



AN t-ÓGLÁC

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Contents

Vol. 2.—No. 18 (New Series). 11th October, 1924.

SHARP CRITICISM OF THE A.A.A.
Meeting of the Standing Committee.—Golfing Society's Annual Meeting.

MARRIED QUARTERS.
How the Benedicts entered into Occupation at Arbour Hill.

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Tales from the Tenth.—Eastern Command Echoes.—
From the Fourteenth.—With the Eleventh.—News of
the Twelfth.—Third Brigade Notes.—Etc., Etc.

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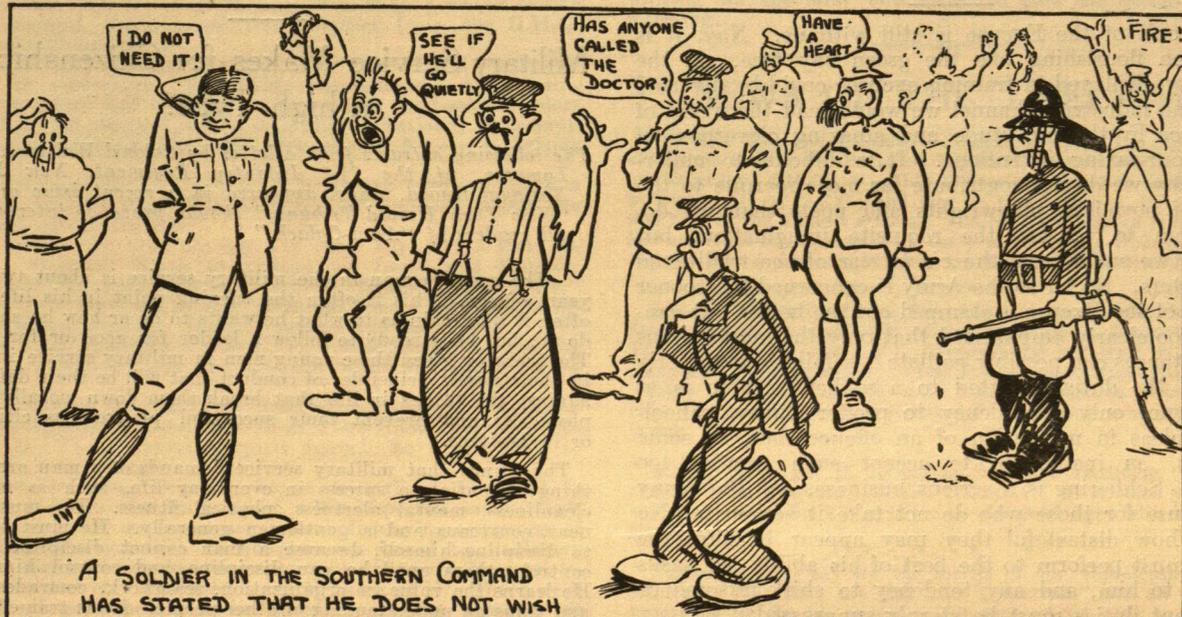


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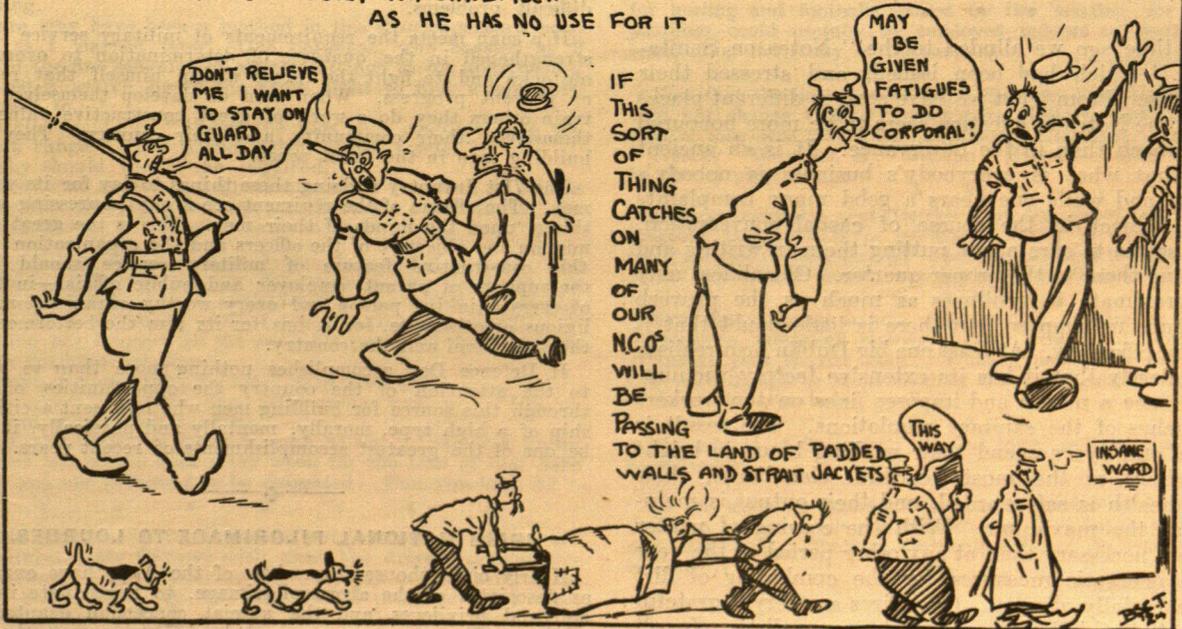
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OCTOBER 11, 1924.

Price TWOPENCE.



A SOLDIER IN THE SOUTHERN COMMAND HAS STATED THAT HE DOES NOT WISH TO DRAW HIS WEEKLY PAY - INASMUCH AS HE HAS NO USE FOR IT



SINISTER INCIDENT IN THE SOUTHERN COMMAND.

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Ógláigh
na hÉireann
DEFENCE FORCES IRELAND

An t-Óglach

OCTOBER 11, 1924.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

THE cult of the Excuse is still with us. Nay, it is even flourishing like the green bay tree. If the ingenuity displayed in framing excuses could be diverted into some industrial channel we would lead the world of commerce by the multitude and amazing cleverness of our labour-saving inventions. It is difficult to understand why we do not contribute far more recruits to the ranks of novelists, playwrights and poets than we do. We seem to possess the requisite imagination, but perhaps we suffer from the *vis inertiae* of the traditional lotus eaters. So far as the Army is concerned the sooner the cult of the Excuse is stamped out the better. It cannot be too clearly emphasised that only the most serious circumstances can possibly palliate any failure to properly perform the duties allotted to a soldier. There is at present not only a tendency to proffer flimsy, school-boyish pleas in mitigation of an offence, but, in some quarters, an inclination to accept such excuses too readily. Soldiering is a serious business, and the Army has no use for those who do not take it seriously. No matter how distasteful they may appear to him, the soldier must perform to the best of his ability the tasks allotted to him, and any tendency to shirk irksome or unpleasant duties must be sternly suppressed.

* * * *

SOME time ago we alluded to the "Notes on Sanitation" which had been issued, and stressed their importance. From what we have seen in different places recently the Notes in question seem to be more honoured in the breach than in the observance. It is an ancient saying that what is everybody's business is nobody's business, and while one hears a good many complaints on this subject in the course of casual conversation, nobody seems to care about putting them in writing and forwarding them to the proper quarter. Cleanliness may not approximate to godliness as much as the proverb would have us suppose, but there is little doubt that it makes for efficiency. At least one big Dublin firm realises this so clearly that it has its extensive factory vacuum-cleaned once a month and imposes fines on the workers for breaches of the sanitary regulations. The result is that the employees spend their working hours in bright surroundings of the most healthful cleanliness, their general health is safeguarded, and their output is maintained at the maximum. With the coming of winter it is more necessary than at any other period of the year to take energetic measures for the combating of dirt and, incidentally, disease. Open fires are very "grateful and comforting," but they are also very dirty. In all probability innumerable office walls will again bear witness to the soundness of the Bertillon method. We

know there are black sheep in every flock, but that does not seem to justify their sign manuals being so much in evidence. The Officers in charge of barracks have a very hard task, and we fully appreciate their difficulties. Wherefore we would appeal to all officers to give them every assistance.

BUILDING MEN.

Military Service Makes for Citizenship of a high Type.

The following extracts from a letter by Colonel Walter A. De Lamater, of the 71st Infantry Regiment, New York National Guard, which appeared in a recent issue of the "New York Herald Tribune," should prove of interest to all readers of "An t-Oglach."

The average man in the military service is about twenty years of age. This is often the turning point in his life; he often is uncertain as to what he wants to do or how he should do it; but he is ready to follow a leader for good or for evil. The training given these young men in military service instils in their minds principles of conduct that will be their defence against the things in life that break them down morally and physically and prevent their successful progress as citizens or in business.

The things that military service demands of a man are the things essential to success in every-day life, such as moral cleanliness, mental alertness, physical fitness. He must be neat, courteous and a gentleman generally. He must learn to discipline himself, because a man cannot discipline and control others until he can discipline and control himself. He learns the value of organization, teamwork, comradeship, and gains an understanding of other people. He is trained not to go along the line of least resistance, but to squarely face difficult problems.

If a man meets the requirements of military service he is strengthened in the qualities of determination to overcome obstacles and to fight the forces within himself that retard or prevent progress. When men do develop themselves and train others they do a work of great constructive value for themselves, their community and their country. They are building men in the finest sense.

The 71st Infantry is doing these things to-day for its young men. The officers of the regiment are firmly impressing these things upon the minds of their men. This is the great aim, mission and objective of the officers and the organization; and this constructive feature of military service should have the support of parent, employer and public official—in fact, of every thinking person and every worthy organization, religious or otherwise, for it has for its aim the betterment of the individual and the country.

If Defence Day accomplishes nothing more than to bring to the attention of the country the opportunities offered through this source for building men who represent a citizenship of a high type, morally, mentally and physically, it will be one of the greatest accomplishments of recent years.

IRISH NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES.

Nearly eight thousand members of the Army have enrolled as Associates of the above pilgrimage, to participate in its spiritual privileges and the special concession granted to soldiers. There are many wounded soldiers amongst the pilgrims, and these have the special prayers of the Army Associates.

MARRIED QUARTERS.

How the Benedicts entered into possession of Arbour Hill.

It was becoming monotonous. Every day the query circulated amongst those interested, "Any word of Married Quarters yet?" Budding philanthropists as well as landladies' victims were getting impatient. If there is a more patient community than the married men at G.H.Q. I would like to live amongst them. (Derisive laughter from the G.H.Q. Bachelor Community).

At last they brought the good news from Ghent, or Portobello, or somewhere. The Q.M. was relieved. An Expeditionary Force had been despatched under semi-sealed orders (envelope left unstuck in the interests of National Economy).

"Sergeant Blank, you have been allotted No. — Arbour Hill."

Restraining my emotion by a herculean effort, I gave a salute worth a year's rent and timidly inquired about the whereabouts of the key.

It turned out that the key was not a key, but a Pass entitling Sergeant Blank to remove his Lares and Penates, otherwise Household goods, otherwise "Sticks of Furniture."

Swiftly I hid me to the promised land. The oldest inmate was amiable, but not exactly helpful.

"Married Quarters," quoth he. "Well, Sergeant, so far as I am concerned, you can have the lot for the 'doing up' of them."

The door of my new home stood invitingly open. I inspected the interior. Even after that I remained determined to keep it. The indomitable spirit again! So I proceeded to "dig in," as it were.

Other intending Colonists began to arrive. I seemed to have got in by the Early Door. We inspected each other's new homes. If we found any tenant displaying symptoms of sinful satisfaction with his quarters we united to disillusion him. We were whales on destructive criticism. It seems to be a national characteristic, come to think of it. There were plenty of good points to be noted, and many reasons for thankfulness, but you wouldn't have thought it to hear the grousing.

There may have been a method in this disparagement, however, as I learned later. One Sergeant, who boasted at 2 p.m. of the fine selection of electric fittings in his apartments, required a search party the same night to find where they had gone to.

"Well," said he, "thank the pigs they couldn't take the kitchen range." His friend looked at the range.

"Why should they?" he inquired.

A convivial soul found great cause for rejoicing. "I'll be able to save the tram fare down to Barney's every night," he confided to me. "There's a canteen right at the door."

* * * * *

Breaking the news of my departure to my landlady was not as painful as I had anticipated. She called philosophy to her aid in a manner which I found rather disconcerting.

