

SOLDIER



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THE QUEEN'S



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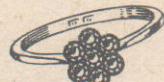
(See Story on Page 13)

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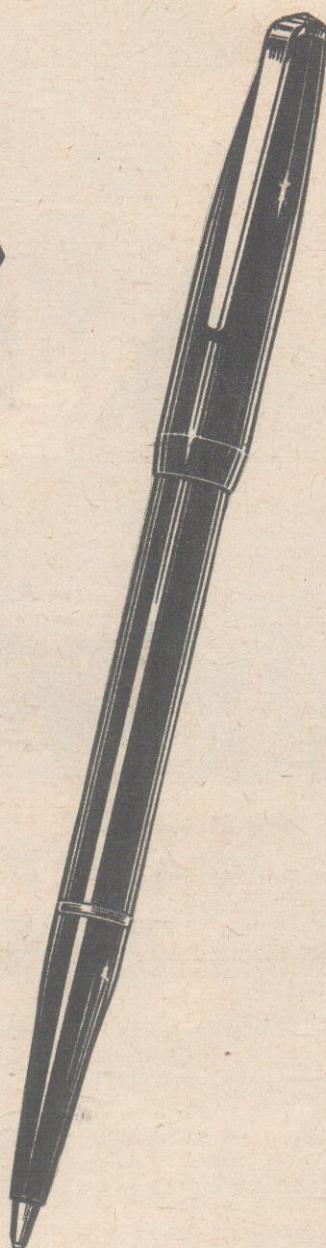
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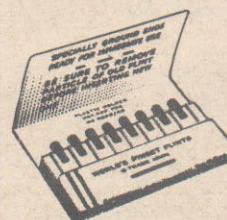
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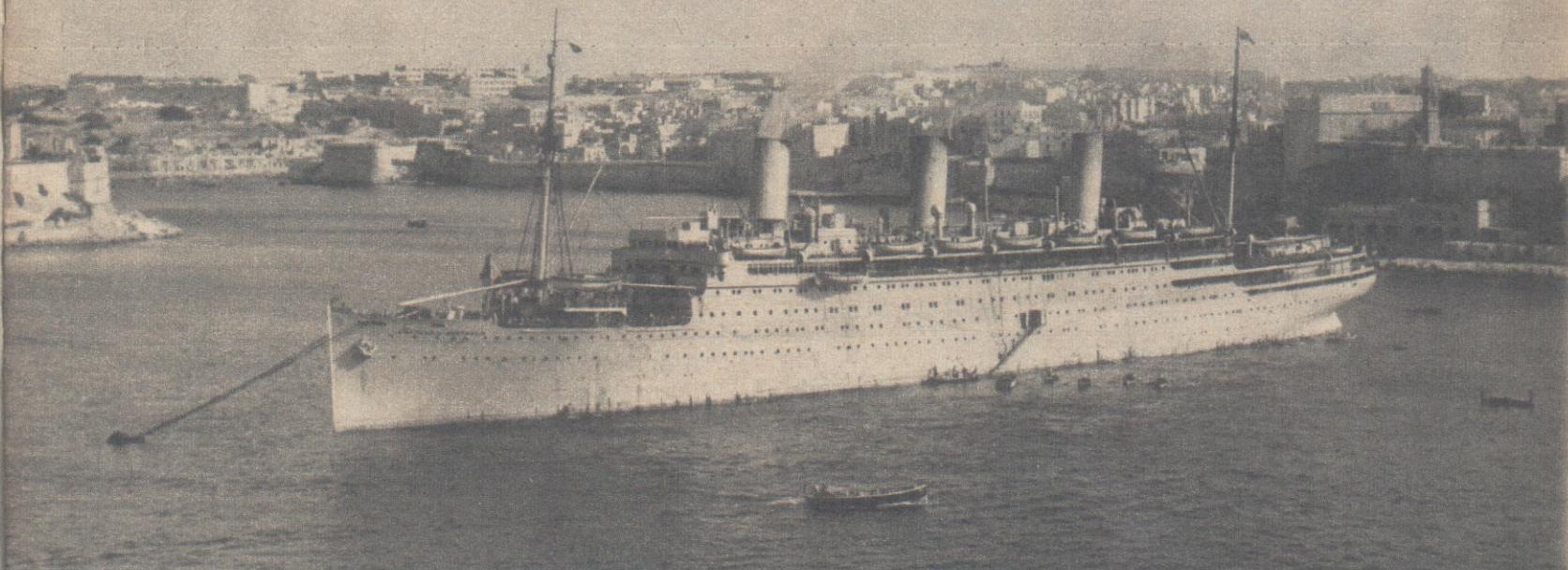
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FOR YOUR OWN PROTECTION—LOOK FOR THE TRADE MARK **RONSON**



The ship which began as a gleam in the Kaiser's eye still ferries British troops about the world. Two of SOLDIER's staff — E. S. TURNER and LESLIE A. LEE — sailed in her to the Middle East, taking notes and pictures. Here is their report



The *Empress of Australia* pauses on her way to the Middle East, at anchor in the Grand Harbour at Valetta, Malta.

The Empress keeps on Trooping

“THE *Empress of Australia* was a very old ship which we chartered during the war, and we have carried on with her, but she is too old to convert, and the owners continue to let us have her. She will probably see her service out with us... it is problematical how long she will go on; I could not suggest; it largely depends when her next survey is...”

In those offhand terms, a financial expert of the Ministry of Transport recently referred to Britain's oldest and biggest troopship. It was no way to talk about a lady, even when addressing so insensitive a body as a Select Committee on Estimates. Poor old *Empress* — all she's fit for is to sail around the world!

As she rises, cliff-like, above Princes Landing Stage at Liverpool, the 21,000-ton trooper hardly looks like a fugitive from the boneyard. Old-fashioned, yes. She has high smokestacks, instead of the fashionable squat kind which pepper the passengers' faces with smuts. She holds no Blue Riband (though her war-time crew consider she earned one when she fled from the *Scharnhorst* in the Indian Ocean); instead, she claims to be the steadiest ship in the world.

She is old-fashioned, too, in that she is a hammock ship, and the troops sleep where they eat. The troopdecks at night are like a series of low, linked caverns, cluttered with sleeping bats. There is no scrap of ceiling from which a hammock is not suspended. It is impossible to walk upright; progress can only be made by crouching under the gently swaying bodies. Bump into one sleeper, and he transmits the bump along the line. Soldiers who went by troopship in the early 'thirties do not find sleeping conditions on the *Empress of Australia* so very different from those days; there is no danger

of being corrupted by luxury. Yet it is hard to find anyone who will admit to an active dislike of the old *Empress*. There are many soldiers who prefer to sleep in hammocks rather than in the new-fangled standees of the *Empire Orwell* and the *Dunera*. In warmer latitudes, of course, as many troops as possible sleep on the open deck. When the food is good, it is easier to accept discomfort.

It is even harder for a soldier to dislike the *Empress* when he learns her past. One of the most popular of the shipboard talks (which range from hygiene to what's what in the Middle East) is the story of this vessel, as compiled for such occasions by Commander G. P. Billet DSO, RNR. These are a few of her claims to fame:

Early in her career she sailed into (or over) an earthquake, and was ripped to the water's edge by a tidal wave;

She is the only merchant vessel to have flown the Royal Standard at sea on two separate occasions;

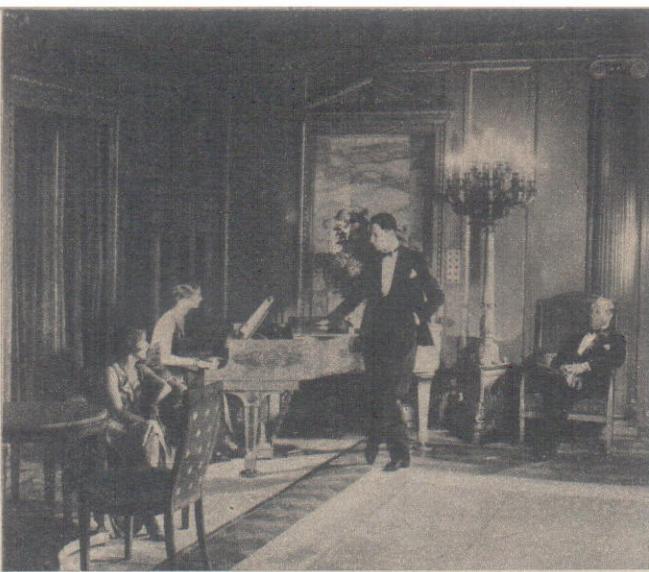
She has been to every port of consequence in the world except, ironically, those of Australia; she has twice visited Tristan Da Cunha and has been within a day's steaming of the North Pole. It is said that she was even nominated, in 1938, to ship troops to Czechoslovakia (the crew never did learn how this was to be achieved);

She was the last troopship out of India (when she carried the highest-paid private of the British Army, a man with 14 children); she was the last troopship out of Palestine, and was mortared for her pains; she brought the last troops out of Greece;

She sailed to Korea, with headquarters troops of 29th Brigade, last year — the year which was to have ended her service as a trooper.

The *Empress* began as an evil gleam in the Kaiser's eye, in 1913. On her decks the All Highest proposed to take the surrender of the British Fleet, after one of those short, sharp wars. Afterwards he intended to sail round the world in her, reviewing his new Dominions. The vessel was named the *Tirpitz*, to

OVER



Flash-back to the lounge in *Empress of Australia*'s days as a luxury cruiser. Said the glossy brochures which advertised her cruises: "Swift engines that positively eat up knots to get you there quickly; large, spacious cabins (single, double, en suite and in other combinations) that were built by sleep specialists; a steward service and a dining room menu unrivalled on the Seven Seas—these are some of the reasons why travellers always choose the *Empress of Australia*."



The *Empress* is one of the last of the hammock ships, where you eat, sleep and play cards in the same place.



The Officer Commanding Troops, Lieut-Colonel E. N. H. Bryant, inspects some of the passengers. He has been trooping two years. The ship's regimental serjeant-major, RSM J. Brazier (next to Colonel Bryant) has been trooping nine years, was in three assault landings. Below: Physical training on open deck fills the lungs with sea air.



The Empress keeps on Trooping (Cont'd)

stimulate the admiral of that name to bold endeavour. This gaudy plan miscarried, and the Kaiser's suite (or what is left of it) is today occupied by OC Troops.

After World War One the *Tirpitz* was taken over by the Ministry of Shipping as war reparation. It was then discovered that jokers had been at work. In rough weather plate-racks clattered down from their half-sawn-through screws, spilling their contents on the scullions' heads. In the engine-room the brass plates had been changed round, so that bilge water came out of the bath taps. News of these pranks may, or may not, have solaced the Kaiser, as he chopped trees at Doorn.

Nevertheless, the Canadian Pacific Line thought that they could make something of the *Tirpitz*. They acquired her from the disillusioned Ministry, converted her to oil and put her on the run from Vancouver to the great Asian ports. For a short while they called her the *Empress of China*. It was in 1922 that she was split by the tidal wave, the rent making a noise like a cannon. But she was basically sound, and she just carried on with her run.

Next year came an event which stirred the world. At noon on 1 September 1923 the *Empress* was about to cast off from Yokohama, and coloured streamers were snaking from ship to shore. Suddenly — as if on a distorted television screen — the wharves and streets of the city rolled like waves of the sea, six or seven feet high. The earth opened under the crowds on the quayside, swallowing them down. As for the *Empress*, she was shaken till it seemed that the funnels and

masts must be ripped out. Fire began to lick through the city and blazing oil rolled towards the vessel. By superb seamanship she was saved; thereafter for a week — while the earthquake went on — she became a haven for hundreds of homeless and wounded. Today a bronze plate on the ship commemorates one of her finest hours.

In 1927 the *Empress* first hoisted the Royal Standard, when the Prince of Wales sailed in her to Canada. She became famous as a round-the-world cruise liner, performing six cruises of 30,000 miles. Her suites, at £3000 a time, were stuffed with rajahs, film stars, industrialists. The passengers had the benefit of four bands (straight, jazz, rumba and English); they ate 17 kinds of cereal, 17 kinds of cheese, drank nine brands of tea and had their eggs cooked in 13 different ways. The ship already had a Pompeian swimming pool; in 1935 this was considered inadequate, so an inlaid bath was built on the aft deck with palms and orange trees round it. That ghostly figure with a watering can who still walks the deck at midnight is the Ship's Gardener.

In 1939 the *Empress* carried the present King and Queen to Canada. She was glittering white in those days, with yellow funnels; but in September she went into grey, and has been grey ever since. One of her first war tasks was to evacuate part of 49th Division from Namsos and Narvik, under day-long aerial attack. In company with the *Empress of Asia* she entered the Sunda Straits in 1941. The *Asia* turned one way, was bombed and sank at Singapore (her crew going into captivity); the *Australia* turned the other way and went to Batavia,



On a warm Mediterranean day, the deck and hatch-covers are as good for sun-bathing as the sands at Margate (only a little harder) and no children or bathing belles distract you from a serious game of cards.

where unaccountably a Japanese cruiser fled from her, possibly mistaking her three funnels for those of a County Class cruiser.

She took part in the landings at Algiers; she was hit at Anzio; in convoy she was ripped open by another ship which had been disabled. They beached her at Oran and stayed the 53-foot rupture with a cement truss, then sent her home through submarine-infested seas at four knots. During the war she steamed 256,000 miles, carrying all known nationalities of ally, refugee and prisoner. She carried the first Canadian contingent to Iceland, and the 1st Ar-

moured and 51st Highland Divisions round the Cape to fight at Alamein. For the Normandy D-Day she shipped 5000 Americans to Britain. In 1944 she carried 5300 Russians, who had been captured in Europe, to Murmansk. The Russians (like some of the vessel's National Service passengers today) had never seen a ship before.

Shortly after the atom bombs fell, the *Empress* turned up at Hong-Kong. Here, once again, she became a vessel of mercy, as 2500 internees from the notorious Stanley Camp were brought abroad, skeletons in home-made

clothes. On the voyage home a million meals were served, and the scarecrows put on an average of 15 pounds each.

* * *

That is the ship which has bred such loyalty in her crew that, like soldiers, some of them have refused promotion because it would have meant being posted elsewhere. Nor are the crew necessarily depressed by the passing of a regime under which the Passenger Was (Nearly) Always Right. Where the countesses nibbled caviare sandwiches, sol-

diers queue for ice-cream and potato crisps (consumed simultaneously). There are military families in the £3000 suites. There is a *laager* of prams labelled "Cyprus" and "Malta" on the promenade deck. The Pompeian pool is a bedding store. Wives queue for talcum at the shop where millionaires bought whatever millionaires buy. The unnaught sign "Orderly Room" hangs over the promenade deck; there are Ship's Orders everywhere (containing announcements of missing belts, web and bears, teddy); there are sentry posts at unexpected places. But do the crew sigh for past glories? Not visibly. Perhaps some of them never did

OVER

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The Empress keeps on Trooping

(Cont'd)

fancy a vessel with a lido and orange trees on the aft deck.

The *Empress* has undergone little reconditioning since the war, when she was crammed with humanity in cheerful disregard of all national and international rules. One notable change is that there are no longer men sleeping, six deep, on standees in the cabin dining saloon, which is white-and-gold and glittering again. Today the *Empress* is regarded by the Army more as a family ship, for she has a generous amount of cabin space. It is some consolation for the soldier in his hammock to know that his family are sleeping in bunks. Some day — who knows? — there may even be a troopship in which a man can share the same sleeping quarters as his family. Meanwhile, on the *Empress of Australia*, the rule is that "whenever possible arrangements will be made for married personnel to meet their families each day." In practice, it works out a little better than that might suggest.

Comparisons between an ordinary liner and a troopship are not necessarily to the troopship's disadvantage, though many of them must be. The fare-paying passenger is not expected to read daily orders to learn whether, or when, he may wear his shirt outside his shorts. He would regard any suggestion that "noise will cease from 2300 hours" as a grave interference with the liberty of the subject — after all, that's the time when noise is only beginning. Nor is he seriously expected to keep his children quiet in the afternoon for the trivial reason that the crew are trying to sleep (it is his children's privilege to make darts with the ship's notepaper at midnight if they wish). If the luxury passenger

descends to attend lifebelt drill he will make it a point of honour to look as unregimented as possible (whereas even the wives of soldiers tend to form up, automatically, in ranks); and if he turns up wearing his lifebelt (after a fashion) but bare-headed, he is not asked to wear his hat next time, (the Army, with commendable imagination, points out that the hatless man on a raft in the tropics is going to be a nuisance to himself and everybody else).

The *Empress of Australia*, like any troopship, is a huddle of self-contained worlds. There are the ship's officers, who live with their pipe-racks and book-shelves and silver-framed photographs in a world that is OUT OF BOUNDS. There are the cabin passengers, among whom, once upon a time, were to be found generals and brigadiers; now the highest rank tends to be that of lieutenant-colonel. They are the heirs, along with scores of children, to what remains of the ship's former splendour. (If the troopdeck is a theme for the brush of Hogarth, the promenade deck — where toy motor cars are for ever darting between the feet of stately field officers — is a theme for the cartoonist Giles). There are the warrant officers, who have inherited some of the splendours too, including a share of the white-and-gold dining saloon. There are the serjeants, whose mess on this ship is an unusually spartan one, and who sleep in hammocks like the men. And there are the troops — 1700 of them — whose genius for making themselves comfortable in a world of bare wood and hot metal is — or ought to be — the wonder of the world.

Look at them now... It is a



Tug-of-war on the promenade deck. You cannot dig your heels in, but rubber soles give a good grip.

brilliant Sunday morning off the coast of Portugal. Cape Finisterre is behind, Cape St. Vincent is looming up. The decks and hatch covers are asprawl with Infantrymen, sunning themselves like lizards. A pair of shorts, with a tin mug slung, is the favoured dress. The luckier ones are turning copper, the less lucky ones are turning bright red. Some lie on their bellies, writing letters, in the favourite attitude of children ("Dear Mum, It was a

good job you couldn't see us last night...") Others are reading Westerns, and the airmen are being introduced to SOLDIER. One Fusilier, prone in the busiest part of the deck, hardly winces as a comrade stands for a moment on his diaphragm. Another absent-mindedly wipes somebody's hot sweet tea from his hairy torso; somebody else doubles up as a blob of ice cream falls on his navel. In the most crowded part of the deck an airman is try-



"Good-bye, Liverpool." Mary Johnson, aged 16 months, on her way to join her father, a serjeant in the Royal Horse Artillery. Where? See the label on her perambulator.

Keeping the children amused is one pleasant, and necessary, way of passing the time on a long journey. Nobody enjoys a race in the children's sports more than the toddlers.



Shore leave in Malta, and the ornate local boats come out to carry the men who want to stretch their legs on land.

ing to stand on his hands on his chum's knees; nobody seems to mind when he overbalances. Round a davit an Airborne glee club is singing a song about a hapless parachutist — "so they sent him home to mother in a piece of four-by-two." When they stop, a mouth organ is heard struggling with the tune of "Old Smokey." There are at least half a dozen card schools in progress, playing for undisplayed stakes. It is a fine, carefree morning, and the decks which were hosed at dawn are already thick with litter. Suddenly warning noises are heard in the loud-speaker, from which uncomfortable tidings are always emerging (how did they operate troopships before the days of loud-speakers?). But this time the loud-speaker has hardly emitted six words before there is a cheer from the decks. The words? "There will be no ship's inspection this morning."

Now it is noon at Malta: the tawny rocks and ramparts of the Grand Harbour are bleaching in the sun — a rich contrast to the grey, grubby Mersey with the Littlewood's sign flashing across the river. To a man on his first voyage east, this is an unforgettable moment. If he is lucky he may qualify for brief shore leave, when he will ascend in the lift

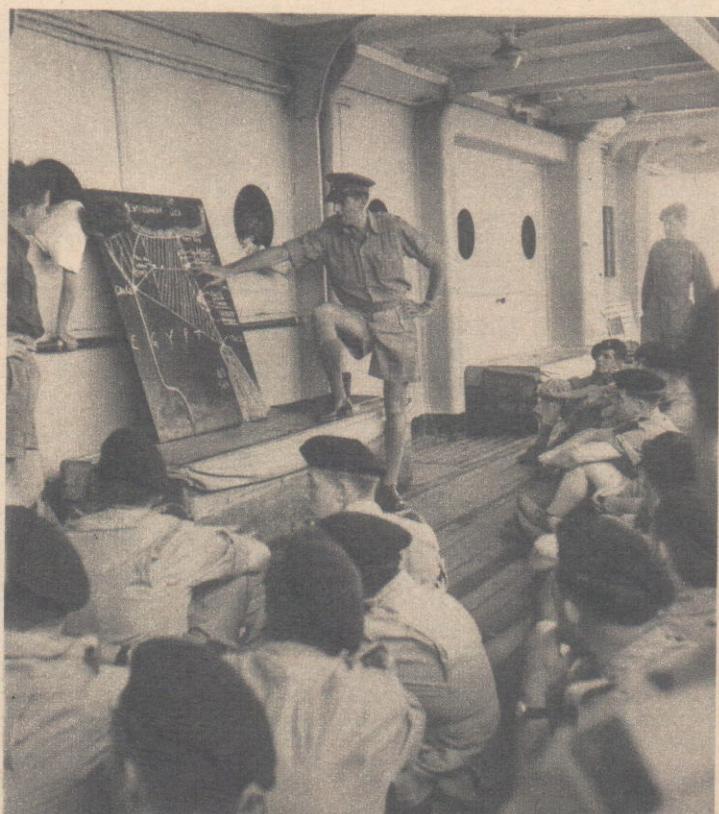
high above Valetta, perhaps wander up a romantic tunnel into an old citadel only to find himself in a NAAFI shop, or stroll through the canyon streets in search of souvenirs. If he does not go ashore, he will spend the afternoon on the rails, mocking his mates pitching in their gondola-like boats, or throwing pennies to the diving boys and arguing about how fast, and in what manner, a penny sinks... or, better still, cheering the immobile ranks of sailors on the carrier *Ocean* as she glides by, magnificent, into the inner harbour.

