



AN T-ÓGLÁC

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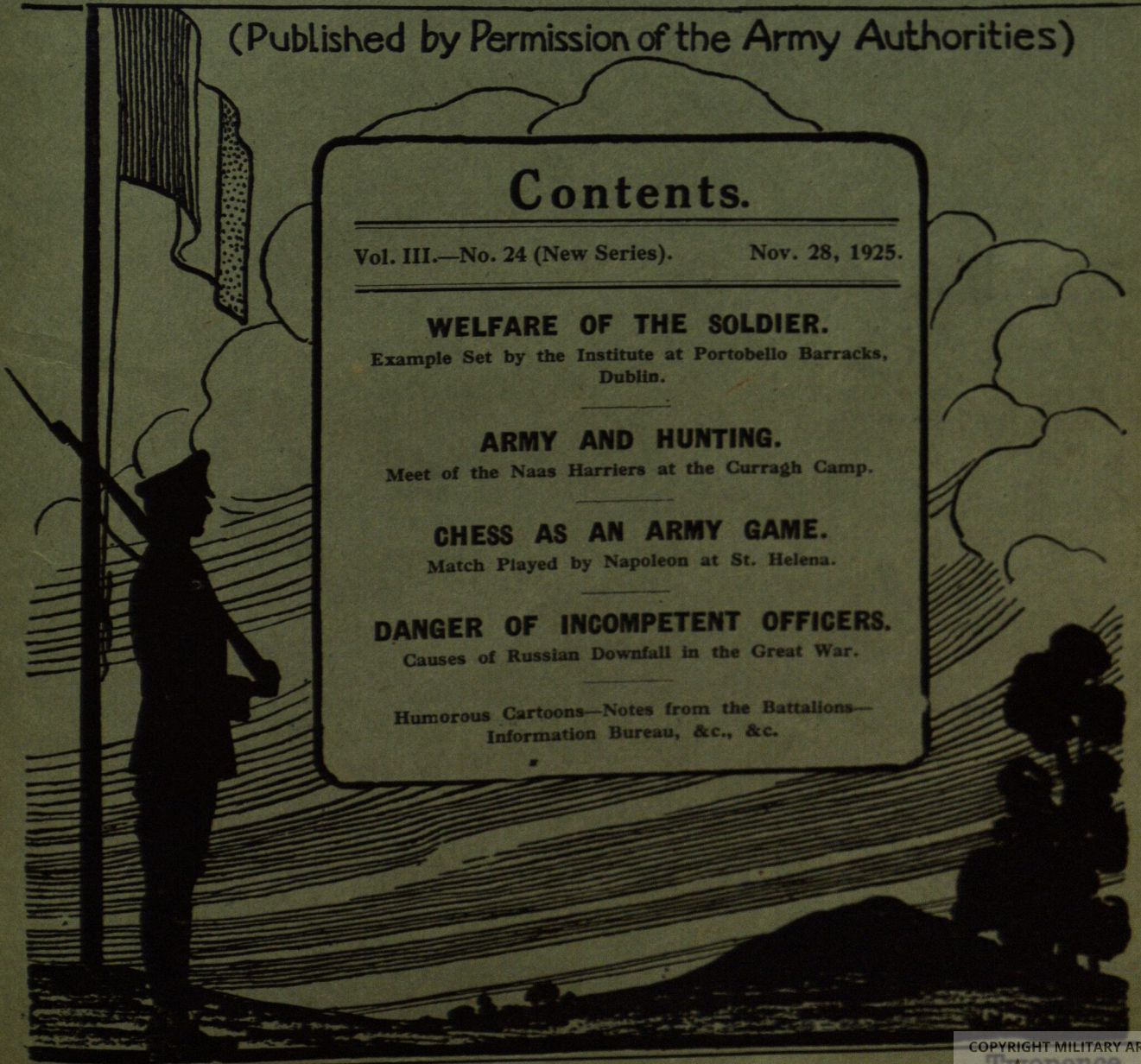
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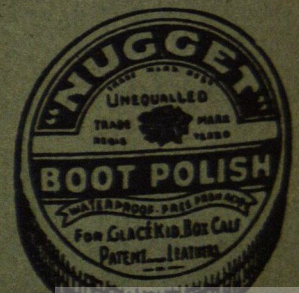
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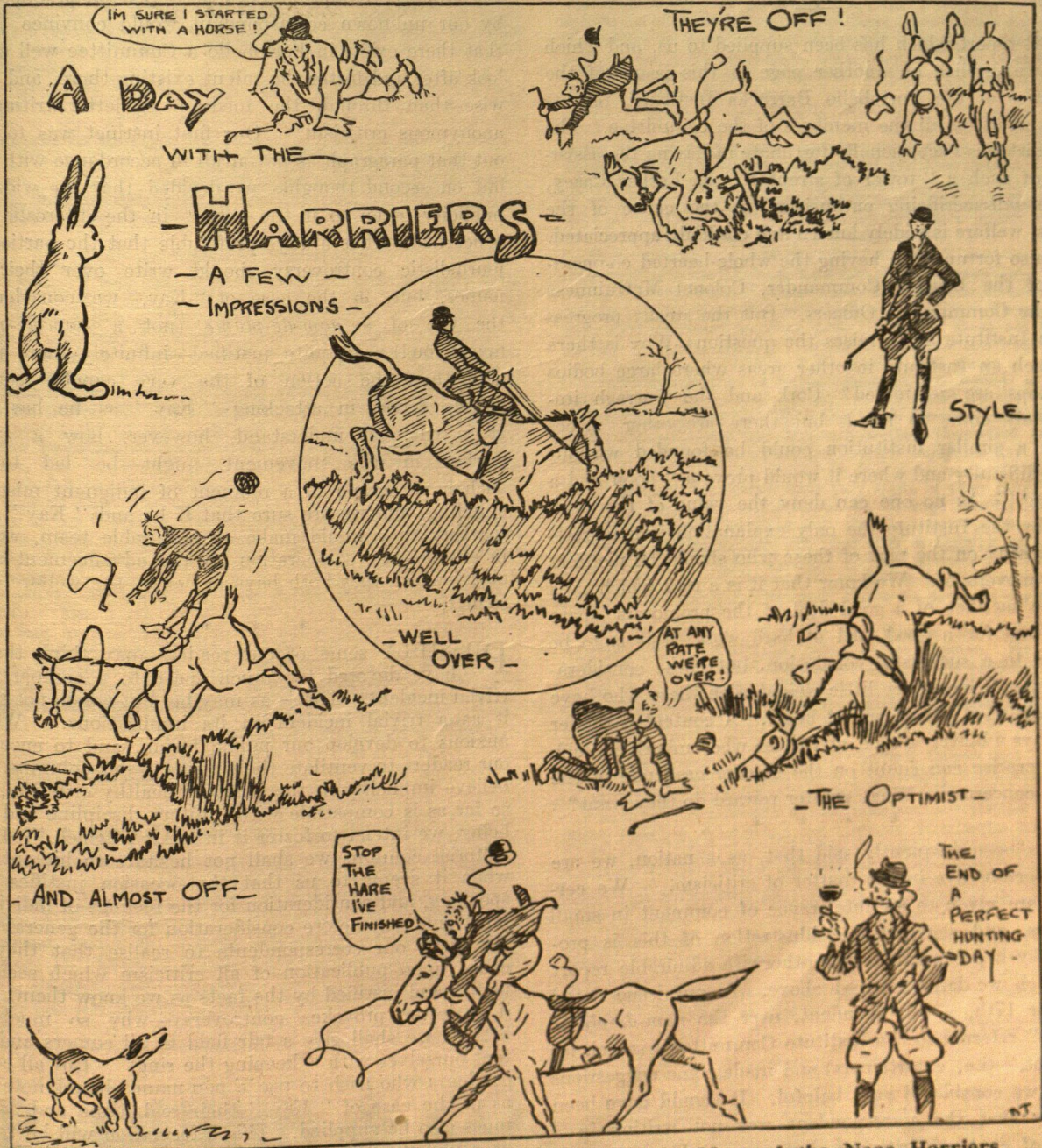
Oglagh
na hÉireann
DEFENCE FORCES IRELAND

An t-Ógláic

Vol. III. No. 24 (New Series).

NOVEMBER 28, 1925.

Price TWOPENCE.



Some of the Civilians were very Unlucky at the First Meet of the Naas Harriers under Army auspices recently.

AN t-ÓGLACH

NOVEMBER 28, 1925.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

THE report which has been supplied to us, and which we publish on another page of this issue, of the activities of the Portobello Barracks Institute, reflects great credit on all the members of the committee. The Committee is exceptionally fortunate in having the assistance of such a "tower of strength" as Father Casey, whose self-sacrificing enthusiasm in the cause of the troops' welfare is widely known and cordially appreciated. It is also fortunate in having the whole-hearted co-operation of the Brigade Commander, Colonel McGuinness and the Commanding Officers. But the steady progress of the Institute again raises the question—Why is there not such an Institute in other areas where large bodies of troops are assembled? Cork and the Curragh immediately come to mind, but there are other places where a similar institution could be founded without much difficulty and where it would prove a "boon and a blessing." As no one can deny the value of the work done by the Institute the only explanation is a regrettable apathy on the part of those who should be pioneers in the movement. We know that it is a task which calls for the sacrifice of a good deal of the promoters' spare time, and for a good deal of hard work, if it is to be carried to a successful conclusion, but these considerations should have very little weight with those who have the welfare of the troops at heart. A contented soldier is always a better soldier, and those who embark on such an enterprise can count on the sincere gratitude of the troops concerned. What greater reward do they want?

* * * *

IT has been frequently said that, as a nation, we are hypersensitive in the matter of criticism. We certainly are given to an intolerance of comment in small matters, and a regrettable illustration of this is provided by a paragraph in the otherwise admirable report to which we have referred above. In our issue dated October 17th, a correspondent, over the *nom-de-plume* "Kay" referred to the Institute Committee's search for "talent," (i.e. entertainers) and made some suggestions which we considered very helpful. It should have been obvious that the correspondent was not writing in a spirit of captious criticism, but was anxious to be of some assistance in the matter. His letter evoked favourable comment, not only in the Capital, but

throughout the country. Our 5th Brigade correspondent wrote most appreciatively of his suggestions, and our Portobello representative (who is one of the hardest-working members of the Institute Committee) declared "the opinion now is that the presence of the unknown 'Kay' on this Committee would be a great asset."

* * * *

IN these circumstances it is very hard to understand the paragraph in the report which says, *a propos* of the Minstrel Troupe, "Perhaps a visit on practice night by our unknown correspondent would convince 'Kay' that there exists in Portobello a Committee well able to look after and foster the talent existing there, and otherwise than through the medium of letter-writing and anonymous criticism." Our first instinct was to strike out that paragraph as not at all in accordance with facts, but on second thoughts we decided that the wider the publicity given to it the better, in the interests of all concerned. It is always preferable that the parties to a journalistic controversy should write over their own names, but, in the case of "Kay," we consider that the use of a *nom-de-plume* (not a *nom-de-guerre*, mark you!) was quite justified—ininitely more justifiable than the action of the very capable compiler of the report in attacking "Kay," as he has done. It is easy to understand, however, how a zealous worker in the movement might be led to pen such a paragraph in a moment of indignant misunderstanding, and we are sure that if he and "Kay" came together they would make an admirable team, working in enthusiastic co-operation for the advancement of the object which they both have at heart—the welfare of the soldier.

* * * *

POSSIBLY some of our readers may think that we have devoted too much space to a comparatively trivial incident. That's as may be, but we do not regard it as a trivial incident in its implications. We are anxious to develop our public forum, and to encourage our readers to ventilate their views in our columns. We believe implicitly in the value of healthy criticism, and, so far as is compatible with military discipline and well-being, we intend to foster it in "An t-Oglach." In our editorial columns we shall not hesitate to hit out hard when it seems to us that the occasion justifies plain speaking, and consideration for the feelings of individuals must give way before consideration for the general good. We want our correspondents to realise that they can count upon publication of all criticism which seems to us fair and justified by the facts as we know them. And if a letter provokes controversy—why so much the better: we shall give a fair field to all comers and content ourselves with "keeping the ring." But all correspondents who wish to use a pen-name should note that, as in the case of "Kay," their real name and address must also be supplied. This information will be treated as confidential and—again as in the case of "Kay"—neither wild horses, nor infuriated Fords, will extract it from the editorial sanctum. That is a tradition of journalism which "An t-Oglach" will try to maintain.



COLLINS MEMORIAL STADIUM.

O.C. No. 7 Brigade Area Cordially Endorses Proposal.

IMPORTANT SUGGESTIONS.

To the Editor of "An t-Oglach."

A Chara,—I read with much pleasure the article entitled "A Collins Memorial Stadium," by the Secretary, A.A.A., published in your issue of the 14th instant, and venture to say that, should there be a genuine effort made in the near future to carry out the suggestion, it will receive the wholehearted support of all ranks. To my mind it is the duty of the Army to erect such an edifice to the memory of its great Leader and to all who fell in the fight for freedom.

I suggest that definite steps be taken immediately by forming a Committee at G.H.Q., assisted by Committees in the four Commands, so that all details for the launching of the scheme would be prepared by the beginning of the new year.—Is mise le meas,

SEAMUS MAG AONGHUIS, Colonel,
Officer Commanding No. 7 Brigade Area.

H.Q., Portobello Barracks,
Dublin, 17th Nov., 1925.

To the Editor of "An t-Oglach."

A Chara,—I have read with interest the article on above which appeared in your issue of November 14th. The suggestion is one that should receive careful consideration and, if it is within the realms of achievement, should be given effect to at an early date.

There are many reasons—apart from the perpetuation of General Collins' memory, which to each member of the Defence Forces is the great incentive—why the Army should attempt this work.