Facing her I forgot all the carefully prepared speech which was to mitigate the blow.

"Leaving to-morrow, ma'am," said I bluntly.

"Delighted," replied the astonishing woman. "I'm so glad you are getting a house."

Well, you know—What I mean to say is, she was losing fourteen bob of the best every week for the loan of four bare walls, and she professed to be delighted! Can you beat it?

* * * * *

Some episodes are too sacred to put into print. Others are too painful. My Odyssey with what the driver euphemistically termed "a Ford Touring car" belongs to the latter category. Suffice it to say that the blamed thing revealed a remarkable penchant for wayside halts. One one occasion it stopped right at the door of a former landlady. I could imagine her peeping through the curtains at the bits of furniture and me and remarking with a self-satisfied sniff: "Mmph" (pronounced as spelt), "So he's moving again. Well, I dont' blame anybody for not keeping him long."

But, "Be the day weary; be the day long; at length it draweth to Evensong," and in the clustering gloom my equipage drew near to Arbour Hill.

What a picture for B.S.C. Thomson! There was "fitting" ahead of me and "fitting" to the rear of me. Household goods were being unloaded from a variety of vehicles, and the scene outside the married quarters was reminiscent of a flight of Armenians from the Turkish delights. (No offence to the landladies). And the language of some of the householders and their assistants when they struck a snag in the job was, I regret to say, "frequent and painful and free."

But we all got settled down eventually. We are now waiting for the first enthusiast to give the initial housewarming. "FOAM."

NEWS OF THE TWELFTH.

The fact that the Executive Council accepted the resignation of Captain Larkin, the Battalion Adjutant, became known generally on Saturday, 4.10.24. This Officer's resignation is regretted by every officer, N.C.O., and man in the Battalion, by whom he was held in the highest esteem. His National Record is excellent. His activities commenced very early in the Anglo-Irish campaign, and he was much sought after by the British Crown Forces.

* * * * *

Sergeant Victor Carton, C.M.P., has been transferred from this Station to the Headquarters of the 4th Brigade, Provost Officer. The fact that he was a P.A. Sergeant did not tend to mar his popularity with all ranks. (The P.A.'s are supposed to be very "gildy." That's the new word for it in Barrack rooms.) We hope that he will soon be promoted to the rank in which he is now acting.

* * * * *

In the latest list of discharges from the Battalion was our orderly room Sergeant, Michael O'Connor. It is some years ago since he "came back" to carry on the good fight with his fellow Gaels at home.

* * * * *

Suffice is it to say for the merits of our representatives in Athletics, that they are still "on Command," and all the time practising for the big events. The greatest set back to Athletics in the Battalion is the bad weather which prevails, but the hours, for hurling and football, spoiled by the weather for outdoor pastimes, could usefully be employed indoors in literary work—including the study of the language.

* * * * *

Now that the names of so many Barracks have been changed, why not change that of Templemore Military Barracks, which have so long been known as "Richmond" Barracks. The names "Treacey" Barracks, or "McCann" Barracks, surely could not be out of place.

* * * * *

Dawson maintains that Thurles Post was evacuated to enable Sergeant Paddy O'Dwyer (of boxing fame) to visit his native town without running the risk of being challenged to fight by some of the enthusiastic boxers who made-up the Thurles Garrison.

* * * * *

Now that Autumn is here with its dark evenings it is pretty difficult to safeguard (amongst other articles of Government property) your electric bulb. I heard one fellow complaining that even though he keeps his door fastened regularly with a pair of handcuffs, the bulb "walked."

* * * * *

The advent of Sylvester's play to town, relieved the dullness considerably.

* * * * *

Tá suil agam go mbeid slúaid mor an saidúirí ag foghlaim an Gaedlinn i caoiceas eile nua mar sin—ba choir iad go léir a bheid ann, mar (mar a dhubairt an seanfhocal) :—"Ní neart go chuir le cheile."

"ROSSCARBERY."

A Sassnitz message received in Berlin says that fishermen when fishing off Clowe and Juliusruh found the wreck of a man-o'-war dating probably from the Middle Ages. A diver recovered some guns, and found stone walls at the sea bottom.

Széaltá an tsairsint Rua.

V.—AN TÁ SÁDAR.

PÁDRAIC Ó CONAIRE DO CHUIR SÍOS.

Bíomar lá sa tóin ag cur síos ar an ól, agus ar fad don toradh a bhíos air, roir olc agus maíe, nuair a buail an Sairsint Rua é féin isteach sa gcuirdeáctam. Cuir sin veire leis an n-óispóireáct; toisg gurab é ba siocair leis an gcaimnt i dtosaic. Da tóime é an Sairsint nár ól áct go fíor-annam, áct pé ar bit a táinig air, nó pé ar bit cúis a bí air leis, táinig sé isteach cugaim an ordóe roimhe sin agus é leat-súgá go leór.

"Bíos ólta aréir," an céad focal ar túbairt sé.

"Ní mímí amháid é," arsa tóime, "agus mar bhíos a' ráó ar ball beag, ní tócar mór do tóime é ó am go ham."

"Bíos bliadóim fada tráct de mo saogal gan blas de leigint ear mo béal," ar an Sairsint Rua mar théad sé ag camnt leis féin, "áct," ar seisean, ní do mo tóein féin é."

"D' eile éen éaoi?"

"Sgéal fada é," ar an Sairsint Rua, "agus ní móite go gcréopróe é dá n-inneócaim féin é."

Túbairt an uile tóime agaim go rabamar cinnte vearbda naé b'éatopaó sé an bréag a ráó dá b'púigeadó sé an saogal air. Agus ar noisg, níor tócar mór an méro sin féin a ráó le n-a sgeal a baint as.

Do ól an Sairsint Rua gloime. Úearg sé a píopa. D' féac sé n-a tóiméall. Cuir sé cúpla casaict de. Bailigeamar uile éart air gur tósaig sé agus túbairt:—

* * *

Tá fíos ag an uile tóime agaid gur tóime le síoicéam mise, (ars an Sairsint Rua), agus go mba grám liom troir nó ácrann nó clampar, nó don nro a baineas leó: agus maraé an éalíroeaict sin beir orm naé san arm a béinn ar cor ar bit. Áct mara n-inneócaim mo sgeal ó n-a cúis go tóí a tóire, gan cur leis gan baint as, ní tuispear mé.

Sead, an uair seo atá i gceist agam bhíos 'mo éomairde liom féin i tóeaicín beag ar cliatán sléibe, ar agharó na gréime, i b'pao ó tóime agus ó buairt an tsaogail. Bhíos sátaé socaimail ann, agus gan don ceó ar m'aire áct greim mo béil a baint amac le mo fadóar agus le mo gunna, ar ériaétraé agus ar mácaire. Sgairéí, tóiróim amac ar an loé a bí ós comair an tige amac, le mo slait agus le mo tóruéa; agus théad an tonas ar pat orm an lá naé b'éatopaim cúpla breac nó bratán nó gurrpíad nó pacaruise éabairt abairt liom. Bhíod tóga agus roga fad bró agam cinnte, mara mbíod sean fad tige, ruo naé mbíod. Tráé a mbíod an éreaé marb agam, agus glanta agus gléasta agus itte agam, agus fad don tóro tóanta agam timéall an tige, bhíod am go léor agam le caiteam. Áct cé'n éaoi ab féarr an an aimsir a cur isteaé? Na horócaimta goa seimrú sin! An gála mór agus an báisteac ag bualaó go huaisneac i n-agharó na b'punnéog! Ceóí caomteac clamsánaé truaigiméalaé sa simné agus an ceól a éagaó ar mo béal féin níos brónaige agus níos truaigiméalaige pós! Ué!

Léigéóireáct an ead? Go fcuirú dia an t-áó orraib! Ní raib, de leabraib agam áct an leabar beag amrán sin atá 'mo mála istig, agus a bí liom i n'gaé ceáru dár fadab, agus a bí de glanmeabair agam, an uile síolla de. Casaim agus d' atécasaim na

raimta sin agus mé 'mo sírde go cummáhar ós comair na teime móna na horócaimta fada airneam!

Cé tóspas orm é dá mbuailim amac le tuitim oróe, le cúpla uair a cur isteaé i b'pócair na gcomarsan san don teac ósta a bí san áit agus a bí cúpla míle bealaig uaim?

* * *

Tóstar orm é nó ná tóstar, 'sé a tóeanaim níos minice ná ba éoir dom b'éoir. Oróe dom, agus mé ag ól liom féin ann, cé buailpead isteaé áct an séaclaé mór de timncéar agus fadóar mór burde, a raib píosa dá sróim bainte de, le n-a cois. Glaoó mo tóime ar a gloime. Cáit sé siar é. Glaoó ar éann eile. Siar leis de slus. Líonaó an tríomaó gloime agus fadóar ar an mbóro é, áct toisg gan a tuille de'n airgeat beir ag an timncéar, níor tugaó tó é. Zeall sé go n-íocpaó sé an sgóar ar marom, zeall sé seo síru agus eile do'n óstóir, áct sin a raib de maíe tó ann. An iomarca de'n aítne a bí ag an tóime gnaoiteamail sin ar ríoirib na gcorcaín briste is tóca; ar éaoi ar bit, ní tuisbraó sé an gloime tó gan airgeat.

Tus an timncéar agharó ormsa.

"A tóime uasail," ar seisean go bog mealltaé "a tóime uasail," ar seisean liomsa, "ioc ar an ngloime beag suarac sin agus ní beró aítiméala ort paoi."

"D'feicim go tóí an tóabla i dtosaic é," arsa mise leis, "naé b'piceaim tú gur sean-saigóir mé a brisead!"

Breannaig sé go grinn orm.

"B'púil fíos a't céaro a tóeanas mé? arsa mo tóime, tóilparó mé?" arsa mo tóime, "tóilparó me an fadóar sin leat! 'Nois!"

Úearcas féin ar an n'gaóar mór burde a bí ag noctaó a éuro píocal paoi'n mbóro. Tósaig an timncéar fad mólaó: ní raib fadóar ariam ar an saogal a bí com leis i gcomraé; ní raib gurrpíad ar sliaib naé mbeireadó sé air; dá mbéad gavarde ná ropaire ná b'iteamíac ar bit eile ag tóeanam ar an teac, cé cosnócaó an áit áct eisean? agus mara raib sé tócaimail féin, cé'n b'rig sin agus a raib de súbailcib ag baint leis? agus ar noisg, cá b'púigeadó fear aonraic peata eile dá sórt?

"Agus cé méad atá uair ar an n'gaóar iongantac seo?" aóeirimse.

"Punnt!" ar seisean, "don punnt suarac amain!"

"Leatcoróim!" aóeirimse; áct baim an timncéar croíre luac cróimeac de camnt asam sul má puair sé ceitre s'gilleaca ar a fadóar a sáraig Uran agus s'geólaing, dá mb' fíor tó féin.

* * *

Leis an fírimne a ráó ní raib fadóar an timncéara—"Fobán" a túsas air—ní raib "Fobán" éomí tóoc-múinte le n-a cosamílaéct. Go veimim, d' eirig sé an-éanamail orm i n'póiaró tamail. Zeibeadó sé tóga agus roga fad bró ar feabas uaim. Níor beaúigeadó fadóar ariam mar beaúigeadó "Fobán." Áct b' fácaas tom naé raib sé sásta mar sin féin. Uaireannta, agus é n-a luige n-a cóulaó ag mo éasaib ós comair na teime, tósuigeadó sé ag gramaisge agus ag noctaó a éuro píocal tóireac is dá mbéad sé i n-ácrann i n'gaóar eile.

Sead sin é tóireac a bí uairó. Cé'n éaoi a b'éatopaó fadóar dá sórt maireactáil gan an píobán a stracaó as fadóar eile? agus cá raib an fadóar eile go b'éatopaó sé píobán a stracaó as agus gan don fadóar i b'póisgeaéct na mílte fada de'n áit áct fadóar an óstóra? agus dá tuisbraim annsin é le hagharó tóro a tóeanam, ar noisg ní f'éatopaim féin imteaéct ó'n áit gan tóeó nó tó a cáiteam ann?

Da mór an cátaó é agus an tóil a bhíod agam sa mbraon an uair sin, áct mara tóuisbraim ann é ní raib i roán tó áct an bás tóireasa tóroa.