And so by way of Cyprus — where the ship pauses in the brilliant blue water a mile off Famagusta — on the last lap to Port Said. The tug-of-war contests are over; the children have had their sports and tea party. Now come the clamouring bumboat men; now comes the uneasy land which makes news all too often. To HT *Empress of Australia* it is just another trip.

And what, you ask, does "HT" stand for? It stands for "Hired Transport," which is just about as unimaginative a label as one could find for a vessel of distinction. Why must they be so ungallant to a lady in her declining years?



Someone has to peel the potatoes and sweep the deck, so why not some of those soldiers who eat the potatoes and make the deck untidy?



They are bound for Egypt, most of them for the first time. So an officer who has been there before tells them something about it.

A NEW WINTER OUTFIT



How the new suit looks when it is all on: parka, with hood extended, combat suit trousers, Mukluk boots and dangling gauntlets. Note the ski-cap, with its own hood, under the parka hood.

AS SOLDIER went to press, the 1st (Commonwealth) Division was engaged in its first major battle. It was one of five divisions which launched an offensive along a 40-mile sector of Korea's western front.

Within 48 hours Commonwealth troops were consolidating on ground where the Communists had built deep bunkers in which, it appeared, they had intended to stay all winter.

Men of 28th Brigade — The King's Own Scottish Borderers, The King's Shropshire Light Infantry and The Royal Australian Regiment — had made the main thrust, with 25th Canadian Brigade fighting at their side. Centurions of the 8th Hussars had supported the attack and other units of 29th Brigade carried out a diversion.

During the days preceding the attack there had been some good news for British troops. A substantial number of their comrades, notably men of the 1st Gloucesters, who had been reported missing, believed killed, were now known to be alive and well, though prisoners-of-war. The men of 29th Brigade heard that their commander, Brigadier T. Brodie, had been awarded the Distinguished Service Order. Special gratuities were announced and reservists learned when they were to go back to civilian life (see below).

To British troops who had heard tales of the grim Korean winter, there was very welcome news about a new winter outfit. Not everyone would have it when the cold set in, about 1 November, but issues would have begun. Meanwhile, there were adequate supplies of last year's winter kit which would keep warm those men waiting for the new.

SOLDIER has it on the authority of Lieutenant-Colonel Andrew Croft, DSO, of the Essex Regiment, well-known as an Arctic explorer, and who was mainly responsible for the design of the new kit, that when the new outfit is issued, the British soldier is likely to be the best-clad of the United Nations troops in sub-zero weather.

The new kit includes two new types of boot. One is the Mukluk, a high boot made of water-repellent canvas, with rubber soles, designed for dry-cold weather. The other is a heavy ammunition boot with thick composition soles and heels and double leather round the base of the upper, which is designed for wet-cold weather.

For extra warmth, the Mukluk has a heavy felt removable inner sole and is worn with a thick duffel sock and three pairs of cold-weather socks. The wet-cold boot has a light removable inner sole of soft netting material which provides ventilation as well as extra warmth, and it is worn with two pairs of cold-weather socks.

There is a new parka, a gaberdine outside garment lined with wool pile, with an attached hood and a wide cowl which is stiffened with copper wire so that when it is turned up to protect the face, it does not flap.

The waist and lower edge of the parka have draw-cords which can be tightened to keep out the wind. The parka is closed by a zip fastener over which buttons a protective flap.

Under the parka goes a combat suit of smock and trousers. It is made of self-lined gaberdine, with reinforced elbows, seat and knees, and the waist and bottom edge of the smock are fitted with draw-cords. There is a detachable hood.

Under the combat suit, the soldier wears a heavy wool jersey, a flannel shirt and a string vest, woollen inner trousers and pyjama-type drawers.

The outfit also includes a ski cap and a neck-square which can



The new combat suit which, with fewer layers underneath, is suitable for temperate zones.

RESERVISTS GOING HOME

RELEASE for Regular Army Reservists who were called back to the Colours in August last year to serve in Korea begins this month.

The first batch have already left Korea. The remainder will be brought home in time for their release to be completed by the end of February next year. They will report to the depots of the units with whom they have been serving and from there will be sent on release.

The Reservists will not receive civilian clothing but they will have both Reservists' leave and Korean leave. Reservists' leave is one day for every month they have spent with the Colours since their recall. Korean leave is one day for every month spent in the Korean theatre, including service with

that part of the Korean Forces based in Japan. (Korean leave is not confined to Reservists, but applies to all troops who have served in the Korean theatre).

Reservists who have completed their time on their own section of the Reserve when they are released will go on "Z" Reserve. In accordance with a promise given by the War Office at the time of their recall, men who have had to serve with other regiments or corps will revert to their own on release. (For ending of the release ban for Regulars see page 46).

KOREA GRATUITIES

TROOPS who have served in Korea will be eligible for special tax-free gratuities. Qualification is the same as for the Korea medal (one day or more on the posted strength of a unit or formation in Korea since 2 July 1950). The minimum gratuity is for three months or less service. There is an extra amount for each completed month of reckonable service beyond three.

Minimum gratuities with, in brackets, additional monthly sums are: Private, £10 (£1); corporal, £10 10s (£1 3s); serjeant, £11 (£1 6s); staff-serjeant £12 (£1 9s); WO II, £13 (£1 12s); WO I, £14 (£1 15s); 2/lieutenant, £15 (£2 3s); lieutenant, £16 (£2 7s); captain, £17 (£2 11s); major, £18 (£2 15s); lieut-colonel, £20 (£2 19s); colonel, £22 (£3 3s); brigadier, £23 (£3 7s); major-general, £25 (£3 11s); lieutenant-general, £27 (£3 15s).

Women will receive about three-quarters of the men's rates.

All service in or over Korea or Korean waters will count and

so will service under United Nations command for men qualified for the Korea medal and held on the strength of a unit or formation required to operate in or over Korea or Korean waters. For prisoners-of-war the period of captivity will count. Service in Japan only will not count.

Gratuities will be paid when men are posted away from the Korean theatre or when the scheme ends. Payment will be made to the estate of men who have died after qualifying.



be used as a muffler by day and, when he is asleep, as a face-covering to prevent his breath freezing on his sleeping bag and making it wet.

To protect the hands, there is a leather gauntlet with three compartments. One compartment is for the thumb, another for the forefinger and the third for the other fingers. The forefinger compartment is made of canvas, so that the covered finger can be used on a trigger; when it is not wanted the compartment can be folded back under a loop and the trigger finger can join the other fingers in the warmth of the centre compartment. Under the gauntlet is worn a three-compartment wool glove and a separate woollen wristlet to protect the arteries of the wrist.

The complete outfit weighs about 20 pounds — about two thirds the weight of clothing the average citizen of Ottawa is said to wear in the Canadian winter. It costs about £32 to produce and has had trials lasting about three years in Canada and Alaska.

It was expected that by the beginning of this month 11 per cent of the British troops in Korea would have new-type boots and parkas and about half of them the combat smock, and that there would be enough of the remaining items of the combat suit for all British troops there. By the end of the year, all the troops in Korea would have combat smocks and about half, or most of the front-line troops, would have the new boots and parkas.

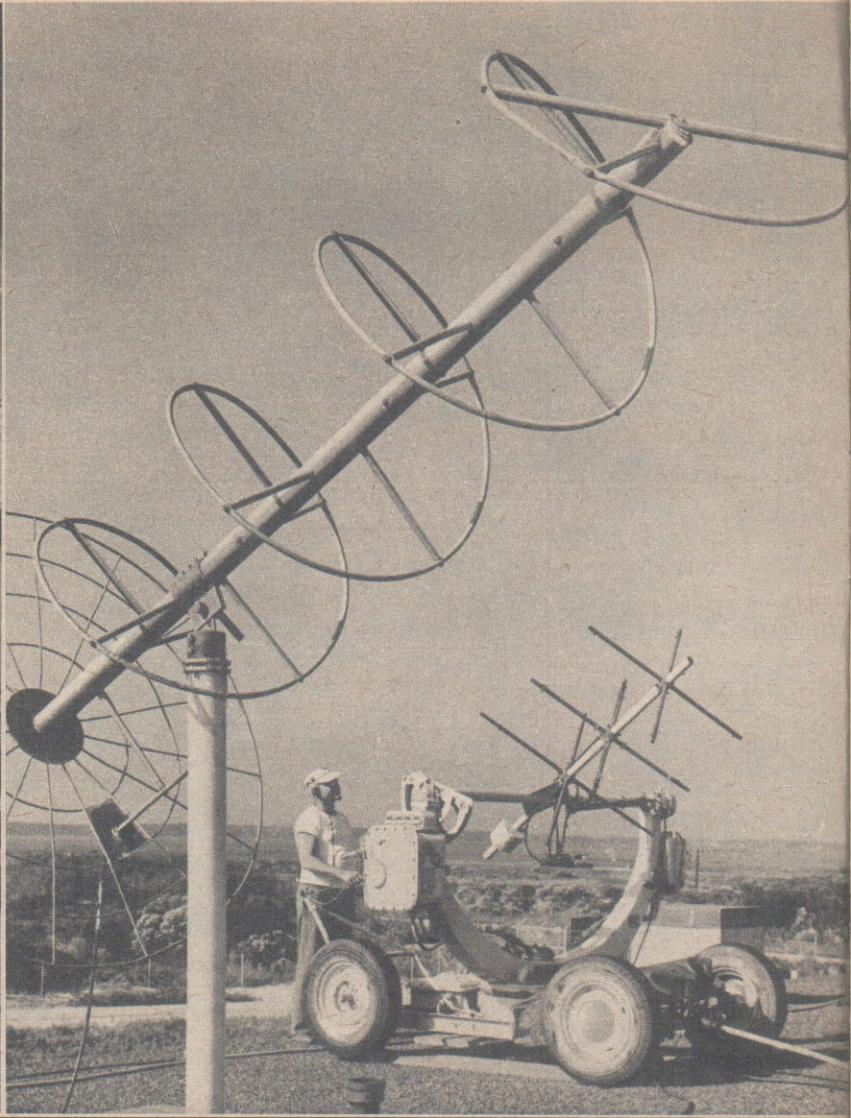
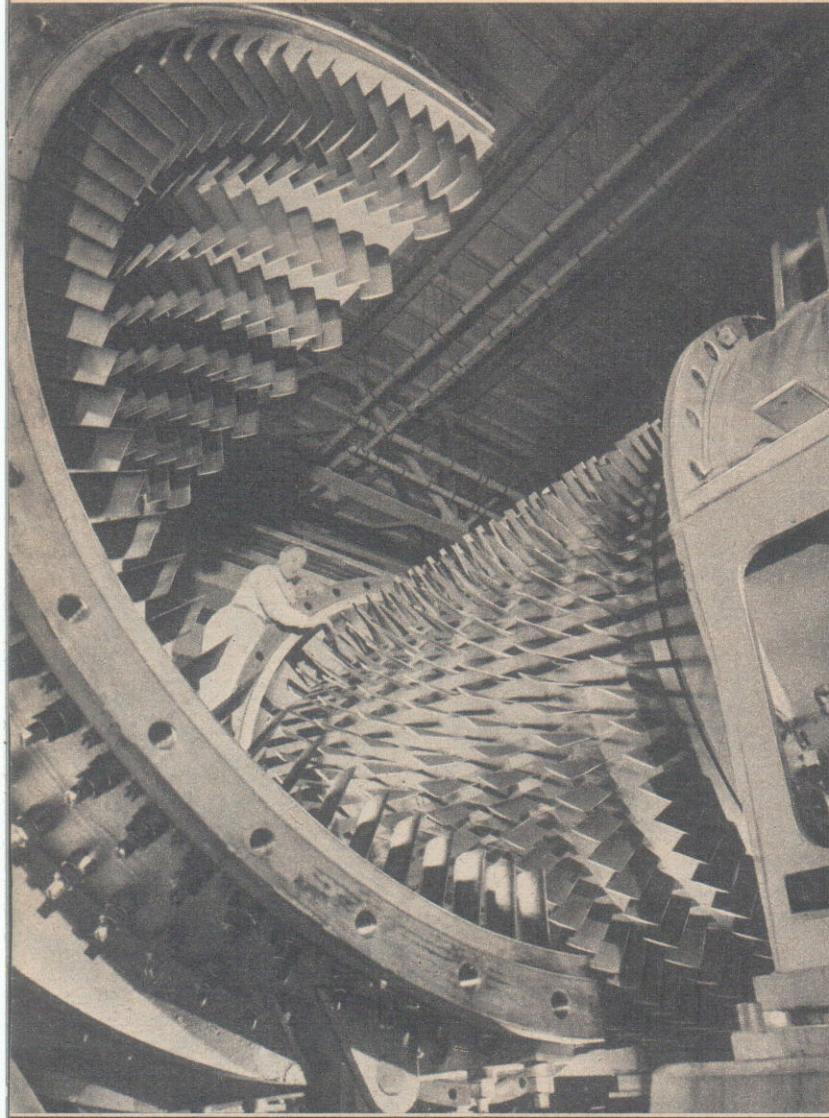
The new clothing, except the Mukluk boot, has been selected by Mr. Eric Shipton for wear on the reconnaissance expedition he is leading to Mount Everest.

Corporal Donald Allnutt of the Gloucesters did not know it, but he was the 100,000th United Nations soldier to go to Tokio from Korea for a rest. When he landed at a nearby airfield, he was presented with the "key of the city" by a reception committee which included Lieutenant-General Sir Horace Robertson (on the corporal's right), an American general, a platoon of photographers and reporters and a party of pretty girls, one of whom kissed him on both cheeks. He then started his leave with a ride in a huge Daimler staff car.

This new body-armour for ground troops to be tried out by Americans in Korea is made of glass fibre, nylon and other plastics. It weighs only five to 15 pounds, according to how much it protects. The helmet is also new and to be tried in Korea. It has an aluminium shell, which can be used as a water container, and a nylon lining.

Mail's up at 29 Brigade post office. It arrived in Korea by an aircraft of the Royal Australian Air Force and has passed through the British Field Maintenance Area post office in Seoul and the 1st (Commonwealth) Division post office. Now it has arrived at brigade, where it will be distributed to units. Despite the legend on the sack, most of it is from Britain.





QUIZ FOR SPIES

The objects in these two pictures, though they bear some resemblance to modern sculpture, are both connected with the development of a modern weapon in America. If you were a spy and spotted them through a key-hole, could you identify the objects and guess with what weapon they are connected? Answer on page 46.

SOLDIER to Soldier

IN this issue is a story about life on a troopship — a troopship which makes no pretence to be modern (SOLDIER has already described the new style of trooper like the *Empire Orwell*).

How soon will the troopship — even the new-style troopship — become a museum piece? Already high-ranking officers invariably go by air. So does almost anybody else in a hurry; so does any man, or even any battalion, in circumstances where it is not economic or convenient to use a ship. All troops for West Africa, for instance, fly there, and air trooping is being developed in other commands.

It is probable that in a few years time more troops will travel by air than by sea. Though an aircraft can take perhaps only a couple of dozen men, a dozen aircraft running a shuttle service can move an astonishing number of men in a short time.

At present the Government owns 16 troopships and has five more on charter. It has been recommended by a Select Committee that in future, for economy reasons, all troopships should be

chartered (this was the policy in pre-war days, when vessels carried troops for six months and ordinary passengers or pilgrims during the other six). The cost even of chartering passenger vessels is impressive; and the cost of converting vessels to modern trooping standards is even more impressive. Unfortunately, too, converted vessels can carry considerably fewer troops than the old type.

The present troopship fleet is



running down rapidly; in ten years 127,000 tons will have been lost. Though there is talk of building two new troopships, no one need be surprised if much of this dwindling tonnage is replaced by aerial troop carriers.

A world-wide system of aerial trooping, operated either by private companies or by the Services, would be of immense value in times of emergency and would keep in training a big reserve of pilots and air crews. How ironic that 16th Independent Parachute Brigade Group had to

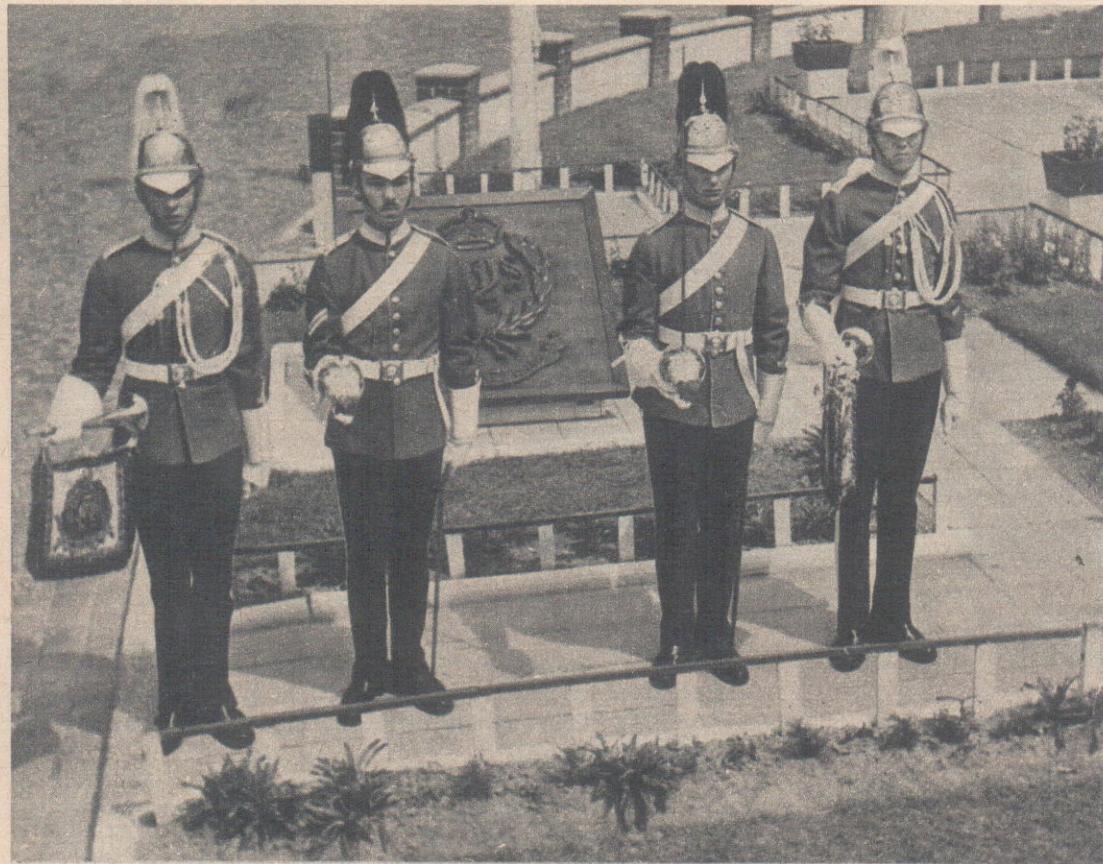
travel to Cyprus recently by courtesy of the Royal Navy!

It is still an essential part of strategy "to get there firstest with the mostest." Air trooping can help to achieve this; the great problem, of course, is to bring up the heavy equipment of war quickly, too. For that reason alone the Army must lean on sea tonnage for a long time yet.

But tomorrow's Infantryman, whose weapons and equipment are reasonably light, may become better known as a cloud-hopper than as a foot-slogger.

The Panoply of The Bays

Uniforms have changed often in the 266 years of The Queen's Bays' history, but their full dress has had a long innings



When the Regiment was the 3rd Horse: an officer in 1687.

FOR nearly a century, F men of The Queen's Bays in full dress have looked very much as does Trooper Brian Kershaw on the front cover of this month's **SOLDIER**.

They had, however, dressed very differently in the past. When the Regiment was raised in 1685, under Henry, Earl of Peterborough, to fight Monmouth's rebels, its men were equipped as cuirassiers. They had three-cornered hats, scarlet tunics, breast and back plates and heavy black thigh boots. Their cuffs, gauntlets and breeches were buff in colour.

The Regiment was then the 3rd Horse. In 1727, they became the Queen's Own Royal Regiment of Horse, and in 1746 the name was altered to 2nd (Queen's) Dragoon Guards. This brought about a major change of uniform and equipment.

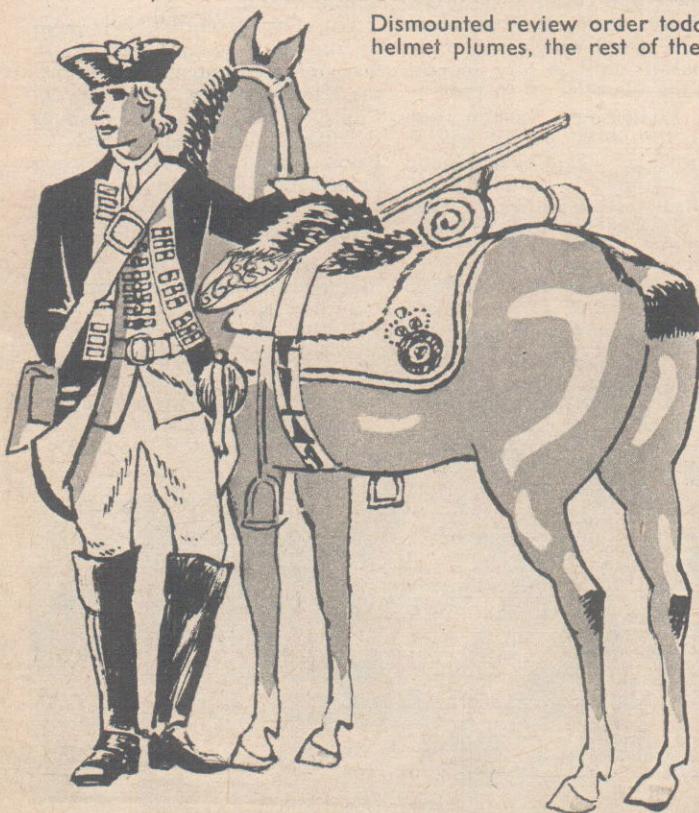
The officers acquired gold lace, embroidery and a silken sash of crimson over the left shoulder; quartermasters had gold lace and a silken sash round the waist; sergeants received narrow lace on the lapels, pockets and sleeves and wore a worsted sash.

