoured Car Corps; *2nd Lieut. Michael O'Malley, Assistant Adjutant, 26th Battn., Claremorris Command; *Lieut. Michael O'Riordan, Military Customs Brigade; 2nd Lieut. John Joseph O'Sullivan, "A" Company, 51st Battn., Athlone Command; Lieut. Thomas P. O'Toole, P.O., 4th Battn., Claremorris Command.

P.—*2nd Lieut. Robert Joseph Page, Assistant Adjutant, 63rd Battn., Waterford Command; Captain John Penrose, Supplies Officer, Cork Command; Captain William Penrose, Adjutant, 22nd Battn., Athlone Command; Captain John Power, M.G. Company, 14th Battn., Waterford Command; 2nd Lieut. Cornelius Pyne, Staff, Cork Command.

R.—2nd Lieut. John Rafferty, M.G. Company, 5th Battn., Athlone Command; Lieut. James Rickard, Military Customs Brigade; Colonel Cornelius Roche, D.A.G.M.G., Claremorris Command; Captain Maurice Leahy Roche, Legal Staff, Cork Command; 2nd Lieut. Michael Ronan, Assistant O.M., 8th Battn., Dublin Command; Captain William Ryan, Brigade Exchange, Curragh Camp; *Lieut. William Francis Ryan, Staff, 47th Battn., Waterford Command.

S.—Lieut. Thomas Smyth, Military Customs Brigade; Lieut. John C. Swan, P.O., 22nd Battn., Athlone Command; 2nd Lieut. Bernard J. Sweeney, M.G. Company, 35th Battn., Donegal Command.

T.—Lieut. William Tobin, "C" Company, 25th Battn., Waterford Command; Lieut. Sean Travers, Assistant Command M.O., Waterford Command.

W.—Lieut. James Wall, Tintown "A," Curragh Command. The resignation of Captain Turlough McNeill, 55th Battalion, Dublin Command, with effect as from 31st August, 1923, is notified.

ALTERATION OF DATES.

The demobilisation of the undermentioned Officers previously published will take effect as from date given above:—

2nd Lieut. Nicholas Grilly, published in Appointments and Discharges Memo. No. 8 as at O.T.C. Lieutenant Bartholomew Fogarty, published in Appointments and Discharges No. 8, as at O.T.C.

Lieutenant Francis McCourt, demobilisation published in Appointments and Discharges Memo. No. 5, suspended in Memo. No. 6, and now re-published. The demobilisation of Lieutenant R. Burns, M.O., 26th Battalion, Claremorris Command (Appointments and Discharges Memo. No. 6), to read as from the 20th December, 1923.

ERRATA.—Appointments and Discharges Memo. No. 8.

2nd Lieutenant John McCarthy, O.T.C., should read "Resigned." Captain James O'Byrne, Adjutant, Tintown "A" Internment Camp, entered in error.

2nd Lieutenant Thomas O'Sullivan, 32nd Infantry Battalion, Cork Command, should read 2nd Lieutenant Patrick O'Sullivan.

SUSPENSION OF DEMOBILISATION.

The demobilisation of Lieutenant John Ward, "B" Company, 37th Battalion, Dublin Command (Appointments and Discharges Memo. No. 8), is suspended pending investigation of charges under Defence Forces (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1923.

OFFICERS' RESPONSIBILITY FOR INSPECTION OF TROOPS.

General Routine Order No. 62, issued under date of 22nd January, contains the following:—

The Officer i/c of every Unit is responsible for the sanitary condition of the quarters occupied by his troops, and for taking all measures necessary for the preservation of the health of his men. He is responsible for seeing that each Officer and soldier observes all sanitary precautions.

Company Commanders will carry out a Personal Cleanliness Inspection of their men weekly. Men will be paraded; caps, tunics, and boots will be removed and laid out for inspection along with the remainder of their kit. The following will be observed:—

That the hair is cropped close at the back and sides, and not longer than half an inch on top.

That feet are clean, toenails cut short, and socks frequently changed.

That each man possesses a change of underclothing, shirts, socks, and underwear.

That boots and clothing are in good repair.

Officers will further make arrangements with the Medical Officer to withdraw all bedding quarterly for disinfection. No bedding or clothing will be received into Stores until it has been disinfected.