Síru go tóí an teac mé lá, mé féin agus "Fobán." Ní rabamar i n'gar do'n teac ar cor ar bit gur

a' céile mar 'd'éanpaó 'd'á leóman 'd'ásac. 'd' 'd'aoime éiríodé ! Mac ann a bí an ropadó agus an réabadó, an cóimint agus an corairéacé ! Táimic leat an baile leis an troiró feiceál, agus marac gur tarrnuigeadó an 'd'á 'd'ádar ó n-a céile ní fásparó ceann ar bit aca beó.

Ní mórán de 'n' cúma a b'íodó orm n-a 'd'iaró sin. Ní túisge a b'íodó creáca mo 'd'ádar péim cneasaigíte agam ná 'd'uirpinn na 'd'ádar ag troiró arís. Ní raib ceacatar aca i n-ann an ceann eile a bualaó agus is iomóda seall a 'd'uireadó agus is iomóda 'd'eoé 'd'ólaó le linn an ama seo. 'd' 'd'eimim is beas o'róce nac é " 'd'obán " a 'd'áiteadó mé 'd'ereóru 'd'baile toisge a b'íodó ólta agam.

Acé táimic lá an mí-áó paói 'd'eire. 'd' 'd'iomnsaig an 'd'á 'd'ádar a 'd'éile, agus 'd'greim 'd'á 'd'huair 'd'ádar an óstóra ar 'd'riobán ar mo 'd'ádar-sa, agus an 'd'greim 'd'omáisteacé sin níor 'd'gaoil sé gur 'd'us sé leis an 'd'riobán, 'd'oir péoil agus aná !

Naró mé an 'd'ruais 'd'ao'gála annsin ! An 'd'ádar breá'g a bí eirigíte cóim ceana'mail sin orm n-a luise annsin ós mo cóimair amac san lút san lútaó ann ! 'd' 'd'uir na 'd'eo'ra le mo leicim. Leis an 'd'cúma a bí orm, níor 'd'cúimnigeas ar 'd'loime péim 'd'ól ; ní 'd'earnas acé mo " 'd'obán " boé a 'd'áiteam 'd'reasna ar mo 'd'ruim agus 'd'greadaó liom 'd'baile leis go 'd'eo'rac. 'd'áiteas an o'róce sin 'd'á 'd'orraim.

B'íos ar tí mo 'd'ádar boé a 'd'olacaó go beasac nuair a 'd'cúimnigeas ar ruo eile. Tuise a 'd'cúirpinn paói 'd'óó ar cor ar bit é ? Naró 'd'earr a 'd'raiceann a cóimneál ? 'd'huair mé 'd'gian. 'd' 'd'feannas mo 'd'obán boé. 'd'uireas a 'd'raiceann ar 'd'arraig paói 'n' 'd'gréim go raib sé tirm. Annsin céarto a 'd'éanpaim leis an 'd'raiceann céatona acé 'd'heist a 'd'éanam 'd'e agus an 'd'pionnac taob' amuis air !

Nac mé a bí bróda'mail ag uil go 'd'óí an teacé ósta agus an 'd'heist sin orm ! Ní 'd'featparóe a ráó nac raib mé ceana'mail ar an 'd'gádar agus 'd'heist a 'd'éanam 'd'á 'd'raiceann !

Anois ca'ípró-mé innseacé 'd'ib go mb'íodó a 'd'ádar péim paói 'd'glas ag an óstóir istig i 'd'g'io'ból i n-aice leis an teacé, ó marbaig sé mo 'd'ádar-sa. Ag uil 'd'ar 'd'oras an 'd'g'io'ból' seo 'd'om, an céató lá 'd'ar 'd'áiteas mo 'd'heist nua, 'd'ualas an 'd'apaim istig. Seas mé. 'd'ádar an óstóra a bí istig, agus é ar a 'd'it'éeall ag iarrató 'd'eaéc amac 'd'ugam. Seo, is cinnce go 'd'huair sé 'd'olaó a 'd'ean-na'maio. Ní cóimneócaó an saogal istig é. 'd'uir sé 'd'iacal leis san ádmuio agus 'd'osaig ag 'd'racadó agus ag réabadó. 'd'á 'd'earr an 'd'ioill air poll beas a 'd'éanam sa ádmuio. 'd'á 'd'earr gur paéctas a smuc sa bpoll sin. 'd'á 'd'earr arís go raib a 'd'ceann amuis 'd'rió, gur lean a 'd'olann a 'd'ceann—seo, a mí-anam, síú amac 'd'ugam é gur 'd'us sé an léim 'd'ia'balta amam suas orm leis an 'd'ean-na'maio a ionnsaige !

Acé má 'd'ionnsaig 'd'ádar an óstóra a 'd'ean-na'maio, ní i n-aigse 'd'huair sé é. Nuair a má'caig mo 'd'ádar-sa, nó a 'd'aró'be b'é'oir, an na'maio 'd'uisge, ní raib ribe air nar eirig n-a 'd'ól'g-seasam ! 'd'uir 'd'ádar an óstóra ar a 'd'úl ar an 'd'ebraio agus cor níor 'd'uir sé 'd'e ar 'd'eaó leat-naire. I laige a 'd'uaró sé le 'd'ae'bas roim 'd'aró'be a na'maio !

Rinneadó 'd'áirio.

" Cé 'n' 'd'áirio acá orraib ? " ars an 'd'áirsint Rua, " nac 'd'eirim lib gur eirig 'd'ac uile ribe 'd'ruaige a bí ar an 'd'heist sin n-a seasam nuair a mo'caig sé 'd'ádar an óstóra 'd'uisge, 'd'eirig sin. Agus an uile uair eile n-a 'd'iaró sin go 'd'casparóe 'd'ádar an óstóra liom, mo'cácam an 'd'ruais ag eirge ar mo 'd'heist mar 'd'eaó 'd'eil'gne.

'd'raimneóige ann ! agus ó 'd'inn i 'd'con'abairc mo 'd'áis an uile uair a 'd'á'paim i n-aice le teacé an óstóra, 'd'eirig mé as a 'd'úl ann ar 'd'paó, agus 'd'eirig mé as an 'd'ól 'd'e réir a 'd'éile ar an mbealac sin."

(An céató 'd'ceann eile :—VI.—'d'Cró'acé.)

"TALES FROM THE TENTH."

"All is quiet along the Potamac" will have to be our motto this time. It has been a very quiet period since our last communication—even the recruits have been "marking time."

* * * * *

Our friend "Bobby" Lynn in the clothing stores is very thankful that he never was connected with the Law. From the trouble he has over "Civil Suits" he says it must be some job.

* * * * *

A party of Engineers have arrived from Griffith Barracks to instal an electric plant. Judging from the holes they have made in the ground it must be an able-bodied "plant." One consolation anyway—from the "currents" of water floating round, there should not be much trouble in locating the "main."

* * * * *

We feel it is about time we paid a tribute to the way in which we have been treated by all classes in Kerry since the Battalion arrived. Everyone has been more than kind to us, in fact it seems to be the general desire even amongst those who "agree to differ" with us that the sooner the "late unpleasantness" is forgotten the better. This friendly attitude, coming as it does after our similar experience in Limerick, is very pleasing to all ranks. It is very evident that our reputation preceded us, and we intend to live up to it.

* * * * *

1st Recruit to 2nd Recruit, during interval, after a lively half-hour's P.T., referring to Instructor: "Call him Corporal B——! That's a mistake. His right name is 'Corporal Punishment.'"

* * * * *

People we would like to meet: The person who first called this place "Bally" Mullen.

* * * * *

What's in a name? The Q.M.'s Department evidently believes there is something, as witness the appointment of Private Foody S. "to be employed in Food Stores."

COOGAN & CO.

WITH THE ELEVENTH.

The Commanding Officer has installed a Billiard Table in Kickham Barracks, Clonmel. We hope, that at least, some of our recognised Billiard players (we have a good few) will set the ball rolling.

* * * * *

It has been rumoured that the Battalion Adjutant was not enamoured of his long sojourn in "The West." We do not know the origin of this rumour, but we are glad to see that his health has not been affected at any rate.

* * * * *

Among the officers who have arrived recently from the Army School of Instruction, is an old friend, Lieut. Fitzpatrick.

* * * * *

Several recruits, of fine physique, have joined up in this Battalion area lately. It is due to the ability of "The Recruiting Staff" that such fine specimens of manhood have been accepted. We wonder if any of them will find their way to this Battalion in the near future.

* * * * *

The officers of "The Eleventh" give most of their recreation to clock golf, and are becoming experts. Can any reader state if it is a pastime in other Battalions. A Tournament could be got up quite easily.

* * * * *

Private Coote is in training for the Boxing Tournament to take place shortly at Collins Barracks, Cork. He already possesses several trophies, and hopes to add a few more to the collection.

* * * * *

We are at a loss to account for the rumour that the officer's mess Sergeant "finds it hard to make ends meat." The N.C.O. mentioned has had considerable experience as a "First Aid Sergeant."



WITH THE THIRD BRIGADE

We hear great stories about the new Mess for the Officers of the 3rd Brigade. The catering has now been placed in the hands of Commandant Fred O'Connor—a very capable Officer indeed. While acting as Mess President recently the fare was “wondrous.” Rumour has it that he thus ensured his election. If all the suggestions are carried out this winter, Cork certainly will be a good place to live in, though some of the junior Officers—who have not much money—consider it would be a good place to live out of.

Under the very able guidance of Colonel J. Byrne great things are hoped for this Mess. The Officers, however, will miss a lot of friends who are gone to the Command Mess at Sydney House. En passant, it is worth mentioning that the Command Mess is a huge success.

Sydney House is situated about 200 yards from the Barracks, standing in its own grounds. It is a magnificent mansion, and is certainly in keeping with the dignity of a Command Mess. The General Officer Commanding is to be congratulated on his good taste in furnishing and equipping the Mess and Headquarters complete.

THINGS WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW.

If it is proposed to give the Brigade Commander pontoons to be attached to his motor car for inspections in West Cork?

If it is true that prominent Officers on inspection recently in West Cork tried to make a sailing boat out of a Vauxhall car? If it is true that they failed miserably, and were, as accounts go, very bad sailors indeed?

If it is true that the Officers of the 18th Battalion had all next month's cheques plunged in a bet with the Limerick Officers on the result of Sunday's match?

If it is true that the Command Supplies Officer cannot be torn away from the Officers' Mess of the 3rd Brigade, and why?

If it is true that the Brigade Adjutant has christened one of his prize Kerry Blue pups “Sako” and the other “Porky,” and, if so, why?

If it is true that the Brigade Chaplain's house is falling in (or, should I say, falling out?), and what does he think of it?

Will Uncle Sam the Sixth win the next time out?

RECKLESS RHYMES.

There's a Sergeant who stands at the gate,
As a Provost, they say he's first rate.
He came from Red Cross,
He's a jolly fine boss,
And the troops call him “Chalky the Great”!

The Staff recently went on inspection,
In a Vauxhall that had no defection;
They ran into a gale,
Just outside of Kinsale,
And they had to walk home in dejection.

We've another young fellow at Law,
I might mention his name isn't Shaw.
They have christened him Dan,
He's a great tennis man,
You can see by the size of his paw!

RUFFLE.



A glimpse of the Sham Battle which was the big feature of the Army display in the Fifteen Acres on Wednesday, September 24th. The Hibernian Military School was held as a detached post by a White Force and was attacked, and finally captured by a Green Force of all arms. The Air Service and Artillery made the early stages of the battle thrilling and picturesque, whilst the final advance of the White Infantry in a series of short dashes against heavy fire and under a torrential downpour of rain had all the elements of “the real thing.” Colonel P. O'Connor, the Officer i/c of the Operations, is to be congratulated on the success of the spectacle, which even the inclement weather could not mar.

["Freeman's Journal" Photo and Etching.]



Óglaigh
na hÉireann
DEFENCE FORCES IRELAND

THE BRITISH ARMY AND THE IRISH LANGUAGE.

Remarkable Proclamation issued in Ireland over One Hundred Years ago.

Do cuireadh amach an Fógra atá annso thíos sa bhliadhain 1806, i gcóir na nGaedhilgeoirí a bhí i n-Arm Shasana an uair sin. Tá an t-Ordú bunadhasach i gcló. Clódoirí oifigiúla an Rialtais a bhí ann an uair sin, a dhein é chlóbhualladh. Sfleann Mr. E. R. McC. Dix, an duine gur leis an chóip, atá i gceist agam-sa, ná fuil anois ann acht aon chóip amháin eile de'n bhFógra so, agus bhíodh an ceann san i seilbh an Lord Chief Justice Gibson. Dubhairt an t-Athair Stiophán de Brún, C.I., liom gur cuimhin le duine, go bhfuil aithne aige air, agus a bhíodh i n-Arm Shasana, Fograí agus Orduighthe de'n tsórd san bheith i n-áirde i mBearraicí i n-Iarthar na h-Eireann.