In 1766, it was decided that as far as possible the Regiment should be mounted on bay horses. Its nickname, "The Queen's Bays" soon followed but it was nearly a century later, in 1870, that the custom received official recognition and the Regiment became the 2nd Dragoon Guards (Queen's Bays). Finally, in 1921, the name was changed to The Queen's Bays (2nd Dragoon Guards).

The Regiment received the present helmet in 1852. There have been few alterations in the full-dress uniform since 1855, the most important being the introduction of knee-boots in 1871.

In dismounted review order (shown in the photographs on this page) dark blue overalls (close-fitting trousers) with a single broad white stripe are worn over short Wellington boots with box spurs. In mounted review order, dark blue pantaloons with a white stripe were worn with black knee boots and spurs with chains.

Dismounted review order today. Bandsmen wear white helmet plumes, the rest of the Regiment black plumes.



Left: A trooper in 1751. Then the Regiment was known as the 2nd (Queen's) Dragoon Guards.

Right: A trumpeter in 1951. Bandsman M. O'Leary.





Poperinghe, 1918: British and French troops get together in the Partridge Bacton Hut.

This Army took Buns into Battle

In two world wars the Church Army has provided clubs and canteens for soldiers. Today it does the same for Rhine Army

IN many Rhine Army centres today, the name of a man who founded an Army is commemorated in the names of buildings to which soldiers go for spiritual comfort, for food and rest, and for books.

The man was Prebendary Wilson Carlile. The Army he raised was the Church Army, and the buildings are the Church Army's Carlile Clubs.

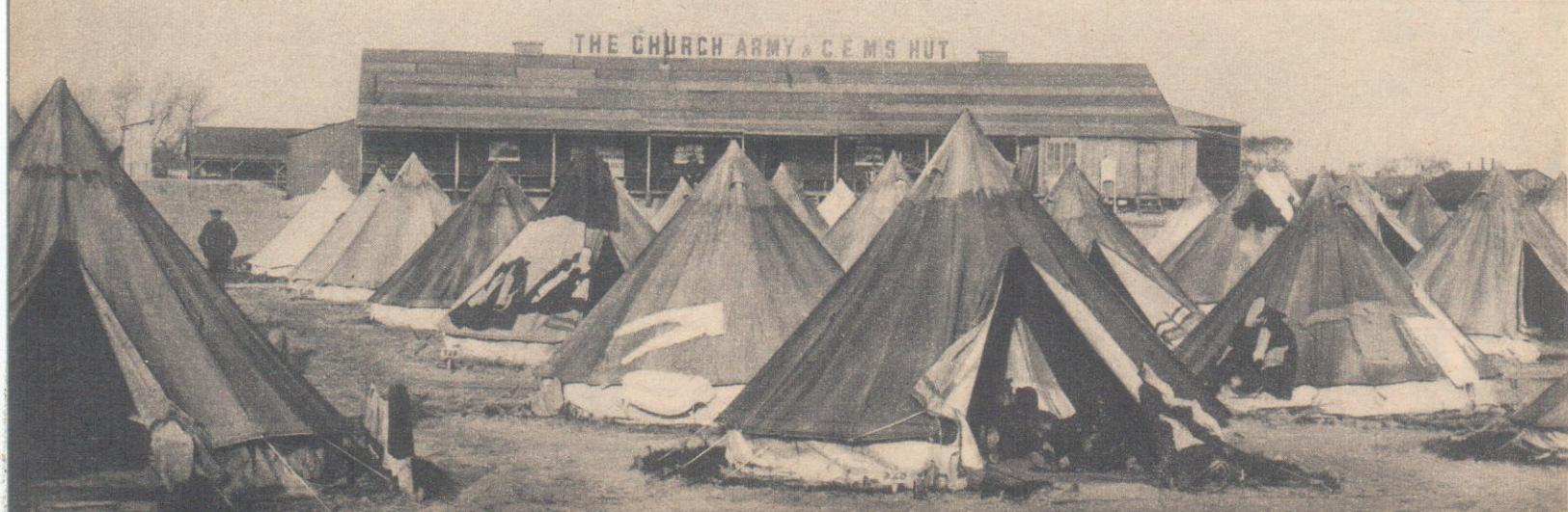
British soldiers in two world wars have had cause to be grateful for the work of Prebendary Carlile — work which he carried on himself until a few months before his death, at 95, in 1942.

Yet Prebendary Carlile had started life with purely selfish intentions. He was a businessman and he planned to make £20,000 for himself before he was 25. But banks crashed and Carlile found

himself broken both in business and in health.

When he recovered his strength he turned to religious work. He was ordained and in 1882 formed the Church Army to bring the Church of England to the slums, to take the homeless from the Embankment into hostels, to help ex-prisoners and old people and to hold mission services from caravans in small villages. By

Cayeux, 1917: The Church Army and the Church of England Men's Society combined to provide this hut near a tented encampment.





Northern Ireland, 1941: Men of the Green Howards, in the 5th Division, get their elevenses from a mobile canteen.

World War One, the Church Army had grown to such size that it opened 2000 centres at home and abroad for Servicemen, to provide recreation and physical and spiritual comfort.

The centres were in tents, dugouts, and any spare buildings. "Bar cars," solid-tyred forerunners of the modern mobile canteens, rattled up to the front line after dark with refreshments. Prebendary Carlile was proud that in September 1914 he provided a fully equipped hospital in Caen, the only one in the area with a motor ambulance.

When World War Two started, veterans of the previous war showed their gratitude for the Church Army's work of 1914-18. Typical of messages accompanying donations was this: "In appreciation of a welcome given and kindness shown at a Church Army dugout near Shrapnel Corner, Ypres."

Now the work required of voluntary organisations was so involved that the Council of Voluntary War Work was formed to prevent overlapping; the Church Army joined with bodies like the Salvation Army, Church of Scotland, Toc H, United Board, YMCA and YWCA. The joint organisation was able to place canteens where they were most needed, for instance in camps so crowded that the men spent most of their breaks queuing in the NAAFI, only to find there was not time left to drink their tea.

To lonely gun and searchlight sites in Britain, Church Army mobile canteens carried everything from postage stamps (and a post box) to hairnets for the ATS. They collected laundry, arranged for socks to be darned and carried out shopping assignments. Often a soldier would say: "It's my wife's birthday next week. Here's ten shillings. Will you get something for her?" Also going the rounds were mobile chapels, equipped to give cinema shows as well as religious services.

The static canteens, called military huts, provided refreshments and recreation, a quiet room and

chapel. The Army's "security-mindedness" gave them their own problems. At one camp in 1940, 4000 men were served in a week; the next week not a penny was taken and not a man served. The troops had gone in the night, leaving the Church Army ladies surrounded by their buns and steaming urns.

A broad, the Church Army operated in the Middle East, in Persia and Irak, Sicily and Italy, in North-West Europe, and to a small extent in India. The military huts did great work: typically, the one at Suez served 33,000 men a month, which meant 3000 gallons of tea and coffee and 84,000 cakes.

But it was of its "mobiles" that the Church Army was particularly proud. There was a famous one in the early days of the Western Desert campaign. It was painted a sandy colour and carried a ton of water, which gave it the advantage over other mobile canteens of being able to supply tea when there was no well or water-pipe nearby.

Under shell-fire, a mobile canteen felt its way along the shell-gashed road to Cassino by night to take tea and fresh-baked cakes to the men there. In the grim perimeter of Anzio, the Church Army took tea, cigarettes and cakes to the front line and held services in a chapel built of sandbags and petrol tins.

In Europe, the Church Army not only followed the troops but even went ahead of them. One officer took his mobile canteen into a town before it was captured and so was able to serve the troops when they arrived. When he did much the same thing at another town, forward troops with blackened faces enquired if he had come to lead the advance.

The end of the war did not end the work of the mobile canteens, but meant establishing the permanent canteens in more suitable buildings, some of them quite lavish. Today Germany is the only place overseas where the shield of the Church Army canteen is still seen. Fifteen clubs, many of them with the name



Italy 1945: The Church Army club in Siena provides Servicemen and women with a grandstand for a pageant.

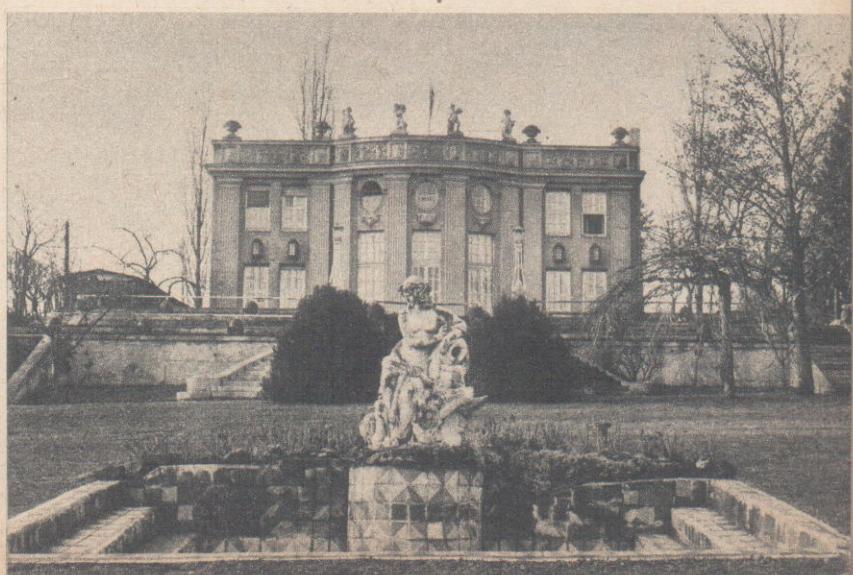
"Carlile," are spread throughout Rhine Army.

The Church Army gives its service as cheaply as possible, and the Rhine Army clubs cost it about £20,000 a year. Another £5000 a year goes to run libraries for Rhine Army.

Who pays for this? During the war much of the money came from American charities. Today there are general appeals on the radio and several thousand people contribute annually. But contributions have to be spread over the

whole field of Church Army work, which includes a rehabilitation centre for disabled at Brixton (where, among other things, men with one arm are trained to make paper rose petals), a holiday camp for poor families, aged men's hostels, youth hostels, a youth training farm, a sanatorium, "Sunset" homes for old folk, schools, homes for unmarried mothers and for motherless children, a housing scheme for people with large families and small incomes, and help for people with diminished incomes.

Berlin, 1951: The Carlile Club at Kladow is the luxurious former home of Baldur von Schirach, leader of the Hitler Youth. It is on the bank of the Havel See, Berlin's yachting centre, and has its own private jetty.





IN Malaya today there is probably a greater variety of small arms in use than anywhere else in the world.

The security forces — Army and Police — alone have an assortment of more than 30 small-calibre weapons, ranging from the latest automatic carbines to shot-guns and rifles of World War One vintage. The Communist terrorists have an infinite variety of their own.

Malaya is the only theatre in the world where the British Number 5 rifle is in general use. It is a lightened version of the No. 4 rifle and was introduced for the Burma campaign. It is ideal for jungle warfare.

The Sten has a rival in popularity in the Australian Owen gun, a 9 millimetre machine-carbine of great accuracy up to 50 yards.

WAR OF MANY WEAPONS

and with a high rate of fire. It is often the arm of the leading scout of a jungle patrol, because his tough and dangerous job needs a weapon which can be brought immediately into use if he should come face to face with the enemy.

Another good weapon for this job is the De Lisle silent carbine in the designing and introduction of which the late Sir Malcolm Campbell, the racing motorist, played a leading part. It consists of a .45 barrel mounted on a No. 4 action, and was introduced about 1944. The American M2 carbine, a self-loading (that is, single-action) carbine, is very popular.

Combinations of weapons in a

jungle patrol vary according to the country and the inclinations of the units concerned. This is how they go in a typical patrol of the 1st Battalion of the Suffolk Regiment: first the leading scout's Owen gun, next an American M2 carbine, followed by a Bren. Then come two Number 5 rifles and a Number 1 rifle with cup discharger for firing No. 36 grenades, and lastly a second Bren gun and a second Owen to bring up the rear. That makes a total of four fully-automatic weapons and one self-loader in an eight-man patrol.

To make up for their shortage of weapons, the terrorists have sometimes added to their varieties by using old and captured weapons and spare parts to build up primitive hybrid rifles and machine-carbines, and their attacks on isolated police posts are often made with the sole object of obtaining arms.

MICHAEL INGRAM



CLOSE-UP of three of the less well-known weapons in use in Malaya: a Browning automatic shot-gun (top), Sten gun with silencer (centre) and Lanchester 9 millimetre machine-carbine, which is used principally by the Royal Navy.



ONE you will not find in any gun-maker's catalogue. This bandit-made machine-carbine has parts from a Sten gun and a Thompson sub-machine-gun and a barrel from a No. 1 rifle. It fires .303 ammunition, is automatic only, and reasonably accurate up to 30 yards.

PIG Patrol

Pig-shooting is more exciting than pig-sticking, says a soldier who has tried both. Malaya's pigs have had it their own way far too long

THREE years of Communist terrorism have been a boon to the wild pigs of Malaya.

Normal pig-shooting parties for civilians — dangerous enough at all times — have been out of the question. The Communists have killed a few pigs for food, but they are usually very cautious about using firearms outside the jungle, for fear of giving away their presence.

So the pigs thrived and increased in number, causing more and more damage to cultivation on estates adjoining the jungle.

Then, late last year, Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. M. Menage, Commander, Royal Army Service Corps, South Malaya District — an old hand at pig-sticking in India — started to organise Army pig hunts.

"The hunts provide the members with sport," says the Colonel, "and at the same time they help the Government by patrolling areas in which bandits may be lurking."

The view of the Army in Malaya is that properly conducted pig hunts constitute valuable training and exercise which counter-balance the risks.

A shot gun is the recognized weapon for pig-shooting, but Army hunters carry ordinary Service rifles with fixed bayonets. "I would prefer the Service rifle if I could get one," said a well-known pre-war hunter. "I have seen pig-sticking in India, but I prefer shooting. It is more thrilling than the lance."

Careful — and secret — planning has to be made for wild pig hunts. There are the professional hunters and their dogs to be collected, and the police and any units in the area must know that pig parties are out. All members must wear a pre-arranged recognition colour, like normal Army or police patrols.

The rules must be carefully explained to all taking part. Says Major G. G. Hill: "Our pig hunters are briefed by an officer when they reach the starting

point. It's sport, but in the interests of safety there must be the strictest rules. We have had up to 40 men out at a time and one day we shot 14 pigs."

Native guides can blow down their gun barrels to make a noise like a horn. This indicates that the beat is off, and a whistle means that terrorists have been spotted or are attacking.

"If a boar knocks you over and you can't get back on your feet, roll over on your stomach to escape his tusks." That was the advice given by Captain Michael Templeman to the writer; the sight of a 12-inch scar on the arm of a Chinese beater showed that he was not exaggerating the dangers of pig hunting.

With 3 Company, Royal Army Service Corps, the writer went to the Kajang area where 10 pigs, ranging from 18 to 270 pounds in

Report Continued Overleaf

Left: Pig-hunting, like bandit-hunting, brings out some rarely-met weapons. This is an American repeating 12-bore riot gun. **Below:** Hunter's reward: Captain M. Templeman slakes his thirst with wild coconut milk.



"Piffer" General will Take Over

A new Director of Operations will shortly take charge of the campaign against Malaya's Communist bandits.

He is General Sir Rob Lockhart. Like his predecessor, Lieutenant-General Sir Harold Briggs, he is a former officer of the Indian Army.

General Lockhart was one of the select band who served with the Punjab Frontier Force — "Piffers" to their friends. They included General Sam Browne, VC, who invented the Sam Browne belt.

General Lockhart served in World War One in Egypt, Aden and Mesopotamia, was wounded and won the Military Cross. In the later stages of World War Two he was Deputy Chief of the General Staff, India, and afterwards an army commander and Governor of the North-West Frontier Province. He was the first commander-in-chief of the Indian Army under the new constitution of 1947.

General Briggs has not yet announced his plans for the future, but last year he told *SOLDIER* that when he left Malaya he would retire to Cyprus, to do a lot of shooting and finish a job he had started: turning a ploughed field into a garden.



Lieutenant-General Sir Harold Briggs, who came out of retirement in Cyprus to head operations in Malaya.

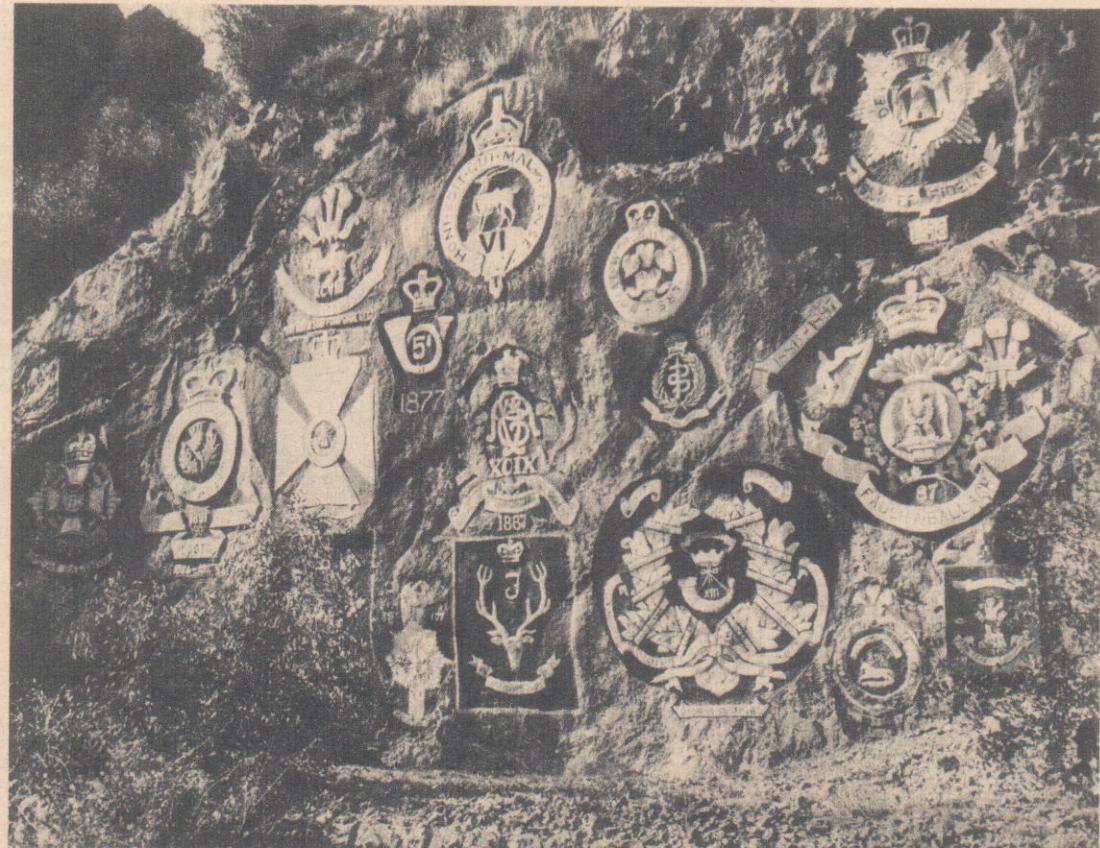
Picture from the Past

On a dusty ridge within easy reach of the Khyber Pass, British troops who for generations maintained security in that explosive region have left their mark.

It takes the form of giant regimental crests, carved into the rock and coloured, at Cherat where soldiers were sent for some relief from the torrid heat of the Pass, yet remained within easy call.

The Pakistan government has undertaken to preserve the crests.

Such souvenirs as these have been part of military tradition from earliest times. The Pharaohs of Egypt, Sennacherib the Assyrian, Darius the Persian are all still commemorated in this fashion. So, too are the legions of the Roman emperors and Napoleon Bonaparte.



Five and a half square miles of Berkshire provide the Army with anything from a grub-screw to a laundry

CENTRAL ORDNANCE DEPOT. DIDCOT.

THE ARMY'S BIG STORE

THE Central Ordnance Depot at Didcot, half-way between Oxford and Reading, is as much a household word in the Army as the great London department stores are to civilians — and for much the same reason.

Officers at Didcot will explain why by paraphrasing the claim of one great shop to supply anything from a pin to an elephant: Didcot, they say, will supply anything from a half-inch grub-screw to a fully-equipped laundry. That range, they add, includes nearly everything the soldier needs for his comfort.

Despite this claim, Didcot, again like the London stores, leaves certain markets to specialists. Another great Central Ordnance Depot at Donnington supplies warlike stores — anything from spiders' webs (for optical instruments) to wireless sets and guns; a second at Chilwell deals in every kind of Army vehicle; a third at Branston stocks the Army's clothing; and special depots deal with ammunition.

Anything else in the list of 750,000 items of Ordnance stores comes to the Army through the organisation at Didcot. "Anything else," in this case, totals some 56,000 items, officially known as General Stores, and includes nearly everything else the Army uses except food, petrol, oil and lubricants, which are the responsibility of the Royal Army Service Corps. Didcot is the headquarters of the general stores organisation of the Army.