At the present the Army Athletic Association, the largest sporting organisation in the country, is for the purpose of holding matches dependant on the good graces of sympathetic civilian associations, and, in consequence, the Army Championships are generally decided at a time when it is impossible to attend same with any hope of comfort or enjoyment.

Then if, as I take it, the suggestion is to erect an up-to-date Stadium, there is the incentive to the Army of having at the disposal of the nation a Sports Grounds where athletes would find it a pleasure to visit.

At present the country, as well as the Army, is in need of a Stadium. The Army Athletic Association could do little better work than to give effect to Commandant Colgan's suggestion—in its own and the country's athletic interest.

In conclusion, I would suggest that a meeting representative of Commands, Brigades and Corps should be summoned to deal with the matter.—Is mise le meas,

M. NOONE, Commandant,
Officer Commanding 22nd Infantry Battn.

Headquarters, Portobello Barracks,
Dublin, 20th November, 1925.

"IF I WERE EDITOR" COMPETITION.

In addition to the prizes awarded in this competition as published in our issue dated Nov. 14th, it has been decided to send consolation prizes of five shillings each to the under-mentioned competitors:—

Sergeant James B. McCabe, 7th Infantry Battalion, Naas Barracks, Co. Kildare; Private John Farnan, Army School of Music, Beggars' Bush Barracks, Dublin; Private K. P. Kilmartin, Pay and Accounts Offices, Beresford Barracks, Curragh Camp.

Cheques have been forwarded to the winners of these prizes.

UNDER ARMY AUSPICES.

Naas Harriers Successfully Open New Season.

BIG ATTENDANCE OF OFFICERS.

The Naas Harriers met for the first time, under the auspices of the Irish Army, on Saturday, the 14th November. The venue selected was in the circumstances most appropriate, for the Meet took place in the shadow of the Irish Flag flying from the flag-staff of the Curragh Camp. Over thirty of the Officers of the Curragh Command rode to hounds—truly an encouraging inaugural attendance from the Army.

The presence of the Chief of Staff and the Assistant Chief of Staff was eloquent proof of the favour with which the Higher Command regards the venture, and our only regret (apart from the regretted inability—through illness—of the New Master to be present) was that duty or other engagements prevented the attendance of the A.G., Q.M.G., and the G.O's.C. Eastern, Western and Southern Commands. There was present also a goodly throng of civilian sportsmen and not a few sportswomen.

There can be no doubt but that this association in sport will tend to foster the friendly relations which already exist between the Army and the civil population. Besides those actually participating a great concourse assembled at the Water Tower to view the Meet and wish us good luck. Many of those not fortunate enough to have "Leppers" at their command followed in motor cars as near as the course of the roads would allow.

In all some seventy or eighty people rode to hounds at this the first event of its kind organised and controlled by the Irish Officers. The weather was ideal, the sport proved excellent, and, I think, the promoters can well congratulate themselves on having provided for all who participated a really enjoyable day.

Many of the Officers present on horseback were attending their first hunt, but the success that they made of their initial attempt leaves no doubt in anyone's mind of the high standard of equitation which exists in the Army, and is a sure guarantee of the popularity which hunting will meet with in Oglagh na hEireann. The unanimous delight expressed by these novices, and the rapidity with which their enthusiasm is spreading to their comrades who have not yet tasted of the sport, leaves no doubt in our minds as to the success of future Meets.

Our sympathy goes out to the New Master, Major-General Sean MacEoin, in the regrettable cause of his absence. We can well believe the rumour which says that it took all the persuasive powers of his medical adviser to keep him away from the Meet. We are glad indeed to learn that he is progressing in a manner which gives good promise of his presence amongst us on the next similar occasion.

Our thanks are due to Colonel Michael Hogan and Major P. Mulcahy, to whose untiring efforts, not merely the taking over of the Pack, but the success of the first day's sport, was largely due.

I must not omit to mention the presence on horseback of Major Barra O Briain, of G.H.Q., and Captains Fitzmaurice and Clarke, of the Air Corps, as showing that the welcome which hunting has met with in the Army is not confined to the Curragh Camp. We hope to see them again, and many other Officers from outside the Camp with them, when next the plains of Kildare echo the music of our hounds.

In the absence of the General, Colonel Mansfield, the former Master, lent his valuable services. Captain Cyril Harty, of the Army Transport Corps, and Captain D. Corry, of the Armoured Car Corps, were the Whips, and the able manner in which they did their work did not pass unnoticed.

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Why is Portobello Institute not Duplicated Elsewhere?

SPLENDID WINTER PROGRAMME.

During the present winter the Brigade Institute Committee for the 7th Brigade Area means to surpass its previous achievements in supplying exceptional educational and recreational facilities for the troops in Portobello Barracks. The organisation is excellent. One is immediately struck by the thoroughness of its representation. Under the Presidency of the Brigade Commander, Colonel J. H. McGuinness, and the general supervision of the Chairman, Rev. R. J. Casey, C.F., every unit in the Brigade Area is represented by its Commanding Officer, one N.C.O. and one man.

Every taste and ambition is catered for in the Library, which contains about 1,000 volumes. The Reading Room, with its daily and weekly papers and selected periodicals, supplies a peaceful change from the hustle and bustle of square or barrack room. The Library (Lending Section) opens from 7.30 to 8.30 p.m. every evening, and during that hour a capable librarian deals with 50 or 60 exchanges and issue of books. The fact that, at the moment of writing, there are over 300 volumes out is gratifying. But the supply of Irish Language Books is absolutely inadequate, and this deficiency is, at the moment, causing a deal of inconvenience to the Irish Teacher (Private Shevlin).

IRISH CLASSES.

Private Shevlin is further handicapped by the fact that some of his pupils are far advanced in the language, while the majority consists of absolute beginners. With the growth of the Class this difficulty will, however, be easily overcome in the near future, when it is proposed to establish separate classes for beginners and advanced pupils. At present the class is held on Monday evenings, and the teacher, working on the system "An Modh Direach," has succeeded in creating a keen interest amongst men who heretofore regarded the National Language either as too difficult to learn or not worth learning at all.

GARRISON CHURCH CHOIR.

Every Monday Evening, at 6 p.m., this choir practice takes place. It is lucky in having secured the voluntary services of such a talented organist and teacher as Mr. Comerford, and, with the voices now at his disposal, the choir is making great strides in the preparation of Solemn Chants with a view to solemn Church functions on the principal Feasts throughout the year. Last year, although not quite so rich in the matter of voices as at present, the chant for a Requiem Mass was prepared and sung with great merit on one occasion. Active interest in the choir is rapidly increasing, and Mr. Comerford is finding some difficulty in apportioning his parts, particularly owing to the existence in most pieces of Soprano and Contralto parts which he finds it very hard to fill.

MINSTREL TROUPE.

This newly-formed entertainment combination of twenty members practises every Tuesday evening. Through these columns the Troupe wish to record a vote of thanks to Sergeant Murphy, 23rd Battalion, for his generosity in presenting to the Troupe eighteen costumes and some musical instruments.

Perhaps a visit on Practice night by our unknown correspondent would convince "Kay" that there exists in Portobello a Committee well able to look after and foster the talent existing there, and otherwise, than through the medium of letter-writing and anonymous criticism. We have found our talent, and it now only remains to develop it, and by the time "Kay" gets a hat big enough to fit him our first show will be ready for staging.

(We are compelled to refer to this paragraph in "Notes and Comments."—Editor, "An t-Oglach.")

WHIST DRIVES.

Whist Drives were held last year on Monday evenings, and the average attendance was 60 to 80 players. This season the night has been changed to Friday, and the fact that fifteen new tables and twenty-four extra packs of cards have been supplied by Cumann Sgraidh an Airm leaves the Committee in a position to

cater for a much bigger attendance and, consequently, to put up very attractive prizes.

These Drives have proved, and are proving, one of the greatest counter-attractions to a "pass out of Barracks," and as participation only costs the individual 6d., the great possibility of making a very cheap evening's amusement highly remunerative has its appeal. Sergt. Dack continues in able direction of this particular branch of amusement.

BILLIARD ROOM.

The men's Billiard Room, with its three first-class tables and recently installed Bagatelle Table, is at all times, and particularly now with the Barrack Handicap in progress, a great centre of attraction. Sergt. Kennedy, himself a first-class player, has nothing to learn in the matter of keeping up to date a Billiard Room such as this.

The prices and conditions generally are such that no soldier in Portobello dreams of going elsewhere for his game. This is as it should be. Certainly the Billiard Room, from the point of view of "Soldiers' Welfare," has proved more than worth the trouble taken with it and the initial expense incurred.

A proposal made at the last Institute Committee Meeting to seek permission to hold Dances in Barracks has so far borne no fruit, but, carrying as it does influential recommendations, we hope to see whatever objections exist set aside.

ARTILLERY CORPS DRAMATIC CLASS.

Successful Concert and Production of "The Lord Mayor."

The Corps Dramatic Class achieved a further success on Wednesday, the 18th inst., when, before a large audience in Kildare, they staged that well-known Comedy, "The Lord Mayor." There was a large audience, including Major and Mrs. Mulcahy.

The cast was as follows:—The Lord Mayor, Driver Roe; Mrs. O'Brien, Corpl. Griffen; Moira, Driver Purdue; Gaffney, Gunner Phelan; Kelly, Gunner Rice; Scanlon, Gunner Smith; Doherty, Gunner O'Gorman; Mrs. Moran, Gunner Hand; Major Butterfield, Corpl. Byrne; Mrs. Murphy, Driver Ryan; Mrs. Maloney, Driver Quinn; Mansion House Servant, Gunner McAnespie.

It would be impossible to make distinction between any one of the artists, but "Mrs. Murphy" and "Mrs. Maloney," charwomen, kept the house in roars of laughter. The parts of the "Lord Mayor" and "Gaffney," the Solicitor, were excellently played. In fact the whole play was produced in a most perfect manner and left nothing to be desired.

The comedy was preceded by some concert items. Driver Ryan sang "Sweet Spirit hear my Prayer," and was loudly applauded. Corpl. Griffen's singing of a parody on "I stood in a beautiful Mansion," was very well received, while a song by Miss D. Keogh, Miss A. Cranny and the Misses Cashen received several encores. In response they danced a four-hand reel. Driver Roe gave a very good rendering of the "Battle Hymn." A hornpipe was excellently danced by Pte. Comerford, "D" Coy., 26th Battn. Miss E. Cashen sang "A Group of young soldiers." Mrs. T. Lambert, at the piano, during the intervals played selections which were greatly appreciated and applauded. A very enjoyable entertainment concluded with the playing of "A Soldiers' Song."

BEST BIKES EASY TO OBTAIN.

There are plenty of cheap bicycles on the market nowadays—cheap, that is to say, in the matter of initial cost—and many a purchaser is misled by the fact that, to all outward seeming, such a machine is a first-class article. Too often, however, he discovers that it is the dearest thing he has ever purchased. There is only one way to ensure satisfaction in such a matter—buy the products of a firm that has a reputation to maintain. Slow and sure is a good enough motto within limitations, but a better one for all intending purchasers of cycles is "Swift and sure." Swift, of Coventry, earned an enviable reputation for reliability when they first started to manufacture cycles 57 years ago, and, at the present day, their prestige is world-wide. The highest grade machines turned out by this firm are moderate in price, but, if it is inconvenient to pay the full amount at the moment, the company have arranged an admirable easy payment system for all makes. The Saorstath agents for the firm, Messrs. Keegan and Neill, Ltd., 15-17 South King Street, Dublin, will welcome a visit from readers of the Army Journal, and will be glad to show them different types of machine and explain the easy payment system.

CHESS AND WAR.

Close Analogy at the Present Day.

NAPOLEON'S MEDIOCRITY.

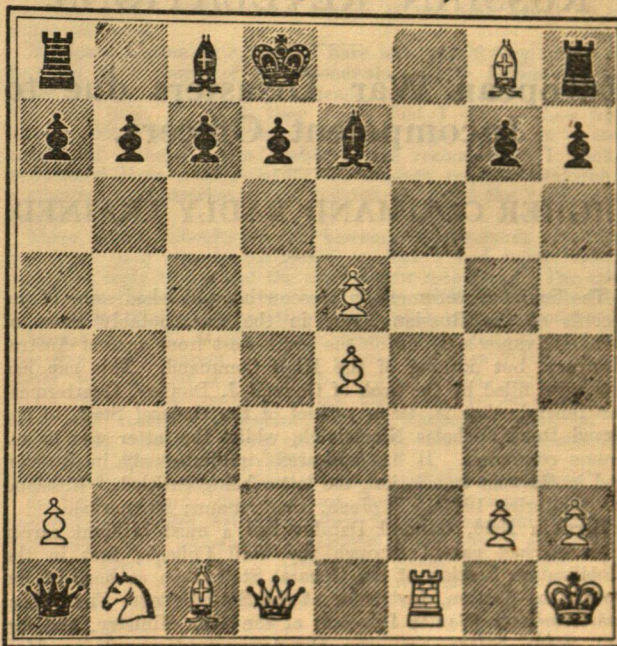
The analogy between chess and war, as old probably as the game itself, becomes closer than ever in the light of modern changes. One writer identifies the pawn with the infantryman, the bishops with the cavalry, the knights with the light guns, the castles with the heavy artillery, the queen with the General Staff, and the king with the reigning monarch. But, after all, the queen does not do the thinking in a game of chess; and while the pawns (each with a Marshal's baton in his knapsack) are obviously the infantry, it may be that the bishop's, with their enflaming fire across the front, are better likened to the machine guns, the knights to the aeroplanes, the castles to the tanks, and the queen to the artillery. And although the doubling of the castles, so powerful a manoeuvre in chess, is reminiscent of Napoleon's maxim: "Mass the guns!" it may betoken just as usefully the mutual support and assistance which tanks can render one another to-day.