Is ón Athair Stiophán de Brún, C.I., a fuaras sa an macsamhail de'n Ordú atá curtha i gcló annso. Is mian liom mo bhuidheachas ar a shon san do chur i n-íúil do annso agus do'n duine gur leis an t-Ordú bunadhasach, i.e., Mr. E. R. McC. Dix.

Tá aistiriú déanta agam ar an bhFógra a chabhrócaidh, b'fhéidir le lucht foghluma na Gaedhilge. Is maith is eól dom amhlthach nach aistiriú ró-chruinn é. Foillseofar an chuid eile de'n Ordú sa chéad uimhir eile.

BARRA Ó BRIAIN, Maor.

Oifig an Chogaidh
a mBaile Átha Cliath
An 1d La do Nohhember
an 1806

(TRANSLATION.)

War Office
Dublin
1st Day of November
1806

Riaghlacha agus Orduighthe.

Le h-Arm an Ríogh chur an ordughaah níos fearr agus leis na Saighdiuraighe bheith a slighe níos fearr, mar ta a bharrantas an Ríogh don 7a la do October, 1806, agus an Actaibh airighthe do deineamh an Siosa deireanach don Pharlíament.

Am agus Tearma Liostala.

An sna Coisighthe
(Infantry) 7 mbliaghna
Marcsluagh
(Cavalry) 10 mbliaghna
Ordonas
(Artillery) 12 mbliaghna

Fir ar mhian leo dul air aigheadh leis an Dara Tearma seirbhise liostalfar airis iad:

An sna Cosighthe,
7 mbliaghna
Marcsluagh 7 mbliaghna
Ordonas 5 mbliaghna

Fir ar mhian leo dul asteach ar an Triughadh Tearma Seirbhise liostalfar airis iad:

An sna Cosighthe,
7 mbliaghna
Marcsluagh, 7 mbliaghna
Ordonas, 5 mbliaghna

Ni lualfar do Mhaor na do shaighdiur liostail ar an Dara Tearma Seirbhise, acht air itaoibh astigh do bhliaghain do Chrich an Chead Tearma, iona air an Triughadh Tearma acht a ffogas Dha Bhliaghan do Dheirigh an Dara Tearma agus ni tuigtear an Tearma Nuadh do thosnuighe a Ceas air bith acht tar eis Chriochnaithe an Tearma roimhe.

Ni lualfar do Mhaor na do shaighdiur liostail airis, na gceallmhuin go liostalfa a Regiment air bith eile acht an a Regiment fein sol fa leigtear amach iomlan e.

Ni lualfar do Mhaor na do Shaighdiur, aig dul as aon tSeirbhise amhain, a Seirbhise eile, mar ta as na Coisighthe san Marcsluagh, as an Marcsluagh san Ordonas acht cheadna, dul asteach Tearma Bliaghan iona agus an chead Tearma Seirbhise don tSeirbhise air a tteighion se asteach.

D'fhir oga aig liostail roimh aois ocht mbliaghna deag, caithfear an t-am do chriochnochadh ocht mBliaghna Deag do chur leis na Seacht, no Deich, no na Dath-eag Bliaghna.

As feidir Tearmaighe Seirbhise do fhadughadh leis an Oifigeach ata a Ceamhacht on nGobhermead Coimhlonaidhe, no Oilean, no Stasun, comhfhad agus bhaineas le Maor no le Saighdiuraighe a Seirbhise a Muith, go ceann se mhí; agus leis an Ríogh, mar bhainios le Maor no le Saighdiuraighe a Seirbhise a Muith no aig Baile, go ceann se mhí do Shiothchain gan buairt, tar eis chriochnaithe an Tearma Seirbhise do bhiodar do thabhairt, acht amhain a ccomhnaidhe, nach raghadh an Fadughadh Seirbhise sin an aon chas, tar thri Bliaghna.

Aon Mhaor no aon tsaighdiur do liostail air agus ata aig tabhairt a Tearma Deanaigh Seirbhise, ni cuirfeair air bheith a Seirbhise fa'an Ffadughadh Seirbhise sin, acht air feadh se mhí tar eis chriochnaithe an Tearma Deanaigh sin.

REGULATIONS AND ORDERS.

For better regulating The King's Army and for the betterment of the troops, according to the Proclamation of the 7th October and according to certain Acts passed at the last session of Parliament.

Period and Terms for Enlistment.

In the Infantry ... 7 years
Cavalry ... 10 years
Artillery ... 12 years

Those who wish to continue for a second term of service may be enlisted again:

In the Infantry ... 7 years
Cavalry ... 7 years
Artillery ... 5 years

Those who wish to enter for a third term of service may be enlisted again:

In the Infantry ... 7 years
Cavalry ... 7 years
Artillery ... 5 years

No sergeant or soldier may re-enlist for a second period of service, except within one year from the end of the first period, nor for a third period except within two years from the end of the second period; and the new period is not considered to have begun in any case until the previous one has been completed.

No sergeant or soldier may re-enlist nor promise to enlist in any other regiment except his own until he is fully discharged.

No sergeant or soldier may leave one branch for another—for example, pass from the Infantry to the Cavalry or from the Cavalry to the Artillery, but rejoin his own branch for the period of a year.

Youths under eighteen years of age who enlist must add the time up to the completion of the eighteenth year to the Seven, Ten or Twelve.

Periods of service can be lengthened for six months by the Officer empowered by the Government of the Colony, Island or Station if the sergeants or soldiers concerned happen to be on foreign service. And by the King, sergeants and soldiers at home or abroad may be retained for a period of six months after peace has been restored, even if they have completed their term of service. However, it is to be always understood that the additional period of service shall not exceed three years.

Any sergeant or soldier who is serving for the third period shall not be kept for additional service, but for a period of six months after the completion of that third term.

As feidir Maoir agus Saighdiuraighe an san Chathlan (Bhattalion) amhain a Ceathlan eile don Regiment cheadna; no ma bhid Crodhliothach, a sean Chathlan, acht air a shon sin ni feidir a mbreith as aoin Regiment amhain go Regiment eile gan a cead fein.

Gach maor no saighdiur a bhfuil ceart aige air a legion amach go h-iomlan, mas a Muith bhios a Seirbhís an uair sin, do chur don Bhreatain Mhoir no go h'Eirin, saor o chosdas, agus an Pagha dfaghail do lualtar do Mhaoir agus do Shaighdiuraighe air Mhairsail, on ait a ttiogan sé ar tir go ttiagh an bparaiste no go ttiagh an ait ar liostaladh an chead uair é, do reir Dha Mhíle Dheag do Mhairsail gach aon La, leis na Laethe cinte chun Sgithidh; agus gach aon Mhaor no Saighdiur a bhfuil ceart lighthe amach aige, do ligfear amach an aon Ait san Rioghacht Aonaighthe, acht amhain an ait duthchais, mar ata reamhraite, an Pagha ceadna bheith aige o a ait a leighear air siubhal e go ttiagh an ait ar dearbhadh é mar ta reamhraite.

Rataighe Pagha lualta o Pharlíament do Mhaoir agus

do Shaighdiuraighe an san Arm, aig tosnughadh on 25^o La do Juin, 1806, agus an la sin fein:

Draguin Garda agus Draguin. gach la

Mor-Mhaor

(Sergeant-Major), 3/2

Maor (Sergeant), 2/2

Fodh-Mhaor (Corporal), 1/7½

An Ceadna tar eis:

10 mbliaghna seirbhise, 1/8½

17 mbliaghna seirbhise, 1/9½

Trumpadoir, 1/7

Saighdiur, 1/3

An Ceadna tar eis:

10 mbliaghna, 1/4

17 mbliaghna, 1/5

Coisighthe don Line chun Seirbhise Choitcheann.

gach la

Mor-Mhaor

no

Maor Maighthe

Ceathramhan, 2/6

Maor, 1/10

Fodh-Mhaor, 1/4

An Ceadna

7 1/5

14 1/6

Drumaer no Feofter, 1/1½

Saighdiur, 1/-

An Ceadna

7 1/1

14 1/2

Any sergeant or soldier may be transferred from one battalion to another in the same regiment, or if they are infirm from their old battalion, but they may not be transferred from one regiment to another without their own consent.

Any sergeant or soldier who is entitled to full discharge, if he happens to be on foreign service at the time, shall have his expenses defrayed to Great Britain or Ireland, and shall receive the pay due to sergeants and soldiers on march from the place where they land to the parish or place where they first enlisted, taking twelve miles per day as the rate of marching with certain days for rest; and every sergeant and soldier entitled to discharge who shall be discharged in any place in the United Kingdom except, as already mentioned, his native place, the same pay rate from the place of discharge to his own place.

Rates of Pay authorised by Parliament for Sergeants and Soldiers in the Army, beginning from the 25th June inclusive:

Dragoon Guards & Dragoons.

	per day
Sergeant-Major	... 5/2
Sergeant	... 2/2
Corporal	... 1/7½
Trumpeter	... 1/7
Soldier	... 1/3
etc., etc.	

Infantry of the Line for Ordinary Service.

	per day
Sergeant-Major	... 2/6
Sergeant	... 1/10
Corporal	... 1/4
Drummer	... 1/1½
Soldier	... 1/-
etc., etc.	

FROM THE FOURTEENTH.

The appearance of our notes in cold print caused something in the nature of a sensation, and the Battalion Editor now finds himself threatened with a series of libel actions.

The topic of the hour is—How to keep the Battalion Editor's hair at the proper literary length, and the same time in conformity with regulations.

The man who suggested that the Editor should try and cultivate a literary expression of countenance, if he couldn't manage it in his notes, has been extinguished.

The burning question of the week was Coal for a certain office at New Barracks. The Quartermaster is doing his best to prevent the question from developing into a heated argument.

It is reported that the said Quartermaster lost his heart in Limerick. The Battalion wag suggests that he merely exchanged it for a copy of Defence Order No. 29.

The latest graduate of the Military College is NOT going to China as military adviser to General Wu Pi Fu.

Last Friday's argument—The contractor's lame Eggs—cuses. Phew.

This week's hero. The man who said to the Adjutant, "No, Sir, I did not shave. Would you really notice it?"

Dan was at a party last week and sang, "Absence makes the heart grow fonder." When up for Orders next morning for being late, it was impressed upon him that "Presence" was the only thing that mattered.

Our fellows want to know:—

Has the Orderly Room Sergeant been thoroughly initiated into the mysteries of "Key-tapping" yet?

Can Corporal H— tell us who exactly won the "handball tournament"?

Is it a fact that under the new organization the senior partner of the Limited Liability Company, Gog and MacGog, will not be entitled to a fungus. Should this be the case, the possibilities opened up are alarming, for then the living prototype of "Ole Bill" (*vide* our Pioneer Corporal) will be extinct.

Does Captain Blank really contemplate entering the new order, and if so, does his knowledge of Cannon Law justify his intentions?

This week's most extraordinary act—Chasing THE Rainbow.

Does the B.S.M. TIPP, the heights of saluting by 'phone. GOG AND MAGOG.

Latest of things military to be condemned is what is described by Miss Marjorie Gullan, of Glasgow, as "military breathing."

Miss Gullan is a lecturer on speech training and the teaching of poetry, and she was addressing a meeting of the County of Middlesex Education Society in Westminster City School.

As a result of "military breathing," she said, air was "jammed into the chest," thus depriving a person of all freedom. This sort of breathing meant death to the proper use of the lungs.

ECHOES FROM THE EASTERN COMMAND

Congratulations, Eastern Command, on the victory against the Western. Easterns are all delighted, not the least being the Commandant of the 21st, and that other "Enthusiast" who has just gone on leave to celebrate the anniversary of a happy event that took place 12 months ago.

A certain Officer of the 21st, now on the Mess Committee, is making things look up, and is hot on the "Dixies."

The 21st Battalion have not yet heard from any Battalion regarding the Challenge thrown out in the last issue. It is whispered that the 22nd have a notion in this direction.

All dogs (his own excepted) to be executed is the desire of a certain Officer, owing to howling disturbance nightly.

We notice a few youngsters get lessons on football very often, and certainly if they follow the example shown them they will have no cause for regret, as their Instructor has nothing to learn in any of our favourite outdoor pastimes.