Although Didcot does make a considerable number of issues straight to units, its main job is that of a wholesale business. Stores are sent in bulk to Ordnance depots in commands and to field force units such as Ordnance field parks and stores sections, from which units draw them.

So huge are the quantities involved that the five and a half square miles of the Didcot depot are not enough to hold the stocks of general stores; so there are three sub-depots elsewhere, to duplicate some of the Didcot stocks, and three out-stations which specialise in certain items. In addition, there is a Returned Stores Depot at Bridgwater.

Didcot has not always confined its activities to general stores. The depot was opened in 1915 to relieve congestion at Woolwich Arsenal. By the end of 1918 it had more than 60 sheds, holding stores and vehicles, and in use as magazines and workshops, with roads and railway lines to serve them. In the second half of 1917, Didcot issued more than 70,000,000 rounds of small arms ammunition.



How to store sledge-hammers. Barrels form the centre of each stack. In this one there are 26 layers, each of 40 hammers. Below: Nice new wash-stands for somebody are prepared for their journey.

For five years after World War One, Didcot was in the doldrums and the authorities considered scrapping the depot. Then in 1923 it was promoted to a Central Ordnance Depot, and it has grown ever since. In 1932 it began to handle clothing, except service dress, but in 1938, when the Army began to expand, clothing was moved to Branston. The move was made by the present commandant of Didcot, Brigadier C. W. Bacon, then a lieutenant-colonel.

About the same time, new buildings began to go up at Didcot, including the huge "S" shed which covers 504,000 square feet and is believed to be the largest covered storehouse in Britain. New out-stations and sub-depots began to come into the picture. The building programme is still going on today.

World War Two brought many new problems to the men in charge at Didcot. The organisation was constantly being changed to cope with new responsibilities, while at the same time new temporary Central Ordnance depots relieved Didcot of some of its commitments. For civilian "industrial" workers, the working week was increased to 55 hours, for others it grew to 51 hours.

After the war, the run-down of the Army reduced the demands on Didcot to some extent and the depot took back some of the commitments of the temporary war-time depots. Since then, the new growth of the Army and improved living conditions for soldiers have brought the depot more work.

One vital part of Didcot's headquarters

OVER



BIG STORE (Cont'd)

is the Planning branch, which decides the lay-out of the stores, and which stores are to be diverted to sub-depots; it also arranges special large issues — all with an eye to saving manpower and avoiding hold-ups. Another part of headquarters is the Provision branch whose job is to see that all general stores wanted by the Army are provided at the time they are required — a job which is as big as it sounds, and involves ordering such quantities as 1,250,000 gallons of paint a year.

It is also a long job, performed in a two-year cycle. The first year the Senior Provision Officer and his staff are planning the next year's purchases, on the evidence of previous demands, stocks in hand and what is known of the Army's plans for the future. This task has to be finished each year in time for the Army Estimates debate in the House of Commons, when Parliament is asked to vote the necessary money. The second year, the Provision branch is spending the money, buying the stores.

Fluctuation in market prices makes provision the more difficult. To maintain the Army's stock of blankets, for example, requires something like 600,000 new ones every year, but after a recent estimate, the price of blankets rose by more than two-thirds; luckily, the price of wool is on its way down again and by the time those blankets are delivered, the Army may yet be getting them for the estimated price.

Shortages also add to the problems of the provision officers. Owing to the cost in dollars of American cotton and the failure of the Egyptian cotton crop, tents are hard to come by just now. At the best of times, it is estimated that it takes nearly two years to obtain an Army tent because hardly anyone else uses the same kinds of tents as the Army and separate orders have to be placed for the canvas to be manufactured before orders can be given for tents to be made.

Four-fifths of the general stores are ordered through the Ministry of Supply; furniture is ordered through the Ministry of Works; cordage and blocks and tackle through the Admiralty; laboratory equipment and chemicals through the Ministry of Health; and hospital wheeled chairs through the Ministry of Pensions.

To save freight, some of the stores by-pass Didcot and go direct to the depots which issue them to the users, but Didcot must still handle the accounting. This is an immense task which, however, has been simplified to the point where the main information is concentrated in four machines which will produce in a few seconds cards showing the state of the stocks of any item.

Somewhere these frying pans became rusty. Before they are stored, they will be clean, bright—and preserved.



Above: A clean-up for Bren ammunition carriers. Below: One of the gangways in "S" shed, believed to be the biggest covered store in Britain.





Left: Steaming alkali in the tank in the foreground removes grease from metal; water in the second tank removes the alkali.

Volunteer for dirty work. Some parts of these articles must be painted and other parts greased.

Below: Metal parts take a ride. The conveyor passes them through a tank of "hard preservative" which will last them ten years.

Among the developments which have added to the work both of the Provision branch and the depot is the increase and improvement of married quarters. Besides normal maintenance requirements, Didcot has to provide for a yearly programme of about 1000 new other rank married quarters overseas and 800 at home. Into each new married quarter go between 250 and 300 items from Didcot, ranging from sheets, pillow-slips, cutlery and crockery to sideboards and settees. A new commitment for Didcot since World War Two, is furnishing officers' quarters, which were occupied unfurnished before 1939.

The depot's biggest single range of items is in hand-tools — 7000 of them. You can see them in and around the giant "S" shed — blacksmiths' anvils (stacked outside), pliers, files, adzes, spanners. The strangest-looking stacks are those of sledge-hammers, cylindrical in shape with the heads flat on the outside and the handles inside, pointing towards barrels at the centre of the stack. This is not only a handsome way of stacking them, worthy of a department store display; it is also the most economical of floor-space.

Some of the smallest and most expensive tools are kept in wire-mesh cages marked "Attractive Stores." They are considered the most attractive to pilferers, valuable and easily concealed in a pocket, and so they are kept under lock and key.

Rows of girls work in the shed packing tool-kits in which the numbers of tools vary from 13 (for a driver-mechanic) to 66 (for a fitter or an armament artificer). This job is done along "gravity roads," those lines of rollers along which a heavy box can be moved either by gravity or an easy push of the hand. The "gravity roads" themselves are a Didcot issue, supplied from another shed, in straight sections, curves, half-curves and quarter-curves.

Elsewhere are bicycles, horseshoes, carts, cordage, blocks and tackle for cranes and ships, camouflage netting, stretchers for ambulance trains and ambulance jeeps, stocks of metal and timber, arctic, commando and jungle equipment, laboratory equipment and chemicals, soap, communion sets, saddlery and wheelbarrows.

Mechanical horses and fork lifts run around the stacks, bins and racks in the sheds and along the 28 miles of roads which criss-cross among the buildings and open-air stacks. Some are driven by soldiers, some by civilians, of

OVER →



BIG STORE (Cont'd)

whom many are women. Since Didcot is among the biggest users of mechanical handling apparatus in the Army, it has set up an experimental mechanical handling unit which tries out new machines and devises new ways of using existing ones, mostly with an eye to saving space.

There is constant experiment in preserving and packing stores, work largely in the hands of men of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps and girls of the Women's Royal Army Corps.

Articles coming into the depot often need cleaning. A vapour bath or a chemical bath will remove the grease from metal (it would also remove the natural grease from the skin of operators' hands with unpleasant consequences, if they did not take the proper precautions). Another chemical bath will remove rust.

After cleaning, articles may need protection from the elements, not only while in store at Didcot but also on a long sea voyage and against the steamy heat of a tropical country. It may be fairly simple to give them this protection, just a dip in a bath of wax or plastic. It may be a messy business; some items need paint on the non-working parts and grease on the working parts. To ensure that the two do not overlap, they must be treated by hand. WRAC girls who do this are volunteers for "dirty work."

Delicate instruments, like clocks, need special treatment. They are put into bags with some silica-gel (which absorbs all moisture), then the air is drawn out of the bag by a suction-pump and the bag is sealed.

For the outside packing, Didcot receives some of its cases from commercial sources (the Provision branch orders 1,200,000 of them a year, not only for Didcot but for the rest of the Army, since they, too, are "general stores"). The depot also has its own case repair and manufacture section, with 150 workers who mend nearly 1000 cases a week, make 35,000 new ones a year and send two useful by-products, shavings and saw-dust, to the section which packs crockery.



Brigadier C. W. Bacon,
Commandant of the Central
Ordnance Depot at Didcot.



Above: The parcel contains clocks. When the special bag is sealed, except for a small opening, the pump will be used to extract the air. Then sealing will be completed.

Below: Not many modern soldiers know a crupper from a girth strap, so these horse-mannequins with the wooden expression show them.



ATTRACTIVE STORES



"Attractive stores" are those which are valuable and might easily be pilfered, like the cylinder-gauge held by this corporal.

Once packed, stores may be ferried to the Mobilisation Group, where complete consignments are assembled for despatch to a unit. Or they may be loaded into a railway wagon and shunted over some of the depot's 43 miles of railway line to one of the two marshalling yards, ready for a journey perhaps half-way round the world.

To handle all this work, Didcot has 14th Battalion, Royal Army Ordnance Corps (many members of which learn trades useful to them in civil life), a company of the Women's Royal Army Corps and about 2000 civilians, including European volunteers.

A corner of the metals shed, where you can not only pick your iron bar but cut it, too.

military workers, as well as Army and civilian officers.

Inside the depot are 2nd Central Workshops, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, which does repairs and maintenance for the depot as well as outside work, and 5th Mobile Industrial Gas Platoon, RAOC, which produces oxygen, acetylene and inert gases for the Army and trains men for its own kind of work. More training for the RAOC goes on in Didcot's School of Instruction, where men of the RAOC prepare for up-grading. Didcot also has its own Railway Transport Officer and his staff, to help move the stores.



The new Belgian 7mm. In this picture it has the special telescopic sight for snipers, bipod for its role as a light machine-gun, and bayonet.

AND NOW A BELGIAN 7mm

AFTER the British 7mm (280 inch) rifle, described in last month's SOLDIER, comes a new Belgian weapon of the same calibre.

It is more conservative than the new British weapon. It has a wooden butt, is longer and slightly heavier (eight pounds nine and a half ounces compared with eight pounds) and can be used for standard ceremonial drill. There is a folding handle on the barrel, so that the weapon can be carried at the trail.

The new Belgian rifle is like the British in having a 20-round magazine which can also fit a Bren gun, and in firing both bursts and single shot.

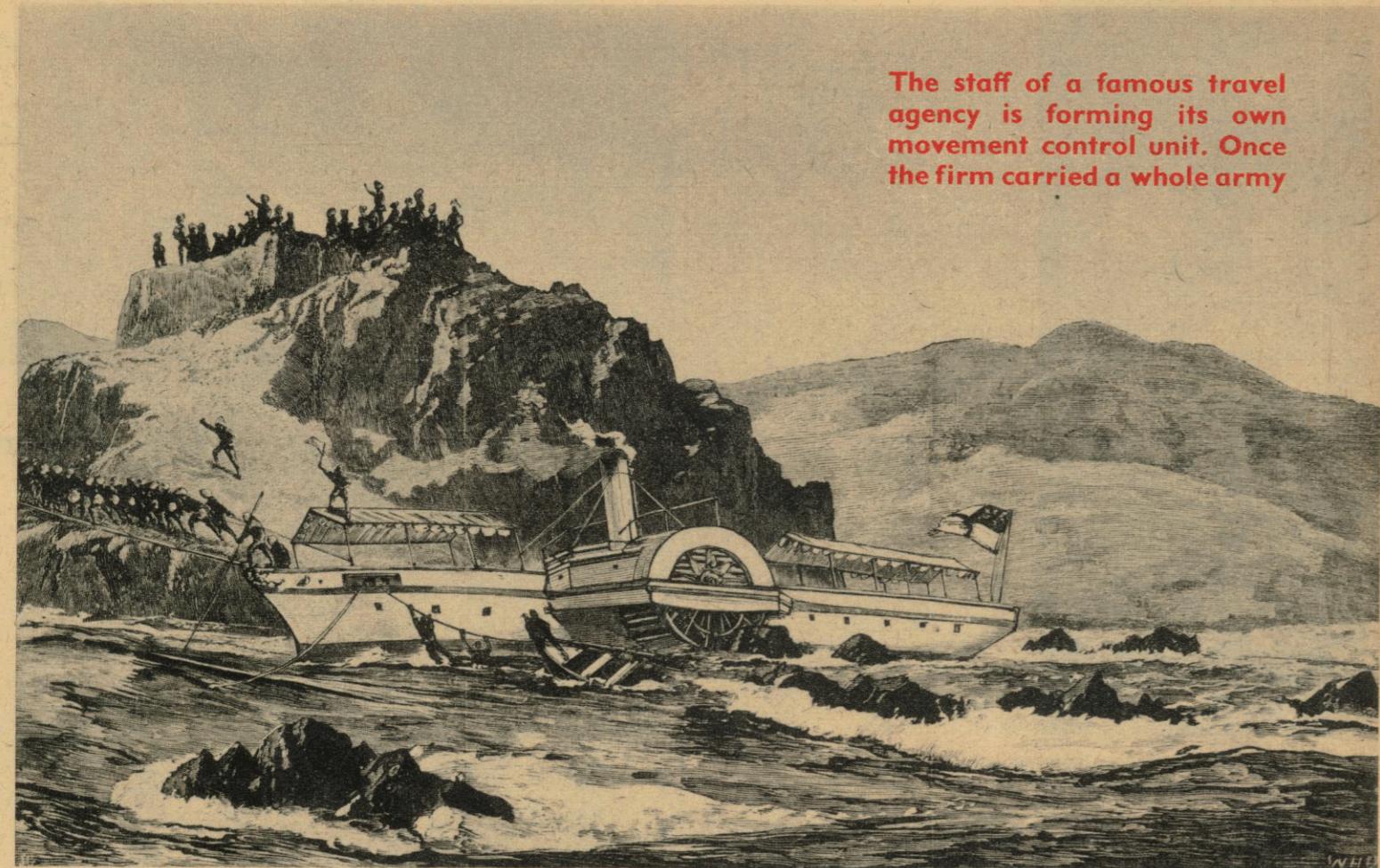
Instead of the British 7mm's optical sights, the Belgian rifle retains a conventional type, but there is a telescopic attachment for snipers. The Belgian rifle also has a bipod which can be fixed to the barrel when the weapon is used as a light automatic.

Unlike the British 7mm the Belgian 7mm has its cocking handle on the left and the manufacturers claim this leaves the right hand on the pistol grip ready for firing. The change-lever, for selecting single shots, automatic and "safe" is also on the left.

At a demonstration near Antwerp, the Belgian rifle was fired at the rate of 76 rounds a minute, compared with the 84 rounds fired at a demonstration of the British rifle. At 1000 metres (just under 1100 yards) its bullets penetrated British-pattern steel helmets and a plank of 17-inch wood (which has about the same resistance as a human body at that range). It also fired perfectly after undergoing a "sandstorm" in a box.

Naturally, there are competing claims. The Belgians say their 7mm is as efficient as the British but simpler in design, making it cheaper and less likely to go wrong. British experts say the British 7mm is a revolutionary weapon and more than a rifle; with its short barrel it can be used as a machine-carbine, taking the place of the Sten gun.





The staff of a famous travel agency is forming its own movement control unit. Once the firm carried a whole army

In the Gordon relief expedition, Cook's steamers had to be hauled up the Nile cataracts.

THE ARMY WENT BY COOK'S



How the Camel Corps reached Wadi Halfa. Towed boats were more comfortable than camels' humps.

THIS month a brand new Army unit assembles for the first time at the Royal Engineers Transportation Centre at Longmoor in Hampshire.

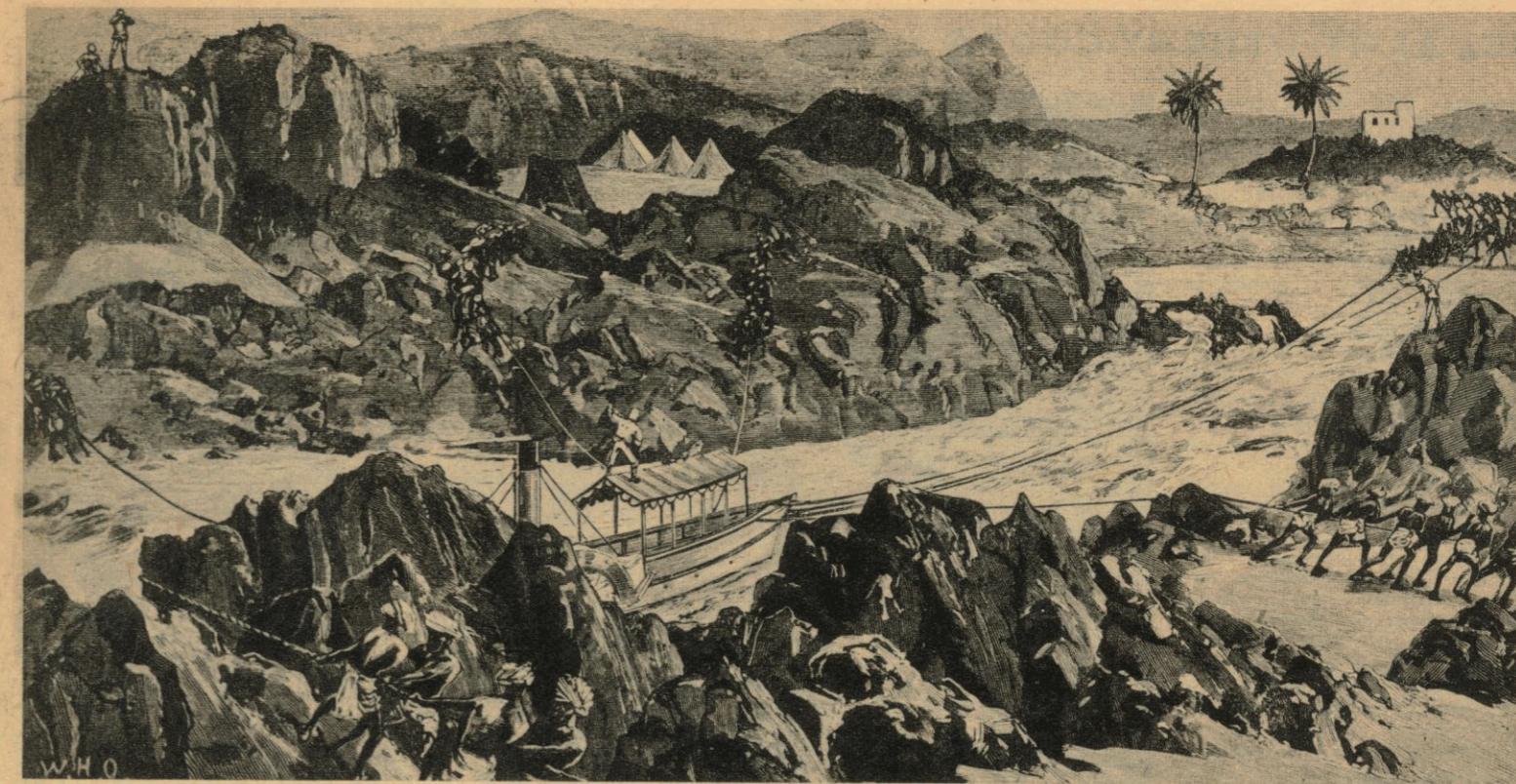
It is one of the movement control groups of the Supplementary Reserve, and its members are all employees of Thomas Cook and Son, Ltd., the great world-wide travel agency.

Authority for the formation of the unit — 42 officers and 253 men strong — was given by the War Office in February this year and by July the group was nearly complete. Members do no training apart from their fortnight's annual camp, for which the firm gives them an extra 14-days holiday and makes up their Army pay to their standard civilian pay.

Many of the men who have joined the unit served in the Army in World War Two, most of them in Movement Control. One is Major R. A. Smyrk, who, as a liaison officer with the French railways in 1940, organised the evacuation of 51st (Highland) Division from Metz to the Somme. He now commands the Movement Control Group. Recruiting to the unit is also open to men who served in the Royal Navy or the Royal Air Force.

This is the first time Thomas Cook and Son (now nationalised) have formed a military unit, but the firm has had plenty of experience of work for the Army in war and peace. Early in 1871, when the French and Germans concluded an armistice, there was a famine in Paris, which had been besieged. Mr. J. M. Cook, son of the man who founded the firm in 1841, and two others took to the French capital 70 tons of food, bought with the proceeds of a Mansion House relief fund. There were obstacles to be overcome with the German military authorities who looked with disfavour on any railway traffic at that time, but the enterprising Mr. Cook overcame them so well that shortly afterwards he was back with 150 tourists anxious to see Paris under siege conditions. Exactly how he overcame German objections has never been revealed.

The same Mr. Cook was on the spot in 1882 when British troops supported the Khedive of Egypt against the rebels of Arabi Pasha. He transported the sick and wounded from Cairo to Alexandria by water, for the bare cost of running the



Another steamer is hauled up the second cataract. Note the man directing operations from the top of the ship's awning, and the tented camp across the river.

Right: The departure of Lord Wolseley from Ambukol. The inset shows him in his cabin. (Drawings on these pages are reproduced from contemporary issues of the *Illustrated London News*.)



THE ARMY WENT BY COOK'S (Continued)

steamers, and also provided steamers to take men who had suffered from enteric fever for a convalescent trip up the Nile.