Trench warfare: again, what is it but the deadlock and armed inertia of the close openings; while the open game and the resolute and sacrificial onslaught on the castled king—what are these but the frontal attack in terms of the chessboard? Loss of time is as fatal in chess as in war. The elements of chess, says a recent writer,* are force, space, and time. If, through a knowledge of the openings, an advantage has been gained in time, and it is impossible to increase it, how can it be turned to advantage in another element, and in which element? The player who is two or three moves ahead in his development has a real, if transient, advantage which can often be converted into one of material—the gain of a pawn or even a piece. On the other hand, he may prefer to translate it into terms of space by hampering his opponent's movements, and thus preparing the way for a successful combination.

With so much in common between the mimic warfare of the chessboard and war itself, it is little wonder that some of the greatest generals have been among the lovers of the game. Condé, Napoleon, Moltke and Foch, Hindenburg and Cadorna—these are a few of the great names associated with chess. There is a record of a game played by Napoleon at St. Helena in 1820, the last year of his life. His opponent was Count Bertrand, the Grand Marshal, and the game may be called for convenience a Scotch gambit, though that name does not seem to have originated until six years later, when Edinburgh used this opening in a correspondence game against London:—

<p>WHITE. <i>Napoleon.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. P—K4. 2. Kt—KB3. 3. P—Q4. 4. Kt takes Kt. 5. B—QB4. 6. P—QB3 7. Castles 8. P—B4. 9. K—R sq. 10. B takes P ch. 11. P takes Q. 12. B takes Kt. 13. Q—Kt3. 14. R—B8 ch. 15. B—Kt5 ch. 16. B takes B ch. 17. Q—B7 ch. 18. Q—B8 mate. 	<p>BLACK. <i>Bertrand.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> P—K4. Kt—QB3. Kt takes P. P takes Kt. B—B4. Q—K2. Q—K4. P takes P dis. ch. P takes P. K—Q sq. P takes R (Queens). B—K2. P—QR4. B takes R. B—K2. K takes B. K—Q sq.
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BLACK (Bertrand).



WHITE (Napoleon).

It may be conceded that Napoleon was no Philidor, and here we find ourselves face to face with an ancient riddle. If, say, the quidnuncs, the qualities which chess demands are those which distinguish great generals, why should not Foch play chess like Capablanca, or Capablanca lead armies like Foch? The answer is, of course, the old one: that life is short and art long. He who would achieve supreme success in any sphere of action must needs specialise betimes, and it is not, perhaps, a bad ideal "to know a little about everything and everything about one thing." Enough has been said, however, to suggest that chess is pre-eminently an army game, a pastime in which, for the faithful, there are all prizes and no blanks, and one in which all the prizes are worth winning.



G.H.Q. MEETS DUBLIN UNIVERSITY.

The Armstrong Cup match between Dublin University and G.H.Q. Chess Club was played at McKee Barracks on 24th inst., and resulted as follows:—

<i>Dublin Univ.</i>	<i>Army.</i>
S. B. Weinberger	Major Cotter
S. G. Eliasoff	Comdt. Egan
T. S. Atkinson	Comdt. Donohue
H. G. Crawley	Major Lawlor
G. B. Thrift	Major O Briain
S. B. Beckett	Col. O'Connor
K. B. Cockle	Lieut. Steinmayer
M. F. Meade	Capt. Tuke
Total 6	Total 2

Forthcoming Fixture:—G.H.Q. v. Sackville, at McKee Barracks, on 8th December.

Ennis Shield Tournament:—Entries accepted by the Hon. Sec. up to Dec. 2nd. Entry fee, 1s.

G.H.Q. Chess Club:—President, Major-General M. Brennan, Adjutant-General; Club Captain, Major J. P. M. Cotter; Hon. Sec., Comdt. L. Egan; Committee, Major-General MacNeill, Asst. Chief of Staff; Colonel P. O'Connor, Comdt. J. Clancy, Captain J. Nolan, Lieut. C. Steinmayer.

*The Middle Game in Chess. By E. Znosko-Borovsky.

RUSSIAN REVELATIONS.

European War Disasters due to Incompetent Officers.

HIGHER COMMAND BADLY TRAINED.

The Soviet Government in Moscow has published some of the records of the Russian Army in the war, notably those of General Ivanov's Group on the south-west front against Austro-Hungary, but nothing of the High Command. This gap has now been filled by the book of General J. Danilov, Quartermaster-General, that is, Deputy-Chief of the General Staff, to the Grand Duke Nicholas Nicolaivich, whilst the latter was in supreme command. It has appeared simultaneously in Russian and in German translation, the latter being entitled, "Russland im Weltkrieg 1914-15" (Jena, Biedermann; 20 marks).

Born in 1866, General Danilov had a most brilliant career after he had passed through the Staff College; first in the Mobilization Section of the General Staff, then as head of the Operations Section, Instructor at the Staff College, First Oberquartiermeister (Senior Director) at the War Ministry, and for five years before the war Quartermaster-General, in which period there were four Chiefs of the General Staff. He eventually commanded the XXV. Corps and the Fifth Army.

The staff of the Grand Duke whilst he was Commander-in-Chief—called in Russian Stavka—was extremely small, like that of Marshal Foch later on. It consisted of the Chief of the General Staff, General Januschkevich, General Danilov (who had to do with everything connected with operations and was administrative head of the staff), a General in charge of "A" and "Q" work, the Chief of Military Communications, the Chief of the Naval Administration (for combined operations), a Diplomatic Section and a Civil Chancellerie. General Danilov's assistants were thirteen General Staff officers and two draughtsmen. The Stavka lived in a railway train on a siding in a forest at Baranovitchi, an important railway junction where five lines meet, about 180 miles north-east of Brest Litovsk. The Grand Duke was not, however, able to move about as much as he liked, through fear, with the limited number of railways, of upsetting troop movements. He seldom left headquarters, and then only for short periods; his journeys were limited to the necessary meetings with the commanders of the two fronts. The real conduct of the operations seems to have been in the hands of General Jilinski (afterwards General Russki), who commanded the north-west front, that is, against Germany; and General Ivanov, who commanded the south-west front, against Austria.

The author makes the sequence of events in the mobilisation period very clear. The Tsar decided on the 29th of July on full mobilisation; but during the day he received such soothing telegrams from the Kaiser that he changed his mind, and ordered mobilisation in four military districts only, which meant thirteen corps.

At 1 p.m. next day, as is well known, the Berlin "Lokalanzeiger" (about the equivalent in Germany of the "Daily Mail" in England) published an extra number with the news that German mobilisation was ordered. The correspondent of the Petrograd telegraphic agency in Berlin, named Markov, wired it to his head office, whence it was telephoned to the Russian Foreign Office, and arrived there before the official message from the Ambassador in Berlin. Simultaneously, a Russian colonel who had travelled right through Germany, reported that he had seen German reservists collecting and troop trains moving both east and west, but mostly westward. Full mobilisation was ordered that evening.

The higher commanders and staffs were not by any means sufficiently trained for their posts. The Minister of War had tried to take their instruction in hand, and in 1911 had ordered a war game in German style; but he met with strenuous resistance. The generals resented any attempt to teach them or to test their knowledge, and regarded it as sign of lack of confidence in their capacity to lead large bodies of troops. They got the ear of the Tsar, and just as the first war game was ready to begin he stopped it by telephone message. A struggle then went on for three years, but one game was played just before the war, with far from satisfactory results. Once at war, these obstructionists showed a very natural lack of confidence in themselves and distinct pessimism.

The Russian plan provided for the offensive both in East Prussia and Galicia, on the flanks of the Polish salient, as a preliminary to an advance into Silesia and Posen. Had the Germans used their main forces in the East, it was intended to retire into the interior of the country.

It was very soon evident that the bulk of the German forces had been sent West, and that the Russians would be in superior numbers on the north-west front, and further that the enemy had no intention of attempting a landing on the Baltic coast, which had been anticipated. The French asked that the principal effort should be made against Germany, but apparently Rennenkampf's and Samsonov's Armies were judged sufficient, as they should have been had they acted on their instructions; but, instead of moving towards each other, they diverged. General Danilov brands as a "legend" that at the urgent request of the French the Russian Armies began operations prematurely; they started as laid down in the pre-war plan; but it is true that Samsonov's line of communications was not completely organised, the result of this being that he crossed the frontier actually three days late. The Grand Duke fully trusted General Jilinski, and gave most of his attention to the south-west front, where the relative strength was not so favourable, and where it soon appeared that General Ivanov was not anxious to advance, as the Austrians had deployed farther back than was expected. There was indeed considerable risk to Ivanov's right flank as he went forward. To encourage him, the Grand Duke went south to his headquarters at Kiev, and was there during the Tannenberg period.

To meet the Hindenburg advance on Warsaw the Grand Duke planned that the two Armies on the right near Warsaw should strike and the others dig in; but the movements to get these two Armies into position took time, and the cavalry which pushed on to hold the line was driven back. Eventually the blow was delivered with only one Army and a part of one in the line, and Hindenburg escaped.

The Russian advance towards Central Germany, which followed, and which similarly was met by Hindenburg with a flank attack from the north, had considerable success, escaped the trap planned for it, and had not Rennenkampf for a second time failed to come up, would undoubtedly have led to a German disaster at Lodz, which was a drawn battle.

The Russian Army had from the start suffered from lack of good communications, aeroplanes, heavy guns, machine guns, ammunition and modern apparatus. As a result of four months' operations, it found itself short of officers, non-commissioned officers, men and rifles. There were but 30 per cent. of officers left, and a smaller percentage of non-commissioned officers, some units having none; and although the health of the Army was satisfactory, infantry regiments of 3,000 were down to a strength of 1,200—1,500. At the end of November, 1914, there were 800,000 nearly fully-trained men ready to join, but there were no rifles for them, and the output of rifles was at the outset 60,000 a month. There was nothing to be done but to go into winter quarters.

Those who are contemplating Christmas presents for their men friends will be interested in the special offer to soldiers made by Messrs. McQuillan, of Capel Street, Dublin, in this issue. This firm occupies a prominent position in the **RIGHT** **TRADING** **COMPANY** of Dublin cutlers, and sell their goods on merit alone.

THE VARIETY OF THE GRAMOPHONE. Palestrina and Tango : Classical Works and Simple Old-time Songs.

The infinite variety of music afforded by the gramophone is strikingly illustrated by each month's issue of new records. To take one firm alone, the Parlophone Company this month give us such a wide choice as Mozart, Strauss, Delibes, Bach, Wagner, the Argentine Tango, and Catholic Plain Chant. They have also issued recently three records of Gaelic songs by Dan Cox.

I had heard of the Cox records—he went over to London for the recording not so very long ago—but I had some difficulty in running them to earth, and I have not yet had an opportunity of hearing them under satisfactory conditions. They seemed to have a slight "funnel" effect when I heard them played on a friend's instrument, and I would like to hear them on my own H.M.V., with a proper needle, etc., before pronouncing judgment. From the language point of view, however, they are eminently satisfactory—one of the foremost authorities on that subject assured me that they were "perfect." At any rate they are well worth the expenditure of three half-crowns by all Gaedhilgeori.

The Catholic records by the same firm also number three, and are also available at the modest sum of half-a-crown each (all six



Pte. Murphy has been warned to sweep up a few leaves in the Barrack Square. This is his impression of the square.

are ten-inch). They are really marvellous. The organ accompaniment by the Rev. Vernon Russell is somewhat inadequate, but at any rate it has not got that horrible hurdy-gurdy tone that most organ records possess. The singing is recorded with astonishing realism—but then it was the Parlophone Company that gave us the Vatican Choir records, and those delicately beautiful recordings of the Irmeler Madrigal Ladies' Choir, so that the task of recording these vocalists of the Westminster Cathedral Choir presented no difficulties to them.

These magnificent—it is a large adjective, but it is thoroughly justified—records of sacred music comprise the plain chant melodies of the *Te Deum* as given in the "Catholic Schools' Hymn Book," Palestrina's *O Salutaris*, the plain chant of the *Tantum Ergo* and the *Asperges*, and from the *Missa de Angelis*, the *Kyrie*, *Gloria*, *Credo*, *Sanctus*, and *Agnus Dei*. The Parlophone Company is to be congratulated on having conferred such a boon on Catholic gramophonists, and it is to be hoped that they will give us further records of the Westminster Choir in the near future. The approach of Christmas should suggest something to them. A half-crown record of the *Adeste Fideles* by this choir would eclipse even the 4,850 voices record of Columbia, and would be welcomed by the thousands who cannot afford the eight-and-sixpenny

H.M.V. record of McCormack and the Choir singing the Christmas Hymn (one of the finest records of the kind issued by the latter company).

My space is running out and I have left myself very little room to reply to a couple of correspondents, one in Dublin and the other in Cork, who, by a coincidence, make the same request by the same post. In brief, they desire that I shall eschew for a moment, what they call "highbrow stuff" and tell them of some records of "simple songs" which I can recommend. I think I understand their feeling—really the modern records catalogue is a staggering illustration of the heights to which the gramophone has soared.

There is the difficulty of not knowing what records my correspondents have already purchased, so that I had better confine myself in reply to some of the more recent recordings. The other day I was introduced to two very pretty H.M.V. 10-inch discs. On one (3s.) Walter Glynn sings a colourful, romantic song, "To a Miniature," with a delightfully appropriate accompaniment like the ghost of a minuet. On the reverse he sings "Little Fairy Boat," but the first side is worth the money. The second record is by the famous contralto, Edna Thornton (4s. 6d.), and the plum is "Gentle Troubadour," from Wallace's "Lurline," a wonderfully "tuneful" wisp of sentiment. On the other side she gives us "The Songs my Mother Sang."