BARRACK ROOMS.

General Routine Order No. 62, issued under date of 22nd January, contains the following:—

Owing to the prevalence of respiratory diseases, and the number of men rendered ineffective thereby, the following instructions are issued:—

A clear space of at least 3 feet 6 ins. will be left between each bed.

Barrack-room windows will be kept wide open during the day, and to within three inches of the top on one or both sides, according to weather conditions, at night.

An Orderly will be detailed daily to keep the billets clean and well-swept.

Food will not be permitted in sleeping apartments.

The practice of spitting on floors of billets is dangerous to the health of the occupants and will be prohibited.

The necessity for absolute cleanliness in the handling and preparation of food is insisted upon.

Floors of dining-rooms and kitchens, meat blocks, tables, cooking and eating utensils must be cleaned immediately after use.

The absolute cleanliness of all cloths used for cleaning eating utensils must be ensured.

Any place where food is stored will be kept clean, well-ventilated and fly-proofed.

A record of all such weekly inspections will be kept and available for inspection of Battalion and other senior Officers.

INCOME TAX.

General Routine Order No. 62, issued under date of 22nd January, contains the following:—

Forms of Return of Income for purposes of Assessment of Income Tax have been sent to certain Officers and others in the Army in respect of the year ending 31st March, 1924, but it has been ascertained that only about 20 per cent. of the forms so sent out have been returned.

It is a matter of the utmost consequence that these forms should be completed and forwarded to the Assessor of Taxes at the earliest possible date. Unless the forms are rendered promptly, the Officers and others concerned are liable to be assessed for tax at the highest rate, without any of the reliefs referred to in the instructions on the forms. These assessments at the highest rate, in the absence of returns, lead to much extra and avoidable work, and it is imperative that the returns be promptly rendered.

In the event of any difficulty arising in the filling of the form, the Assessor of Income Tax for Public Departments, Dublin Castle, will afford all possible assistance and information.

DISBANDMENT OF MILITARY CUSTOMS BRIGADE.

Defence Order No. 41, issued under date 21st January, contains the following:—

The Unit known as the Military Customs Brigade, established under the provisions of Defence Order No. 32 shall be disbanded as from the 22nd January, 1924. The Officer Commanding the Brigade will arrange for the transfer of all troops stationed on the part of the Border situate between Greenore and Swanlinbar to the General Officer Commanding, Dublin Command, and shall further arrange for the transfer of all troops stationed on that part of the Border situate between Swanlinbar and Lifford to the General Officer Commanding, Donegal Command. Men will be transferred with full equipment, and surplus equipment shall be taken over by the Quartermaster General. The duties hitherto performed by the Military Customs Brigade shall be assumed by Units of the Donegal and Dublin Commands, respectively, as allocated above.

SURRENDER OF EQUIPMENT, ETC.

General Routine Order No. 63, issued under date of 30th January, 1924, contains the following:—

Cases have come to notice where, on the surrender of Equipment by Demobilised Officers, it has been found that Revolvers, etc., and Ammunition for same have not been included in the articles handed in.

Serious notice is taken of the failure to collect such equipment, and it is now ordered that all Arms and Ammunition in the possession of Officers, whether claimed as personal property or otherwise, shall be surrendered on demobilisation or resignation.

Clearance certificates will in future shew clearly all particulars with regard to the Arms and Ammunition so handed in.

In cases where it is claimed that weapons surrendered are private property such should be noted on the Clearance Certificate and the Officer handing in the Arms should be notified that any claim in connection with the goods surrendered are to be made, giving full particulars to A.Q.M.G. (8) i/c Ordnance, Island Bridge Barracks, Dublin.

USE OF STATIONERY.

General Routine Order No. 63, issued under date of 30th January, 1924, contains the following:—

Attention is directed to paragraph 234 of GENERAL ROUTINE ORDER 43, issued on July 23rd, 1923.

"There is at present a very considerable waste in the matter of Stationery. Captain Balfe, A.Q.M.G. (15), Portobello Barracks, Dublin, is the Officer responsible for ascertaining that all supplies of Stationery asked for are properly required. All demands for an explanation of the amount of Stationery requisitioned from time to time asked for by this Officer shall be met with by a reasoned explanation of the demand made."

NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE OF HOME ADDRESSES—N.C.O.'s AND MEN.

General Officers Commanding Commands and Officers Commanding Departmental Corps, will render a return to the Officer i/c Army Records fortnightly, on 1st and 14th of each month, showing changes in the Home Addresses of all Non-Commissioned Officers and men serving under their Command.

NOTICE.**GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S CUP—PUNCHESTOWN STEEPLECHASE.**

CONFINED TO ARMY OFFICERS.

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S CUP. And 400 Sovereigns added.

A Weight for Age Steeplechase, for horses the property of Officers on full pay or in the Reserve in any of the recognised Armies, Navies, or Air Forces of Europe.

For a Cup, presented by his Excellency, The Governor-General of Ireland, with 400 sovereigns added from the Fund, of which the second will receive 50 sovereigns and the third horse 25 sovereigns.

The Cup to be won three years, not necessarily consecutively, by the same owner before becoming his absolute property.

Horses must be the bona-fide property of Officers at date of entry, and up to the time of starting.

Four years old, 10st. 7lbs.; five, 12st.; six and aged, 12st. 8lbs.

Penalties.—A winner of any Steeplechase or Hurdle Race other than races confined to one regiment, 5lbs. extra; twice of 48 sovereigns, or once of 90 sovereigns, 8lbs. extra; three times or once of 140 sovereigns, 14lbs. extra.

Allowances.—Maidens six years old and upwards allowed 7lbs.

Riders.—Those qualified to enter, who are also "Qualified Riders" under I.N.H.S. Rules.

Three Miles, over the "National Hunt Cup Courses"—which does not include a double, and is perfectly fair for horses trained in any country.

Five sovereigns travelling allowance will be paid to any owner competing whose horse is trained elsewhere than in Ireland.

Twenty entries, or the race to be at the option of the Management.

To close 20th February at 3 sovereigns entrance; 2 sovereigns additional for starters.

Entries.—Entry Forms can be obtained on application to the Adjutant General.

ENTERTAINMENT FOR CURRAGH CHILDREN.

The following report is somewhat late in reaching us, but we think it is most deserving of publication:—

Under the patronage of the G.O.C., Curragh, a very energetic committee of workers provided excellent cheer for the children on the roll of the Garrison Schools, on Sunday, December 30th. 250 children were marshalled into the Curragh Picture House, and from 3 to 5 o'clock feasted their eyes on a special entertainment provided by Mr. Sylvester, whose generosity in giving a gratis film display was greatly appreciated. From the Picture House they trooped along to the Garrison Gymnasium, where Mr. and Mrs. Revell had arranged all the good cheer apples, oranges and crackers kept them happily busy for some time. After the tea-tables had been cleared a really splendid concert was given, enjoyed by everybody. With the finish of the concert came a little pause, and then the curtains drew back to reveal two large Christmas trees, one laden with presents such as only boys can appreciate, and the other with presents that every little girl just longed to own. Colonel Felix Cronin and F. Bennett handed a present to every boy and girl on the Register of the School, and the night closed with everybody joining in a vote of thanks to the Committee, to H. Church, Esq., who had presented a mechanical doll for raffle, which realized £8 8d.; to Colonel Fritz Brass, Devlin for his great tea, to Mr. and Mrs. Revell for looking after the tea, and last of all to Mr. and Mrs. Sheehan, School Master and Mistress, who had forgotten after the children's entertainment.



COUE IS SURE CURE, SAYS FAIR TYPIST AT ARMY HEADQUARTERS.

OTTO DE FLOOR POLISH.

WHEN THE KEYBOARDS CEASE FROM TROUBLING,
AND THE DICTAPHONE'S AT REST,
YOU CAN ROAM IN REALMS OF FAERIE
IF YOU COUE WITH A ZEST.

A LEAP YEAR WARNING.

The following article has been specially written for the Army Journal by one of the young lady typists at G.H.Q. We are glad to welcome a contributor from their ranks, the more so as the writer deals with matters of interest to typists throughout the Army.

We will not commit ourselves to an opinion on the extremely thoroughgoing system of Couéism that is recommended in the article, but we will be happy to give space in our next issue to any comments upon it which our readers may feel disposed to offer.