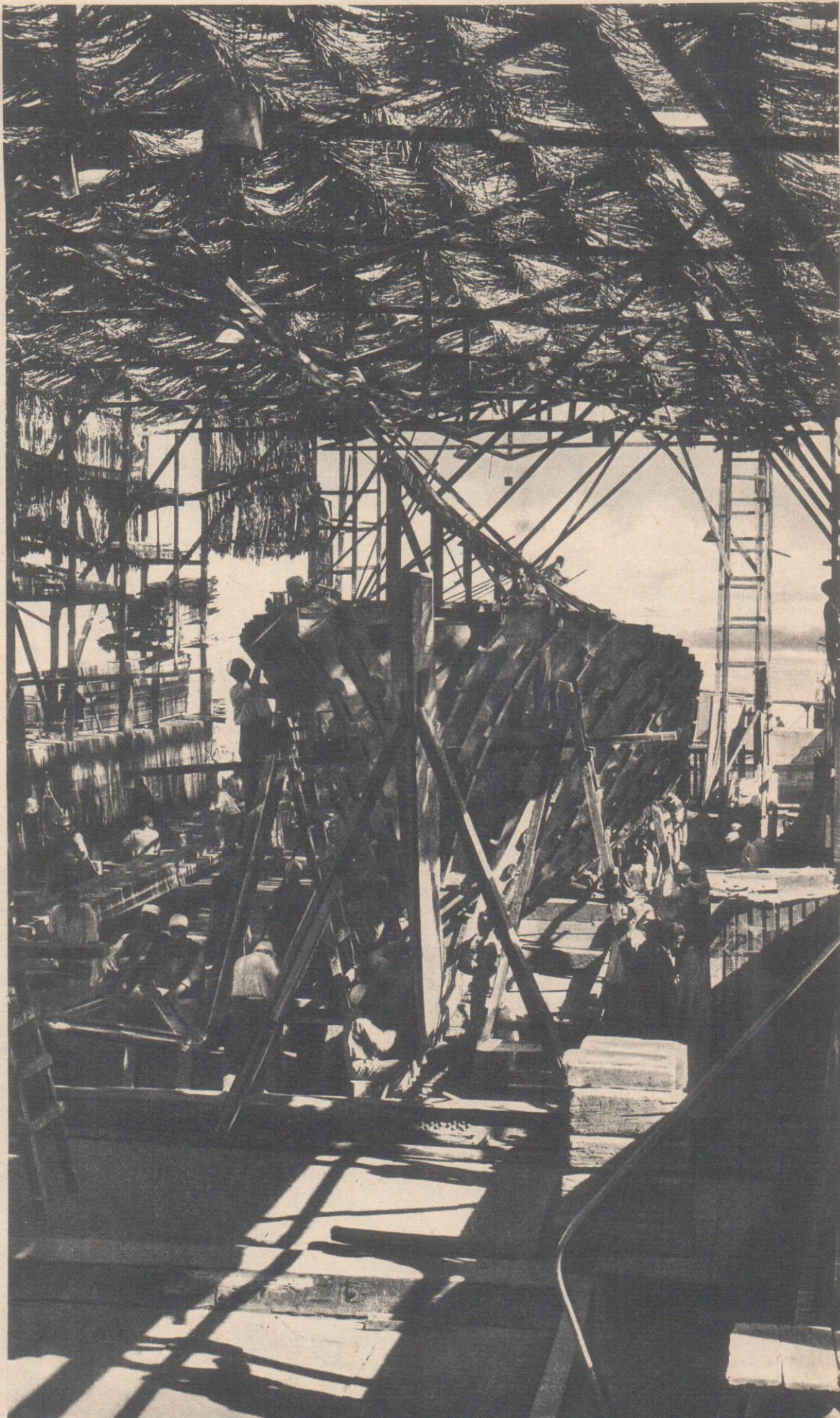
A year or so later, the firm arranged General Gordon's last journey to the Sudan, as far as Korosko on the Nile. The General sent them a letter of thanks. In 1884, when it was obvious that Britain would have to send a force to relieve Gordon in Khartoum, Mr. Cook was called into consultation and contracted for the firm to transport the expeditionary force from Assiut to Wadi Halfa.

The contract, originally, was to carry 6000 men and 10,000 tons of stores from Assiut, 400 whale boats from Alexandria, and 12,000 tons of coal from Britain, but when the time came, Cook's found themselves handling 11,000 British troops, 7000 Egyptian troops, 130,000 tons of stores, between 60,000 and 70,000 tons of coal, and 800 whale boats, and as a sideline, carrying back to Cairo 50,000 tons of cereals collected from peasants.

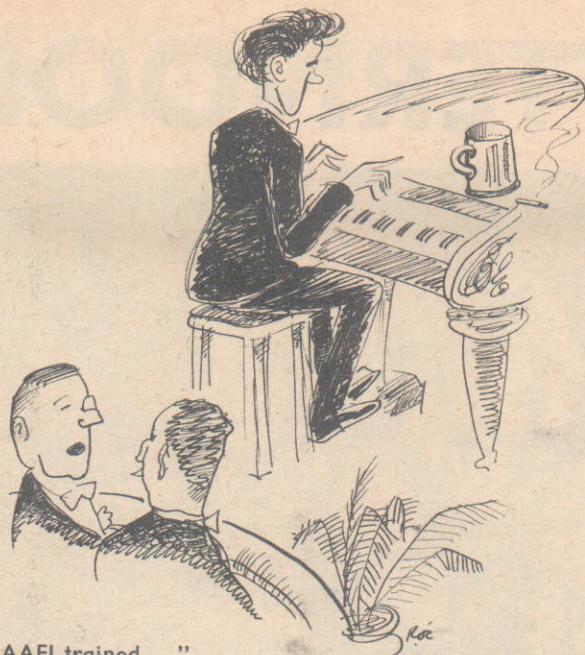
To do this job, they had 28 steamers running from the Tyne to Alexandria, 6000 railway trucks plying with coal between Alexandria and Assiut or Boulac — the Cairo dockland on the Nile — and another 7000 railway trucks for military stores. On the Nile, they had 27 steamers working day and night and 650 sailing vessels, including feluccas, carrying from 70 to 200 tons each. Besides controlling staff, they employed about 5000 men and boys.

Cook's part in the Gordon relief expedition had an unexpected sequel in World War Two. The Nile steamers used for carrying the expedition were owned by the Egyptian Government but operated by Cook's. They were worn out at the end of the campaign and the Egyptian Government did not feel like replacing them. So, to maintain their tourist traffic on the Nile, Cook's became ship-owners and set up their own shipyards and workshops at Boulac. There, in World War Two, they built motor-torpedo-boats for the Admiralty and car and truck bodies for the Army. They had 800 men overhauling and repairing the hard-worked vehicles of the Desert Army and repairing scores of damaged armoured cars. The factory also designed and made special equipment, including tackle for recovering damaged tanks in the desert and Bren-gun mountings. In peacetime, too the works have handled service contracts.

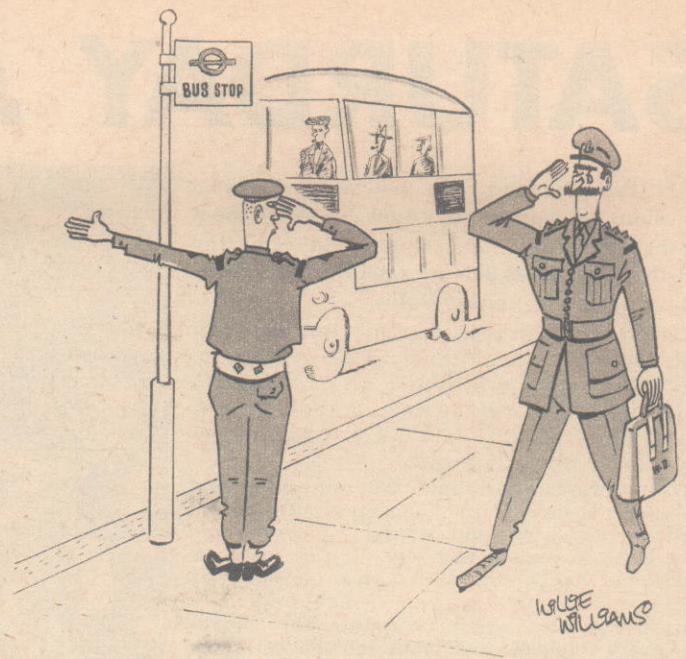
At the outbreak of both World Wars Cook's arranged transportation for thousands of Britons who were stranded on the Continent. In the last war, they were authorised to arrange the forwarding of letters to people in enemy-occupied territories and to make enquiries through neutral sources about their well-being. They also ran the Expeditionary Forces Supply Service through which were despatched thousands of parcels of comforts to Service-men and women abroad.



A Fairmile launch on the stocks in Cook's shipyards at Cairo in World War Two. The yards also built bodies for Army vehicles and repaired armoured cars.



"Yes, NAAFI trained..."



WELLS WILLIAMS

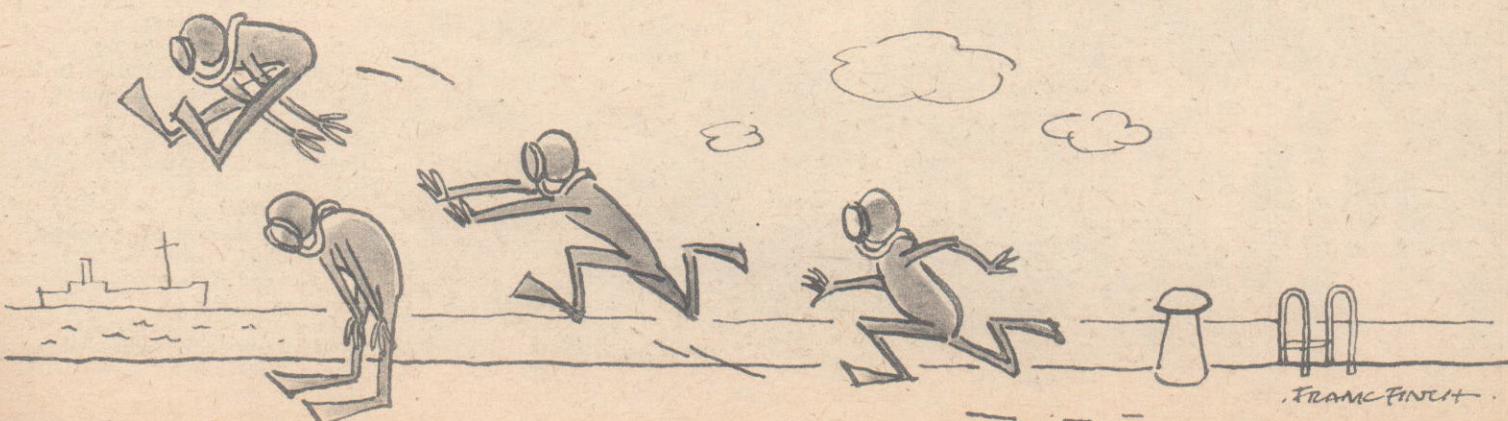
soldier humour



"He says there was a power-cut, Sir."



"I do wish they wouldn't hold these
ATS reunions in evening dress."



FRANC PINCH

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

IN the morning, the weather was just about as bad as it could be. Rain beat down steadily and clouds covered the hill-tops on the 28,000-acre artillery range at Sennybridge, in South Wales.

It was a depressing prospect for the men who were manoeuvring guns into position. Soon the spectators would be arriving, to watch shells bursting across the valley. Just now you could not even see the guns from more than 25 yards away.

Then towards lunch-time, the rain eased and the clouds began to lift. Long grass still soaked battledress trousers and vehicles skidded when they tried to move anywhere off the roads. A cold wind kept greatcoats on, but the sun was shining and the hill-tops were in sight.

The Gunners were relieved. The Royal Artillery's biggest demonstration shoot since World War Two was safe. If the weather had not improved, the shoot would have been off for good.

Of the 1500 or so men taking part, only two troops of National Servicemen would have been available for a postponed shoot. Many others were Territorials who had been at their desks, shop-counters and work-benches until tea-time

the previous day and had had to take the Saturday morning as extra time off to get to Sennybridge. There were also Territorials who were spending their annual camp at Sennybridge, and the balance were some 500 "Z" Reservists who were bringing the encamped units up to strength. It was the first time such a demonstration had been staged almost entirely by Territorial units.

There were more than 60 guns and 4.2 mortars in position on the hills. They had come from Territorial Royal Artillery units all over Western Command — field, light, medium and heavy regiments, and others with self-propelled field guns and light anti-aircraft guns.

There were two reasons for the shoot. The first was that in Western Command (as in others) there were many young soldiers and officers who had never known artillery fire, and it would be a useful part of their training to



One of the "heavies." Some of the spectators are shown how a 7.2 inch howitzer works.



see what happened in an artillery target area. For that reason, many of the 2000 or 3000 spectators came from 18 Training Brigade and from the officer cadet school at Eaton Hall, Chester. Among them circulated Royal Artillery officers, distinguished by white cap covers, to answer their questions. From loud-speakers came an explanatory commentary by Brigadier W. R. Goodman, Brigadier, Royal Artillery, Western Command.

The second reason was that it was fine training for the Territorial Gunners. In the normal way such a demonstration by Regular Gunners would have been rehearsed, but the Territorials had had no time for rehearsal. Their shooting bore little evidence of the fact — though nobody was allowed to think it was perfect: twice the loud-speakers commented that firing was slow and concentrations not so tight as they might be.

The self-propelled Bofors' light anti-aircraft guns, firing in their ground role, gave one of the most spectacular demonstrations when they knocked pieces off an old cottage. A battery of 7.2 howitzers shot up a target area with their 200-pound shells, then there came defensive fire and a crescendo when field, medium and heavy regiments, mortars and anti-aircraft guns joined in an attack fire plan. Finally two tanks of the Staffordshire Yeomanry made an attack (in which they scored direct hits on their target screens) so that self-propelled 25-pounders could come into action in support of them and lay a smoke-screen.

When it was all over, and 1700 rounds had been fired, there was a cup of tea for the Gunners and the Territorials set off home again. There were still the guns to be cleaned in their drill-halls before the week-end was over. On Monday morning they would be back at work in their civilian suits.

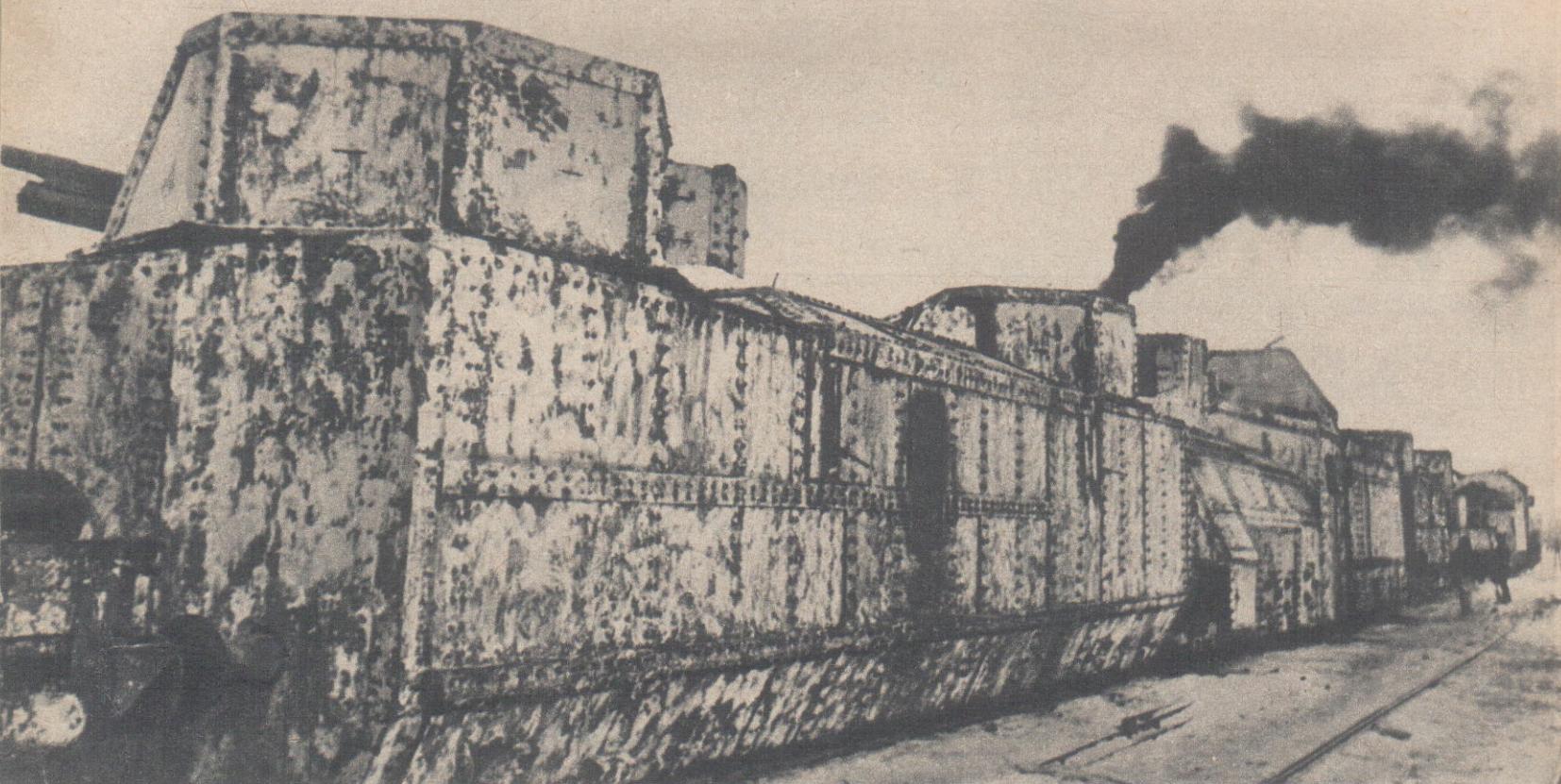
SHOOT

Territorials and "Z" Reservists fired most of the 1700 rounds in the Royal Artillery's biggest demonstration since World War Two



A shell bursts on a hill-top across the valley. This was the first time many of the 2000 or 3000 spectators had seen artillery fire.

When a fighting train puffs into battle, it lets off more than steam



A Russian armoured train of World War Two.

ARMOUR ON THE 8.15



If the Germans had landed on the east coast of Britain in 1940, this train would have hastened to the spot.

THE homely steam train does not look much like a weapon of war, but in its time it has played roles comparable with those of tanks, armoured cars and gun-boats.

Like merchant ships, trains have been adapted in two ways to operate in battle areas. Some have been defensively equipped to perform their primary war task of carrying men and materials through danger areas, among them the famous armoured train which transported the late Marshal Goering across German-occupied Europe in World War Two and, more recently, the trains with armoured cars mounted on trucks at each end, which travel through bandit-infested areas of Malaya.

Other trains have played a role more like that of armed merchant-cruisers of the two world wars. Armoured and heavily-gunned, they have puffed offensively into the front line of battle.

Their weakness, of course, has always been that a shell, a few men with crowbars, or even one man with a pound or two of explosive, could destroy enough track to stop them. But where their tracks remained undamaged, they have been a useful and quick-moving reserve of fire-power.

The South African war was their hey-day. Even before the war started, armoured trains were patrolling in Cape Colony and acting as a deterrent to rebellious Boers. Two armoured trains were to suffer disaster early in the war. One was ambushed in Natal and its first three trucks were derailed, one being jammed across the track in front of the locomotive.

Mr. Winston Churchill, who was on the train as a war correspondent, led a party which worked under fire for an hour to release the jammed truck. They managed to get the engine away with the wounded, but 70 men, including Mr. Churchill, were captured.

Near Mafeking, another armoured train, the "Mosquito," ran across a gap in the track and came to a stop in open veldt. It was surrounded and forced to surrender when the Boers brought up artillery.

These two disasters put armoured trains out of favour, but towards the end of 1900 they were revived to keep railway lines free for the flow of normal traffic. They were also used for patrolling, reconnaissance, reinforcement of points on the line, and co-operation with columns in the field. They escorted repair gangs which went out every morning to deal with the culverts

and rails which the Boers blew up every night. Numbers increased to 20. Quick-firing guns were added to their Maxims and searchlights.

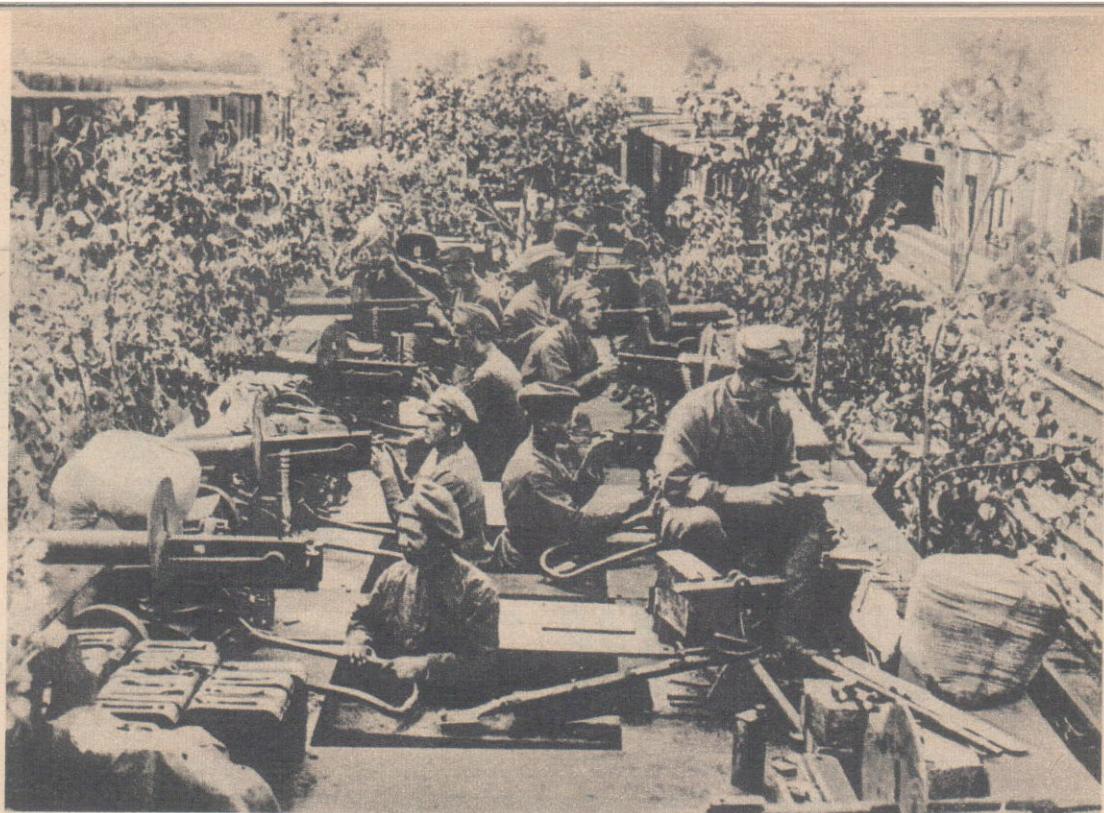
Colonel Baden-Powell (later the Chief Scout) who was in command at Mafeking, sent out trains armoured with rails on several successful expeditions against the Boers. When Mafeking was besieged they operated on a special defensive line and dummy trains attracted Boer fire. In Cape Colony, an armoured train drove off 200 Boers and captured a valuable convoy of wagons they were trying to extract from a swamp.

