

JUNIOR MERCURY



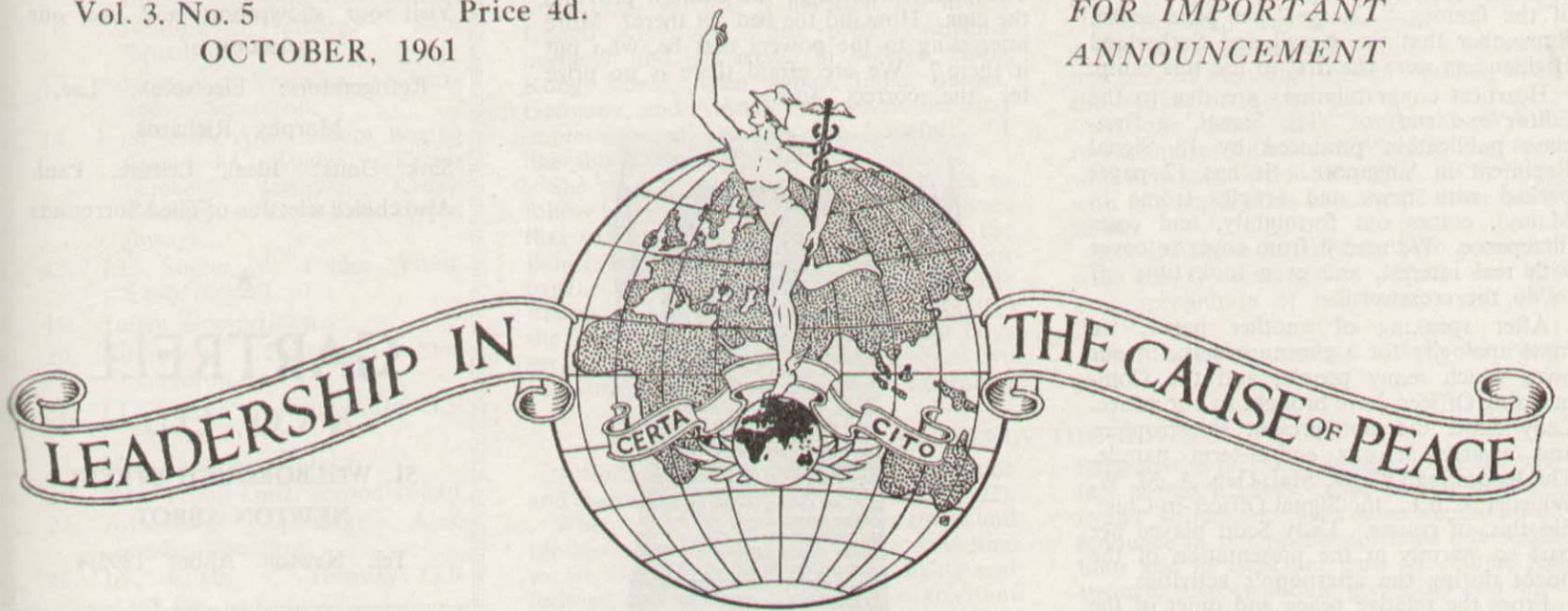
FIRELIGHT FANTASY

PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 10
FOR IMPORTANT
ANNOUNCEMENT

Vol. 3. No. 5

Price 4d.