In the meantime, to mark our appreciation of this signal event in the history of the paper, we have given the article headlines on the most approved Transatlantic model, and—though we say it that should not—we think the said headlines alone are worth the price of the Journal.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF A TYPIST.

"To be, or not to be a typist."

Simple words those, but very often they constitute a problem for many a simple typist, even when they remain unspoken and unsupported by the histrionic gestures so essential to dramatic effect. They, however, worry me no longer.

My salvation lay in the advice: "Cultivate your philosophy and indulge your imagination," and though I doubted the practicability of the counsel on account of the infinitesimal amount of material I could draw upon, I persevered; and the result justifies me in recommending the text to my fellow-workers as one which disposed of the greater part of the worries and annoyances attendant on their routine duties.

IT MIGHT BE WORSE.

The method is really quite simple. Base your philosophy on the fact that things may be bad, but they could be worse; and when you are rushing to reach G.H.Q. by 9.30 in the morning, half awake, don't grumble, but consider that the official hour might have been 9 a.m. sharp.

When you get twelve pages of foolscap ("Six copies immediately please") don't grumble, but thank your stars you escaped Captain _____'s handwriting.

If it is pouring rain at lunch hour, and you cannot get a tram, don't worry, but console yourself with the reflection that it won't be always raining.

When you are physically and mentally tired of your instrument of torture, Coué yourself into believing it is not a typewriter at all, and gradually the prosaic lines of the machine will disappear, and you will have before you a musical instrument, on whose fairy keys you can play "Come drift with me," or "Beidh Eire fos ag Kate O'Dwyer"; and if five or six typewriters should happen to be in the room, you can have all the delights of a jazz band with full effects.

"THE HARP IN THE AIR."

Should you happen to be a dictaphoner, instead of swearing when you fail to grasp a phrase (I beg your pardon, I forgot; typists don't swear), persuade yourself you are listening-in, and you can encore John McCormack and his "Snowy-Breasted Pearl."

Then look out on the tennis ground, and admire yourself in white shoes and stockings, etc., balancing your racket on a July evening, and making vain attempts at keeping cool. I tried this one day last week and the effect was most welcome—we had Anthracite only that day.

OTTO DE SERGEANTS' MESS.

You can even imagine yourself steering through the Park in that Rolls Royce, and resting in the People's Gardens, enjoying the delights of a Jaffa orange in the midst of floral beauty and fragrance, when the painful reality is that nothing more exotic than Hall Floor Polish, or perhaps that familiar fishy odour from the Sergeants' Mess greets the olfactory nerves of ordinary mortals.

When you have a pile of work before you untouched, just tell yourself you have finished, and if you make a superhuman effort you may persuade your Commanding Officer that he has actually signed the letters, and that they are already in the Central Registry.

WHEN YOU WAKE UP.

In this way you can live in a world of your own, independent of the atmosphere of typewriters, stencilling machines, dictaphones and such horrors; and if at any time during the year 1924 your mental conception fails you, you have always a last resource. But a final word—look before you Leap Year; for I have been told by one who is in a position to speak, that the effectiveness of Coué ceases once that irrevocable knot has been tied—in other words, you wake up.

EM. D.V.

"THE OLD FAMILIAR FACES."

ΔΙΣΤΡΙΪΣΤΕ ΑΣ ΣΕΔΗ Ο ΚΟΝΧΟΥΔΑΙΡ.

I.

'Οο βίοσ ιη μο τάλ ηα κομπάνατς βα έαοηη
Ις μέ ιη' όζάηαέ ας ράς ηεο ηε τώέαη.
'Οεαβρηντςιμής τά έέρη ζο ηέας το βετ' τήις,
άέ, βί σιατ αρ πάν, 'ς μέ ι ηζάτταρ κοηαοηη.

II.

'Οο έλεάττας ηε τέαναί αν σέλίρ ζαηρτέαέ ζαοηητέαέ
ι ζοηήηηατταρ σέηη φεαρ, ας ταοσκατς κυακ τήζε ηεο;
ας ιηηρη ηα ζεάρετα; ας αηρηέαν' σαν οηώέ.
τάιη ηοης πέ έράτ άέ, ηή ηαζάλ αρ αν ηβυτοηη σιη.

III.