The Beltona Company have a number of "simple songs" on "de luxe" records (3s.) amongst their recent issues. One or two possess a hard brilliance when first played, but they are remarkably clear examples of recording and should prove very popular. They comprise: "Love's Old Sweet Song" and "The Lute Player," sung by Fred Sutcliffe, baritone; "When Other Lips" and "Take a Pair of Sparkling Eyes," sung by Hughes Macklin, tenor; "Now Sleeps the Crimson Petal" and "The Pride of Tipperary," sung by Harry Brindle, basso; "Ora Pro Nobis" and Gounod's "Ave Maria," sung by Winifred Brady, soprano; "God Bless the Morning" and "When all the World is Young," sung by Herbert Teale, tenor. For all its brevity, that is a very varied list, yet all the items are such as should appeal to those who, like my two correspondents, are in search of simple songs. In the next issue I will give a further selection—there are a large number of first-class Beltona records at half-a-crown that should meet the case.

In my next article also, I hope to deal—in response to several requests from readers, with some of the latest dance records, but I cannot refrain from strongly recommending before I "close down," a 12-inch record (4s. 6d.) issued by Parlophone, of Marek Weber and his famous orchestra playing that really fascinating tango, "El Panuelito" and "La Monteria." Apart from the magic "Tango du Reve," which I mentioned in an earlier issue, these are the most agreeable specimens of the tango that I have yet encountered amongst gramophone records—114 fox-trots, 23 waltzes, 1 blue, 1 one-step and 13 tangos were issued this month.

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ARMY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

Ye Fairie Cítie has won the Senior Football Championship of Kilkenny. The team is mainly composed of military serving with the Kilkenny Garrison.

Comdt. J. Ryan is the present captain of the team. Other well-known players are Cpl.'s Minan and Price.

The 21st Batt. football team visited Drogheda on the 15th inst. and gained a narrow victory over the local team—"Larks."

Sergt. Bannon and Cpl.'s Aylward and O'Neill assisted Dublin in the National League game at Croke Park on Sunday last.

After a magnificent game Dublin were declared winners by 5 points.

Ex-Sergt. Dunphy, who used to assist the Curragh Command, and is now with the sister service, was prominent in the same game for brilliant play.

A noted absentee from the Dublin team was Pte. Barry, 22nd Infantry Battalion.

The sympathy of all members of the A.A.A. will go out to this fine hurler on the loss he sustained by the death of his only child, which occurred last week.

Sergt. Duggan, Headquarters Staff, Collins Barracks, Cork, played a good game for the Cork Co. team in a recent National League game.

Capt. B. Whelan, Finner Camp, was victorious in a challenge handball contest played on the occasion of the "opening" of the new court at Naas.

Sergt's Higgins and Doyle were the outstanding players for the Eastern Command in the All-Army Football Final replay.

ALL-ARMY FOOTBALL FINAL REPLAY.

Eastern Command Win Championship Easily.

(Specially Reported for An t-Óscláic).

Eastern Command and G.H.Q. Command resumed their struggle for All-Army Football honours on Wednesday, 18th inst., at Croke Park, Dublin. There was a fair attendance, and the No. 2 Band, under the baton of Lieut. A. K. Duff (Mus.B.), played a pleasing selection of music.

When the teams met previously there was a big element of luck attached to both sides in effecting a draw, and a spirited display was expected in the replay. In this expectation, however, the spectators were disappointed. There had been changes on both sides in the interval between the matches, but G.H.Q. seemed to be sufferers in this respect. The team as played, although all were triers, did not put up anything like the football expected of them. They seemed to lose heart in the early stages of the game and so suffered a heavy defeat.

The Eastern Command representatives were superior at every point. There was nothing approaching individualism about them. They played a winning game from the first to the last whistle, and well deserved their victory.

Capt. Fred. O'Doherty (Curragh) proved an excellent referee, and lined out the following teams:—

Eastern Command—Sergt. Conlon, Lt. Kenny, Lt. M'Alister, Capt. Brannigan, Sergt. Pickens, Cpl. Sexton, Lt. Tummon, Comdt. Ryan, Sergt. Higgins, Pte. Noonan, Pte. Quinn, Coy.-Sergt. P. Doyle, Pte. Ebbs, Capt. J. P. Murphy, and Lieut. M. O'Brien.

G.H.Q. Command—Sergt.-Major Cummins, Pte. Ward, Pte. O'Toole, Pte. O'Donoghue, Pte. O'Shea, Gunner Ryan, Pte. B. Higgins, Capt. O'Beirne, Capt. Cannon, Gunner McCormack, Pte. Sullivan, Gunner M. Walsh, Pte. White, Pte. Graham and Pte. Keogh.

THE GAME.

Immediately on the throw-in Cannon secured but was robbed, and O'Brien fouled. When well placed, Paul Doyle took the free and Jack Higgins went over for a point before the game was a minute old. Following the kick-out, Quinn missed a good pass by Capt. Murphy, and O'Toole had little difficulty in clearing. Noonan was pulled up when about to centre, and the free enabled Eastern to again make headway. Play soon became lively, with over-anxiety causing frequent fouls. Doyle again missed narrowly, as did Higgins, O'Brien, and Ebbs. The G.H.Q. backs were having plenty of work to do, and their mid-field play was showing up none too well. A constant attack was kept up by the Eastern forwards, and Ebbs ran through, but was unlucky when a goal seemed certain. O'Shea, for G.H.Q., sent well up the field, but the forwards were slow, and a good chance went a-begging. A neat pass by Quinn saw Murphy leave O'Brien in a good position, but the latter sent wide. The continued pressure by Eastern was soon rewarded. Quinn received from the kick-out and, beating the G.H.Q. defence, scored a minor. Cummins, in goal for G.H.Q., was lucky to save from Jack Higgins in the next minute.

There seemed to be no stopping the Eastern attacks. They were playing a splendid game, and were shaping like winners. G.H.Q., however, gave us a few exciting moments. They succeeded per O'Beirne, Cannon, and Keogh in getting to close quarters with the Eastern defenders, and for several minutes the downfall of the Eastern goal was expected. A big element of luck saved Eastern, but this bombardment had the effect of putting more life into the game. Eastern again returned to the attack and a nice bout of passing between Higgins and Doyle ended in Murphy securing. He ran through on his own and left Cummins standing—to score a great goal. Eastern enthusiasm now knew no bounds. Ebbs immediately followed with a well-taken point, and G.H.Q. again cleared at the expense of a "fifty." At this stage there was a vast difference between the teams. One played football. O'Brien again missed by inches, and Quinn, who was always dangerous, deceived Cummins with a low shot, which entered the net. O'Donoghue and O'Shea kept their end well up for a time, but weakness in midfield allowed Eastern much scope. A fine centre by Cannon gave G.H.Q. hopes, but there was no one to accept it, and Eastern easily cleared. A short raid again by G.H.Q. was easily checked by Brannigan. Many minor infringements held up the play, and from a free taken by Doyle, O'Shea cleared from Higgins. Following another attack by Eastern, J. P. Murphy when tackled, scored a minor with a well-judged overhead kick. Higgins again missed a good chance. O'Beirne, for G.H.Q., put in a good centre, and a foul against Brannigan relieved pressure. Noonan was lying handy, and a miskick let him in to score a point. Headquarters again took up the running, a free enabling them to make progress. They were, however, met by a stubborn defence. Brannigan, Pickens and Sexton were always a stumbling block to the G.H.Q. forwards. The latter sent to Murphy to cross from the goal line to O'Brien. The latter beat Cummins all out with a good shot. With a big lead Eastern gave us a glimpse of good football. G.H.Q. made another raid which ended in McCormack securing their first score—a point. From this to the end of the first half G.H.Q. continued pressure, but were unable to augment the score, and at half time the game stood:—

Eastern Command	...	...	...	3 goals	5 points.
G.H.Q. Command	...	...	...	1 point.	

The second moiety opened briskly. A centre by Comdt. Ryan was picked up by Doyle, but Barney Higgins cleared well. Shannon got away for G.H.Q., when Pickens intercepted and allowed Eastern to resume pressure. This they did wholeheartedly. All Eastern appeared as from nowhere, and Cummins was as busy as the proverbial "Nailer." After saving shots from all directions his charge eventually fell, and another goal was scored by Eastern. The kick-out was snapped up by Tummon, who gave O'Brien a good chance, but the latter sent wide. G.H.Q. now showed some improvement and shaped like reducing the lead. Keogh, Cannon, and White were prominent in a G.H.Q. attack, but Sexton blocked their final efforts. Doyle fouled, and the free gave G.H.Q. another chance. Keogh, however, failed to pick up, and Brannigan cleared. Higgins and O'Donoghue, for G.H.Q., were all that came under notice for some time. The former let Cannon away, and he made a gallant effort to reduce the lead. His final shot skimmed the goal-post when the Eastern goalie had run out. Another rush by Eastern was spoiled by the Irish. The resultant free saw Cannon and Keogh again making tracks for East.

ern, but the latter was robbed by Sexton once more. For Eastern, Higgins, O'Brien, Quinn and Murphy were always dangerous, and each in turn missed open chances due to over-anxiety. Murphy was then responsible for the best goal of the match. Receiving from Quinn, he beat several G.H.Q. defenders before finally leaving Cummins guessing. Quinn later tested the G.H.Q. goalie with a low shot, Cummins saving at the expense of a "fifty."

There was now a prolonged period of scraggy football. Eastern territory was rarely invaded, and then only to meet with a stiff resistance. Keogh was the outstanding man in the G.H.Q. attack, but he was generally singlehanded. White, Cannon and Sullivan all had an innings, but in the Eastern defence they encountered stiff opposition. The Eastern defenders were never now called upon to make an effort. Their forwards were busy, notably Ebbs and Quinn, both of whom sent over repeatedly. Murphy essayed again to get through on his own, but dallied too long when Cummins ran out to clear. G.H.Q. again spurted down field, and White missed an open goal. A free soon after gave Cannon an opening, but Ryan hustled him off his shot. Play was now confined mostly to the touch-line, and both teams looked to have had enough of the game. Murphy took a free close in, but shooting for goal, missed a chance. Martin, Walsh and Cannon made a good raid on Eastern defence, and a score seemed certain, when the latter sent wide. From this to the end G.H.Q. did all the pressing, but they were unable to make any impression on the better-trained combination. There was no further scoring, and Eastern Command were worthy champions, as follows:—

Eastern Command	...	...	...	5 goals	5 points.
G.H.Q. Command	...	...	...	1 point.	

No. 1 BRIGADE FOOTBALL LEAGUE (FINNER CAMP).

The first match of the newly formed Gaelic Football League, at Finner Camp, was played on Saturday, 14th inst. The teams being Battalion H.Q. Company and "A" Company. The weather, which had been very wet for two days cleared, and the referee decided that the field was fit to play upon, but the players found it very difficult to keep their feet.

A large number of spectators were present when Lieut. Duffy, the Brigade A.P.M., threw in the ball. Both sides were too excited to show their best until McGuinness, of "A" Company got the ball very close in, and was rather lucky to see it pass the goalkeeper. H.Q. players now put more "go" into their play, and were rewarded by Flynn beating the goalkeeper with a low shot. Scores now being level, some good football was seen from both sides, but Flynn again beat "A" Company's keeper. "A" struggled hard to get on terms, but failed, and Flynn again scored, this time a point for H.Q. Company. The spectators got a good laugh when Gleeson, the H.Q. goalie caught the ball and, owing to the rush of "A" Company forwards, had to lie flat in about four inches of sloppy mud, which did not improve his appearance. After a lot of wild kicking, McLarnon got possession from a nice pass from McCarthy (McCracken) and scored the third goal for the H.Q. team. Half-time saw H.Q. Company leading by 10 points to 3.

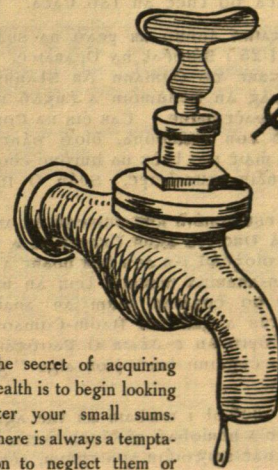
Play in the second half started off with the wind in favour of the H.Q. team, and Bradley got the fourth goal for them, after two or three players had a shot. Donnelly then added another goal for the same team. "A" Company were now showing signs of "that tired feeling" but Wilson, who had been working hard on his own, got possession and scored a point for "A" Company. Soon afterwards Bentley (Sago) put in a fine kick for a point for H.Q. Company. In the last few minutes McLarnon, who had tried with several good shots, got in one that the goalkeeper of "A" was unable to touch. Battalion H.Q. team thus ran out winners by 7 goals 2 points, to "A" Company's 1 goal and 1 point.

SECOND MATCH.

The second match of the League was played on Sunday, 15th inst. The teams being Brigade Headquarters and "D" Company. The ground was still in a bad condition.

This match was more exciting than the one on Saturday. The Brigade team were without a few of their best players, but put up a fine show right from the start. "D" Company players did not appear to understand their positions, and several nice movements were spoilt through this. However, they were the first to score a goal. Brigade tried to equalise, but the fine kicking of

(Continued at foot of col. 2, page 10.)



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SILTEAR MO SMAÖINTE ĆUN SIUBAIL I N-OBÄIR AN LAE AGUS NUAIR A SIUBÁIN SÍÖS ĆUN RUÖ EICINT A SCRÍÖBADÓ NÍ BÍÖNN DADA AGAM LE SCRÍÖBADÓ 'NA ĜUIRPEADÓ AN ĜNÁE-ĜAĜIÖUR AON TSUM, AĆT ĆAITEPÖ MÉ ROINNT ÉILE DO ĆUR AR INNEAL MO ĆINN I SLÍĜE IS ĜÖ N-OIBREÖEADÓ SÉ NÍÖS BRÍÖĜMÁIRE NÁ MAR A 'ÖEIN SÉ LE TAMALL ANUAS; 'DÁ BRÍĜ SIN, CUIRIM AN BEART NÓTAÍ ATÁ BAILÍÖE AGAM LE ĆEILE, AGUS TÁ SÚIL AGAM ĜÖ NÖUNPÄRÖ SÉ AĜEUL SUMMÚL Ó'n IAD CAÉ.