What about the 10 Loaves affair?

Yes, we have actually got medals for Handball at Collins Barracks.

Did our representatives really expect to win at the recent tournament?

At the time of going to Press "Bill Roy" was complaining of headache. Would that Green Book have anything to do with the ailment? "Bill" is amusing to hear on the "Dough" question.

"Sean" looks well on the "Dickey" going through the city with rations, but complains of the fast rate that "Gees" travel. Is it right that he is considering seeking transfer to the Spur Brigade?

The Sergeants are to have their Dance on 25th, in the La Scala. My word, We are progressing! We hear great preparations are being made (ask P.D.). We wish them a Bumper Night. Is our Brigade friend, T.C., to be the "Boy" of the night? Has Sergt. T. O'C. got the Jazz Band he was out on the hunt for a few nights ago?

Owing to the heavy duties in directing Square traffic these days, "Paddy" is thinking of asking for clerical aid to continue his present post.

Sexton and Bishop were early arrivals from 24th for Command match. Pity they had not a "Church" in the 24th to bring along also.

"Tony," the 21st Battalion mascot, is confined to Civics owing to the fact that P.A. Peter Dunne has got his tunic, and Tailor "Bill" Jones has got his breeches and leggings.

Our cyclist has returned fit and well.

Arithmetic books are much in demand these times.

A certain Officer in the Command has now got over a strenuous season's work. He is an ideal handicapper; by the way he kept that little affair that took place a few weeks ago very quiet. He is one of the best.

"Chris" looked after the Command Footballers well.

"Cliff" has now got a New Brown (which nearly disappeared as quickly as it arrived), and is looking forward for all and sundry at the next tournament of Capt. Keough's.

"Crooky" has returned to the Boxers' Camp.

"Bill" Gray has now some opposition in height in his class. Is "Owen" another addition, he is also of the hefty class.

Income tax has been freely discussed lately, hours have been spent trying to solve the puzzle sheets.

"Mick" will have to give up football, if the present rush of "Locks" continues.

A certain Officer of high rank seemed pleased at the representatives securing a good share of the recent prizes. We think he would have liked to have had the Spikes on again.

Does Martin Daly count the steps he covers daily? Something is the attraction outside these times.

Golfers did not do at all badly recently, and with time Capt. Martin will bring laurels to the Command.

Did Sergt. Pickings get that Char-a-banc last Sunday? Why was his pal, Mac, not invited?

Jack Higgins, of Abbatoir fame, was noticed greatly interested in last issue of "An t-Oglach."

Our respected Chapain had ony to make two guesses in his attempt to locate the culprit of the last "Echoes." Can he guess this time?

A CHALLENGE ACCEPTED.

To the Editor of "An t-Oglach."

Sir,—The very commendable rallying song of the 21st Infantry Battalion Football Team has intrigued the 14th Battalion Team so much that they have asked our President to accept the challenge appearing in your last number. I do so on his behalf, and add that the dear boys here are so shy and retiring it falls to my lot to say—They fear nothing in or out of football shorts, or any other kind of shorts for that matter. Of course they will be furious with me for this publicity, but I refuse to let them hide their respective lights under the proverbial bushel. May I add that their rallying song is the new and revised edition of "Let them All Come."

SECRETARY A.A.A., 14th BATTALION.

New Barracks, Limerick,
6th October, 1924.

OUR SERIAL STORY.

In response to the demand of a large section of our readers, we have decided to publish a serial story of Adventure. It will be entitled

FOREIGN FIELDS,

and the first lengthy instalment will appear shortly. It will be found humorous and interesting despite the fact that it is not

BY
GEORGE BERNARD SHAW.

OUR INFLUENCE ON OTHERS.

"A bachelor Officer is dependent for his happiness on his brother Officers. He naturally leads the lives they lead—he does the things they do. Most young men when they join an Army are in a plastic state—strong forces for good or evil. They consciously and, even more unconsciously, mould themselves and their ideas on the other people in the Mess.

"Beyond question the whole future of a boy on joining may depend upon the habits of the other people in the Mess. If you indulge in excessive drinking, gambling, or the dozen other bad habits which men contract, you also extend an invitation to every youngster to do likewise.

"I believe that if we all stopped to think of the possible effect of our actions on others—and particularly on the younger ones—and if this kept our conduct on just a little higher level, we should certainly become better men. Who knows, perhaps better men?"—Anonymous.

ARMY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

The All-Army Week—Conduct of the Swimming Competitions—Sharp Criticism by President of G.H.Q. Club—Position of Chess—Public Statement Invited—Meeting of Standing Committee—Annual Meeting of Golfing Society.

A meeting of the Standing Committee was held at General Headquarters, Parkgate, on Tuesday, 30th ult., Major-General D. Hogan presiding. Also present:—Major-General Cronin, Major-General Brennan, G.O.C., Southern Command; Rev. S. Pigott and Commandant Colgan.

A letter from the Secretary, General Headquarters Command, requesting the Standing Committee to postpone the Hurling Final fixed for Croke Park, Sunday, October the 5th, was dealt with. In view of the fact that four of the principal players of the General Headquarters team were selected to play with Dublin against Leix in the Leinster Hurling Championship, Major-General Brennan agreeing, it was decided to postpone the final until Wednesday, October the 8th, at 3 o'clock sharp.

The Secretary reported that the following Cups, presented in 1923, had not yet been returned to Athletic Headquarters:—

The Clancy Cup,
The Murphy Cup,
The Earl of Wicklow Cup, and
The Major-General Morrin Cup.

The Secretary was directed to communicate with the persons concerned, ordering immediate return; failing this, legal action to be taken for the recovery of the Cups.

It was decided to seek permission for the holding of a Concert at La Scala Theatre by No. 1 Army Band in aid of Athletic Funds.

The Secretary was directed to write to G.O.C.'s notifying them of the Cups won by the athletes within their Commands, and requesting the appointment of an Officer for the purpose of receiving the Cups on behalf of the Command, and signing the necessary guarantees.

A Sub-Committee, consisting of the Rev. T. J. O'Callaghan, Rev. S. Pigott, Major McGrath and Commandant Colgan, was appointed to draft Rules and prepare Rule Book for the Association. Same to be submitted to the Executive Council prior to publication.

MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

We have to go to Press with this number before the October meeting of the Executive Council, A.A.A., but will publish a full report in our next issue. The following is the agenda for the meeting:—

(1) Minutes. (2) Accounts, All-Army Championships. (3) Appeal—21st Infantry Battalion v. Eastern Command. (4) Date for Boxing Championships, Command and Army. (5) Date for opening Hurling and Football Contests, Chaplains' and Medical Services' Cups. (6) Date for Cross-Country Championships. (7) Repairs to Portobello Grounds. (8) Attestation Nancy Lee, Boxing Instructor. (9) Grant, Canteen Rebate Funds. (10) Appointment of delegate to attend N.A.C.A.I. Council. (11) Arranging of Challenge Matches between Army Handball Champions and Champions Civic Guard and D.M.P. (12) Account from Railway Transport Officer re All-Army Football Team. (13) Account, Rentons, Glasgow.

BILLIARD MATCH AT THE CURRAGH.

A very successful Billiard Match was held at the Engineer Barracks, Curragh Camp, on the 2nd inst., between Engineers' Sergeants and Headquarters, Beresford Sergeants' Mess. The following were selected to represent their respective Messes:—Headquarters Beresford Mess—B.S.M., Barker J.; B.Q.M.S., Birch T. K.; Q.M.S., Lyons F.; Sergt., Pluck P.; Sergt., Burton J. Engineers—C.S.M. Flood, Sergt. Lewis, Sergt. O'Brien, Sergt. Costello, Sergt. McGreer.

The match was won by the Engineers by 32 points. The

total aggregate points were:—Engineers' Sergeants' Mess, 375; Headquarters Beresford, 343.

The following were the individual scores:—

ENGINEERS.		BERESFORD.	
Sergeant McGreer, 100	v.	Sergeant Burton, 68.	
Sergeant Lewis, 75	v.	B.Q.M.S. Birch, 100.	
C.S.M. Flood, 100	v.	B.S.M. Barker, 91.	
Sergeant Costello, 100	v.	Sergeant Pluck, 84.	
Sergeant O'Brien	v.	Q.M.S. Lyons, no match.	

The match was decided on the four games played.

ASSOCIATION CRITICISED.

Commandant Cotter and the Swimming Competitions.—
A.A.A. and Chess.

It must be distinctly understood that the views expressed by correspondents are not necessarily those of the Editor.

To the Editor of "An t-Oglach."

A Chara.—What is wrong with the A.A.A.? Is its programme too big to be efficiently handled? No one is more ready to admit than the writer that it is infinitely easier to criticise than to execute, but the suggestions which are made with regard to the Swimming Competitions leave me under the firm impression that the usual process of smoothing over complaints does more harm than good, and that some public explanation should be given for the manner in which the Swimming programme for All-Army Week was handled.

A Sub-Committee, composed of Rev. Father O'Callaghan, Commandant O'Connor and Sergeant-Major Kennedy, was nominated to look after swimming. The Secretary of the A.A.A. has informed this Club representative that the date of the Swimming Competition was altered from the 27th, as originally announced, to the 17th, on the report of the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee was never summoned and never met. It is understood that Father O'Callaghan and Commandant O'Connor, for reasons at present known to themselves, advised the Executive Council of the A.A.A. on this matter, in the name of the Sub-Committee.

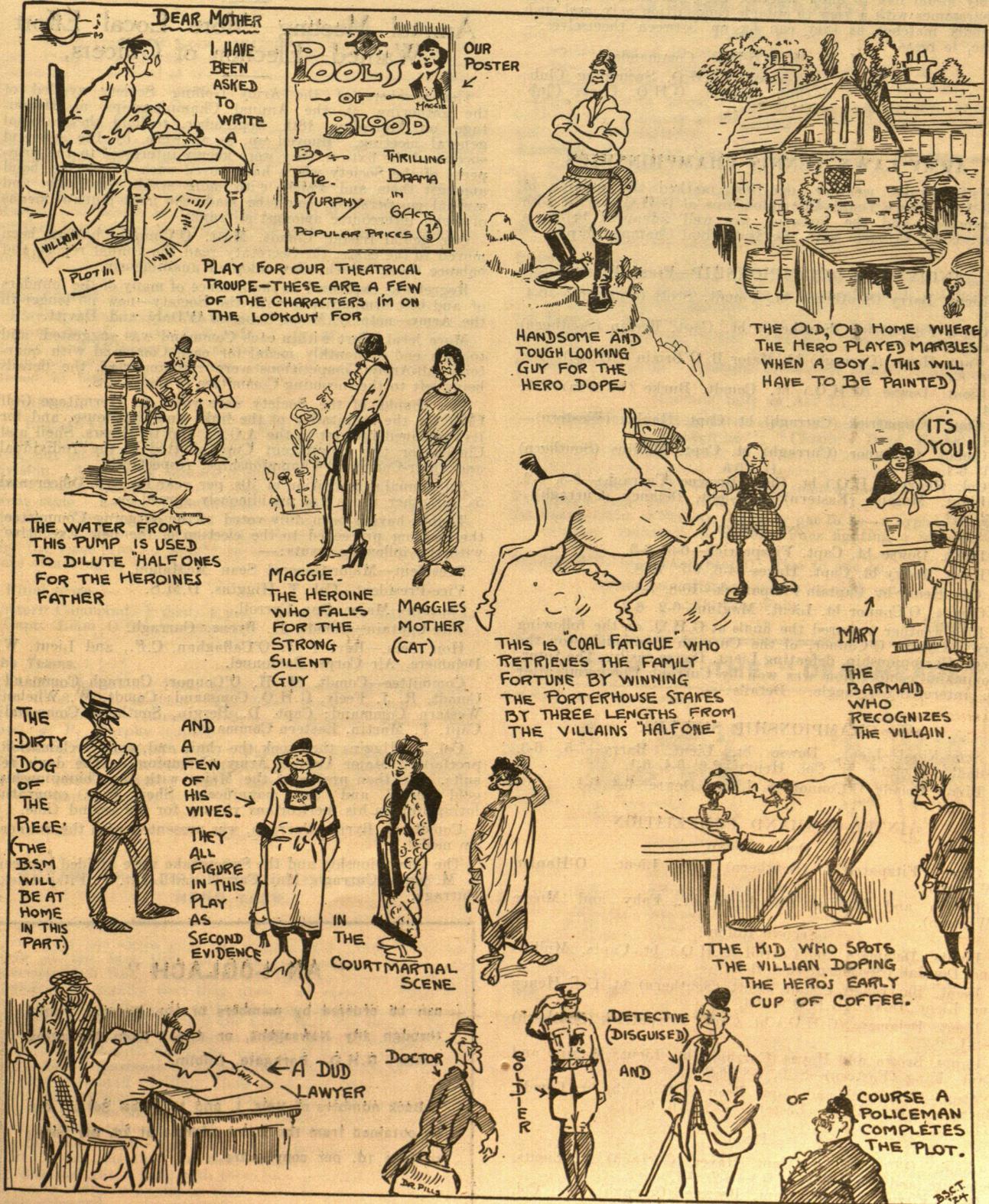
Now, the impression is abroad, and the statement is clearly made, that the date of the competition was altered for the personal convenience of Commandant O'Connor, who would have been unable to compete on the original date fixed. I am sure Commandant O'Connor will appreciate that this matter is better dealt with publicly, and thus do away with rumours suggesting favouritism and a very poor sense of sportsmanship. The results of the non-functioning of the Sub-Committee, and of the bringing forward of the date of the competition, have been deplorable. I know of one club from which over twenty entries were made. None of the competitors turned up owing to the alteration of the date, which affected training. A postponement would have allowed them to slow up on training, but bringing forward the date meant that they would have to compete with their training unfinished.