'S το έαρας σα βάβ ρυζ βάρρ ό έεαρχ ηαοηη
τςυς σί τρυηη λάηηη ηιοη 'ς τ'πάς ηε φαοη έλαοηη.
ηί βρηντςιη ηοης ιη' έυαητοηβ άέ φυαηρη ζαν φιαλάτ.
ηί φεητση άέ κύλ ηα ηζηνησε ηε το έιηηηε.

IV.

'S το βί αζαη έαρη βα ζεασηαμάέ φιορ τήη—
ά ηεηέητο τέ έαρητο ηίορ ηαηρ ριαη σα ζαοηηζεαλ σο.
τράηηζεαδ ζαν φκαλ έ.—'D'οτς υαηη αν ηηοηόη σιη
έυη ζεαν ζήηης το ηορς ι ηοζαλ ηο έηηηηε.

V.

Ις κυηα ηό ζαηηαη μέ ας ζεαηηηύ ηόρ έηηέαηη
ας κυαρηάέ ηα ζεαν βάλ, ζζαν ανη άέ ά βρηντςηεαέ.
Ις κυηα ηό φάσαέ φιαη φάλτα ηα κρηόα,
Ις ηησε αρ πάν ανη, 'σμο έάηηηε αρ ιαρηατό.

VI.

τά ά λάη ηης αν ζερέ ζο τρέηε λαζ ηε βηαηηαηβ,
τά τυηηε ι ζέέηη υαηη, αρ ζεραε έαη αν ταοητο.
τά τυηηε, ηο ηυαη—άέ ηή τυαηησε αρ ζοηηηη.
ηί ηεαζφατ κοηόέ' σήλ αρ ηα ζήηηςιη το έιηηηε.

SHRAPNEL

Musketry Instructor (taking Assistant Adjutants in Musketry at the Curragh).—What is the shock of discharge? One of them (with feeling)—A Staff Duties Memo.

* * * *

Here is another Musketry story. The Instructor had experienced great difficulty in getting one of the recruits to understand the difference between "Full Sight" and "Fine Sight." He was feeling, as old Thucydides would put it, somewhat fed up. So, by a strange coincidence, was the recruit. Finally the Instructor thought he had succeeded in getting it into the head of the victim.

"Well, now, my man," said he, "what is a Fine Sight?" "Two dinners on one plate," promptly answered the man at arms.

* * * *

And another! In this case the recruit had given a practical demonstration that he was the World's Worst Shot. He had missed the target completely on most occasions. Finally the exasperated Sergeant told him:

"For the love of Mike, go behind the butts and put a bullet in your fat head."

The recruit disappeared and presently a shot was fired behind the target.

"Suffering snakes!" cried the Sergeant, pallid with horror, "the blamed fool has done it."

But at that moment the World's Worst Shot re-appeared. "Missed again, Sergeant," said he, sadly.

* * * *

VERSE—AND WORSE.

"The Rambler" has forwarded to us from "Somewhere in Wexford" a spirited bunch of verses describing certain social events which recently occurred in military circles in the South.

We regret, "Rambler," that thoughts of the Law of Libel, "C.B.," Pack Drill, Fines, and similar little pleasantries, prevent us from giving your effusion to the world. Next time you feel the divine afflatus, remember "Punch's" advice to those about to marry—"Don't!"

* * * *

The Orderly Officer was questioning the Sentry as to his knowledge of his duties.

"An what would you call 'an unusual occurrence'?" he asked.

"An attack by aircraft," said the sentry, a hard-bitten warrior.

"Hum!" said the Officer. "And what would do you if you saw a submarine coming up the path?"

"Take the pledge," was the prompt response.

* * * *

THE BROKEN MELODY.

When we discovered "Sweet Genevieve" lying in three pieces in the Ante-Room of G.H.Q., Officers' Mess, we confess to feeling a certain amount of sympathy with this latest effort in record-breaking. On second thoughts, however, we have come to the conclusion that the method adopted was somewhat too drastic, and we venture to suggest that anaesthetics and cotton wool be provided for those patrons of the Ante-Room who are afflicted with musical ears.

* * * *

The Junior Officer with the Plus Four appetite complained that breakfast porridge was not served in the Mess one morning.