"IS TUISCE DÖEÖ NÁ SCÉAL"—SINÉ AN PÁE, IS DÖĆA, ĜÖ ĜAITEPÖ MÉ MO PEANN A TOMAD SAN TÖUB ĆÖM MIMIC SIN; NÍL A FÍÖS AGAM, ĆUN NA FIANNE D'INNISINT, AĆT IS IONĜANTAĆ NA RUÖÁI NA POCAIL AGUS AN SLÍĜE IS FÉITÖIR IAD A ĆASAD ĆUN IAD A 'ÖEUNAM OIREANINAC 'DÖN CÁS.

DO H-AISTRUIĜEADÓ AN CAPTAEN MAC COMĜAIL ĜÖ DTÍ AN IAD CAÉ LE 'ÖEANAIĜE—ĆEWO MILE FÁILTE RÖMÄR, A ĆAPTAEN UASAIL DE SÁR-SLIÖCT TĪR CONAIL. ĜAÖEALĜÖIR LIONĪŢA 'SEAD AN CAPTAEN AGUS TÁ CANAMÁINT NA N-ULTAC AR PEABAS AR BÄRR A TĜANĜAN AĜE. ANÖIS TÁ LIONMÁIREACÉ NA SCANAMÁINT I MBIAÖLAINN NA N-OIFĜEAC ĆÖTROM AR ĜAC TAOB BEAĜNAĆ, AGUS 'NA DIAÖI SIN IS UILE NÍL CEIST NA PRÍÖM-ĆANAMNA AS 'ÖEANAM BUÖDARĜA DÓINN AĆT ĆÖM BEAĜ IS NA BEAD A LEITÉIRO DE ĆEIST 'ĜÁ PLEIÖE AR ĆÖR AR BIÖ.

LEĜEAMAR CÚNTAS I BPRÍÖMÁISTE DE "AN T-ÖĜLÁC" PAÖI ĆEIST AN CUMANN ĆÖIGILTIS AGUS LEĜEAMAR IN ÖRÖÜ ĜENERÁLA AR NA MALLAB ĜÖ BPUIL SÉ MÖLTA AS AN AIRE COSANTA CUMANN ĆÖIGILTISE DO ĆUR AR BUN SAN ARM. TÁ ÁEAS MÖR ORRAINN A RÁÖ ĜUR TÖSNUIĜEAMAR SÉ MÍ Ö SÖIN AR AN OBAIR ÉTABÄCTAC SO AGUS ĜÖ BPUIL TĪMPAL LE £120 CURTÄ I DĜARRAC AGAINN ĆAR ĆEANN NA BPEAR. TÁ OBAIR MAIT 'ÖEANTA AS AN RÚNAIÖE, SÄRSINT MAC ĜIÖLLA COMĜIĜ. 'SÉ CAPT LIAM Ö CONAIL AN CISTEÖIR. TÁMÍÖ AS OBAIR ANÖIS LEIS AN ĜCUMANN LE SÉ MÍ. ĜÖ N-ĆIRĜIÖ LEAT A CUMANN ĆÖIGILTIS AN ÉEAD CAÉA! (NA CEITRE "C.")

IS ĜEARR UAHN AN NÖVLÄS ANÖIS AC PARÖF ĜÉAR TÁ ÁR LAÖTANTA SAÖIRE CAITEE AGAINN ĜÖ LÉIR, AGUS 'DÁ BRÍĜ SIN ĆAITEPĪÖ A BEIT AS CUIRNEAM AGUS AS CEAPAD AR AN SLÍĜE IS PEÄRR ĆUN NA NÖVLÄS A ĆAITEAM ISTĜ SA BEARIC. MÖLAMISE DO SNA OIFĜIS AGUS DÖS NA H-OIFĜIS NEAM-ĆÖMINSIUNTA FORÁLÄĆA SPEISIALTA A 'ÖEANAM ĆUN CAITEAM AIMSIRE AGUS SIAMSA NA BPEAR A ĆUR IN ÁIRIÖE I ĜÖÖIR NA NÖVLÄS.

I ĜIÖNN TAMAILL BĜ ANÖIS BEIÖ FÚNÖUIREACÉ AN ÉACÄ PAÖI LÁN TSEÖL AGUS BEIÖ SLÍĜE ÁR NÖÖEANT AGAINN ĆUN NA RUÖÁI ATÁ BEARTUIÖE AGAINN A ĆUR I BPEÖIM, NUAIR A BEIÖ OBAIR TÖĜÁILTE NA BEARICE CRIÖNHUIĜE.

TÁ SÚIL AGAM ĜÖ MBERÖ TOĜAD NA LĜRÍÖCTA "IN UIÖIR NA NÖVLÄS" DE'n "T-ÖĜLÁC" AC NÍ HÉ ÁMÁIN IN UIÖREACÄ NA NÖVLÄS ĜUR MAIT LINN NA NÍÖÖE ÁRO-SAÖIRSE A FĪCSINT AC IN ĜAC UIÖIR A ÉLÖ-BUAILTEAR. BA MAIT LINN PREIS NÍÖS MÓ A FĪCSINT ÖSNA CATANNA EILE AS ĜAÖUILĜE, B'FUIRIST DO ĜAC UILE DÖNTÁN A ĆUIÖ NÓTAÍ A SCRÍÖBADÓ AS ĜAÖUILĜE AR A LAĜEAD, AGUS 'ÖEANPÄRÖ AN ĆLEACTA AN MÁISIR. BA MAIT LINN, CUIR I ĜCÄS ĜÖ SCRÍÖBADÓ TUINE ÉĜINT PAÖI ADÖBÄR MÖR-ÉTABÄCTAC NA MUSCAÖTUIREACTA. CUIRPEADÓ A LÁN DAOINE SPÉIS MÖR, TÁM CİNTE, IN AISE MAR SIN. SA CÉAD TÖL SÍÖS BA ÉEART TÖM A RÁÖ NÄR CÖIR ĜÖ MBÉAD PÄPĪÉR MAR "AN T-ÖĜLÁC" ANN ĆUN LĜRÍÖCTA AON TEANĜAN A LEAĆNÜ AC ĆUN RUÖ ÉĜINT IONĜNIÖMÉAC, TAIĜEAC TEIEMÜLA A ÉABAINT 'DÁ LEĜEÖÖMIB, A BANNEMAN LEIS AN NĜARIN BEACTA MILĜATA, AC IAD A BEIT AS ĜAÖUILĜE, TEANĜA OIFĜIÖUL NA TĪRE, AGUS URLABÄ NA SÍÖSIUNTA 'NA ÉEANNÄ SAN. NÖVLÄS AÖBINN DÓINN ĜÖ LÉIR.

KÜNÖVALÖS.

G.H.Q. GAELIC CLUB. Committee Report Encouraging Progress. FINE OPPORTUNITY FOR LEARNERS.

D'Fhear Eagair, "An t-Oglach."

A Chara,—I am instructed by the Committee An Cumann Gaedhealach, Bearaic Mhic Aodha to thank you for your generous notice of their inaugural meeting of the 3rd inst.

They desire, at the same time, to point out that your editorial comments were unintentionally unjust to the officers who were absent on the occasion.

The notice summoning the meeting was issued only to such officers as had in the past interested themselves in the study of Irish, and even some of these were inadvertently overlooked. It was hoped to get in touch with all such officers at a subsequent meeting if the initial effort succeeded.

It might have been preferable to have issued a general invitation, but past experiences were not encouraging—our class last year started with four pupils. It was, therefore, considered more advisable to make a special appeal to only such as were likely to participate in another effort, and thus insure even a fair attendance.

However, the keen interest evinced in the proposed club, and the enthusiasm with which Dr. Hyde's Lecture on the 16th was greeted proves that army officers are sound on the Language question.

It is now intended to leave all classes and membership of the club open to all army officers.

There was a big muster at the classes last week, and the Committee are making preparations to arrange additional classes for beginners.

- Class for beginners on Monday from 2 to 3 p.m., and on Thursday from 5.15 to 6.15 p.m.
- Intermediate Classes, Monday, 2 to 3 p.m., and on Thursdays from 5.15 to 6.15 p.m.

It is also proposed to hold meetings of speakers and advanced students on Tuesdays from 5.30 to 6.30 p.m. for the purpose of giving all an opportunity of improving their conversational knowledge of the language.—Mise,

SEAN O CONGHUBHAIR, Lieutenant, Ar son an Choisde.

An Cumann Gaedhealach, Bearaic Mhic Aodha, 20adh Samhain, 1925.

(No. 1 Brigade—continued from page 9.)

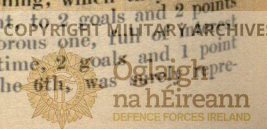
the "D" Company backs broke up their rushes. Beatty kicking with fine judgment, Donegan, in "D" Company goal, had all his work cut out on several occasions to stop the fine shots put in by the Brigade forwards, "D" Company again scored a goal from a fine individual effort on Sheeran's part. The teams changed over with "D" Company leading by 2 goals to nil.

In the second half Brigade Company had their opponents weighed up and were not long in obtaining a goal through Lieut. Duffy. The doctor was there every time (on the field of play); he tackled well and, getting the ball away to advantage every time, helped his forwards well. "D" Company tried several rushes, but were beaten back each time, and Brigade drew level when Carroll got their second goal. Players and spectators were now all excitement, and there was plenty of guessing as to who would get the decision. "D" Company had two of their players laid low by a collision with one of the Brigade players, but were soon up again. Just before the final whistle blew, Roarty, of Brigade Company, got possession whilst unmarked, and scored a point for his side. Brigade thus ran out winners, having scored 2 goals and 1 point, to "D" Company's 2 goals.

Sergeant McCarthy, of Battalion H.Q. Company, was an efficient referee.

No. 2 BRIGADE HURLING CHAMPIONSHIPS.

At Longford, on Saturday, November 7th, 1925, the 25th Battalion hurling team met the 6th Battalion at the Park Athletic Grounds, and, despite the inclemency of the weather and the softness of the sod, one of the finest exhibitions of hurling seen for some time was witnessed. The 6th Battalion had held the Championship for the past two seasons, and were fancied; the 25th, however, were determined on winning, which they did, by the handsome score of 5 goals and 1 point to 2 goals and 1 point for the 6th. The game itself was a vigorous one, full of spirit and excitement, and the score at half time, 2 goals and 1 point for the 25th Battalion, to 1 goal for the 6th, was accordingly representative of the play.



SHRAPNEL

AN ACCIDENT ON THE LINE.

An evening contemporary mentions that the Paris-Calais boat train is to be speeded up further, and thinks that most regular travellers to Paris will be horrified by the news. It goes on: "When travelling at an average speed of 57 miles an h ruosah-shrdlucmfwyp" clearly showing that its worst apprehensions are not without foundation.

"The oldest member of the club was the *late* "Uncle" Green, who is still queueing-up."—Dublin contemporary.
Not at the pit entrance, we hope.



The Lengthy Lady:—"I seem to remember your name, Corporal, but I am trying to think what you look like."

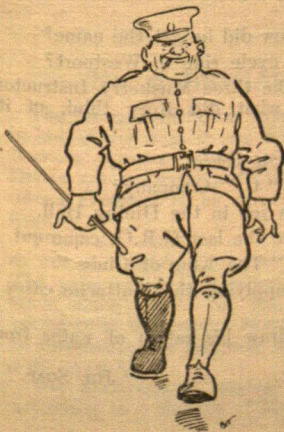
* * * * *
"So you want to join the Army—for how long?"
"Duration."
"But there isn't any war on!"
"I know. I mean duration of the peace."

* * * * *
Some men are successful chiefly because they didn't have the advantages others had.

Too many people think opportunity means a chance to get money without earning it.

Much of the smart of a smart hat is when one woman sees it on another woman.

Statistics show that out of 1,000 telephone calls you get the wrong number only thirty times—but you know what statistics are.



* * * * *
The cook takes a day off. He is smiling, radiant, a picture of contentment. Why? Because nobody has been able to make a joke about him for "An t-Oglach." Four weeks ago we published a picture of Conrade Cook "having a few words" with the camp butcher about something, and offered a couple of prizes for the best joke to fit the drawing. We haven't received a joke worth a threepenny bit: in fact, people have been sent to jail for six months' hard for lesser crimes than some of the alleged jokes sent in. But there is another reason for the cook's smile—he has been reading the "Gossip of the Barracks," where all the best soldier's jokes are to be found.

"It seems hardly possible," remarked the hard-working member of the M.T.C., as he surveyed his hands after lubricating the innards of the "Ford Touring," "but most of the friction in the Balkans seems to be caused by Greece."

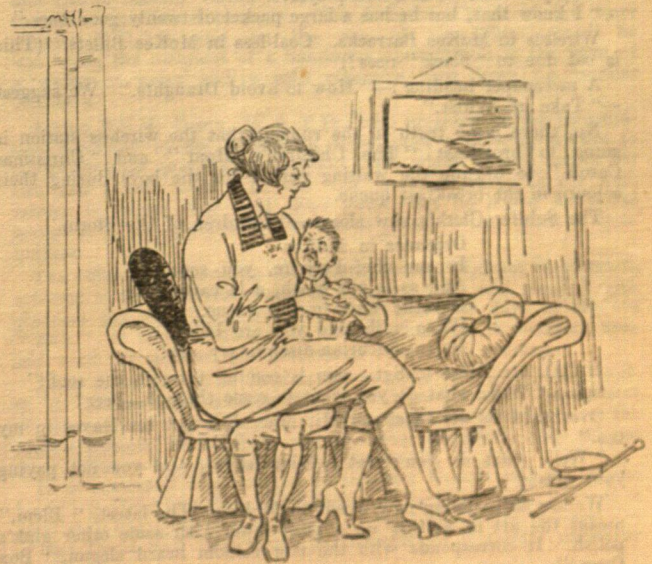
* * * * *
The old timer was crossing the square when the young recruit bumped into him.