OCTOBER, 1961



BALACLAVA INTAKE



Top row: Fawcett (Wakefield), Binns (Middlesbrough), Clark (Bolton), Robertson (Birmingham), Thompson (Leeds), Bonnett (Rugby), Lingard (Manchester), Crook (Plymouth), Willis (Guildford), Hopkins (Woking), Lee (Warrington), Wood (Huddersfield), Fogg (Chester) Whalley (Bolton), Wilkins (East Barnet).
Second row: Jolliff (Cornwall), Holden (Doncaster), Rains (Mansfield), Piel (London), Ellison (Colchester), Williams (Birmingham), Tynan (Bulwell), Hunt (Fakenham), Hall (Bristol), Lavery (Guisborough), Barratt (Melcombe Bingham), Woodford (Wickford), Campbell (Lymington), Hogarth (Gloucester), Evans (Leeds), Godwin (Stanmore).
Third row: Noble (Lincoln), Wilcox (Walsall), Tyler (Germany), Hall (Reading), Keeping (Bournemouth), Sixsmith (Liverpool), Sawford (Rotherham), Cooper (Arbroath), Campbell (North Shields), Owen (Chester), Fairhurst (North Tawton), Pinkney (Bexley), Woodhead (Sheffield), Birchall (Lytham), Russell (Portsmouth), Priestman (Redhill).
Fourth row: Nafiel (Guernsey), Bartlett (Cambridge), Mellor (Sheffield), Ball (Peterborough), Wells (Selkirk), Burch (Wakefield), Mullin (Moreton), Moseley (Walsall), Braines (Norfolk), Strugnell (Waterbeach), Unwin (Sturton-by-Stowe), Witherington (Leicester), O'Flaherty (Kirkby), Anthony (Bulwell), Mead (Newark), Hope (Camberley), Lochead (Kent), Douglas (Ipswich).
Fifth row: Wood (Southampton), Petchey (Southend), Hudson (Castleford), Lucas (Cambridge), Buller (Taunton), Freeman-Pannett (Cyprus), Cooke (Birmingham), Puttock (Lewes), Glossop (Sheffield), Turner-Howe (Odiham), Bate (Manchester), Brunton (London Colney) Hubbard (Hetton-le-Hole), Woodcock (Liverpool), Morris (Peterborough), Clibery (Monmouthshire), Marsh (Evesham), Stone (Bristol).
Sixth row: Rees (Rugby), Stokes (Huddersfield), Swain (Grantham), Swallow (Truro), Sansum (Helston), Sgt. Waters, WOII. Hopson (SSM), Capt. D. R. Beadon (O.C.), Lt.-Col. L. H. M. Gregory (C.O.), Lt. P. H. Tysoe, Sgt. Brown, Sgt. Davis, Dibble (London), Fearley (Doncaster), McKnight (Dungannon), Hamer (Fleetwood).
Front row: Simpson (Saltburn), Birch (Bedlington), Le Couillard (Jersey), Cooper (Nottingham), Parkin (York), Gough (Bristol), Goffett (Liverpool), Williamson (Putney).

Here they are—your sons of the Balacava Intake. This is the first time that a new intake has been given a name, and I thought it appropriate to choose Balacava in honour of the first occupants of Denbury, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, immortalized in history as THE THIN RED LINE. Who knows what great feats of endeavour and achievement lie ahead of the Balacava intake? In ten years time every one of them will look back and say proudly: "I was one of 'em; I belonged to the Balacava intake."

But such dreams can only come true if we all play our parts with a sense of unity and purpose, affection and encouragement. And you have my word for it that Denbury will not fail your sons. There has been some home-sickness, and I am sure you have felt a little home-sick too; but thank Providence for that, and think of all those unfortunate people with nothing to feel home-sick about.

Denbury belongs to you. Without your sons, and the sons of four hundred and thirty other homes, there would be no Denbury. Remember that, please, and if ever you find that you can spare the time, come and spend a day or two with us. I am sending you this copy of the 'Junior Mercury,' a copy of our corps magazine, 'The Wire,' and the Regimental leaflet, and I hope that in the future you will want to order your own copies of the newspaper and magazine every month.

If you are ever anxious or troubled about your sons, write or telephone me at once and, in the meantime, please accept much love and good wishes from the latest batch of the QUEEN'S JUNIOR LEADERS, their staff and The Commanding Officer.

Lionel Gregory.

EDITORIAL

"Balaclava!" "The Thin Red Line!" These are words to stir the blood! And with a picture of the first "Balaclava" Intake on the front page, we retell the tale of the famous "Charge" on page seven. Remember that the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders were the first to use this camp.

Heartiest congratulations are due to the Editor and staff of 'The Signal,' a first-class publication produced by 18 Signal Regiment in Singapore. It has 12 pages packed with news and articles (some in Malay), comes out fortnightly, and costs three pence. We read it from cover to cover with real interest, and even took time off to do the crossword.