The armoured trains were probably at their most useful in the last stages of the war, when Lord Kitchener used a system of blockhouses and barbed wire to separate and enclose the Boers so that they could be hunted down. Trains took over from cavalry the task of patrolling the blockhouse lines, and at this stage their tracks were rarely damaged.

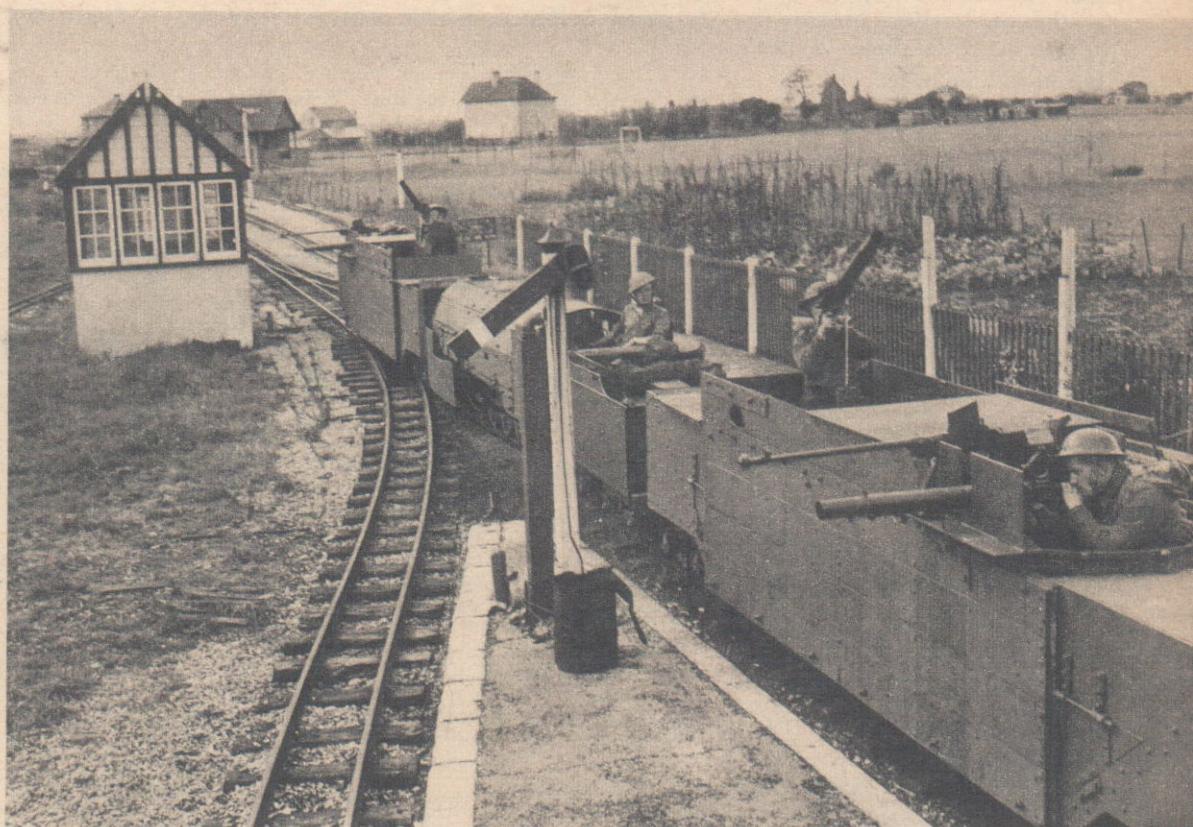
On the Western Front in World War One, there were more tasks for armoured trains, mostly manned by the Royal Navy.

In 1914 the naval armoured train "Jellicoe" operating on the canal bank at La Bassée was reported to have had a "most cheering effect on the troops." The trains were armed with six-inch, 4.7 inch and four-inch guns and machine-guns and joined in some of the great artillery barrages which preceded attacks. For one operation three armoured locomotives were used to pull hospital trains in front line areas. Their armour hid the fire-box flames from enemy gunners at night.

There were armoured trains on the coasts of Britain during World War Two to bring reinforcements and added fire-power quickly to any point at which the enemy might try to invade. On the Romney Marsh in Kent, the miniature Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch Railway had an armoured train on its 15-inch track. It patrolled the marshes and as an anti-aircraft unit saw much action. This little railway also carried men and materials for building one of the Pluto pipe-lines from Dungeness to France. The locomotive of the armoured train, the "Hercules," was damaged by a bomb. It was repaired and now, stripped of its armour, is again pulling holiday-makers across the marsh.



The leafy camouflage probably did little to hide this Czech armoured train of 1918.



The armoured train on the Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch miniature railway was damaged by a bomb.



Left: Grim and purposeful, this German armoured train operated in Roumania in World War One.



What's All The Shouting For?

NOT long ago someone wrote to the editor of a magazine protesting at the publication of photographs like the ones at the top of this page.

"Why all the emphasis on bawling and shouting in the Army?" he asked. "All that is on its way out."

True, the serjeant-major with a roar like the Bull of Bashan is less frequently met than of old. But it will be a sad day when the British Army forgets how to shout.

Citizens who live within earshot of Caterham and Pirbright are well aware that the modern Army is not suffering from any deficiency of lung power. This is equally apparent in the vicinity of other training establishments.

Some recruits to the Services have never really raised their voices in their lives. Comes the day when the serjeant says, "Now, lad, let me hear you shout."

Timidly, the recruit shuts his eyes and lets go.

"Listen to Minnie Mouse," says the serjeant. "Shout, I said. Like this: SQU-A-A-A-A-A-D SHUN!"



RSM F. J. M. Hadley, senior RSM of the Women's Royal Army Corps, can shout with the best of them — even though she indulges in fewer facial contortions.

The Army does not just shout for shouting's sake — even though a good many people think so. A man with a weak voice may be a liability

The recruit tries again, tearing at his larynx.

"Not like that. Shout from the stomach, shout from the stomach!" says the serjeant, adding perhaps, "You've enough wind on it, anyway."

In fact, being able to hear his own voice gives a recruit confidence. When he is called out to drill the squad, and succeeds in giving them an intelligible "About turn" as they are about to march off the far side of the parade-ground, and sees them return in a body, without a single man taking the wrong turning, he feels pretty pleased with himself. He has learned to give the order slightly ahead of time, in order to allow the sound to carry.

Shouting from the stomach is not the easiest trick to master, and some soldiers never learn it. The sole purpose is to avoid straining the throat. Physique has very little to do with lung power; some small men have louder voices than thick-set giants. There are men who find it impossible to speak in undertones.

The Army teaches its junior non-commissioned officers to shout by giving them communication drill in which the men are paired off facing each other across the square, and take it in turn to shout orders. Another method is to parade them in a semi-circle round the instructor, who encourages them to shout commands in the mass while he uses his pacing stick as a baton. There are other variations.

The executive word of command should be given in a higher octave. But today drill instructors are against the one-time practice of allowing the voice to rise to a screech, like that of a choking macaw.

Many instructors have taken extreme liberties with the tongue that Shakespeare spake, the better to shout it. Because the word

"Arms" is not crisp enough, some serjeants call "Slope... Hipe!" (At Sandhurst, one may hear a serjeant shout "hipe" and the adjutant shout "arms".)

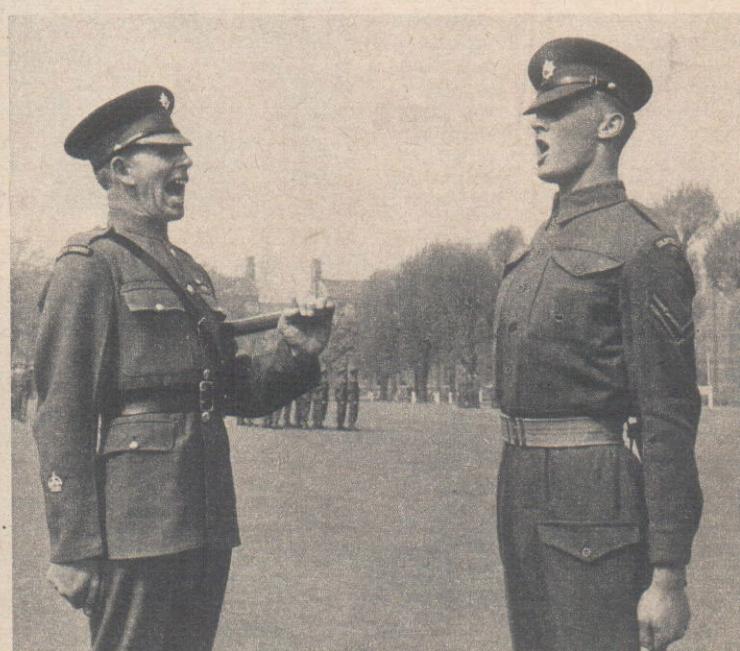
Instructors who take a holiday from shouting sometimes have difficulty in re-starting. Once a Guards serjeant who returned to his depot lost his voice completely when he began drilling recruits; he was excused duty for a month.

Many serjeant-majors have become "The Voice" in their time, the title not being always of their own seeking. It seems odd that while town criers and railway porters have held long-distance shouting contests, the Army has never organised such an event — not even unofficially.

A much fancied candidate would be Regimental Serjeant-Major

("Great") Brittain, of the Coldstream Guards (top left of this page). Once the BBC featured him in a broadcast. They wanted him to shout "Get your hair cut" in a Liverpool accent. When he demonstrated to the producer (so the story goes) a corporal at the other side of the square sprang to attention, turned about and marched to the barber's shop.

Is shouting only of service on the parade-ground? Of course not. On an anti-aircraft site, for instance, the Gun Position Officer must have a powerful voice to be able to control his gun detachments. Nowadays, it is true, he probably has the aid of a microphone (many say it was a bad day when the microphone came to the gunsight) but some day the installation may fail, or the officer may find himself on active service where the human voice, pure and unamplified, must be relied upon. And any Infantryman will be able to think of situations in which one loud, clear shout may make all the difference between the success and failure of an operation.



"Shout from the stomach, not from the throat!"
The scene (as if anyone didn't know) is Caterham.



Have a cigar...

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- Coronas Chicas
- Unapac No. 3
- La Tropical de Luxe
- Coronas
- Petit Coronas
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- Petit Coronas
- Laras
- Coronas
- Petit Coronas

BRITISH

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- Cremavana No. 3
- Embassy High Life
- Eclipse
- Castella Panatellas
- Burlington Coronas
- Burlington Petit Coronas
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- Marcella Elegantes
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MULES IN THE DESERT.
There were not many of them, but they had this advantage: unlike lorries, they did not bog down in the sand and have to be dug out.

**SOLDIER
SCRAPBOOK
OF WORLD
WAR TWO**

MULES IN BURMA.
The Chindits used them, and so did more orthodox formations. This picture shows part of an American task force operating in north Burma.





Ladislao Zavertal, who led the Royal Artillery band to orchestral fame.

The Bandmaster Marched On

IF you were musical or fashionable, in the 1890's, you were bound to be familiar with the orchestral concerts given at the Royal Albert Hall on Sundays by the Royal Artillery band.

The concerts were great events in the musical world of London. The band was in a class by itself. It had more than 90 performers and included an orchestra as well as a military band.

It refused to be associated with the Military School of Music, which had been set up at Kneller Hall in 1857, and trained its own musicians. It continued, at Woolwich, the oldest series of concerts in the country. It had instruments presented by King George IV (who had sung with it) and William IV. It had been the only regimental band provided for in the annual service estimates and it was the only regimental band in which there existed the rank of Musician as well as the lower one of Bandsman. And it had a civilian conductor.

It is to this conductor that Dr. Henry George Farmer, who play-

ed in the orchestra, pays tribute in "Cavaliere Zavertal and the Royal Artillery Band" (Hinrichsen, 15s).

Ladislao Zavertal, an Italian of Czech origin, whose father had conducted military bands in the Austrian and Italian armies, came to Britain in 1872. At that time bandmasters were provided by Kneller Hall but many commanding officers preferred to engage at their own expense musicians as additional instructors. As such, Zavertal first started work with the North Devon Regiment. But it was an embarrassing and uncomfortable situation and Zavertal resigned within a year.

Zavertal took over the Royal Artillery Band in 1882, when it included a military band, an orchestra and a choir. He abolished the choir and concentrated on the orchestra, leaving the military band to the serjeant-major. The orchestra became one of the leading four in the country, and musicians competed to join it: private engagements made it financially, as well as musically, attractive. As the band played only in Woolwich and London, and occasionally visited Alder-

shot, there was some jealousy in other Royal Artillery centres which had no music, jealousy which was increased by the immense publicity the orchestra received.

Zavertal does not appear to have been a very military figure. For reasons of health, he wore an unmilitary beard. He was a law unto himself in the matter of uniform and at times wore his full-dress tunic unbuttoned, except for a hook at the neck, over a red or a blue waistcoat.

He rarely attended parades, except on ceremonial occasions, and in front of King Edward VII he once went marching on in solitary state while the band he thought he was leading was carrying out a different evolution behind him. Among the honours he received was a commissioned rank, bestowed on him by Queen Victoria.

His knowledge of English was far from perfect, but he had a sense of humour. Once he stuck a postage stamp to a pavement and sat at a window watching people trying to pick it up.

After 25 years with the Royal Artillery band he resigned and spent most of the rest of his life in Italy, where he died in 1942, aged 93. In World War One he sacrificed all the metal plates from which his compositions were printed as scrap-metal for Britain's munitions factories.

Bookshelf Cont'd Overleaf

The Manstein Trial

THE trial of Field-Marshal Erich von Manstein, who planned the German invasion of France in 1940, was not only the last war crimes trial to be held in Hamburg's Curio House but also one of the most discussed.

In both Houses of Parliament there were protests at its being held at all. Two soldier-peers, Lord Bridgeman and Lord De L'Isle and Dudley, VC, opened a fund for the defence and one of the first subscribers was Mr. Winston Churchill.

Mr. R. T. Paget, KC, MP, disregarded an earlier decision of the British Bar not to defend enemy subjects accused of war crimes and gave his services to the defence. Now he has written "Manstein, His Campaigns and His Trial" (Collins, 15s).

At the trial, Mr. Paget was helped by Mr. S. Silkin, a former lieutenant-colonel, two German lawyers and a small staff including General Busse, who had been von Manstein's chief of staff.

The 17 long and complicated

charges they had to answer concerned von Manstein's treatment of prisoners and civilians in Poland and Russia. There were 50 days of evidence and more days of speeches, at the end of which von Manstein was found guilty on seven modified charges.

The defence, says Lord Hankey in a foreword to the book, "were successful in obtaining von Manstein's acquittal on all charges affecting his personal conduct. It was not their fault, nor as far as I can judge, that of the court, that they were unable to free him from a liability for orders by Hitler and the German High Command and executed by subordinates."

Von Manstein was sentenced to 18 years imprisonment, later reduced to 12.

He Was a Dumpty

FRANCIS Hereward Maitland was a public schoolboy whose enthusiasm for the Cavalry was not to be thwarted by his parents' inability to support him as an officer. So he enlisted as a trooper in the 19th (Queen Alexandra's Own) Royal Hussars, sometimes known as "the Dumpties," or, from their

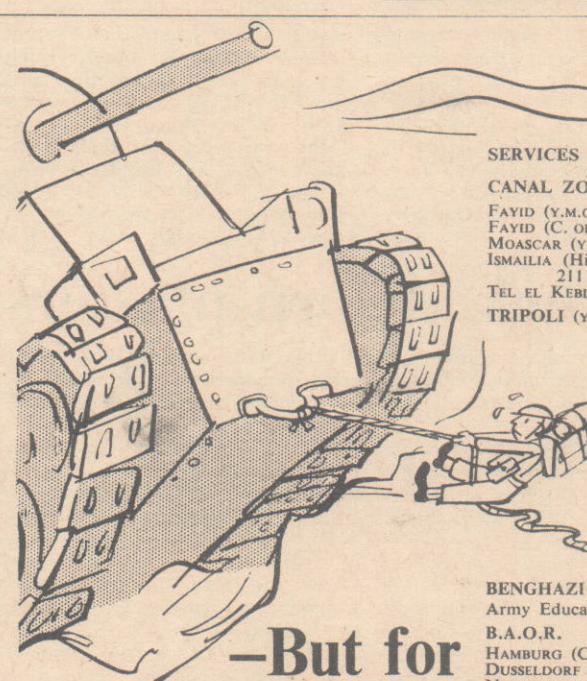
He served in the last of those days when uniforms were still spectacular and young troopers not only dreamed of charging on horse-back with slashing swords but trained to do it as well, though they crawled on their stomachs on manoeuvres with the best.

In "Hussar of the Line" (Hurst and Blackett, 15s) he recalls those days in a series of essays on regimental life — training and fatigues, "characters" among the horses and his comrades, and a trooper's life off-duty.

Among his memories was the regimental serjeant-major, hated on drill parades but admired later, in France, when he stood among mangled men and horses,

with blood dripping from his tunic sleeve, and shouted to the author, "Do your bloody collar up!" There was the regimental tattooist who would accept a commission on the basis of one-and-six down and the rest on pay day, but then pretend to run out of ink half-way through the job and be unable to finish it off until the rest of the money was forthcoming.

There was also the sad day when one of his comrades was thrown from a bolting horse and killed, the gay day of the regimental cricket match, and the abandoned binge with which the regiment and its girl-friends greeted the start of World War One. The story ends with the Hussars riding into action.



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The Faith of the Devons

THE history of a regiment is the history of an inner faith and of its transmission from man to man and from generation to generation. A regiment's success or failure in war turns in the last resort on that faith."

So writes Arthur Bryant, the historian, in a preface to "The Devons" by Jeremy Taylor (White Swan Press, 15s, or 25s quarter leather), a history of the regiment up to its recent bandit-hunting exploits in Malaya.

The faith of the Devonshire Regiment has been carried from generation to generation for 266 years; from man to man it spread across the swollen ranks of two world wars.

The Devons earned their nickname, "The Bloody Eleventh," by carrying a crest at Salamanca, an operation in which they lost 340 out of 412 officers and men. In a similar operation at Wagon Hill, in the defence of Ladysmith, the regiment earned a Victoria Cross.

In World War Two, the 1st Battalion left off fighting the tribesmen on India's North-West Frontier to join in the battle for Burma, where it gained fresh laurels by storming Nippon Hill and taking it after hand-to-hand fighting. It also met a wounded Japanese officer who bit his captor in the hand and refused to relax his grip until killed with his own ceremonial sword.

This battalion experimented with a new drill for storming Japanese bunkers. Since the Japanese always fired low and attacks were made through cover or in the dark, it was reasoned that casualties could be reduced by mounting the attackers on stilts. The idea seemed admirable until stilt-walkers, burdened with rifles and equipment, tried to negotiate the jungle floor.

On the Mediterranean front, the 2nd Battalion repaired air-fields and refuelled aircraft during

the siege of Malta while the 4th Battalion was removing rubble from the newly-built tunnels in the Rock of Gibraltar. The 2nd Battalion later led the break-out from a Sicily beach-head.

The same battalion was a spear-head in the invasion of the Italian mainland and on the Normandy beaches. In Normandy it received a "good-will mission" from the 12th Battalion, which had become airborne and landed in Normandy partly by sea and partly by glider. The 12th later arrived across the Rhine by glider and both the 2nd and 12th pursued the Germans to the end.

The battalion which carried the faith of the Devons to the least apparent purpose was the 7th. In 1941 it became the 87th Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery, and trained assiduously in its new role until 1943. Then it went to Tunisia where, although it found itself in battle, it never had an enemy tank in its gun-sights and was disbanded a year later, still without having fired a shot at its natural prey. It may have been some consolation to the frustrated Gunners that the regimental band, which they had kept when the unit joined the Royal Artillery, played on to good purpose for the rest of the war, and that their comrades of the 5th Battalion, who became the 86th Anti-Tank Regiment, found targets a-plenty in North-West Europe.

"Q" Stocked Corn-plasters

OF all the quartermasters in the British Army during World War Two, few can have had such varied demands on their resources as a battery quartermaster-serjeant who spent his war years in the Shetland Islands.

His name was Almond and his unit was the base from which Norwegian fishing boats set out across the North Sea to ferry agents and supplies to the Norwegian resistance movement.

Besides the usual stores, writes David Howarth in "The Shetland Bus" (Nelson, 12s 6d) he had to deal with the stock of a ship's chandler — navigating instruments, canvas, cordage and marlin-spikes. He had to be able to provision any number of boats for a month or procure tons of tinned food for some embryonic army which had been forced to take to the hills. Agents setting off in the boats would, at the last moment, demand such varied essentials as Arctic explorer's furs, frogmen's suits, lounge suits of Norwegian cut, Eskimo kayaks, false teeth, corn-plasters and whisky.