"Clumsy idiot," snarled the O.T.
"Glad to know you," said the rookie, cheerfully, "mine's Murphy."

* * * * *
An English newspaper publishes a translation of the song that is most popular about the Riff camp fires whilst the followers of Abdul Krim await the morrow's battle with the French or Spaniards or both. Here are a few verses:—

One Englishman is a sportsman,
Two Englishmen is a drunken brawl,
Three Englishmen is a British colony,
One Spaniard is Don Quixote,
Two Spaniards is Don Quixote and Sancho Panza,
Three Spaniards is a retreat.
One Riffian is a sniper,
Two Riffians is a battalion,
Three Riffians is Annual.

("Annual" refers to the great Riff victory over Spain).



The Large Lady:—"Will you always be able to support me, Sweetheart?"

* * * * *
The late Shah, apparently, has been guilty of Lazy Majesty. Whichever side of the question a respectable man gets on, he always finds some people there that he wishes were on the other side.

Epitaph: "Here lies the propagandist—as usual."
A faction in Poland wants Henry Ford as king of the country. No doubt the big idea is that the king will bring the Jack along.

* * * * *
Once upon a time there was a cook in the Swiss Navy who was noted for his absentmindedness. One day during a rush period—it was probably after the scrap with the French poachers on Lake Geneva, reported this week—he forgot to wash out the dixie that had contained tea, and made some soup in it.

When the time came for it to be served he noticed some tea leaves floating around on top of the soup.

For a moment his imagination reeled at the thought of what the crew would say. Suddenly a bright idea struck him, and hurrying to the mess-deck, he shouted:

"Boys, if you see any tea-leaves floating in your soup, you'll know it's mint."

GOSSIP OF THE BARRACKS

G.H.Q. CALLING.

Overheard at the breakfast parade, "G.H.Q., with the accent on the queue!"

THE SOLDIER CLERK (7th Hookum).

I'm a dancing Soldier Clerk, tra la!
Addicted to jazzing when dark, tra la!
With the boys from the "Bella,"
At the Gay Cinderella—
Ne'er thought of the gate in the Park, tra la!
At the jolly old 9.30 parade, tra la!
Was broadcasted the oft-told tirade, tra la!
With neither sigh nor sob,
Got "the bird"; fined a bob—
Dancing class; felt an ass; no late pass, tra la!

Things are looking up in McKee Barracks. Between nocturnal cross-country runs, Whist Drives, boxing contests, etc., one can scarcely find time to indulge in the luxury of even a fire picquet.

Overheard at our Whist Drive:—

"Ask Mac to make up the four at our table."
"Why? Sure he is a bad player."

"I know that, but he has a large packet of twenty good ones."

Wireless in McKee Barracks. Coal-less in McKee Billets. (This is not due to "Slack"-ness?)

A newspaper heading:—"How to avoid Draughts." We suggest—"Take up Whist."

No, there is no truth in the rumour that the wireless station is going to broadcast "The Children's Hour" and "Christmas Carols" to beguile the waiting period for the boys during their sojourn in the breakfast queue.

The Soldier Clerk's new slogan—"Children of the Storm."

Dejeuner in McKee
Is our chef-d'œuvre, you see;
And so is our lunch, a la carte.
But the wait in the queue,
When with cold you are blue,
Is an epicurian-disciplinary art!

N.C.O. i/c Billet—"Sgt., rain is coming through the roof!"

Sgt.—"Well, what do you want to come through—beer?"

Overheard in the Mess:—"Hi, Mac, I've got tea leaves in my tea."

"Well, what do you want?—Mint leaves, and you not paying your tanner!"

We are still coining new words in McKee. The latest, "Blem," means the art of getting up a posh shine with some other gink's polish. It corresponds with the now seldom heard slogan, "Box Open!"

At the Recreational parade in the Park, when one of the boys met with an accident:—

The crowd (closing in)—"Give him air—Give him air."

Absentminded Q.M. Sgt.—"Can't—it's not an issue."

Paddy Burns and his capable half-section "your man, Kinsella," are making great progress with their boxing proteges. Paddy, with his skill, patience and experience, and plenty of good material at his disposal, is very optimistic, and we are looking forward with great confidence to a very successful season in the squared circle.

Cpl. i/c Room:—"Oh, Sgt., Pte. Mac is very queer this morning. I think his mind is unhinged."

Sgt.—"Wheel him round to the carpenter's shop. They'll settle the hinge!"

Q.M. Sgt. to applicant for a new tunic:—"Here, try on this one. It should fit; you are not a big man."

Applicant—"Well, I am not yet, but I hope to be some day. I'm an Acting-Corporal now."

Sgt. Jack Early was not late in requesting an early settlement for dinner supplied—10d. (Jack makes an ideal Mess Treasurer.)

The Services Dance Cinderella, which was organised by Messrs.

Kearney and Howe, was held last Friday night, and proved a most enjoyable function. Messrs. Kearney and Howe, who were untiring in their efforts to ensure the comfort and enjoyment of everyone, are to be heartily congratulated on the success which attended their endeavours.

Things we would Like to Know—

Who is the Senior N.C.O. who is responsible for the slogan, "Exactly so?"

What B.S.M. Casey thought of the concert?

Who taught Tom Hayes the Tango, and can your Man, Brown, really do it?

Who is the "Park Ranger," and what does "Boston Creams" think?

Who pinched the "Bed Cards" on the night of the Cinderella?

What tickled the B.S.M. at the Group Meeting?

What Maurice really thinks of The Babes in the Wood?

Where did the Sergeant get that Permanent Wave Comb?

Who is the Gink from Portobello who signs himself "Your obedient Inferior?"

What your Man, Neil Prendeville, now thinks of McKee?

What Bill Cassidy thinks of Lighting Effects?

Has "Una" joined the Ancient Order of "Me Larkies?"

What Gillart did with the Stripes he found in Tallaght?

What Sergeant Pigott thought when Dinny O'Neill produced that Copy of Routine Orders at the Group Meeting. . . Where was Hector?

What the Adjutant thought of Corporal Perry's rendering of "The Irish Washerwoman" on the Jew's Harp?

What is the meaning of "Honoranda," as interpreted in Group Circles, and is Tom Hayes's new Slogan "Humanum est Errare?"

What the boys in "A" Block think of Joe McGinley's new Song, and what they thought of Mattie's "Fire Alarm?"

Who is responsible for the Frozen "Stand-to" at the Breakfast Parade?

What the Boys think of Sergeant McCracken's Swimming Togs during the cold weather?

When Martin Hayes is going to get a new Hose for the Dishes, and where he got the Sandals from?

What Frank Reid told "Dinkey" at the Whist Drive?

Who pinched the Spring-Beds from the Company's Billets?

When Mick Brophy is going to Transfer?

This week's Slogan: "Wheel him in."

"ME LARKIE."



25th INFANTRY BATTALION, ATHLONE.

Who is the Sergeant in "A" Company that was washed out of the bunk? And where did he sleep?

Who was the Battalion white-washer?

What is the meaning of "one up"? And is it said on pay day?

What did Private W. say to the P.A. in Dublin?

What does Tim of "A" Company think of five to a loaf?

Did Rory measure the road in Galway yet? And what does he think of the Shannon Scheme?

Who is the bird charmer? And how did he get the name?

What did Corpl. M. think of the cycle ride to Westport?

Who was responsible for calling the three Musketry Instructors "The Three Musketeers"? And what did Rory think of it?

When is Teddy getting his dog?

Did Henry learn the French Tango yet?

Who has the best chin-strap in "C" Company?

How does Cpl. "W." like his new job in the Dining Hall.

A lot of the lads can see red since the last G.R.O. came out.

Who called the Battalion Barber "The King of Clubs?"

What firm have the contract of supplying the "attache cases" to "B" Company.

Who was the nut that went to draw his ration of water from Pat Molloy before having a bath.

THIRD INFANTRY BATTALION (BOYLE).

The sincere thanks of the N.C.O.'s and men of the 3rd is due to the genial Commanding Officer for the hospitable tea given on the night of the 31st ult. The sight of the tables laden with sweet cake, apples, nuts, etc., made one realise that the Army is not half a bad place to find oneself, and that in the Army there are possibly worse places than with the 3rd in Boyle.

A Whist Drive—the first of its kind held in Barracks—immediately after tea, was such a success that weekly Whist Drives are now being looked forward to with great enthusiasm by the men. Capt. Richard O'Doherty performed the difficult duties of M.C. with a tact and fairness that has won him the hearts of even the most timid and inexperienced Whist players.

Three very hearty cheers for "The C.O." concluded a very jolly night.

**SIXTH INFANTRY BATTALION (LONGFORD).**

On Friday, 6th inst., a store at the back of Mr. Peter Kelly's hardware and general business premises in Main Street, Longford, accidentally took fire. There was a considerable quantity of goods stored there, some of an inflammable description, and the place being adjacent to a store belonging to the Longford Arms Motor Works, Ltd., where there is a considerable quantity of oils in stock, very serious results would have accrued had the fire spread. Fortunately it was discovered in time and word was conveyed to the Military Barracks, Headquarters of the 6th Battalion. A detachment of troops, with fire extinguishing appliances, was despatched to the scene by the Commanding Officer, and amid the cheers of a large crowd which had by this time gathered, quickly succeeded in getting the fire under control before any extensive damage was done. Mr. Kelly was high in his praise of the Military for the prompt assistance rendered.

Good sport was witnessed in the Sports Field adjacent to the Barracks when the Basket Ball Competition organised by the Sports Committee, at the instance of the Commanding Officer, who is offering a Set of Medals for the Winning Team, was inaugurated. The first fixture was Officers *v.* Sergeants, and after strenuous efforts on both sides for the honours, the match resulted in a draw.

Owing to the inclemency of the weather the other teams on the programme could not compete, and the fixtures had to be indefinitely postponed.

The third round of No. 2 Brigade Hurling League was brought off in Longford Park on the 7th inst., between the 25th and 6th Battalion. The ground was in very bad form owing to the heavy rain for some time past; nevertheless a keenly contested game was witnessed by a large crowd. After a strenuous struggle on both sides the 25th Battalion were declared winners. Captain Nugent, 6th Battalion, who is at present in the A.S.I., was a noticeable absentee from his old place at mid-field. The absence of Pte. Quinn from between the sticks was undoubtedly a loss to the home team too. The teams will meet again shortly, and the 6th Battalion hope to hold their own; otherwise they will be relinquishing the Command championship, which they have held for the past three years.

It is understood that the Battalion Junior Football Team are shortly turning out to contest the second round of Co. Longford Junior League Championship. We wish them the same success which attended their effort in the first round.

**No. 5 BRIGADE H.Q. (KILKENNY).**

The frosty weather is nipping quite a lot of things in the bud, including the roses in the Sgt.'s Mess, but as yet the ardour of the Barrack Amusements Committee is not affected. Their Whist Drives are becoming very popular, while I am informed that they intend Concerts to be a weekly feature now that the "Gym" is fixed.

There are rumours of a "Pierrot Troupe" and a Jazz Band, so one can safely say that at last things are beginning to move. The painstaking Committee, under the eye of Lieut. Crosbie, deserve much praise for the great strides they have made since taking over the reins. Now that their "initial" efforts have been so successful, one can look to the remainder of the "winter period" with equanimity.

The forthcoming Boxing Tournament is evoking interest, but, according to "Budgey O'Meara," it's a "gift" for "A" Coy.

The "record" entry for the Handball Handicap is testimony to its popularity, and from what we can hear, the issue is not confined to the Pay Office or the Brigade Staff. What does Cpl. Henry say now?

ROUND ABOUT.

It is freely rumoured in Carlow that the "Special Company" are getting "socks." They must be "phelan" pleased.

We wish to contradict the rumour that Pte. Daly, of the 20th Batt. Orderly Room hails from Scotland.

Sgt. Haire is a man of few words. Yes or No!—I ask you! Cpl. Burke, of "A" Coy., 19th, has now acquired a "Valet."

We hope that the guy who coined the phrase "Man wants but little here below," doesn't fall foul of the Sgts. Mess Caterer.

THINGS WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW—

If all that Paddy Norman said was "Lumme, man?"

What B.S.M. Howlett thinks of the Chef—as a Whist player?

Who made the most noise—the Gramophone or the M.C.?

Which went the quicker—Darmody's Twelve-and-six or Waldron's Cigarettes?

What does D—think of his "Pullover?"

What the "Transport" think of the new "marking" rules?

Who "Me Larkie" thinks "Argus" is?

"ARGUS."

**MISCELLANEOUS CURRAGH NOTES.**

We take this opportunity of offering Sergeant W. Gaff, of the R. & T. Depot, Gough Barracks, our hearty congratulations on the occasion of his marriage to Miss May Evans, also of the Curragh, and late of Messrs. Eason & Son, newsagents, which took place at the Garrison Church recently. The Army can boast of few more popular N.C.O.'s, and on the eve of the "big event," he was made the recipient of a handsome presentation in the form of a wallet of notes and a gold cigarette case from his brother N.C.O.'s.

Acting B.S.M. Deery, R. & T.D., who presided at the presentation ceremony in the Sergeant's Mess, paid a glowing tribute to the many good qualities of Sergeant Gaff, whom he had known for two and a half years. It was but a small token of the high esteem in which they held their guest, but he hoped he would accept it in the spirit in which it was given—a true spirit of willingness.

The Officer Commanding the Depot, Comdt. Michael Stephenson, referred to the excellent record of Sergeant Gaff, and recalled with gladness the days when he first knew him—the days of the old "29th." It afforded him great pleasure, he said, to associate himself with the general wish expressed there that evening.

After the ceremony on Wednesday morning (at which Coy. Sergt. G. B. Timlin acted as best man, and Miss Eveline Evans, sister of the bride as bridesmaid) the happy party proceeded to the bride's parents' home, from whence, after breakfast, they set out for London, where the honeymoon was spent.