"Ah," said the unsympathetic Senior, "I thought there was not so much stir about the place this morning."

His rank saved him.

* * * *

A nefarious correspondent, apropos of recent references in these columns to the strength of the eggs at the Officers' Mess, says it is only right that they should have rank.

* * * *

An Orderly Officer visited a Post. Contrary to regulations he was smoking a cigar, and the Sentry promptly ordered

him to put it out. The Officer threw the cigar on the ground and continued his rounds. Coming back to the same Sentry he found the latter smoking the weed, and spoke severely to him about it.

"I am not smoking, sir," said the Sentry. "But, damn it, man, you have the cigar in your mouth," exclaimed the Officer.

"That's true, sir; but I am not smoking."

"Then what are you doing?"

"Keeping the evidence alight, sir, until I can show it to my O.C."

* * * *

We wish to state, right here and now, that wild Ford cars will not drag from us the identity of the young lady typist who has written the article which appears in another page. Desist, Cuthbert!

* * * *

What's in a name, as Brian Boroinhe remarked when he first saw his own in simplified spelling. The Lieutenant Sean O'Connor who is starring in the cross-country performances around the Curragh is not the Lieutenant Sean O'Connor who is sprinting across the chess-board in the G.H.Q. Chess Club Tournament.

* * * *

And with further reference to the significance of names and their value, etc., let us draw attention to a pathetic advertisement in the London "Times," which announces that "Lady Willoughby De Broke wishes to let 23 Bilbert Street, Mayfair."

I was staying with the D— Brokes for some time before the 1st February. You did not know we had them in the Army? Tut! tut! Meet any Junior Officer a week or so before the end of the month—any month.

* * * *

And now, getting a day's leave, as it were, and stepping outside the gate with a jaunty air, let us tilt at our contemporaries. Said the "Telegraph" the other day:—

"At Drumcondra District Court this morning _____ was charged, at the instance of Inspector O'Halloran, Civic Guard, with having on the premises on the 23rd Uevember, 1924, a quart bottule of whiskey"

That, of course, was the sort of bottle that effectually prevented you from saying "Truly rural" twice.

* * * *

This from the "Independent"—in a notice of local production, by Comrade Cox:—

"As for the men, they included Jimmy O'Dea, Ralph Goggin, Harry O'Donovan, Fay Sargent, Dick Smith and Patrick Hayden."

All we have to say about this is that Fay Sargent has been a perfect lady as long as we know her—save on one occasion, when she accused the Scribe of having kidnapped Mrs. Casey.



PAYMENTS TO "AN T-OGLACH."

All remittances for sales, etc., should be made payable to THE MANAGER, "AN T-OGLACH." Postal Orders and Cheques should be crossed "& Co." CASH SHOULD NOT BE SENT UNLESS ABSOLUTELY UNAVOIDABLE. IF CASH IS FORWARDED THE ENVELOPE SHOULD BEAR A REFERENCE NUMBER.

Attention should be paid to the Post Office Regulation which allows NOT MORE THAN THREE STAMPS on any Postal Order, and only up to the value of FIVEPENCE.

Our Information Bureau.

When in doubt write to AN T-OGLACH.

BUT

Be brief.

Write on one side of the paper only.

Do not expect a reply by Post.

Send your full name and address.

Remember that anonymous letters are ignored.

DEPENDANTS' ALLOWANCE.

Only in exceptional cases are questions relating to Dependants' Allowances or Marriages Allowances replied to in these columns. All other letters relating to such matters are forwarded to the Departments which deal with these questions.

Before writing lengthy complaints of non-payment of Allowance, our correspondents should make sure that application has been made for payment.

COOK-HOUSE.—C. Hyland—Your letter is not very clear. We would suggest that you get the friend whose name you mention to draft a letter stating how long you were in the Army, where you were stationed and when you were demobilised. Also state what your duties were in the cookhouse, and the character of the Discharge you received.

A PRIZEWINNER.—Liam MacSuibhne (Finner Camp)—Glad you were pleased with your prize, and hope you will speedily find your health improving in your new surroundings. We may be able to use your contribution at some future date.

RATE OF PAY.—"Water Works" (Nenagh)—Your letter is unintelligible. The rates of pay at the moment are:—Second Class Private, 2s. 6d. per day, and First Class Private, 3s. per day (upon receipt of certificate).