BQMS Almond was one of a number of soldiers at the base which was commanded by an

Army major and had an officer of the Royal Marines as second-in-command. A Naval officer (the author) was in charge of the boats.

The fishing boats made scores of trips across the North Sea. Often they brought back Norwegians who were in trouble with the Gestapo, and to "take the Shetland bus" became a common expression in Norway for escape when danger was overwhelming.

There was high adventure and tragedy. One boat passed a German examination with two "human torpedoes" in tow, under the surface, and their crews hiding in a false bulkhead, only to lose them when the tow wires parted in a rough sea, five miles from their target, the battleship *Tirpitz*. Some boats were captured, some lost at sea; in each case members of the crew were liable to disappear without trace. They saved 350 refugees from the Gestapo, and helped to tie down ten German divisions.

How Much Do You Know?

1. Who gave their names to the following:

- (a) meat, sweet or savoury between two layers of bread;
- (b) a style of coat without shoulder seams;
- (c) a crane;
- (d) a predecessor of the divided skirt for women?

2. Anna. Reviver. Deified. What have these words in common and how would you describe them?

3. These are the names of some London Livery Companies:

- (a) Mercers;
- (b) Skinners;
- (c) Curriers;
- (d) Loriners.

What trades are, or were, carried on by their members?

4. "Mach" is a word often used in modern aeronautical circles. What does it mean?

5. The Hanseatic League was:

- (a) a European football organisation;
- (b) an American secret society;
- (c) a commercial confederation of German towns;
- (d) a medieval order of chivalry.

Which?

6. In which countries will you find the following towns?

- (a) Aleppo;
- (b) Tananarive;
- (c) Lourenco Marques;
- (d) Guayaquil.

7. He made a fortune from diamonds, then went to Oxford and took a degree. He became Premier of Cape Colony, gave his name to a vast tract of Africa and died before he was 50, leaving his fortune to found scholarships at Oxford for students from overseas. Who was he?

8. There is a single word which describes

an anti-clockwise direction. What is it?

9. You know there are 16 annas to the rupee, but how many pies and how many pice to the anna?

10. In an ordinary cinema performance, how many feet of film speed past the projector lens every minute?

11. Can you pair these famous play titles and authors? Caesar and Cleopatra, Anthony and Cleopatra, Young Woodley, French Without Tears.

Terence Rattigan, William Shakespeare, George Bernard Shaw, John van Druten.

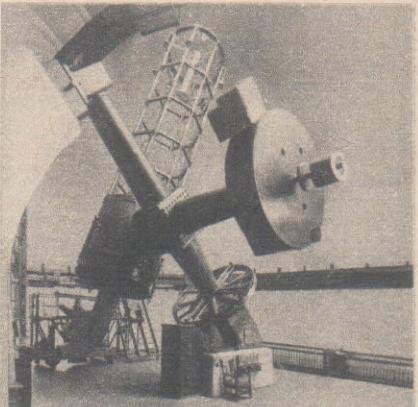
12. With which forms of transport and countries do you associate the following sets of initials:

- (a) AJS;
- (b) KLM;
- (c) ERA;
- (d) PLM?

13. Though she was not quite 17, Miss Maureen Connolly recently set the sports fans talking. Why?

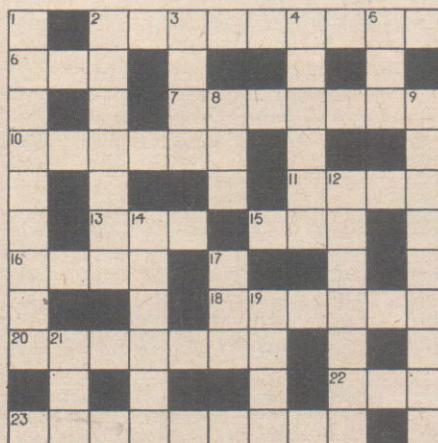
14. The first Duke of Wellington died in 1815, 1828, 1852, 1863. Which?

15. The apparatus in the picture is an oil-cracking plant, a rocket-launcher, a telescope, a cyclotron. Which?



(Answers on Page 44)

CROSSWORD



ACROSS: 2. In favour of seeing? 6. Something binding from the gents' haberdashery. 7. Ten deer went in. 10. Concerning the alternative to prison, perhaps. 11. Something missing from Flo's statement. 13. Call

out. 15. A girl minus 50. 16. A preposition. 18. Fruits of the oak. 20. "Lyre led" (anag.). 22. An able vessel. 23. What sailors do when their spell of duty comes to an end.

DOWN: 1. "Tube trait" (anag.). 2. Nothing could be better than this. 3. Portent addressed to the human race. 4. A duck in a ship. 5. Be indebted. 8. One of Napoleon's marshals. 9. What the model begins when the artist has finished? 12. Bird with a wealthy tail. 14. Triumphant cry of a gardener at the beginning of summer? (Two words.) 17. Volatile girl, perhaps. 19. A sort of boil. 21. You may draw this, build a house on it, or buy it in an auction sale.

(Answers on Page 44)

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HARMER WINS HIS SPURS

An ex-storeman of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps is a new star in the soccer firmament

TOTTENHAM'S Tiny Tommy a Hero" is rather a mouthful but in condensed black type across a couple of columns in a national newspaper it spells out a good start to a professional football career in the First Division.

In the luxurious changing rooms of the Tottenham Hotspur Football Club, Tommy Harmer, ex-storeman of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps, read the reports that followed his first big match.

"Harmer, 5ft 6½ inches of concentrated cleverness, stole the honours in the duel between the league champions and the leaders at White Hart Lane (the Spurs' ground)..."

* * *

"Harmer stole the thunder in his first league game... this Hackney lad who looks 16 but is seven years older, played with the cool footcraft, dummy-selling waggles and foresight of a man

who might have been fitted into the side for years."

The game was against Bolton and the Spurs' team manager, Mr. Arthur Rowe, had kept the news of Harmer's first big chance from the young player until the last moment. An hour before the game was to start before a crowd of 62,000, he said "You are playing today — inside left." Said a headline: "A Surprise for Harmer — And Bolton!"

Boots 60,000 pairs of eyes will watch eagerly. There seem plenty for Harmer to choose from.



Young ladies in the chorus may high kick more gracefully, but not more purposefully than Tommy Harmer.

When he was barely beyond the crawling age Tommy Harmer found himself being encouraged to kick a rubber ball by his uncle, who might have been a professional footballer himself but for cartilage trouble. He followed up this early start and at the age of 11 captained his junior school team.

Today his nimble feet have earned him comparison with the great Alex James. Alex James himself has written of Harmer: "Tommy was terrific. He hasn't the forcefulness or strength of Eddie Baily, but has all the tricks of the trade and a quick brain to size up an opening."

When the National Service Act called him into the Army for 18 months, Harmer had already been entered on the Spurs' books and had played with the Spurs' juniors. He did not plan, however, to make football his career; he

had started his apprenticeship with a local printer.

In uniform — first at Colchester, then Hilsea Barracks, Portsmouth, and then at Bicester — Harmer rose quickly through the football promotion list. He played for his battalion and then Lieutenant-Colonel H. M. Prince, Army football secretary, introduced him to more important matches. He played for his corps, his command and then for the Army. He turned out against the RAF, Essex, Oxford University, Rhine Army and the Belgian Army. That last game was the one he remembers best of all. There is always a special kind of excitement about playing against men from another country.

Harmer is convinced (many professional soccer players do not agree) that his Army service helped his football. He acquired plenty of experience in meeting many teams of varying standards.



They have foot inspection in professional football, too.



Tommy Harmer greets another Spurs player who has just been released from the Royal Army Ordnance Corps: ex-Private Dennis Uphill.

The Army, in return, wishes that it still had him. Says Lieutenant-Colonel Prince: "He was one of the cleverest players we have had, a master at initiating movements."

In 1948, at the end of his military service, Harmer went back to printing and also to the Spurs, who soon signed him up as a part-time professional. This meant that he trained on two evenings each week and played in subsidiary matches.

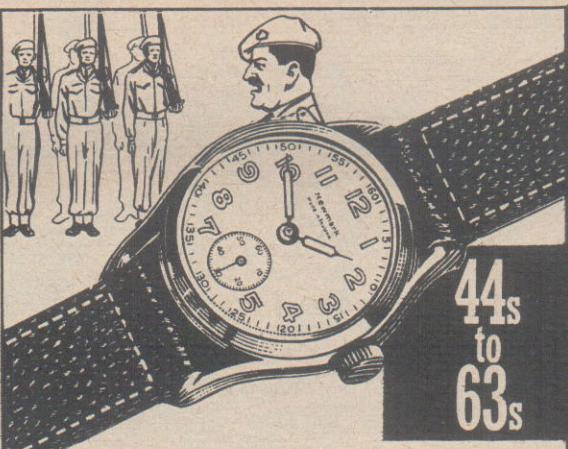
Harmer was able to see farther than a goalmouth. He knew that professional footballers have a pleasant but a short life and he was determined to complete his printing apprenticeship before taking up football as a career. Not until his apprenticeship was finished did he become a full-time player. It meant games with the Spurs' reserves, and then came his big chance with the league

team against Bolton Wanderers. Says Manager Rowe: "I could have told him the night before that he was playing, but I knew if I did he would not have slept a wink all night."

"Quite right, I would not," says Harmer. The game with Bolton was a dream he thought would never come true. He had thought himself too small to join with the giants who dashed from the tunnel connecting the dressing rooms with the field.

He is still small compared with Duquemin, Willis, Burgess and other star Tottenham players. He weighs only 9st 4lb, which is why he is made to practise weight-lifting and take cod-liver oil. "Perhaps," he says, "I would not be as heavy as I am if the Army had not helped to build me up."

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SPORT (Continued)

The 100 metres resulted in a good win for America's Willard Jones.

TAKE-OVER TILTED THE TRIANGLE

IT was the last event of the day. The hosts, the British Forces in Germany, were one and a half points behind the American Army European Command, with the French occupation forces a distant third.

On the 400 metres relay depended whether the Americans or the British would win the triangular competition. The race was close. At the third take-over, the British runner was leading by a yard — then the Americans muffed the take-over. Despite this, the American runner was only two yards behind the British

Services athletic champions from three nations competed in Hanover

(Pictures by Sjt. M. G. Foy, Public Relations, Rhine Army)

at the finish. If the American take-over had been clean, the Americans might well have won both the event and the meeting.

As it was, the British had now piled up $113\frac{1}{2}$ points, the Americans 111 and the French $63\frac{1}{2}$. The Americans had won eight of the 16 individual events, the British five individual events and both relay races, and the French three individual events.

The meeting was the first all-out triangular competition between the occupation forces of

the three countries. It had its origin in a limited triangular event (won by the British) when the Americans were hosts at Stuttgart, last year. This year, in Hanover's Hindenburg Stadium, the three forces produced their best athletes. The Americans had William Burton, the 1948 Olympic star, and the French had Urwald, their crack 5000-metre runner.

One of Britain's stars was Corporal Peter Goldsmith, Royal Horse Guards, who is the Army's hop, step and jump and high jump champion and who appeared in the Amateur Athletic Association

championships this year. He had the bad luck to dislocate his ankle at his first hop, step and jump of the day, but insisted on carrying on — and winning. He also won the long jump, with 6.64 metres.

By a coincidence, Britain's second-string in the hop, step and jump, Corporal Longford of the 2nd Tactical Air Force, had previously injured his thigh in the pole vault. He, too, carried on and gained two valuable points by coming fourth in the hop, step and jump.

Corporal Goldsmith's injury kept him out of the high jump, which was won by Walker, an American with 181 centimetres. William Burton won the discus-throwing for the Americans in true Olympic style. Burton, who has been described as the "man with a body like a Manhattan skyscraper," looked as though he could have thrown the discus over the stadium roof. To the surprise of most people, he was beaten in the hammer-throw by Laurens of France.

More prophecies were upset by Leading Aircraftsman Malcolm Boot, champion of the 2nd Tactical Air Force, when he won the 1500 metres, with Sommier and Nicot of France second and third. For France, however, Urwald lived up to his reputation in the 5000-metre race. He looked unbeatable right from the start and was. His team-mate, Omar Ben Loussine, looked nearly as certain of second place until the last lap, when Private Black of Britain came up strongly and displaced him.

Britain cleared the board in putting the shot and the 800 metres, but Willard Jones won the 200 and 400 metres for the Americans, and his fellow-countryman, Carroll, forced him into second place in the 100 metres.



Coming in for the take-over: a moment in the last, crucial relay race. Right: The meeting was opened with ceremony, and the team captains exchanged presentation banners.



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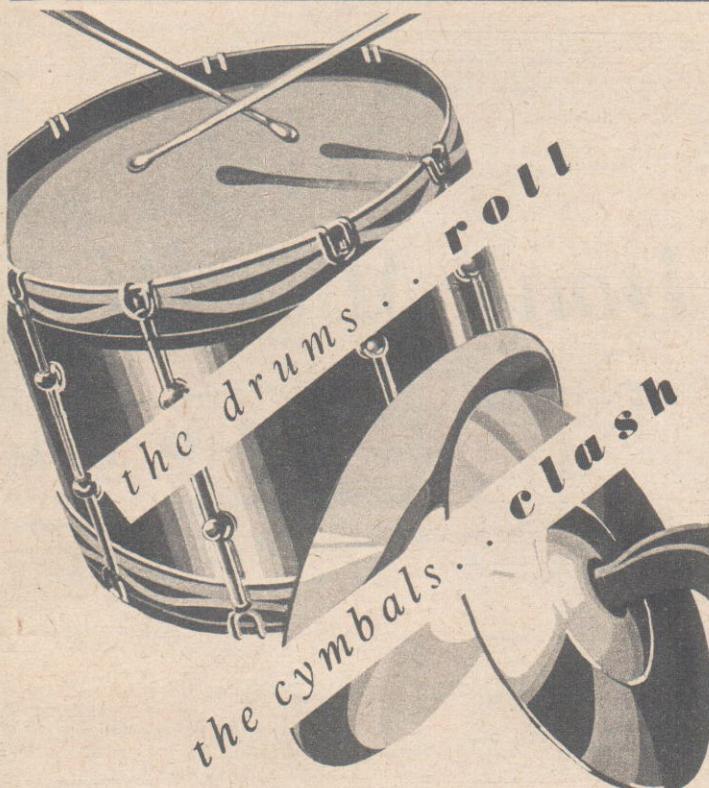
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- 5 Damp a rag with water.
- 6 Moisten the boot with the rag.
- 7 Finish with a dry cloth and "You could shave in it."

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The following films will shortly be shown in Army Kinema Corporation cinemas overseas:

SHOW BOAT

The story, by Edna Ferber, and the tunes by Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein, might have been described as ever-green by the studio publicity branch, if they had not thought Technicolor would be insulted. Both story and tunes are the originals used on the stage and in the pre-war film version. They are as fresh as ever. William Warfield has Paul Robeson's old part. The cast also includes Kathryn Grayson, Ava Gardner, Howard Keel and Joe E. Brown.

THE GREAT CARUSO

The makers of this film claim they have brought together the greatest collection of singing talent ever to appear on the screen. Certainly they have included a large slice of New York's Metropolitan Opera Company, and to make the most of it, they say the film contains more music, in running time, than any other film. The star is Mario Lanza, with Ann Blyth in the female lead. They are backed by such singers as Dorothy Kirsten and Blanche Thebom. Musical moments include extracts from "Rigoletto," "Aida," "La Tosca," "La Boheme" and "I Pagliacci."

HAPPY GO LOVELY

An entertaining picture about a theatrical producer (Cesar Romero) who offers Edinburgh a tired-businessman musical show during the city's dignified Festival of Music and Drama. As most producers are in films, he is short of money. Hearing that one of his chorus-girls (Vera Ellen) has arrived at the theatre in the car of a millionaire (David Niven), he is inspired to promote her to the lead part in the hope of so getting financial backing. That the lady has merely thumbed a lift from the chauffeur is merely the start of a cheerful confusion of identities with a happy ending.

THE MAN IN THE WHITE SUIT

Alex Guinness, a humble laboratory dish-washer, invents a fabric which does not get dirty and never wears out. That, at least, is his story, and he sticks to it. The reactions of the people who make suitings — both the men who own the factories and the people who work in them — are strong, and are handled with Ealing Studios' usual wit. Also in the cast are Joan Greenwood, Cecil Parker, Michael Gough, Howard Marion Crawford, Olaf Olsen and Joan Harben of *ITMA* fame.

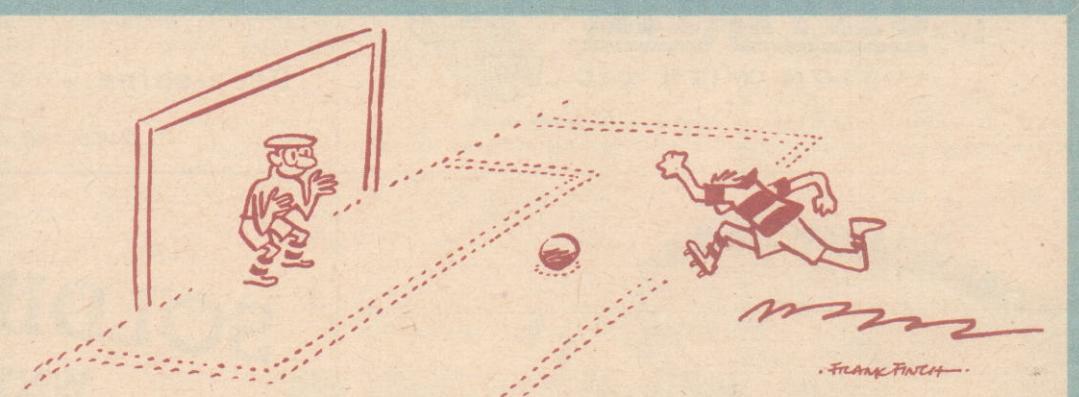
THE ADVENTURES OF JANE

The strip-tease heroine of the newspaper strip cartoon, complete with her dachshund, Fritz, is a vaudeville actress who becomes involved in international smuggling. The name-part is played by the original of the strip, and she remains anonymous. In character with her newspaper self, she leaves her skirt caught in doors, has it trodden off by clumsy policemen and contrives all the right excuses to appear in her underwear. Assisting the lady are Stanelli, Michael Hogarth, Sonya O'Shea.



Prompted by a reader's letter on the making of a film version of "Soldiers Three," in India in 1935, Major T. B. Gibbons, The Welch Regiment, sent *SOLDIER* the above still from a sequence in the same film made by the 2nd Battalion of his regiment at Landi Kotal. The picture shows

Lieut. Bracebridge (Major, then Lieut., Gibbons) and his platoon holding Sangar Hill. Local tribesmen played the enemy. They handed in their own rifles at the beginning of each day and drew "property" guns. They were controlled by a bugle, sounded by a drummer of The Welch Regiment.



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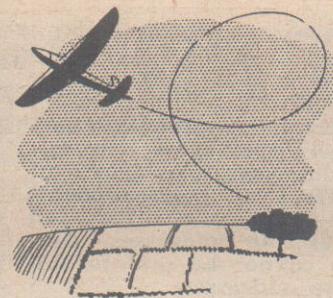
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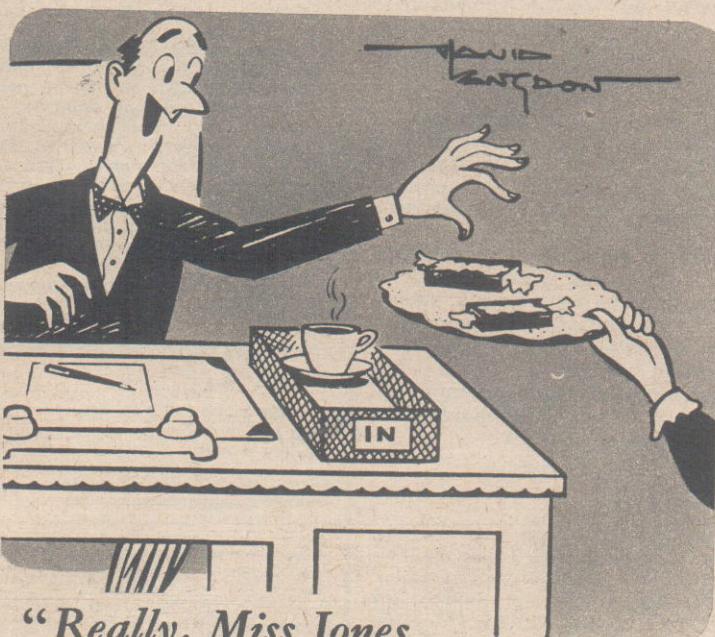
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POST NOW in stamped unsealed envelope to Coalmining Enquiries, 10 Cumberland Terrace, London, N.W.1 for free booklet. Write in BLOCK letters.

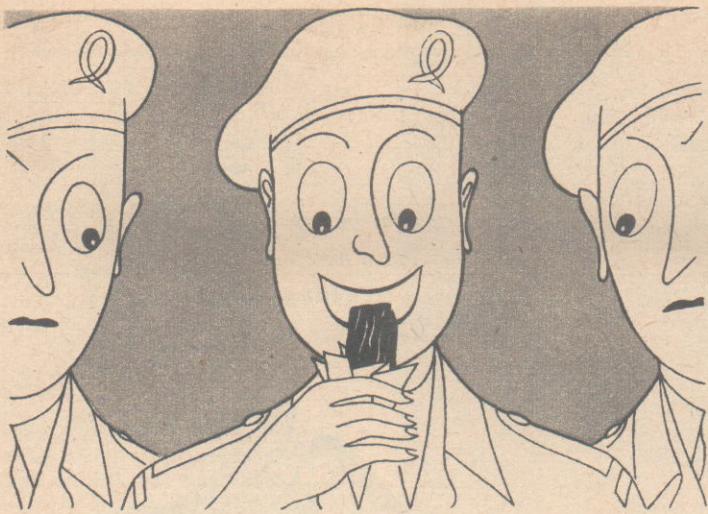
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LETTERS

● **SOLDIER** welcomes letters. There is not space, however, to print every letter of interest received; all correspondents must therefore give their full names and addresses. Answers cannot be sent to collective addresses.