It is rumoured that another of Gough's N.C.O.'s ("one of the best") is about to follow the example of Sergeant Gaff; while it is more than conjecture to say that a Clerk—"another of the best"—of the Depot will also figure prominently in a similar ceremony shortly.

It is with feelings of much regret we have to record the death of Pte. W. P. Byrne, of the Camp Quartermaster's Staff, which sad event, at a comparatively early age and after a brief illness, took place at the Curragh Military Hospital. Of a quiet and ever-willing disposition, Pte. Byrne created for himself a large circle of friends both in the camp and outside it. In their bereavement deep and general sympathy is extended to his widow and young family.

A Billiard match (1,000 up, for a "five") will be played at Beresford Men's Recreation Room on Saturday, 28th inst. The aspirants to the cash are Pte. Murphy, R. & T. D., and Pte. J. O'Leary, Beresford. A report of the result will appear in these columns in due course.

SWANZY, KILCOYNE & CO.,

High-class Bakers and Confectioners.

10a UPPER ABBEY ST. & 65a GREAT STRAND ST.

Contractors to Army Canteens.

Telephone 5114.

No. 2 COMMAND COMPANY A.T.C., ATHLONE.

FOOTBALL TRAINING UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

Every Wednesday afternoon a small but determined-looking body of men may be seen passing through the main gate, Custume Barracks, to the Sports Field. The P.A. on Gate Duty heaves a sigh and mutters "The Transport," as this collection passes out (each with a step of his own). Arrived at the Sports Field, the men strip off for their weekly football contest between Drivers and Fitters.

Goal Posts (tunics and greatcoats) are placed in position, and the match begins. The first half hour sees very lively play. Lieut. Hueston, the Fitters' forward, keeps the ball well into the Drivers' territory, to the despair of Hickson, the Drivers' "Goalie." Brereton, the Drivers' centre, and Lieut. Hueston have many interesting tussles during the course of the game. "Big Jim," the Fitters' full back, with a little more practice, will soon be in as good a fettle as the days when he played in inter-county matches.

Owing to the short days, which deprive the men of afternoon practice, the last half is not played with the same vim as the first. Doyle, of the Drivers', seems to "last the longest." However, the tuition of Lieut. Hueston will do much to make this team equal to any of the Corps Teams in the Army. In the near future Lieut. Hueston intends to issue a challenge to the Special Service Company of the Command to test the mettle of his "Greasers."

What does No. 1 Command Coy. say to a Football Match?

SPARE PARTS.

Who is the Fitter who quoted a German Electrician as an authority on Ford Wiring?

Who is the bloke who said that the body was "underflug?"

Did he find the wiring expert a tough "Nut" at Football?

Who mentioned Hickson as a probable for the next Tug-o'-War Team?

Who said the Tug-o'-War Team won because they were used to pulling Cars around?

Who said the A.T.C. have "Styles" of their own?

Who is the Cpl. who went to Longford without his parachute?

Did "Big Jim" find out exactly where the current reached the Ford "Comm"?

Who said "Birds of a feather flock together?"

If Kennedy is not a swimmer?

What two Drivers let down the Corps at the Pictures? Was it because their Cars are low they don't go up "on top"?

Did the Staff Cpl. get his Mascot?

Did the Q.M. feel cold without his sheets?

TO-DAY'S SHORT STORY.

Detail Clerk to "Shino."—"Your back wheel is punctuated."

"Shino."—"How punctuated? You mean it's flat."

Detail Clerk—"I said punctuated. It's a full stop."

WITH THE ARTILLERY IN KILDARE.

Overheard at the filling up of A.F. 240 :—

"What are your Christian names?"

"Richard."

"Any other?"

"Yes, Dick."

Wheel him out!

People are wondering if the pipe, which has been seen leading around a certain Corporal, came over with the Shannon Scheme.

How much of Driver H—'s thumb is left after last week's "Brag"?

Has our Musketry Instructor yet discovered how to cock the ".45"?

Our newly formed "Lost and Found" column is being kept full. We are now seeking a "hot water bottle" which "strayed" from a Gunner's bed recently.

We understand that "Mrs. Murphy's last rose of summer" needs transplanting.

The Sergeants' Mess is developing into a running buffet. In fact several people are asking did the "Stage-manager" get Kelly to write his "speech."

On Kit Inspection :—

Officer : "Where is your tooth brush?"

Driver G. : "I have no use for one."

Officer : "Why?"

Driver G. : "I have no teeth."

His bark is worse than his bite.

The "Stage-manager" says that "Mrs. Murphy" only *thinks* she can sing, but who can say what Mrs. Murphy *thinks* of the "Stage-manager"?

THINGS WE WANT TO KNOW—

How does "Moickey" like early rising—does he succeed in getting *there* before the Orderly Officer's tour?

A "Scene Shifter," and temporary disciple of Bacchus, awakened the Barracks in the early hours of Thursday morning singing "Old Pal."

What does the "Little Corporal" from the "Wee Town" think of Typewriters in general—and No. 1 Battery's typewriter in particular?

Did the "Lord Mayor" find his nether garments yet?

When is "Andy" going to publish The List of His Campaigns (illustrated in "Black and White")?

BREEZES FROM THE ATLANTIC.

(10th Infantry Battalion, Valentia Island).

Troops at Valentia Island and Waterville want to know :—

When did Valentia Island really become attached to Ireland for pay, rations, and discipline?

Was the Contractor really a futurist who dated his A.F. 288 B., 12/14/29?

Was Pte. H— really awake when he told the Captain that he travelled to England "by train"?

Who was the member of the Coy. Staff "who wiped Ginger's eye" at Waterville dance?

What are the wild waves saying?

Who were the guys on the night of Cahirciveen Races who cried in vain :—

"Oh, Boatman, do not tarry,
And we'll give you a bob a mau
To take us o'er the Ferry."

WE ARE HAPPY TO SAY :—

That the Wireless Hut is all right.

That somebody sang "It ain't going to rain no more."

That this is the nearest parish to America—though you wouldn't notice any particular resemblance.

That you can speak to your friends in the U.S.A.—if you know the language.

That the trains *run* to Farranfore (not *walk*).

That Puck fair is held in Killorglin.

That the goat wept this year.

That his "Ma" had a kind word for the boys

That a German artist painted a soldier.

That this casts no reflection on the Shannon Scheme.

That the artist was a lady.

That we catch a lot of Cuckoo-fish here.

That we shall yet harness the waves.

That the only shingle we see here is on the beach.

That we have the largest Fuchsia in Europe.

That the scenery here is beautiful.

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DEFENCE FORCES IRELAND

12th INFANTRY BATT., TEMPLEMORE.

Recently one of the Company O'C.'s in this Battalion found it necessary to have the power-plant turned on at mid-day, during Kit Inspection. Corporal "X," of "D" Company, informed me that the only articles of kit one man had were a button-stick, and a sock for the left foot.

In a hurling match at Templetwohy, between Templemore and Castleiney, the Battalion was represented by C.Q.M.S. McKenna and Pte. Stephen Bentley, who assisted the first-mentioned team. Castleiney won by a small score.

Our Barracks were visited recently by the Minister for Defence, the Chief of Staff, and other Officers of the higher Command. On their arrival a very smart parade mustered, and the General Salute was sounded. The Minister and visiting Officers expressed satisfaction with the smartness of the Officers and the steadiness and bearing of the N.C.O.'s and men on parade. The scrupulous cleanliness of billets, and barracks generally, pleased them too.

The Army No. 1 Band made its headquarters here while giving recitals at Thurles and Cashel.

The following extract from Dean Ryan's tribute to the conductor and performers, at Cashel, will bear repetition in the Army Journal:—"If all departments of our new National Government are at all as forward and proficient as our No. 1 National Band, I tell you Ireland is not defunct, nor is it merely resurgent; her star is far advanced, and rapidly making for the zenith of her glory."
"ROS CAIBRE."

SOME QUERIES FROM TEMPLEMORE.

Who was the N.C.O. that applied for a pass "to proceed to Roscrea Fair to buy a pig in civvies"?

Who, when asked where he would gaff a salmon, remarked surprisedly: "Where do you think, only in the river?"

Who was the gentleman at a recent Whist Drive that played as a lady and described himself as "Miss Mack"?

Who explained his absence from a Full Marching Order Parade recently, thusly: "I left my pack in the Tailor's Shop yesterday, sir, to get it squared?"

Who played Rugby in the Cookhouse with duck eggs?

"THE OWL."

ARMoured CAR CO., CURRAGH CAMP.

We appreciate the Coy. Commander's effort to have our weekly sprint take place on Tuesday instead of Thursday hereafter. Even the most active amongst us feel somewhat stiff-jointed after that invariably strenuous Wednesday afternoon.

The Company Savings Association was given its send-off on the 29th ult. If "well begun is half done," then there is no reason why ours should not be an unqualified success.

Well, Sergt. O'Toole has "been and gone and done it." All ranks unite in wishing him the best of luck.

If our "poet" will not be distinguished, neither will he be extinguished. Stand fast!:-

The B——, that king of cars, 'tis said,
Now lies neglected in the shed.
The pass-form book is locked away,
'Til "Danny Boy" comes back to stay.

While we admit there's nothing like incentive, we maintain that the intending pugilist who lost all interest in his prospective opponents when he discovered that none of them had lobbed bombs at us at five yards point-blank range in the recent manoeuvres, was carrying matters a bit too far.

Is another scalp or two due to the "Indian" in the near future?

How does the "nitt" dispose of his old ivory ticklers?

When does the "Bun Boy" become entitled to additional pay?

Where did Private "K." buy the cement rivets?

How soon may we expect the B.Q.M.S. to report "plus fours"?

Who is the N.C.O. who advised all the men to invest in "Life Saving" Certificates?

Who is O.C. dances at Newbridge?

Who carries the weight in the cross-country run, and is it "Troy" weight?

"TIN LIZZIE."

SWIFT

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COLLINS BARRACKS, DUBLIN.

The Final of the All-Army 1925 Championship is now a thing of the past. The "Eastern" were again the victors, and the score shows that they took more advantage of openings than in the first match. It was pleasing to note the return to form of some of the Eastern stalwarts.

The 21st Battalion team visited Drogheda recently, and there in the presence of a large crowd, met the "Larks" (a local team), and after a fine game succeeded in keeping up the winning flag, the score being 3 points to 2 points. The match was arranged in aid of an injured player, and in view of the large crowd present he should benefit considerably. The townspeople gave the 21st a good reception, and an invitation is to hand for them to return.

Hazel must have got a great surprise upon his return to barracks recently. It was only a "dummy" figure.

A certain N.C.O. in charge of men on the Square somewhere recently, had given three "Left Wheels" in succession, when a member in the ranks was heard to mutter, "Another wheel and we will be a Ford."

Dan McGrew was "shot," as anticipated, during the sketch in a recent concert programme, but was alive and well, and about his usual business next morning.

The "Glazier" is now back again, fit and well.

A soldier was asked what he was going to do with his wages. To which he replied: "I am going to drink to the immoral dead." (Presumably in "bad" whiskey.—Ed.)

The 23rd and 21st Battalions will have met in a friendly football match by the time these notes have appeared.

The recent dance in barracks was a complete success.

In addition to "Whist" (Whisht!) and other indoor games for the men, we are to have an odd night for dancing practice, thanks to the Recreation Committee.

The latest craze has got a great hold in barracks: "Morrow Pat," "Morrow Mick," etc. Would George McD. have anything to do with the craze?

Footballers' advice for training: "Take all the sleep you can."

"Paul" and Sergt. G. were busy recently going through a Jazz Band rehearsal, including a tin whistle, etc. Some of the Store effects assisted considerably.

Conversation recently overheard concerning wealth and the purchase of a private motor, resulted in final words from one to another: "You couldn't buy a mouse trap."

Why does a certain individual ask "Dan" to recite for him each time they meet. The reciter mentions that a "Taylor" has a right to take any man's measure (this is part of the recitation).

"Father papers the parlour" is a great hit at the concerts. Who said "Larry."

A further concert was held at Arbour Hill on the night of 22nd inst., in aid of the Boy Scout Movement, the usual notice having to be exhibited: "House Full." It was observed that a few Officers were amongst the audience.

The programme was as follows:—"The Green White and Gold," Boy Scout Troupe; Clog Dance, Mr. Reynolds; Song, "I was Strolling Down the Glen," Miss M. McDermott; Fairy Reel, Girl Troupe; "Show me the way to go Home," Miss P. Hughes; Comedian, Sergt. Doyle; Jig, Miss E. Donegan; Song, "Absence," Miss D. Donegan; Gaelic Welsh Dance, Misses N. & J. Donegan; Recitation, "Dangerous Dan McGrew," S.M. Allison; Comedy, "Bobbled Hair Biddy," Scout Kearney and Downes; Song, Miss N. O'Reilly; Hornpipe (Double Sets), Girl Troupe; Song (Comedian), Mr. Whelan; Reel, Miss M. Sexton; Comedian (Coon), Sergt. Doyle; Recitation, "The Dawn on the Irish Coast," Miss E. O'Connor; Comedy, "Father Papered the Parlour," Cpl. L. Byrne; "Molly Malone," Mr. Reynolds; Dixie Minstrels (Nigger Troupe—Mr. Gilligan and Troupe); "Soldier's Song."

The Boys, in uniform, attended 11.30 a.m. Mass at Arbour Hill Church on Sunday, 22nd inst.

A B.S.M. somewhere has a little trick surrounded by paper. Have you had a try yet?

Why was a so-called patriotic uniform recently refused somewhere?

"Mick and Bill" still frequent the table labelled "Golden." Paddy, of tailor fame, is seldom without his friend "The Briar."