BALANCE DUE.—Private John Ellis—We can do nothing save forward your letter to the proper quarter.

ADVICE WANTED.—"Macroom"—Write to the Pay Office again pointing out the apparent error made by the Investigator.

BACK PAY.—"Windy" (Dundalk)—Write to the Back Pay Claims Committee, c/o Chief Pay and Accounts Officer, G.H.Q., setting out the details of your case as briefly and as clearly as possible.

BACK PAY.

All claims in this respect which have been verified on investigation are being held, pending the sitting of an Adjudication Committee to deal with them. The results will be duly notified to the Claimants.

NO REPLY.—"Delayed" (Curragh)—It is very strange that you received no reply to your communications. If your O.C. were to communicate with the Department in question you would probably receive some statement.

EXPERT ADVICE.—"Policeman" (Templemore)—We are afraid that we cannot give you the advice of an expert in this matter, but we are trying to get you some acknowledgment of your communications.

DISCHARGE.—"Faugh" (Waterford)—Your case has been referred to the Department concerned. Thanks for your kind wishes.

SPORTS MEDAL.—"Gippo" (Curragh Camp)—Your letter has been sent to the Honorary Secretary of the Army Athletic Association, who will probably reply to you direct. Your query should have been addressed to him in the first instance.

IRISH CLASSES.—P. O'C. (Youghal)—No military training books such as you mention have as yet been published. When

the necessary terms have been compiled and approved we hope to publish them in "An t-Oglach." The question of the Fainne for Irish speakers in the Army will be fixed up when the new Organisation scheme comes into operation. The Irish equivalents for military names have been published in our columns but the Irish equivalents of Drill Terms have not yet been published.

ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE.—"Two Drummers" Dublin—Yes, under the provisions of the Defence Forces (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1923, Section 82, Sub-section 2.

WOULD-BE-RECRUIT.—Michael Power—Recruiting is now open. Recruits must be unmarried, of good character and physique, not less than 5 feet 4 inches in height, and between 18 and 30 years of age. The period of service will be for two years, and allowances for Dependants will not be payable. Applicants must apply in person to the nearest Battalion Head-

PAYMENT ON DISCHARGE.

Payment of twenty-eight days' Pay and Allowances has been authorised for soldiers discharged on and after 22nd June, 1923, subject to the usual conditions in Defence Order No. 20. All claims in this respect should be forwarded, together with a COPY of the Discharge Certificate, to the Chief Pay Office, Portobello Barracks, Dublin.

All letters received at AN T-OGLACH Office relating to this question have been forwarded to the Chief Pay Office.

quarters before the 18th inst. They must be ex-members of the National Forces, and should bring their Discharge Certificates with them when applying.

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE EXAMINATION.—Numerous correspondents who have written for information on this subject will find their queries answered in page eight.

♦ RETURNS.

Wherever possible unsold copies of "An t-Oglach" should be forwarded through Communications.

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An Open Competitive Examination for twenty-five posts as Male Officers of Customs and Excise will be held on Monday, 24th March, and following days. In addition, twenty-five posts will be reserved for Army candidates if so many be found qualified.

Age limits, 19-22, on 1st March, 1924. Extension of upper age limit: up to thirteen years to Army candidates and up to three years for established Civil Servants.

SUBJECTS OF EXAMINATION.

COMPULSORY.—Irish, English, Mathematics and Current Topics.
OPTIONAL.—Five only of the following.—Irish, Irish History, Modern History, English Literature, Commerce, Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Experimental Physics, Chemistry, French, German, Latin, Greek. (Standard: First Year's Honours Course at a University.)

Fee for Examination—£2.

Last day for receiving applications—23rd February, 1924.

Apply for Regulations and detailed Syllabus to Runaidhe, Coimisiun Um Stat-SHEIRBHIS, College of Science, Ath-Cliath.

PUBLICATIONS.

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE EXAMINATION, AUGUST, 1923. (Limited to Army Candidates.) Examination Papers, Regulations, and Table of Results, price 3/6.

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S EXAMINATION, SEPTEMBER, 1923. Examination Papers and Regulations, price 3/-.
The above are obtainable at Messrs. Eason and Son, Ltd., O'Connell Street, Ath-Cliath.