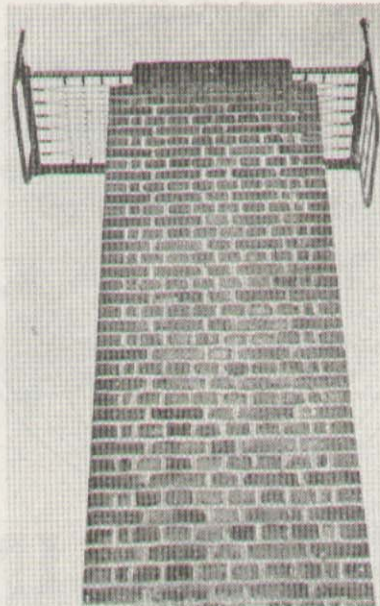
After speaking of another paper, we must apologize for a glaring mistake in our own, which many people, and the Commanding Officer, have brought to our notice. Lady Scott did not present the trophies and awards at our end-of-term parade. The Inspecting Officer, Maj.-Gen. A. M. W. Whistler, C.B.E., the Signal Officer-in-Chief, did this, of course. Lady Scott played her part so warmly at the presentation of the prizes during the afternoon's activities.

From the relative peace and quiet of the Summer Term we have now been shot into the midst of rugby, soccer, hockey, basketball, boxing, and cross-country running. To report on these activities, and to help us round off the loose ends, we have a dozen keen assistants. J/Sigs. Wiles and Keogh volunteered to do all the typing, but whether they are keen to type or just discovered that they will be called on only once a month we don't know. J/Sig. Smith still churns out his "X" adventures—mostly from personal experience, we are told. J/Sig. Tibbs looks in from time to time, as do Hollowell and Leach. J/Sigs. Thompson, Gilchrist, Moloney, Bauwens and Taylor have shared the sport out between them, and J/Sig. Atkinson has attached himself to us in a freelance capacity to report on all the 1st soccer team's games. J/Sig. Proctor, our cartoonist, is still with us and J/RSM Spearman has also thrown in his lot with us—on an unofficial basis.

1. All material in this Journal is copyright of "Junior Mercury" unless otherwise stated, but may be reproduced with the written permission of the Editor.
2. The views expressed herein are not necessarily official War Office or Army policy.
3. All communications should be addressed to The Editor, "Junior Mercury," Denbury Camp, Nr. Newton Abbot, Devon.

SENIOR WING SCRAPBOOK

To start these notes there is, with due apologies to Competition Corner, a puzzle in Senior Wing that requires an answer. The picture shown in the column provides the clue. How did the bed get there? More interesting to the powers that be, who put it there? We are afraid there is no prize for the correct answer.



The Staff, under the management of WO II. Hale, have now put on their football boots and joined the Torbay Wednesday League to challenge the local talent. Unfortunately, the hockey team required some of their star players, so both matches so far played have been lost. Still, to excuse the players a little (all of whom are in essential jobs) no time has been allowed to get together and practise. Still, it is yet very early in the season.

By the time this goes to print we will have said farewell to Major J. H. Lane. We wish him well in his new job with 19 Signal Regiment Singapore, and hope that the problems of providing manpower for all the departments is not as difficult as here in Denbury.

The MT will have got the result of the REME inspection when this is read. At the moment of writing they are still amidst the oil and grease. Sgt. Meekings, we are told, is going around muttering to himself all day: "Lights, batteries, springs, oil levels," etc.

To round off these notes, a quote from WO II. Brown: "Cpl. Bowman will have gone; I wish Major Lane the best of luck when they meet in Singapore."

LET US HELP TO MODERNIZE YOUR HOME

Visit our showrooms and see our selection of

Refrigerators: Electrolux, Lec, Morphy Richards

Sink Units: Ideal, Leisure, Paul.

Also choice selection of Tiled Surrounds



GARTRELL & CO., LTD.