What did a certain N.C.O. on duty say to the Scout Master when he noticed the boys in uniform one Sunday morning. He admired the Dress. Was he anxious to have a transfer?

What about the N.C.O. and the sketch: "The right key, but the wrong flat"? Why did he object to the characters being all male?

EASTERN COMMAND H.Q. NOTES.

We would like to know:—

What Fallon's sparring partner thinks of fire alarms?

When the "Big Drum" will begin to make more noise?

Who said "Wexford's" cap was made in Callaghan's?

Why "Pat" lent his "civvies"; was it on "Manchester's" account?

When our "China" is coming, and what are the Mess "Committee" doing anyway?

Who is the "Aerial Cpl." who says he could listen in to Newry on a three-valve set?

Is Con in fear of an action by the D.U.T.C. since his recent collision?

What T.P. thinks of second class addition.

Who pinched the "wireless set."

Who spun the yarn about the new insignia?

"ASKER."

ARMoured CAR CORPS, COLLINS BARRACKS.

Some of "our boys" are under the impression that the air in the South and West would agree with them better than the odour from across the Liffey.

No. 2 Company has been given an increase in N.C.O.'s

The "fleeting hours" enjoyed by the knights of the barrack are now being expedited by nightly exhibitions of gymnastics by "Flying Patsey."

The city ginks wish to inform the "plain" men that, owing to playing professional football, it would lower their dignity to give a minor team the hiding asked for.

The "old-timers" here are anxiously awaiting the opening of the Barrack Boxing Tournaments. Rumour has it that we have a "dark horse" in our midst, who will uphold the reputation we gained in last year's bouts.

In reply to a query for a "tip" as to the winner of a forthcoming event, our local authority on the "sport of kings" replied sadly, but firmly: "Keep your money in your pocket."



7th INFANTRY BATTALION, NAAS.

What became of the "Ghost" that used to frequent the Naas road, and what did Corpl. Egan think of the matter?

Nack Doolan in his leisure moments has made up his mind to play billiards. We understand that the management is gravely perturbed.

Who was the guy that deprived "Dinkie" of his blankets, and what did the Coy.-Sergt. think of him?

Did the "Heavy Man" and his pals enjoy their trip in the "Covered Wagon"? Did any argument arise over payment, etc., and did the Red Cow yield enough milk to satisfy the thirst of the party? Were the occupants mistaken for early arrivals for the cattle market?

When "40" was singing his famous song did he mention the words: "I'll drop my pen and paper."

Did Corporal Pender enjoy his cab drive, and did "Horsie" keep its tail up?

What did "Buncloody" think of the £2 bet?

What does "Par" think of Big Ben?

Who was the sentry that turned out the Guard to the Adjutant's horse?

How did "our boys" enjoy their Chinese friend?

Who is the Coy.-Sergt. that intends buying a share in the Chocolate Factory?

Wonders will never cease! Our friend Michael, the Quarter bloke, and Larry the Cook, were recently seen chancing their arm in trying to play billiards.

When will our "One-man Band" appear again on parade?

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9th INFANTRY BATTALION, BUNCRANA.

Through the efforts of the Sports Committee, a splendid Recreation Hall has been opened for the N.C.O.'s and men of the Battalion. Among the attractions are two billiard tables and a well-stocked library.

Thanks are due to the Engineer Staff for the efficient manner in which they decorated the hall. Already signs of hidden billiard talent are manifest—thirty to fifty breaks are by no means uncommon.

Rumours of a Billiard Handicap are in the air. There would be no lack of competitors, as some of our more prominent billiard enthusiasts are aching to match cues with one another.

Another of our officers has entered the matrimonial state and has the felicitations of the entire Battalion.

We hear that a certain Private is desirous of running in "double harness." We hope to be able to congratulate him in our next notes.

Our aspirants for N.C.O. honours covered themselves with glory in a recent examination, twelve succeeding in passing. The tailors shop staff had to work overtime making the necessary stripes ("Hard luck! John.")

Why does a certain driver wear goggles when dining? Do they magnify his ration?

We learn that the ex-Bugler who got the "big cheque," has entered into negotiations for the purchase of a motor car. We hope he will not start any "Acton" in it.

We are asked to state, by two gentlemen of "ours," that they have no intention of sleeping on the billiard table.

"Dick" is willing to play anyone at billiards, provided they use a twisted cue.

Information has come to hand that the ambulance and the ton truck get on very well together, now that they have been introduced.

There has been a marked decrease in the number of "Dashing Blades" wearing "civvies" on Sunday. We wonder if the stoppage of the excursion train from Derry has anything to do with it.

Did "Paddy" really do the run from Bunclana to Finner in 2½ hours, or did his wrist-watch stop?

Our ranks have again been thinned, two of the "A.T.C." taking their departure to Finner. We wish them the best of luck in their new sphere.

"DOUBLE SIX."

SPORTS COMMITTEE'S ACTIVITIES APPENDED.

Heartiest congratulations to the Battalion Sports Committee.

The Ninth Battalion now possess one of the finest Recreation Halls in the Command area. It is finely decorated, and has been justly described by the G.O.C. as very creditable. Two billiard tables and a number of popular indoor games are provided—all at a nominal sum. There is also a regular supply of daily, weekly and monthly journals. Pte. Green, Engineers, was responsible for the painting and decorating.

Close on 400 books in the Men's Library provide bright and suitable reading, and judging by the reports of Father Nolan, the library is being very well patronised. Father Nolan has a keen interest in this particular, and has already secured many valuable books, but is eager for more—many more.

At a recent meeting of the Sports Committee, presided over by Comdt. Davis, it was decided to introduce Weekly Whist Drives. This should prove a big attraction. Lieut. E. Tierney urged the necessity for the purchase of a further supply of camans, and it was agreed to order a consignment of two dozen.

The Battalion has been strengthened by the arrival of sixty more recruits from the Curragh, all of whom seem to have taken the profession to heart, and are soldiering in earnest.

Since the arrival of the new sets of boxing gloves several promising "pugs" have been discovered. Page, our former "white hope," has suggested a Tournament, on a small scale, for the purpose of weeding out a draft for Germany. I've no doubts.

Is it possible to arrange a bout between Pts. Healy and Acton? Aye, surely.

Corporal Nolan's Christmas Waits are practising hard. He has been promised ample protection when they make their debut.

"B" Company's slogan for the month—"Rere rank Steady."

"A" Company's infernal machines (misnamed melodeons) are on the wane. The din comes from another Quarter now.

I saw "Eusty" the other day, and for the moment one couldn't say whether he was bound for a ball or a bath. I afterwards discovered he carried out several rounds with the gloves on in a little friendly with Wee Donovan.

It is reported that the "Ten Commandments" will be exhibited in Bunclana shortly. What about free tickets for the Q.M. Staff?

"Mickey," the terrible terrier at present attached to the Batt., is reported to have supplied all the stones, bones and other material used in the fancy decorations outside the Billets—about two tons in all.

The Sun shone here on the 11th inst. The phenomenon lasted about two minutes.

"X."

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DEFENCE FORCES IRELAND

PORTOBELLO BARRACKS, DUBLIN.

For valuable prizes kindly presented by Cumann Sugraídh an Airm, the Barrack Billiard Handicap (250) was brought to a conclusion the other night, resulting as follows:—

Cpl. Molloy, 22nd Battalion (off plus 120), 1st; Cpl. Kavanagh, Brigade Transport (off plus 70), 2nd; Pte. Molloy, Marriage Allowance, A.P.C. (off plus 150), 3rd.

The result should have the effect of giving renewed impetus to the game amongst beginners.

The Sergeants refrained from taking part, and the Committee responsible, which was elected by and from amongst the men themselves, must be congratulated on the manner in which they carried through a big and cumbersome handicap.

The tit-bit of the handicap was the match between Pte. M. O'Brien, Records (-100) and Cpl. Morrissey (-170). Running up consistent breaks of 20 to 30, O'Brien looked all over a winner, but a 43 by Morrissey towards the end of the game gave him the lead to win by a very small margin.

A 49 break by Morrissey in his match with Pte. Heavey, 23rd Battalion, gained the splendid prize of a cue and case, presented by the "All Sports House," 13 College Green.

When someone mentioned the extension of service period (2 years) "Woody" said he "spent longer standing outside the Orderly Room." We won't discuss what particular Orderly Room, and why.

The men in the 'Bello are clamouring for *more Whist*. They have the assurance of the Committee responsible that *more Whist* is forthcoming providing a second night can be rendered free for that purpose.

The 23rd Battalion, headed by "Ginger" Doyle, carried off all the spoils from a very successful drive held on Friday night last.

The "suspension" of overgrown billiard players, as portrayed by B.S.C.T. is rather a good idea, but if extended to Portobello, would, we fear, necessitate the installation of a steam-crane.

Our Minstrel Troupe is going great guns. Under the leadership of Sergt. Murphy (of Curragh fame), their individual turns and harmonising efforts are developing in the right direction. Two of the favourite pieces, "Give it to him," and "There he goes," are eagerly looked forward to by many outside the magic circle.

Glad to see "Kay" interested. Talent, after all, is easy to find—when you get it in a lump.

Our pipers' band made some very "Noble" efforts the other day. Judging by the amount of ground covered, they appeared to experience some difficulty in finding a suitable part of the square to play on, and ultimately retired to the field. Should the "15 Acres" become necessary they carry our best wishes.

If dogs are an issue, then we in Portobello appear to have got the ration of the entire army. Now dogs are all right in their way—single dogs—but a colony of married dogs, with *large families* is enough to prevent any sentry from sleeping, particularly when they choose the dead of night to carry on their domestic disputes.

No, Portobello is not "going to the dogs," but all the dogs appear to be going to Portobello.

We would like to know:—

What his Company thought of "Bill" Devine's "little error in judgment" the other day?

What the C.O.'s driver thought of it?

If the billiards teams in Collins and Griffith Barracks and G.H.Q. are still in existence?

What the prospects are of our team getting a match this season?

How our missing gramophone records are keeping, and if the present custodian entertains hope of a "good wear and tear" re-issue?

Oh! that dashing young scribe in McKee,
Has views of his own I can see,
Of a particular fellow,
Who writes from the 'Bello,
But I don't care a hell-o,

"THAT'S ME."

THIS IS AN ADVERTISEMENT OF THE GREATEST STORY EVER WRITTEN ABOUT THE IRISH BRIGADE IN THE SERVICE OF FRANCE - -

In the Year 1719

One, Charles Wogan, of Rathcoffey Castle, Co. Kildare, set Europe by the ears, and became a hero of Romance, by stealing a bride for James the Third, of inglorious memory, from under the noses of the Austrian soldiers, who kept her prisoner in Innsbruck at the behest of the English Court.

Fact Stranger than Fiction

is the only description that can be applied to this exploit. The Chevalier Charles Wogan and a few trusty comrades of the Irish Brigade in the service of France, embarked on high adventure with the cheerful spirit of all Irish Soldier Adventurers, and brought it to a successful issue, after many thrilling escapades.

The full story of that gallant adventure was written years afterwards (1745) by Wogan himself, at La Mancha, and dedicated to Marie Leczinska, Queen of France, who was a relative of the heroine, Princess Clementina. Another account was written by Major Richard Gaydon, who assisted in the enterprise, and a third by Bonaventure Boylan, of the Irish Franciscan College of St. Anthony of Padua, at Louvain (for the restoration of which funds are being collected in the Irish Army at present).

It remained for one of the foremost novelists of the present day—Major A. E. W. Mason—to discover this stirring story of gallant Irish gentlemen, and give it to the world. Major Mason has adhered strictly to the facts, but has covered the bare bones of the episode with the art of a consummate story-teller, giving us a wonderfully vivid picture of the protagonists "in their habit as they lived."

Soldiers of Ireland

to-day will delight in this splendid story of those earlier Irish Soldiers, and we are glad to be able to announce that Major Mason has been good enough to grant permission for the serial publication of the novel "Clementina" in the pages of our Army Journal. It is a gallant tale, gallantly told—breathless with action, thrilling with dramatic encounters, yet always maintaining a high literary level. To all Irishmen it will appeal as a more intimate, more rousing and more enduring tale than even Dumas' "Three Musketeers." **And it is historical fact, merely burnished by the art of a master novelist.**

LOOK OUT FOR THE OPENING CHAPTERS.

Our Information Bureau.

Free Kit.

"On Parade" (Longford).—(1) Upon re-attestation the service of men will be treated as continuous. This means that men upon re-attestation will not receive any free issues of articles of clothing and equipment except what they would be entitled to in the ordinary way. (2) The present regulations would not permit of the issue of marriage allowance in the circumstances quoted. It is anticipated that a new code of Regulations will be published in the near future.

Transfer.

"Anxious" (Curragh).—Put the matter before your Commanding Officer, stating the grounds on which you want your transfer.

Promotion.

"Anxious" (Collins Bks., Cork).—Your Commanding Officer can recommend you if a vacancy occurs.

Proficiency Pay.

"Puzzled" (Gormanston Camp).—The position of N.C.O.'s of the Army Transport Corps, situated as you are, is at present under consideration with a view of having the question of additional pay settled.

"Fair Play" (Island Bridge Bks., Dublin).—Your appointment does not warrant payment of additional pay.

Grade Pay.

"Staff" (G.H.Q.).—Refer the matter to your Commanding Officer. The question of appointments to Class I. Private is a matter

for the discretion of the Adjutant-General. The governing date for payment in such cases is invariably the date from which the appointment is ratified as appearing in Orders.

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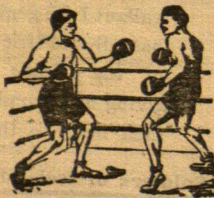
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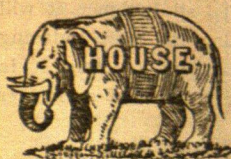
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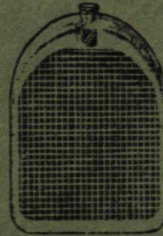
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