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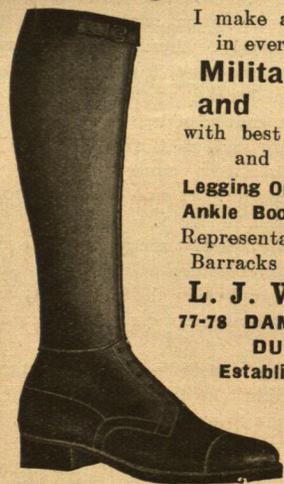
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ḡḡḡḡḡḡ ḡḡḡḡ ḡḡḡḡ.

Gaelic.

CÓMRAÓ BEIRTE.

An Raḡais aḡ an aḡarclann aréir ?
 ní raḡas. Úí cluicé cártaí aḡaimn 'sa
 biléad.
 Úí cúḡear aḡaimn ann, aḡus níor
 airḡeamar an aimsir.
 Ar buairé tú ruinn ? níor buairéas.
 Úí aḡ éirḡe cuibeasac maíe liom i
 'tosaḡ aḡus annsin pé mí áó bain
 'om o'iompuḡis na cártaí im éinne
 ḡlan.
 Éailleas cúpla ḡḡilling nó mar sin.
 Éaimḡ séamas ḡo maíe as, ámhac.
 Úí cúpla púnt airḡe dá bárr.
 Da breaḡs tú, ac ní raḡa a beiré sé aḡ
 iméacé uairé arís.
 Is raḡa arís ḡo nimreócaró mé cluicé
 eile.
 Úíos éom suaite i rié an lae aḡus dá
 mba ná beaó néal coḡalta aḡam le
 ḡeacéam.
 Is tocaḡ ḡo raḡais aḡ an daḡsa úó.
 ac, níor éuas ann in don éor.
 Éaimḡ tomás aḡ taéamc orm toul 'na
 éeannḡa ac bí ana éuirse orm.
 Táim aḡ cuimneám ar toul ḡo tóí an
 aḡarclann anoé.
 'tíocḡairé tú ?
 Úpúil don ruḡ maíe ann ?

PHONETIC PRONUNCIATION.

COAR RAW BERTA.

Roush iggun ourklunna rare ?
 Nee rouss. Vee kliha kaurth tee gun
 suv vill aid.
 Vee koogurra gun oun, ogguss neer
 areemur un eyemshir.
 Err woo thoo pween ? Neer wooss.
 Vee a guy ree keessuck mwah lyuma
 duss sock, ogguss unn sun, pay mee
 aw wan dum, doumpig nuk kaurth hee
 im kinna glon.
 Kolluss koopla shkilling noo mor shiu.
 Hawng Sheeumuss gum mwah ass, auvuck.
 Vee koopla poontha ge daw war.
 Buv vraa ghoa, ock nee fodha veh shay ig
 imhockth wooga reesht.
 Iss fodha reesh gun nim roe may kliha
 ella.
 Veess koa soota riha lay iss dawm mun
 naw beck neull kullatha gum liss
 shockthin.
 Iss doaka gur roush igga dhoussa oodh.
 Ock, neer koos oun in nay kur.
 Hawng Thummaussa thahint rum dhull
 nuh hountha ock vee anna hirsha rum.
 Thawma keenuv err ghull gud deen
 ourklunn a nuckth.
 Duckha thoo ?
 Will lay rudh mwah oun ?

ENGLISH.

DIALOGUE.

Were you at the theatre last night ?
 I was not. We had a game of cards
 in the billet.
 There were five of us there, and we
 never felt the time.
 Did you win much ? I did not.
 I was getting on fairly well at the
 beginning, then whatever mis-
 fortune came to me, the cards
 turned dead against me.
 I lost a couple of bob or so.
 Jim came out of it well, though.
 He made a few pounds by it.
 Well for him. It won't be long going
 from him again.
 It will be a long time again till I play
 another game.
 I was as broken up during the day as if
 I had not slept a wink for a week.
 I suppose you were at that dance.
 Ah, I didn't go there at all.
 Tom came to urge me go with him, but
 I was very tired.
 I'm thinking of going to the theatre
 to-night.
 Will you come ?
 Anything good on ?

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