There was no Water Polo Match, and competitors' tickets were not issued, with the result that the A.A.A. has the unenviable distinction of creating the precedent of charging competitors gate entrance fee for the privilege of competing in their competitions.

I now turn to "An t-Oglach" of the 5th of July, 1924, and find under the scheme of organisation for Army Athletic Association, under Group B, the game of Chess is included. As will be noticed in the public Press, all the Chess Clubs in Dublin are getting under way for the 1924-25 season, and programmes are being fixed. Does the A.A.A. propose to do anything for Chess, or are they too busy with other things?

(Continued on page 12.)

PRIVATE MURPHY GIVES THE DRAMA A LIFT.



A public statement would be welcomed, as the few clubs in the Army would like to know whether they will have to fix their programmes with a view to outside competition only, and such friendly matches as they can fix up between themselves.—
Mise, le meas,

J. P. M. COTTER, Commandant,
President, G.H.Q. Swimming Club;
Club Captain, G.H.Q. Chess Club.

ARMY LAWN TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Unfavourable weather conditions marked the opening of the Army Lawn Tennis Championships at G.H.Q. on the 25th September, and the forenoon was well advanced before a start could be made with the Individual Championship.

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP—FIRST ROUND.

Lieut. Barry (Southern) bt. Comdt. Scott (Southern)—6-4, 6-3.
Capt. Fitzpatrick (Southern) bt. Capt. Bergin (Southern)—6-2, 6-3.
Capt. Hayes (Curragh) bt. Major B. O'Briain (G.H.Q.)—7-5, 2-6, 8-6.
Lieut. Dowse (G.H.Q.) bt. Comdt. Burke (Eastern)—6-1, 6-4.
Capt. Fitzpatrick (Curragh) bt. Capt. Hanlon (Western)—6-4, 6-4.
Comdt. O'Connor (Curragh) bt. Capt. Mullins (Southern) 6-1, 6-1.
Col. Henry (G.H.Q.) bt. Capt. Browne (Curragh)—6-3, 6-2.
Lieut. Maginn (Eastern) bt. Lieut. Delaney (Curragh)—6-2, 6-1.

2ND ROUND.

Lieut. Dowse bt. Capt. Fitzpatrick—6-3, 6-3.
Lieut. Barry bt. Capt. Hayes—4-6, 9-7, 10-8.
Col. Henry bt. Captain Fitzpatrick—10-8, 7-5.
Comdt. O'Connor bt. Lieut. Maginn—6-2, 6-2.
Fine weather favoured the finals at G.H.Q. on the following day. Comdt. O'Connor, of the Curragh Command, won the Army Championship, defeating Lieut. Dowse easily. The Inter-Command competition was won by Curragh Command after an interesting struggle. Details:—

CHAMPIONSHIP SINGLES.

Semi-Final—Lieut. Dowse bt. Lieut. Barry—7-5, 6-3.
Comdt. O'Connor bt. Col. Henry—2-6, 6-4, 6-1.
Final—Comdt. O'Connor bt. Lieut. Dowse—6-4, 6-1.

INTER-COMMAND COMPETITION.

FIRST ROUND.

Capt. Fitzpatrick (Southern) bt. Lieut. O'Hanlon (Western).
Bergin and Mullins (Southern) bt. Fahy and Moore (Western).

SECOND ROUND.

Lieuts. Delamere and Carroll (G.H.Q.) bt. Capts. Mullins and Dowdall (Southern)—6-4, 6-3.
Lieut. Barry and Comdt. Scott (Southern) bt. Col. Henry and Lieut. Dowse (G.H.Q.)—6-4, 6-3.
Lieut. Delamere (G.H.Q.) bt. Capt. Fitzpatrick (Southern)—6-1, 6-2.
Capts. Brown and Hayes (Curragh) bt. Lieut. Maginn and Capt. King (Eastern)—8-10, 6-1, 6-2.
Capt. Fitzpatrick and Capt. Browne (Curragh) bt. Comdt. Burke and Col. Ahern (Eastern)—6-4, 2-6, 6-1.

FINAL.

Comdt. O'Connor and Capt. Hayes (Curragh) bt. Lieuts. Delamere and Carroll (G.H.Q.)—6-2, 6-1.
Capt. Fitzpatrick and Capt. Browne (Curragh) bt. Col. Henry and Lieut. Dowse (G.H.Q.)—6-0, 2-6, 6-0.

THE ARMY GOLFING SOCIETY.

Annual Meeting—More Local Effort Wanted—Election of Officers,

The members of the Army Golfing Society availed of the gathering at the Annual Championships at Hermitage on Thursday, 18th September, to hold their annual general meeting. Buoyed up, as all were, by the splendid success of the fixture, they were keenly interested in the prospects of the Society which had proved such a splendid bond amongst them and which, with more stable conditions and mutual co-operation, could be made the most fruitful means of social intercourse amongst all ranks.

Our genial friend, Comdt. Matt. O'Connor, having been moved to the chair, the Secretary read the annual report and balance sheet, which were adopted unanimously.

Regret was expressed at the absence of many of the founders and best sympathisers with the Society—now no longer in the Army—notably Major-Generals O'Daly and Davitt.

More local effort within each Command was suggested, and to this end a monthly medal for each Command with quarterly All-Army Competitions were recommended, the details being left to the incoming Committee of the A.G.S.

The thanks of the Society were voted to Hermitage Golf Club for the hospitality of the links and Clubhouse, and for its continued interest in the A.G.S., and to Messrs. Sheil and Clarke for two magnificent Cups allotted to the Individual and Inter-Command Championships, respectively.

An annual subscription of 10s. per year for each Officer and 5s. for other ranks was unanimously agreed on.

Thanks having been duly voted to the outgoing Committee, the meeting proceeded to the election of the new Executive, with the following results:—

President—Major-General Sean McMahon.

Vice-President—Col. T. Higgins, D.M.S.

Captain—Major Dan Carroll.

Vice-Captain—Comdt. H. Byrne, Curragh.

Hon. Secs.—Rev. T. J. O'Callaghan, C.F., and Lieut. W. Delamere, Air Corps, Baldonnell.

Committee—Comdt. M. H. O'Connor, Curragh Command; Comdt. R. J. Feely, G.H.Q. Command; Comdt. W. Whelan, Western Command; Capt. D. Bergin, Southern Command; Capt. T. Martin, Eastern Command.

Col. T. Higgins then took the chair and, amid acclamation, proclaimed Major Carroll Army Champion on the day's results. He then presented the Major with the Championship gold medal and the magnificent Sheil Cup, congratulating him on his meritorious victory for the second time.

Comdt. H. Byrne, Curragh, was presented with the runner-up medal.

The Championship and the Sweepstake were divided between S. M. Kelly, Curragh, Maj. Carroll and Lieut. F. Fitzpatrick, Curragh.

" AN t-ÓGLACH "

can be ordered by members of the General Public through any Newsagent, or direct from Managing Editor, G.H.Q., Parkgate, Dublin.

Back numbers of Vols. I. and II. (New Series) can be obtained from the latter address at 2d. per copy; postage 1d. per copy extra.

EASTERN COMMAND WIN ARMY FOOTBALL FINAL.

A closely contested game at Croke Park, on Sunday, 5th inst., resulted in a win for Eastern Command over Western Command in the final of the All-Army Football Championship. There was a sparse attendance, due, no doubt, to the inclement weather.

The late arrival of the Western team caused a delay in the start, but when the teams got going there was plenty of excitement and some first-class football.

The Eastern Command looked formidable on paper including, as it did, such "stars" as Higgins and Doyle (Kildare), Murphy and Senton (Cavan), O'Brien and McAllister (Dublin), but they had to give of their best to hold the sturdy Westerners who, with a little more experience, might have won comfortably.

Close Contest.

Playing towards the railway goal, Eastern Command put on 3 points to nil in the first half, J. P. Murphy, the Cavan winger, and O'Brien being the scorers. Neither forward line displayed evidence of serious training, and chances were missed at both ends.

Half-time score:—

Eastern Command, 3 points. Western Command, Nil.

The second half opened with a determined Western offensive, but all their efforts were neutralised by a weak scoring division. A brace of minors brought them within a point of the Eastern Command, and they were forcing the pace in great style. Lohan, Noonan and Whelan were outstanding players. Towards the end, however, the Eastern forwards finished a well-combined movement with a goal per O'Brien, and the issue was no longer in doubt. Western Command were attacking at the end.

Final score:—

Eastern Command, 1 goal, 4 pts. Western Command, 3 pts. Capt. Liam O'Briain refereed.

The Teams.

Eastern Command—Ptes. Higgins, Noonan, Mooney, Mullally, Geoff, Cpl. Hudson, Sgts. Paul Doyle, Senton, Price, Lieuts. Connolly, Timmon, O'Brien, M'Allister, Kenny and Capt. J. P. Murphy (capt.).

Western Command—Ptes. Farrell, Warnock, Haran, Williams, Bates, Wilson, M'Donald, Sgt. Levins, Lieuts. Galvan, M'Grath, Kelly, Capts. Lohan, Whelan, Doherty, and Comdt. Smith (capt.).

PHRASE THAT ORIGINATED WITH SOLDIERS' HARD TACK.

The story has again gone the rounds that "O.K." had its origin in the fact that an eccentric General, during the American Civil War, used to endorse the two letters on official documents to signify that they were "all correct." But the real origin is much more interesting, and more characteristically Yankee as well. During the Civil War the firm of Orrin Kendall and Sons, of Chicago, a bakery whose crackers were always stamped with the trade mark, "O.K.," went into the "hard tack" business to supply the Federal soldiers in the field with the staff of life. Their hard tack was found good by the fighting men, and it was always delivered regularly and fresh, so that the soldiers came to look upon it as one of their best and most welcome friends, and were at length convinced that it was better than any other brand of hard tack: "O.K." was constantly on their lips, and in their mouths, and they brought it back with them into civil life, and there it still is to indicate anything that is of first-rate quality and highly approved.

THE TEST (A DRAMA IN TWO ACTS.)

ACT I.

Scene: Central Registry, G.H.Q.

Time: 5 p.m., Tuesday, 16th September, 1924, A.D.

Dramatis Personæ: Several Officers, typists go leor.

Typists enter in single formation, with regular, firm tread, befitting the solemnity of the occasion, take up their positions and await developments.

Examiner: Shorthand Test; Defence Order 56. (A titter and several groans.)

1st Typist: Who'd have thought it?

2nd Typist: (indignantly): They will keep reminding us of what we'd like to forget.

3rd Typist: And to think of all the time I wasted in trying to memorise the Defence Forces Act!

Examiner: Ready! Off!

Examiner (reads): On and after— (Ad infinitum. Otherwise silence. Suddenly, bang go several pencils. A bugle is sounded in the grounds.)

1st Typist: "Trumpeter, what are you sounding now?"

Examiner: Transcribe notes. (Another quarter-of-an-hour's hard work.)

Examiner: Time up. (Collapse of several typists; ambulance arrives.)

(Curtain falls on Act I.)

Orchestra (during interval): "Ar son Eireann taimid bailighthe"; "Chopin's Dead March."

ACT II.

Time: 5.45. Scene, etc., same as Act I.