Anonymous or insufficiently addressed letters are not published.

● Please do not ask for information which you can get in your own orderly room or from your own officer, thus saving time and postage.

PLEA FOR ESPERANTO

You published last month an article on how the British Army is tackling the language problem. This is very commendable as far as it goes, but it is merely playing with a problem which faces not merely the Armed Forces, but also almost every aspect of our international daily life.

The acquisition of an imperfect and almost always limited knowledge of one other language by a comparatively few people, can do very little to solve the problem. Linguists always will be few and far between, and while it is right to encourage the study of foreign languages, that in itself can never solve a problem which becomes more and more urgent. Esperanto can. It is a "constructed" language, belonging to no particular race, creed or sect. It is simple, having only sixteen fundamental rules with no irregularities and no exceptions; the alphabet is phonetic, accent is standard and easily pronounceable.

This latter quality makes it particularly suitable for use by Colonial troops, and it has been proved to be easily acquired by the coloured races. There can be no ambiguity. Your article said, "Modern war is so complex that the ideal soldier must be able to understand clearly, and to make himself clearly understood by, the Allies at whose side he is fighting." This presents the problem precisely. Esperanto provides the answer. — Captain K. Scott Simpson, BAOR.

NOT SEEN

Your article on how the British Army is tackling the language problem reminds me of the time an officer in West Africa sent a native soldier in search of another man. After half an hour he returned and reported: "I see him here, sah, I see him there, sah, I see him all places, sah, I no see him, sah."

The clue to this apparent riddle is that in the local pidgin-English the words "to see" mean both "to look for" and "to perceive." — "Language Student" (name and address supplied).

WARRANT

We hear that warrants are being issued to many warrant officers at home. Can you tell me how I can get mine? — "Conductor," BAOR (name and address supplied).

★ A warrant officer who wants his warrant should apply through his unit to Records who then check his eligibility and forward details on a special form to the War Office, whence the warrant is issued.



RESERVED RIGHT

I am due out shortly with 21 years service, but I am uncertain if I shall get the latest pension code and grant. I am confused by this paragraph in the White Paper: "A man exercising a reserved right to pension under earlier regulations will not be eligible for the grant." Can you please explain this? — Sjt. H. Girdler, 2nd Royal Regiment, Tidworth.

★ This paragraph refers to any soldier who, before 19 December 1945, undertook to complete a pensionable engagement of 21 years and who therefore has a reserved right to a 1940 Pay Warrant pension.

If a man does not satisfy the conditions of Army Order 18 of 1949, the 1940 pension rate is the only one he can claim, but if he does satisfy the conditions of that Army Order, then he has the choice of drawing either a 1940 rate of pension or a 1950 pension and grant. The conditions of the Army Order are, briefly, that the soldier's 21 years must be continuous, unforfeited, full pay service after the age of 18 years.

In making his choice the soldier should consider that the 1940 rates are lower (but increase at the age of 60) and no terminal grant goes with them; if he accepts them he has no statutory liability to recall to the Colours in the event of an emergency. The 1950 rates are larger and a grant goes with them; the pensioner who accepts them is liable to recall under the Military and Air Force (Recall of Pensioners) Act 1948.

Sjt. Girdler would get a full terminal grant at the end of 21 years

Answers

(from page 36)

How Much Do You Know?

1. (a) Earl of Sandwich; (b) Lord Raglan; (c) Derrick, public hangman of about 1600; (d) Mrs. Amelia Bloomer.
2. They are palindromes, words which read the same backwards or forwards.
3. (a) textile dealers; (b) fur and skin dealers; (c) dressing and colouring tanned leather; (d) making bits and spurs.
4. Speed of an aircraft in relation to the speed of sound.
5. (e).
6. (a) Syria; (b) Madagascar; (c) Portuguese East Africa; (d) Ecuador.
7. Cecil Rhodes.
8. Widdershins.
9. 12 pies or four pice.
10. 32ft.
11. Caesar and Cleopatra by George Bernard Shaw; Anthony and Cleopatra by William Shakespeare; Young Woodley by John van Druten; French Without Tears by Terence Rattigan.
12. (a) motor-cycling, Britain; (b) commercial aviation, Holland; (c) motor-racing, Britain; (d) railways, France.
13. By becoming the youngest-ever women's lawn tennis champion of America.
14. 1852.
15. Telescope.

Crossword

ACROSS: 2. Provision. 6. Tie. 7. Entered. 10. Refine. 11. Loss. 13. Cry. 15. Ass. 16. Unto. 18. Acorns. 20. Elderly. 22. Can. 23. Stopwatch.

DOWN: 1. Attribute. 2. Perfect. 3. Omen. 4. Steals. 5. Owe. 8. Ney. 9. Disposing. 12. Ostrich. 14. Rose up. 17. Sal. 19. Cyst. 21. Lot.

as though he had done 22. The pension will be calculated on 21 years service.

PENSION OR GRATUITY

I completed 21 years in 1948 and then continued on three years supplemental service. For this extra time I received £25, a civilian outfit and 28 days leave and I am entitled to £25 for each year. When I leave the Army will I receive a new pension or old? An officer has advised me to cancel my three years supplemental service (thus forfeiting the £75 gratuity) and to ask for my total service (24 years) to count for pension so that I get the new rate. Would I be wise in doing this? — Sjt. T. Tancell, REME, Tuxford, Notts.

★ A soldier may elect to count his supplemental service for pension or gratuity. Provided he re-engaged to complete 21 years, none of which was served before the age of 18 and all of which is unforfeited and full paid, he can claim a new code pension and the full terminal grant and still receive his supplemental service gratuity. Alternatively, he can take a new code pension for the whole 24 years and terminal grant, in which case he will not get a supplemental service gratuity.

OFF TO KENYA

I wish to go to Kenya when I end my service. Can I do this without first returning to Britain and is the



journey chargeable to public expense? — Cin. F. Hales, Base Vehicle Workshop, Singapore.

★ You should apply through your commanding officer for local discharge and permission to go to Kenya. If this is approved you will have to arrange your own passage and meet all costs in the first instance. On arrival you can claim a refund within the cost of an official passage from Singapore to Britain, but you must produce receipts.

ON THE MOVE

My husband has been posted overseas and until I join him I have had to quit my quarters for a private residence. Do I receive any allowances to meet the expenses incurred by such moves before I eventually join him? — "Soldier's Wife" (name and address supplied).

★ If a wife, on following her husband abroad, is provided with public quarters classed as "furnished" she will not receive disturbance allowance. She is paid this allowance, with a refund of removal expenses from her married quarters to her private residence in Britain, only if she decides to remain in Britain during her husband's overseas tour.

If she wishes to store furniture during her absence abroad, the depository selected should be within ten miles of her present residence. She should obtain three estimates for this removal which, in addition to the received account, will be required to support the claim for a refund, submitted when she reaches her overseas station.

JOINING A UNION

Regarding "Electric Shock" (SOLDIER, June), I have been asked to take up the rather misleading statement in your answer to this letter.

It is true that our rules for admission of Regular members of the Forces do provide that they may join the Electrical Trades Union in its auxiliary section while still serving,

and if they have paid 26 weeks' contributions by the time they leave the Forces they are immediately transferred to the skilled section. But if troops do not take advantage of these provisions they can still apply to join the union after they have obtained employment in the electrical industry in the same way as any other non-unionist.

If a Regular member of the Forces joins the union while he is serving and, having paid 26 weeks' contributions, is entitled to skilled membership, we assist him in getting work and he is entitled to the union's financial benefits at an earlier date. — F. L. Haxell, Electrical Trades Union, Hayes Court, West Common Road, Hayes, Bromley, Kent.

"STONK"

During World War Two the word "stonk" was in general use and was applied to bombardment by artillery and mortars, but I am not certain if it covered aerial bombing as well. Can you tell me if it is a slang word or has it an official place in military vocabulary? — "Infanteer" (name and address supplied).

★ "Stonk" is a technical term used officially only in fire orders for field, medium and heavy regiments of the Royal Artillery. It denotes a standard linear concentration which can be fired quickly with a minimum of plotting work in command posts.

During World War Two the "stonk" was frequently used in response to calls for fire from forward units on woods, roads, hedgerows and other similar targets. Because it was an apt and handy little word, "stonk" was taken over by men outside the Royal Artillery to describe any type of gun, mortar or air concentration. The Royal Artillery say they would like the word to be used only in its official sense, to avoid confusion.

LONG SERVICE

Does the holder of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal receive a monetary award? — Cpl. W. French, Gordon Highlanders, Malaya.

★ Yes, £5 is paid on discharge, but if the recipient goes out on pension, then the lump sum is replaced by 6d a day. Warrant officers class one who become eligible for the medal while holding that rank are not entitled to an award.

The Long Service and Good Conduct Medal is much coveted by old soldiers, and quite rightly so. But do you not think it unfair that a Regular who takes a commission and has total service exceeding 18 years is debarred because his service in the ranks was less than 12 years? Many of us feel it would be good policy to make the medal available to both officers and men with the requisite service. — "Long Service Soldier" (name and address supplied).

★ The Long Service and Good Conduct Medal was instituted to reward long and irreproachable service in the ranks of the Army. As a special concession, in order not to debar men who through the exigencies of the Service were commissioned, it was decided to allow them to count their commissioned service towards the Medal provided they had 12 years service in the ranks (in the case of a clasp a minimum of 27 years service in the ranks is required). These periods were fixed so that the medal might keep its primary character. There can be no question of making the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal a general award to officers and men as their conditions of service are different and the purpose and significance of the medal would be altered.

More Letters Overleaf

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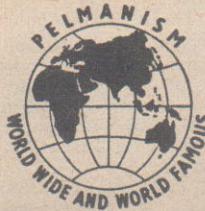
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"Oh! come back. She won't bite. She only wants to admire herself in that lovely Cherry Blossom Boot Polish extra shine."

MORE LETTERS

BULL-FIGHTING

You are wrong in "How Much Do You Know?" (September). Your answer to the question, "Picadors and matadors have different roles to perform in the bull-ring. What are they?" was: "The picador inflames the bull by throwing darts into it; the matador kills it."

In fact, the picador takes the chief role in the first of the three parts of a fight. He works under the matador's instructions and his task is to weaken the bull's shoulders and bring the head down. He is mounted and carries a pole two and a half metres long tipped with a triangular steel point. This he thrusts into the hump of muscle at the top of the bull's neck, usually three or four times. The gentleman who "throws darts" is the banderillero, the chief participant in the second part of the fight and who may be the matador himself. No part of a bull fight is intended to inflame the bull but, on the contrary, to calm him down from his natural fighting state. Space does not permit me to recount what the matador does as he is the chief actor throughout. Killing the bull is in the modern bull-fight the least important of his duties. — Major B. A. Merritt, Field Security, Styria, Austria.

★ **SOLDIER** is grateful to many readers who have sent letters on this subject.

KING EDWARD'S HORSE

King Edward's Horse (**SOLDIER**, September) was not a volunteer regiment raised in the Boer War as you stated, but was the successor, on the formation of the Territorial Army, of the 4th County of London (The King's Colonials) Yeomanry, later the King's Colonials Imperial Yeomanry, raised in 1901. The men were the King's colonial subjects resident in London. A second King Edward's Horse was formed in 1914 which towards the end of the war became "K" Battalion of the Tank Corps. The cap badges of both regiments were similar, the original bearing the motto "Regi Adsumus Coloni" on the base scroll and the 2nd King Edward's Horse "Empire and Liberty." — Charles V. Young, "Mar-Wyn," 395 Exeter Road, Courland's Cross, Exmouth, Devon.

★ The Boer War was still being waged in 1901 so it is right to say that the regiment was originally raised during the Boer War.

QUIZ FOR SPIES



This is the weapon with which the two objects in the pictures on Page 12 are connected: an experimental rocket, powered by a solid powder motor, which flies upward at 1200 miles an hour and reaches 100,000 feet. Left-hand picture on Page 12 shows the giant compressor which powers a supersonic wind-tunnel for testing the rockets; on the right are aerials for picking up data automatically broadcast by the flying rocket.

BATTLE HONOURS

During World War Two I served with the 8th Battalion Royal Tank Regiment. Have they received any war honours? If so, do the men wear a decoration? — Cpl. James A. Valente, H/H's 599th Engr Depot Coy, APO 757, US Army.

★ War honours, or battle honours, are not normally granted to the Royal Tank Regiment and in any case these do not include a decoration for each man. Usually the honour takes the form of the name of the battle on the Colours or Guidons. Units of the Royal Armoured Corps do not carry these, unless they are converted horsed units which have retained them as part of their tradition. Battle honours for World War Two have yet to be allotted.

HIS HOUR OF VICTORY

In the churchyard of Youlgreave, Derbyshire, is an interesting tombstone erected to Mrs. R. Hunter "at the desire and last will of her sixth son, Captain Abram Augustus Hunter, of the 23rd Regiment Ohio Volunteers, killed by a bullet through the chest on the 9 May 1864 in the hour of victory in the battle of Cloyd Mountain, West Virginia, under General Crook. He was aged 35 years."

What army did this officer belong to, and what was the war? Does it mean there were 23 regiments of Ohio Volunteers — a large number considering the United States was not greatly populated in 1864? — Robert Osmond, c/o Central Ordnance Depot, Chilwell.

★ The war was the American Civil War of 1861-65, and the army was that of the Union which was opposed to the Confederates. The State of Ohio raised 197 volunteer regiments.

ROYAL SCOTS

Your answer to a correspondent about the Royal Scots (**SOLDIER**, July) is not quite correct. The Regiment did not go into exile with the Stuarts. It was raised for service under the French with the approval of Charles I and remained in their service until recalled by Charles II in 1661. After a short period in Britain it returned to France. I think you will find that Cromwell approved of the Royal Scots serving across the Channel during the Commonwealth.

Despite its visit home in 1661, the Regiment did not come on to the British establishment until 1678. — Major T. J. Edwards MBE, 50 Summer Road, Thames Ditton.

STONECUTTERS' ISLE

In "Gunners on Convict Isle" (**SOLDIER**, June) you state that Stonecutters' Island has never been a picnic centre for the colony's residents. If this is intended to include Service families, then you are wrong.

Between 1937 and 1939 when the Middlesex and Rajputana Rifles were in Hong Kong, a ferry-boat plied several times a week to this island, carrying Service families bent on enjoying a pleasant afternoon on the island's beach. — Cpl. Laurence Cavanagh, RAPC, Middle East.

TOUCH TYPING

In the July **SOLDIER** Bdr. Haywood indicated that there is a shortage of typing instructors. This is true. During 20 months as a National Serviceman I have met only one touch typist, and unfortunately he was considered unsuitable as an instructor. However, I taught myself touch typing in about four months while on a shorthand and typing course. I am quite certain that anybody else could do the same if he set his mind to it. My typing speed is about 50 words a minute. — Pte. C. Pickard, 65 Supply Depot RASC, Gibraltar.

LIFTING THE RELEASE BAN

A release programme for Regular soldiers retained in the Army since August 1950 has now been planned to start from next January. This means that the ban on release will have lasted 17 months for men due out when it was first imposed. It is planned that the period for which men will be held back will be progressively reduced.

The announced programme is for men due out between August and November last year. It is planned that the programme for later "groups" will be made known at three-monthly intervals.

Where possible men will be released in the order in which they would have left the Army had the ban not been imposed.

Release due before ban	Release now due	Length of retention
Aug. 1950	Jan. 1952	17 months
Sept. 1950	Feb. 1952	17 months
Oct. 1950	Mar. 1952	17 months
Nov. 1950	Mar. 1952	16 months

ADVANCE BOUNTY

I enlisted for six years, with six on the Reserve, in 1938. In 1946 I extended to complete 12 years and the same year signed on for three years supplemental service. Can I re-engage to complete 22 years? What bounty am I paid for doing so? Do I have to refund the £25 bounty I had for the supplemental service? — Cpl. J. Barrett, 39 Wemsleydale Road, Catterick.

★ This reader cannot yet re-engage. When he signed for supplemental service he was discharged and re-engaged on a new engagement of just over six years (made up of three years of his original 12 which he had not completed and the three years supplemental). Of this he has served just under five years. He can, however, extend his present engagement to 12 years with the Colours — that is, 12 years from 1946. He would then be eligible for an extension bounty of £50. This bounty is in the form of an advance, and depends on him subsequently re-engaging to complete 22 years on his current engagement. He will not be required to refund the £25 bounty paid when he undertook supplemental service.

FIANÇEÉ'S JOURNEY

My plans to marry my German fiancée, who will not be free to marry for about two months, have been upset by a posting to the Far East. My application to have this delayed was turned down but my commanding officer tells me I will be able to arrange for her to follow at public expense. However, I cannot find any authority for this, and fear that as she is German this may not be allowed. — "Warrant Officer" (name and address supplied).

★ A German fiancée may be granted a passage at public expense to an overseas station provided the soldier forwards through his unit the usual family passage application and a certificate stating he will marry her on her arrival.

LUCKY FIND

My wife bought a small chest of drawers at a sale and in it found a copy of "30th Corps in Germany" — my old corps. After I left it I joined 8th Corps. In order to get a companion book to the one we found, can you tell me if an 8th Corps history has been published? — R. J. Shaw, 13 Warwick Street, St. Helens, Lancs.

★ "Operations of 8th Corps" by Lieut-Col. G. S. Jackson (St. Clement's Press, 30s) covers corps activities from Normandy to the Elbe.

EXTRA TIME

I saw a newspaper report which said men who had been in detention and had extra time added to their service could apply to have this

wiped out. Is this correct? — "National Serviceman" (name and address supplied).

★ Restoration of forfeited service under King's Regulations applies only to Regulars.

UPSIDE DOWN?

Why does the British Army wear chevrons upside down? A chevron is an "Heraldic ordinary" and is always depicted with the point upper-



most, as worn by the United States Army. — G. B. Read, RR No. 4, Cobourg, Ontario, Canada.

★ The Concise Oxford Dictionary says "chevron... bent bar of inverted V shape." Nobody seems to know why the British Army wears some chevrons with the points down.

RIGHT WAY UP?

What are the chevrons worn by a Light Infantry bugle-major on blue patrols and greatcoat? — R. Walton, 46 Wylam Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

★ A bugle-major with the rank of serjeant wears four chevrons, points upwards, surmounted by a bugle. A staff-serjeant bugle-major wears a small crown over the bugle, and a warrant officer class two bugle-major a large crown. These are made of worsted material on battledress, service dress and greatcoat. On Number One dress and blue patrols they are of gold or silver embroidery, according to regiment.

COLLAR BADGES

Would you please clarify the position on the wearing of collar badges and lanyards by the Royal Army Service Corps? We heard that we could buy them, since when a rumour has reached us that we cannot. — Pte. Ian Bennett, 7th Armoured Brigade, BAOR.

★ Men of the Royal Army Service Corps are not allowed to wear collar badges on battledress, nor may they wear irregular pattern lanyards. An official lanyard will be issued when available and will be the only pattern allowed. Troops must not wear any lanyard, even of the same design, which has not been officially issued.

Soldiers under 20 years of age in Britain and Germany are eligible for the British Broadcasting Corporation's "Take Your Chance" competition. This is for three-minute radio talks, to be broadcast in "Under-Twenty Parade." Details may be obtained from "Take Your Chance," BBC, London, W. 1.



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Always sniffing...
can't smell...can't taste
...can't breathe

Are you, too, a victim of Catarrh? Do you wake up in the morning with your nose and throat stuffy and congested? You can STOP Catarrh where it starts. Clear your NOSE—and keep it clear—with 'Mentholatum'. This amazing breathable balm—when applied into the nostrils and rubbed on the chest—volatilises instantly.

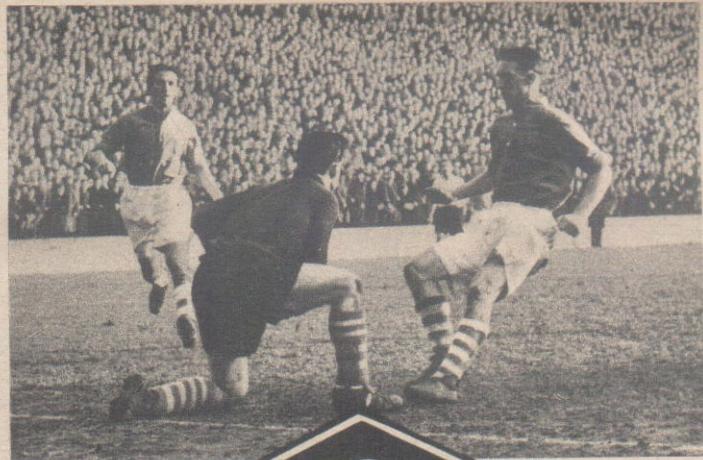


Its medicated vapours quickly subdue inflammation, free congestion, and open up stuffed breathing passages. 'Mentholatum' stays where it is put and keeps active for hours. It breaks up Head Colds overnight and even obstinate Catarrh yields to it. Breathing is believing, so get some 'Mentholatum' right away.

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Oh, Oh, Dry Scalp!
Lifeless, listless, untidy hair—
dandruff in the parting — Dry
Scalp's his trouble.

YOUR HAIR may be short enough to please the sergeant-major, but if it's dry and lifeless, or if bits of dandruff cling to the parting, it'll put other people *right off*!

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