51, WOLBOROUGH STREET
NEWTON ABBOT

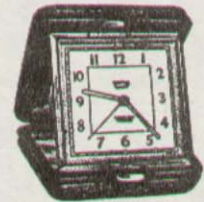
Tel. Newton Abbot 1893/4

SEE our Fine Selection

OF

CLOCKS and WATCHES

By all well-known makers



HAM & HUDDY

AT

GOLDSMITHS AND SILVERSMITH

4, WOLBOROUGH STREET

NEWTON ABBOT

Telephone 381

FOR ALL YOUR REQUIREMENTS

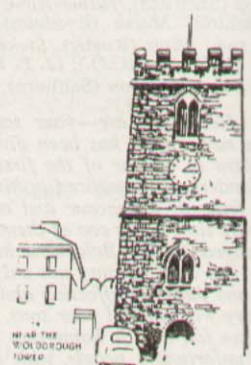
FROM A

CHEMIST

GO TO:

J. E. STILING LTD.

4 COURTENAY STREET - NEWTON ABBOT



DENBURY CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER

1. Band at Exmouth.
4. Band at Exmouth.
5. Inter-Troop Cross-Country Run; Inter-Troop Quiz (first round)
6. Adventure Training; Slim Squadron.
13. Adventure Training; Alexander Squadron.
14. First series, Army Junior Boxing Cup; J.L. Rugby v. Exeter Saracens (away); Cross-Country v. Seale-Hayne (away).
15. J.L. Soccer v. Totnes Youth Club (home).
19. Talent Competition.
20. Adventure Training; Slim Squadron.
21. J.L. Soccer v. Kingsbridge G.S. (home).
24. New Balaclava Intake.
26. Inter-Troop Quiz, second round.
27. Adventure Training; Alexander Squadron.
28. J.L. Rugby v. Torquay G.S. (away).

"Good evening, Miss Davidson."
 "I prefer to be called Eve."
 So began my interview with our new Women's Voluntary Service representative. "Eve" has been a member of the W.V.S. since 1945, yet this is her first job in the United Kingdom. She prefers working overseas, and has served in Malaya, Hong Kong, Korea, Aden, Japan, India, Burma, Germany, and Austria. However, her first impressions of Denbury are hopeful: "I like this camp and I like the boys."
 She says that, to start with, she hopes to follow in "Paddy's" footsteps, and believes that she has a lot to live up to. Like the Balaclava Intake (featured on the front page), she finds life at Denbury a little strange. "I still feel like a fish out of water," she said. However, as the Staff and boys get accustomed to her smiling presence, we feel sure she will find plenty of interesting

"EVE"

work to fill her days. She hopes boys will soon get into the habit of bringing their problems and worries to her.
 As a further link, which will endear her straight away to us all, she served during the war with the A.T.S., Royal Signals (1938-44), and was a sergeant.
 Her work abroad lay mainly with small numbers of men and women, looking after the welfare of the troops.
 At one time "Eve" was the W.V.S. representative with No. 1 Wireless Regiment who were stationed in Gluckstal, so working with another Signals unit should come easily to her.
 Eve Davidson has already been presented with the General Service Medal and Bar as a recognition of her long service with the W.V.S.
 Her favourite saying: "Oh, my dear soul."

HEAVENLY THOUGHTS

"While the earth remaineth, seed time and harvest shall not cease." (Gen. 8, 22).
 When the corn and the apples ripen, and the leaves turn to gold and brown, it is time to let the poets express our thoughts and feelings, and it is a good time for us to count our blessings.

fying as the fact of it is real. But the ugly fact is that it exists. Our neighbours have it and we have it. Of course we should all renounce it, but we do not trust our neighbour and he does not trust us. Some feel strongly that we should give it up and hope the others would do the same; others feel that we must keep it as our only defence.

Keats described it as a "season of mists and mellow fruitfulness," and Shakespeare must have been inspired by the same season when he described the quality of mercy as not strained but "dropping as the gentle dew from Heaven," bringing blessings on both giver and receiver. But that was before our time!

Would either course ensure the peace, security, and contentment of the world in the future? People are divided, confused and fearful. Some say one thing and some another is the answer. Can it help or solve anything if one section of the community decides to inflict its selected form of nuisance on another?

What of the harvest time of 1961, as we prepare for our yearly thanksgiving? The mercies of God and the dews of Heaven are not diminished. But our thoughts are distracted by a new and sinister precipitation. The dreaded fallout of strontium is both a symbol and a symptom of twentieth-century man's progress.