Examiner: Type Test; G.R.O. 75.

1st Typist (Miss O'Phelia): To be or not to be—a typist. (Five minutes' imitation of machine guns fighting a rearguard action.)

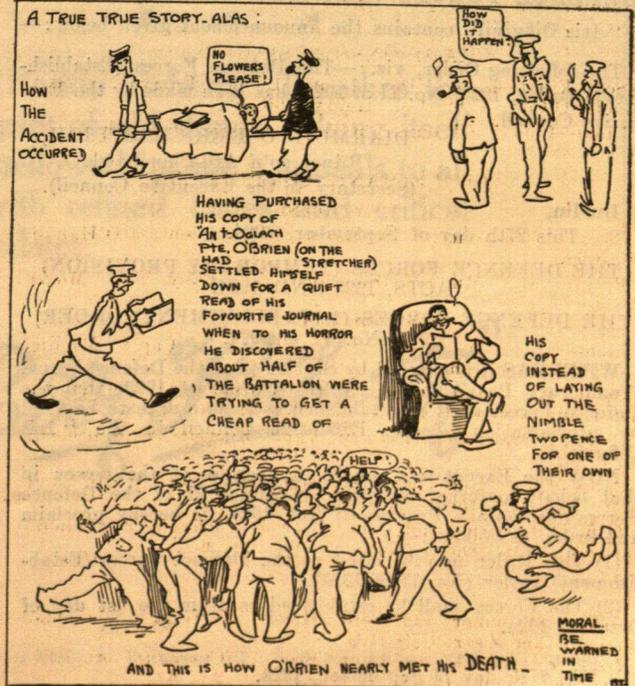
Captain O'D. (on Grand Stand): Five to one on —

(Examiner collapses and is carried out.)

(Curtain Falls.)

A Typist.

A VICTIM OF THE "DEADHEADS."



S. O. S.

When our fondest dreams are scattered by a comrade's lusty
snore,
And your night is rendered hideous by the din;
Just picture our snug quarters' way up North by Swilly's
shore,
And thank your stars it's not the 9th that you are in.

There when the sullen darkness by the lightning's flash is cut,
And you're clinging to the blankets like a leech,
As the wind rips in a cyclone thro' the windows of your hut,
And the billows crash like thunder on the beach.

There's a din that shakes the heavens while the wind-toss'd
waters lash
In foamy waves across the barrack floor,
And you wake to see the tunic that held fast the window sash
On a fast receding wave glide thro' the door.

And your civic hat is whirling like a seagull thro' the air,
While your "Sam Brown" wriggles like a blinking snake;
The Subs are wondering if again they'll see their loved Kildare,
Or if they've joined a Navy by mistake.

And others, voiding thoughts aloud as storm-bound men oft
do,
When floundering on some blizzard-covered trail,
Will mutter tales of pleasant times they spent at G.H.Q.,
And a frequent curse arises o'er the gale.

Yet tho' dreams are nightly shattered and our feelings ruffled
sore,
In the matter of mere whining we are dumb;
But each of us would smile some just to hear a comrade snore—
An assurance that the Engineers had come.

FEARAODH.

DEFENCE FORCES (ESTABLISHMENT) ORDER.

"Iris Oifigiúil" contains the announcement given below:—

The following Order, viz.:—The Defence Forces (Establishment) Order, 1924, No. 11 of 1924, has been made by the Executive Council.

DIARMUID O' HEIGCEARTUIGH,
Rúnaí do'n Ard-Chomhairle
(Secretary to the Executive Council).

Dublin,

This 27th day of September, 1924.

THE DEFENCE FORCES (TEMPORARY PROVISION)
ACTS, 1923 AND 1924.

THE DEFENCE FORCES (ESTABLISHMENT) ORDER,
1924 (No. 11 of 1924).

WHEREAS it is enacted by Section 22 of the Defence Forces (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1923 (No. 30 of 1923) that the Defence Forces shall be established as from a date to be fixed by proclamation of the Executive Council in the "Iris Oifigiúil."

NOW the Executive Council, in exercise of the power in that behalf conferred on them by Section 22 of the Defence Forces (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1923, do hereby proclaim and order as follows:—

(1) This Order may be cited as the Defence Forces (Establishment) Order (No. 11 of 1924).

(2) The Forces shall be established as from the 1st day of October, 1924.

Dublin,

This 27th day of September, 1924.

THE INSPIRATION OF MILITARY MUSIC.

An Army without a band is in the same position as a performance of "Hamlet" without the Prince of Denmark; the central inspiration is lacking. The traditions of the French Army are inseparably bound up with the "Marseillaise" and the "Partant pour la Syrie"; and even the most pacifist nation (if there be a pacifist nation) is not insensible to the inspiration of military music.

Its influence on the Army is inspiring and vivifying, and it makes a most potent appeal to the nation at large. It calls up even in the dullest the emotions which symbolise and stand for the most abstract conceptions of patriotism and honour, and it binds all together in one common feeling of national pride. No nation can dispense with it, and all are ennobled by it.—*Dr. J. F. Larchet.*

MILITARY SERVICE PENSIONS ACT, 1924.

It is notified for the information of intending applicants for pensions that the above-mentioned Act applies only to those who:—

(I.) Rendered active service in

OGLAIGH NA h-EIREANN,

OR
THE IRISH VOLUNTEERS,

OR
THE IRISH CITIZEN ARMY,

OR
FIANNA ÉIREANN,

OR
THE HIBERNIAN RIFLES

during the period commencing the 23rd April, 1916;

OR
throughout the period from 1st April, 1920, to the 31st March, 1921;

OR
throughout the period from the 1st April, 1921, to the 11th July, 1921,
and who in addition

(II.) Served in the NATIONAL FORCES or DEFENCE FORCES OF SAORSTAT ÉIREANN at any time subsequent to the 1st day of July, 1922, and prior to the 1st day of October, 1923.

Forms of Application and the necessary Regulations are in course of preparation. Due notice will be given as soon as arrangements in the matter are completed.

In no case does a pension commence before 1st October, 1924.

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CORK DISTILLERS CO., LTD. MORRISON'S ISLAND, CORK. Midleton Distillery. Established 1825. North Mall Distillery. Estd. 1779.

THE ORIGINAL PORTO BELLO.

In our last issue we published the first part of the narrative of 1st Lieut. A. N. Taylor, 33rd U.S. Infantry, describing how he, with three other Officers, a sergeant and two privates, set out from Fort Clayton, near the Southern entrance of the Panama Canal, to make a reconnaissance of the Sixteenth Century route across the Isthmus of Panama. After a very hazardous journey they arrived at Nombre De Dios, where they stocked up on provisions and forage. They then started through terrible swamps for Porto Bello, which was about half-way on their journey, but lost their way in the darkness.

We, unknowingly, did a very wise thing by starting to yell and "cuss" at the top of our voices, which served both as a morale booster and a means for keeping the animals from lying down. It also brought us assistance in the form of a native who had, no doubt, been attracted by our cries. The light of his lantern flickering through the gloom seemed at first the hallucination of a fevered brain, but following him we soon found that the old compass had served us true, for we were on the beach at last, and, after a refreshing drink in the Rio Indio, we made camp near the old man's hut. At the close of such a day, the boiling coffee and the soothing sound of the animals crunching the corn they spurned before was indeed sweet music.

It looked like folly to leave the coast and again strike inland through those horrible swamps, but there was no choice in the matter because of the miles of distance saved by moving on a straight line. So before the sun was very high, the work of cutting palms and dragging mules through the mud was in full progress. At the end of this day nine worn-out, mud-covered individuals stretched out like the spokes of a wheel around a smouldering fire and forgot there ever was any mud or jungles.

The next evening traces of the Camino Real and other signs of a former civilization appeared and finally the town of Porto Bello, its massive stone ruins strangely contrasted with the gaudy modern dwellings and thatched native huts. The old cathedral, the sixteenth century customs house and the fortresses of San Felipe and Santiago del Principe are somewhat intact, and it is evident that Morgan in 1668 used less destructive measures in capturing this city than when sacking Panama, or else the quality of the stone and the construction of the buildings of Porto Bello are better.

This town also has a history of which few on the American continent can boast. On November 2, 1502, Columbus sailed into this beautiful harbour and fittingly named it Puerto Bello. The spelling has changed, and perhaps the verdant hills; but the beautiful harbour remains the same and is used even now as a safe haven for ships during the hurricane season. Somewhere in this peaceful bay lies the body of Sir Francis Drake, that brave, chivalrous, and piratical gentleman who made life so eventful for the Spaniards during the sixteenth century. You will remember that he was buried at sea, his body being placed in a leaden coffin. History tells us that it was his own wish that his last resting place be here in this beautiful arm of the Atlantic.

Following the shore west from Porto Bello, several deep rivers are encountered, and as is most often the case in Panama, each is supplied with a generous quota of crocodiles. The largest of these reptiles prefer to live at the river's mouth in the salt water and they seldom go far up stream. I've never heard of an adult being attacked by one, although the natives live in mortal fear of them; but I have known several instances where Army dogs have suddenly been pulled below the surface and have never come up, and a few instances where native children have met a similar end. Nevertheless, it is a bit disconcerting to be out among them, holding to the tail of a horse or mule, with your feet dangling behind like a tempting piece of bait on a trolling line.

We avoided the filthy little coast village of Maria Chiquita in choosing a camp site and stretched our picket line near a spring a mile or more from the town. A couple of us went over to the town, however, to buy some eggs, and the first sight that greeted us was the initial preparations for the execution and cooking of an iguana. These large lizards grow to be over four feet in length, and with their hideous heads and grotesque bodies seem more fitted for the prehistoric section

of a museum than for the frying pan, and, despite the many enthusiasts who claim that their meat is better than chicken, I think chicken would get the majority of votes in an American audience.

From here a well-used trail strikes inland, winding through the mountains toward Colon, the metropolis of the Atlantic side. For the first time since leaving San Juan, nearly two weeks before, we were able to swing into the saddle and ride. By this time our two lame horses were in a very bad condition, and the one hope was to get them safely to one of the Army posts near Colon. This left two of us on foot, and as we were all barefoot or nearly so, and the trail rocky, it was decided to resort to the hazardous experiment of putting saddles on two of the pack mules. Greatly to the surprise of every one, these two long-eared Bolsheviks behaved like little lambs and were as good saddle animals as could be wished for.

France Field, the Air Service station of the Army in Panama, is a few miles from Colon, and like most of the more modern posts on the Canal Zone, it is all that can be desired from the standpoint of comfortable quarters and accessibility to Colon and the other places of recreation. We had covered the twenty-one miles from Maria Chiquita in an incredibly short time, it being about four in the afternoon when our cavalcade passed the astonished sentry at the gate. It was apparent that he was undecided as to the best course to follow, to present arms or call for the guard, so he played safe and presented arms to the old sergeant, whose gray beard gave him a look of command. Our medical officer immediately sought a fellow colleague in order to replenish the quinine supply, and one of our Captains went to find the Post Adjutant, while the rest of us headed for the stables.

The officer who went to pay his respects to the Commanding Officer had a unique experience. He was a wild-looking sight, all signs of rank and his hat cord gone, he was barefoot and bare in other important places, so it was no wonder that when he burst into Headquarters and announced himself to the Sergeant-Major as a Captain in the Army, that this worthy N.C.O. gave him a wary glance and slipped into the Adjutant's office and whispered that there was a crazy man outside who claimed to be a Captain in the Army. Fortunately the Adjutant recognised this ragged apparition as a former class-

MUSIC



Music can offer you comfort for your sad moods—joy for you happy moods—rest and peace when you are tired. Underneath old troubles may fret, but for the nonce life is golden. You grow wise as you grow old, and when your life is fallen into "the sere and yellow leaf" you will find that the quiet pleasures of good music do not pall. Why wait till you are old?



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mate, and the Sergeant-Major was again able to breathe more freely. We had come into the Post from the back way and only the sentry at the gate had seen us, so perhaps he should have obeyed his Tenth General Order.

The heavenly sensation of a hot shower at the Bachelor Officers' Mess and a wonderful dinner prepared specially for us, certainly added materially to our comfort; our brother officers of the Air Service left nothing undone which would in any way make us feel at home or add to our happiness. Next morning France Field insisted that a picture be taken of the party, so in borrowed shorts and breeches we assembled for this ordeal. The enlisted men came out shaved and bathed and wearing shoes, so it is quite evident the Squadron entertained them well also. We were so proud of them we put them in the front row, which is the right place for five men who had worked like these.

It was arranged that the two crippled horses be left at France Field, and we bade these two comrades farewell and started on our way. For some reason there is no highway across the Isthmus, and the Panama Railroad, which for the most part is built over a series of fills and trestles, is the only normal means of travel from one side of the Isthmus to the other. There was no authority to ship our horses and mules, and we could hardly go back over the route we had come, so the railway track was the only solution.

The old timers of the canal construction days shook their heads and told us we would never make it because of the trestle over part of Gatun Lake, but such discouraging remarks didn't ease the difficulty, so we moved on down the track just in time to meet the morning passenger train. The mules and horses, however, stood like statues whilst this hissing monster almost literally brushed past them. But it is boredom to ride along a railway track at a slow walk and watch the mile posts and numbered telegraph posts pass slowly, so it was a relief to reach the trestle where there would be at least some sort of fun. It was assuredly a long swim, and the water was deep right up to the shore, but off came the saddles, and Jumbo and Joe, the gamest horses of the party, were led to their fate. We stripped completely, and taking a good hold on the horses' tails with the right hand, and holding the reins gently in the left, set sail. Joe made it across first, and Jumbo with due deliberation followed. So the first voyage was completed and the two horses, puffing a little, were tied in plain view of the opposite bank to serve as an inspiration and guide for the other animals, for it is a known fact, and a reasonable one, that one horse will go where another has gone safely. There was no use taking any chances with the members of the party who could not swim pretty well, so a bargain was struck by which three of us agreed to ferry across all the animals, if the rest of the party would carry the saddles, loads, and packs across the trestle. I think we got the best of the bargain, as we had a lot of fun with some of the animals, one horse in particular who tried to climb a stone pier in the middle of the lake and almost drowned because of his foolishness.

That night we reached Gamboa and the railway bridge over the lower Chagres River, and as there is a footpath over this bridge there was no trouble in crossing. It was only fifteen miles further to Fort Clayton, but a good night's sleep carried a stronger appeal than riding right into camp, so we made our last camp de luxe, and cleaned up the pantry. We arrived at Fort Clayton the next morning, May 19, 1922, having covered one hundred and ninety-one miles, most of them "nautical."

OFFICIAL NEWS.

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION FOR NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

GENERAL ROUTINE ORDER, No. 77, issued under date of 25th September, 1924, reads as follows:—

1. It has been decided to hold a Preliminary Examination for all Non-Commissioned Officers in the National Forces.
2. The Syllabus of Examination will consist of:
 - (a) DICTATION: Not more than 100 words. Time allowed $\frac{1}{2}$ hour.
 - (b) ARITHMETIC: First four rules (Simple and Compound). Time allowed—1 hour.
 - (c) GENERAL KNOWLEDGE PAPER (ORAL): A set of questions on ordinary everyday subjects—military and civilian, including one or two on Geography—to test the general intelligence of N.C.O.'s. Time allowed— $\frac{1}{2}$ hour.
 - (d) RECRUIT TRAINING AND SQUAD DRILL: Oral.
 - (e) N.C.O.'s will also be awarded points for general appearance, smartness, and cleanliness.

It will be seen from above Syllabus that this Examination cannot be regarded in the nature of a technical test. It is purely an elementary educational test, framed with the object of selecting men who will be likely to make efficient N.C.O.'s on receiving the necessary technical training.

3. This examination will be compulsory for all N.C.O.'s, whether of substantive or acting rank, and irrespective of grade, or arm of the Service.

4. The names of successful Candidates will be published in G.R.O.'s, and they will be paid according to the Acting-Rank conferred upon them, and supplied with the revised Insignia for such rank, as laid down in Defence Forces (Dress) Provisional Regulations, 1924, provided that they have attested for a period of at least two years' service reckoned from the 1st January, 1924, or subsequent date.

Successful Candidates who have attested for a shorter period will be notified of the result of their examination, and can, if they wish, re-attempt for two years further service, or such shorter service as may be determined by the MINISTER FOR DEFENCE. Successful Candidates who do not wish to avail themselves of this concession will revert to the ranks, unless they wish to obtain their Discharge (See para. 5 below).

5. All unsuccessful Candidates will revert to the ranks, or, if they wish, will be discharged, unless:—

(a) They have certified Pre-Truce Service in Oglagh na h-Eireann; the Irish Volunteers, Fianna Eireann, or Citizen Army. In such cases, they must have been serving in any of the above Forces on the 11th July, 1921.

(b) A Special recommendation on their behalf is forwarded to the ADJUTANT GENERAL by the G.H.O. their Command, or in the case of N.C.O.'s attached to G.H.O. Departments or Staffs by the head of the Department concerned, or in the case of N.C.O.'s attached to the Headquarters or Departments of Special Corps by the O/C the Corps. Such recommendations should state in detail the reasons for the retention of such N.C.O.'s in their ranks.

Unsuccessful candidates who come within the scope of (a) or (b), where recommendations are approved by the ADJUTANT GENERAL, will be afforded an opportunity of presenting themselves for re-examination on a future date to be determined by the ADJUTANT GENERAL. In such cases N.C.O.'s will continue to draw the pay of their rank, pending such re-examination, provided that this pay will cease if such re-examination is not held within two months of the Candidates' original examination. Such N.C.O.'s will not be permitted to wear the revised insignia of rank for N.C.O.'s pending the date of re-examination.

6. Arrangements will be made for affording facilities to all successful candidates to undergo a special course of technical training, according to the arm or branch of the Service they may be attached to. On completion of such a course of training, N.C.O.'s will be required to present themselves for a qualifying technical examination. Candidates who pass this examination successfully will be placed on the permanent Non-Commissioned Officer establishment of the Army.

7. The Preliminary Examination will be conducted in such centres as may be arranged between the ADJUTANT GENERAL and the G.O.C. Commands, and will commence in these centres on the 1st NOVEMBER, 1924.

8. N.C.O.'s attached to G.H.O. Departments or Staffs or to Corps and Services, stationed in Dublin, will be examined in such centres as may be arranged by the ADJUTANT GENERAL and the G.O.C. EASTERN COMMAND.

9. Examinations will in all cases be conducted by Examination Boards consisting of Officers detailed by the ADJUTANT GENERAL. Examination Papers will be checked and marked by the Board of Examiners, G.H.O.

10. Detailed instructions re the procedure to be followed in such examinations, etc., are being sent to all G.O.C.'s and others concerned immediately.



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Back Pay.

"Stone Broke" (Enniscorthy).—Your claim is before the Adjudication Committee, and you will be notified in due course.

Marriage Allowance.

"Distress" (Curragh).—Marriage allowance may not be issued in respect of any soldier marrying after the 9th Sept., 1923, until such time as regulations shall be issued showing the percentage of married men that may be borne on the strength, and then only in accordance with such regulations.

Rank Pay.

"M.T.C." (Gormanston).—Rank pay can only be issued on official publication of promotion. The question of same is entirely one for your O.C.

Insurance.

"M.C." (St. Bricin's).—Arrangements have been made for the crediting of National Health Insurance contributions in respect of the period of your Army service. Ask the Secretary of your Approved Society to communicate with the National Health Insurance Commissioners concerning the matter.

Transfer.

"Porto Bello" (Dublin).—Yes. Apply in the usual way through the O.C. of your Battalion.

Discharge Pay.

"Moyrisk" (Kilmallock).—(1) Soldiers who re-attested for service under the new rates of pay and conditions laid down in Defence Order No. 30 were granted, on such re-attestation, either 14 days' leave at the old rates, ration allowance and dependant's allowance, where issuable, or a bounty of £3. In the cases of those soldiers who are discharged after the 31st March, 1924, on termination of service, gratuities amounting to fourteen days ordinary pay of rank, ration allowance, and, where admissible, marriage allowance, shall be issued. (2) Your claim for dependant's allowance was disallowed.

Pension.

"Padraig" (Thurles).—(1) No. (2) The matter is at present under consideration.

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(Civil Service Commission.)

OPEN COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE POSTS.

An Open Competitive Examination for not less than six vacancies as Junior Administrative Officers will be held on Wednesday, 10th December, and following days.

AGE—20-25 (with extension for Army candidates and Established Civil Servants).

SALARY—£150-15-£250-20-£500 plus bonus.

SUBJECTS—Obligatory: Irish, Essay, General Knowledge and Viva Voce.

Optional: **One** only of following groups:—Modern Irish, Classics, Mathematics, English Language and Literature, Modern Languages, Modern History, Legal and Political Science, Commerce, Chemistry.

STANDARD in Optioanl Groups—Honours University Degree.

DATE OF EXAMINATION—10th December next.

Latest Date for Entry—8th November next.

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SHORTHAND TYPISTS AND TYPISTS.

LIMITED COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION.

A Competitive Examination for established vacancies as Shorthand-Typists and Typists in Government Departments (strictly confined to candidates who have had six months' service in Government Departments) will be held in November next.

SUBJECTS OF EXAMINATION—Shorthand-Typing, Typing, Gaedhlig, English, Arithmetic, General Knowledge, Precis.

The only compulsory subjects are Shorthand-Typing for Shorthand-Typists, and Typing for Typists.

LATEST DATE FOR ENTRY—1st November.

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ḡAELIC.

Cluicé pítcille, clár pítcille.
Fuireann pítcille, cearnóg, cearnóg.
Cearnóg bán, cearnóg dub, fear, na fear.

An Rí, an bairríogán, an teasbog.
An caisleán bán, an ríoire dub.
An bairríogán bán (ac an Rí 7 r. l. Bán).

Ríoire (easbog, 7r. l.) na bairríogána.
Caisleán (easbog, 7r. l.) an ríog.
Tuata an ríog, tuata na bairríogána.
Tuata easbuig (caisleán) an ríog.
Beart, an céad beart, fear-béart.

Píosa, píosaí, dub slán, fear dub-slán.

Beart easbuig an ríog, dub slán an lair.

Uo tógas fear, píosa, tuata.
Uo cáilleas an bairríogán.
Ar bogais? Tá tú i steannta.
Tá tú ag bogad istead 'sa teannta.
Caiépró mé uil as teannta ar útuís.
I steannta! I steannta arís.
Ní féoir uil istead ansin.
Ná feiceann tú an teasbog?
Tá an cearnóg ú pé smaét an ríoire.
Ní túig liom go bfuil don uil as agat.
Féadparó sé fear-cúir uo déanamh.
Ná féadparó mé an ríoire uo tógaint?

PHONETIC PRONUNCIATION.

Kliha fihilla, klaur fihilla.
Fwirrun fihilla, karnoag, karnoaga.
Karnoag vawn, karnoag ghuv, far, firr.

A ree, a voun reen, a tass bug.
A kish lawn bawn, a riddira dhuv.
A vour reen vawn (och a ree, etc. bawn).

Riddira (assbug, etc.) nub boun reena.
Kish lawn, assbug etc., a ree.
Thooatha a ree, thooatha nub boun reena.
Thooatha assbug (kish lawn) a ree.
Barth, a hyeudh vart, frih varth.

Peessa, peesee, dhoohlawn, frih guv-hlawn.

Barth assbwig a ree, dhooh lawna laur.

Duh hoaguss far, peessa, thootha.
Duh kollussa voun reen.
Err vugish? Thaw thoo id yountha.
Thaw thoo a bugga shtock sut yountha.
Kahfa may dhull asst yountha err dhoosh.
Id yountha, id yountha reesht.
Nee faydir dhut dhulla shtock unn sun.
Naw fickun thoo a tassbug?
Thawn hyar noag oodh fay smocktha riddira.
Nee dhoel yum guv will lain dhull assa guth.
Faydha shay idir kurra yeeonuv.
Naw faydha may a riddira hoagint?

ENGLISH.

A game of chess, a chess board.
A set of chess, a square, squares.
A white square, a black square, a man, men.

The king, the queen, the bishop.
The white castle, the black knight.
The white queen (but—the white king, etc.).

The queen's knight, bishop, etc.
The king's castle, bishop, etc.
The king's pawn, the queen's pawn.
The king's bishop's pawn.
An opening (a move) the 1st move, a counter move.

A piece, pieces, a gambit, a counter gambit.

The king's bishop's opening, the centre gambit.

I took a man, piece, pawn.

I lost the queen.

Did you move? You're in check.

You are moving into check.

I must move out of check first.

Check! Check again.

You can't go in, there.

Don't you see the bishop?

The knight controls that square.

I don't think you can get out of it.

He can interpose.

Can't I take the knight.

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