Only one thing is certain—the future of mankind and the world (for all its bravery and beauty) are threatened; men and women are frightened; some are terrified. Fear is an ugly and dangerous emotion; it robs men of their common sense and judgment. It becomes an obsession, and the object becomes an all-powerful demon.

Recently London and other parts of the country have been treated to the extraordinary spectacle of venerable age and hirsute youth, matrons and maidens, all squatting on the busy streets and disrupting traffic. Also seen was the unedifying sight of these same people being bodily and lugubriously removed by an over-burdened, over-ried police force. No violence, only passive resistance and defiance of the law. "Ban the bomb," they say, "or we and our children perish."

Is it not time to come to our senses, or have we forgotten the One who is unaffected and unchanged by all this in our world? After all, He made it and, for that matter, us too, and, despite what fear may do to faith, it is safe to assume that He is in control. It is not the first crisis He has had on His hands, and I think He might safely be trusted to handle this situation.

Every responsible and thinking person agrees that the nuclear bomb is a satanic and dreadful weapon and should never be used. The possibility of its use is as terri-

Our Father . . . Give us this day our daily bread . . . Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the Kingdom and the power . . .
 Let all the world in every corner sing, "My God and King!"

**WE BETTER SERVE OURSELVES
 BY SERVING OTHERS BEST**

FARMER'S

SHOE RESTORE SERVICE

**BARNHILL ROAD
 KINGSKERSWELL**

Telephone 3031

**FOR A GOOD JOB
 AT A JUST PRICE**



Local Agents for J. White Footwear,
 C. Lord Carpets
 Devon Cleaners
 Good Quality Toilet Rolls, 72/- gross



Personal Supervision

RAY'S CAFE SEATING 100

191, QUEEN STREET. Tel. Newton Abbot 127

RAY'S CAFE OFFERS TO DENBURY CAMP:

DRINKS.—Large Cup of Tea, 3d.; Cup of Coffee, 6d.; Mineral Waters, 6d.

GRILLS.—Egg, Beans and Chips, 1/6; Sausage, Beans and Chips, 2/-; Sausage, Peas and Mash, 2/-; Sausage, Egg, Beans and Chips, 2/6; Bacon, Egg, Beans and Chips, 2/6; Steak and Kidney, Peas and Chips, 2/6.

SNACKS.—Beans on Toast, 1/3; Egg on Toast, 1/3; Spaghetti on Toast, 1/3; Welsh Rarebit, 1/3. Bacon, Egg, or Sausage Sandwiches, 1/-.

Our Speciality, "Ted-y-Oggys," 9d.

ARTHUR BALL

Confectioner, Tobacconist and Stationer

CHOCOLATES AND CONFECTIONERY BY ALL THE LEADING MANUFACTURERS

**TRY OUR DEVONSHIRE WHIPPED ICE CREAM
 DEVONSHIRE CLOTTED CREAM SENT BY POST**

Open Weekdays 7.15 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sundays 9 a.m. to 6.30

JOIN OUR CHRISTMAS CLUB

80, QUEEN STREET, NEWTON ABBOT

DEVON

Telephone 2188

"X" - TINCTION

"X" had a supreme contempt for the noble art of fisticuffs, doubtless inbred from the events which occurred exactly a year before. Bitterly "X" remembered the flailing fists and the steady tattoo that was beaten on his nose, ears, and various other parts of his anatomy.

This contempt had now been multiplied by the fact that the sadistic tyrant, the O.C. of his troop, had had the unbelievable nerve to place his talents at the disposal of the troop boxing team.

Now "X" developed an extreme nausea at the sight of blood, particularly his own, which he treasured dearly.

Of course, "X" had tried everything from a swollen joint in his forefinger to high idealistic feelings about offering violence to his fellow-men. His troop officer had listened sympathetically and placed him in the welter-weight class.

To "X's" grave displeasure, his efforts to obtain admission to the MRS and Guard Room alternately were met with smiling countenances and shaking heads. In vain "X" pleaded Protective Custody and swollen joints, but all to no avail.

At last the day came. The troop frog-marched "X"—swearing futilely that he had a pressing engagement elsewhere—to the gym, and tied him firmly to a chair.

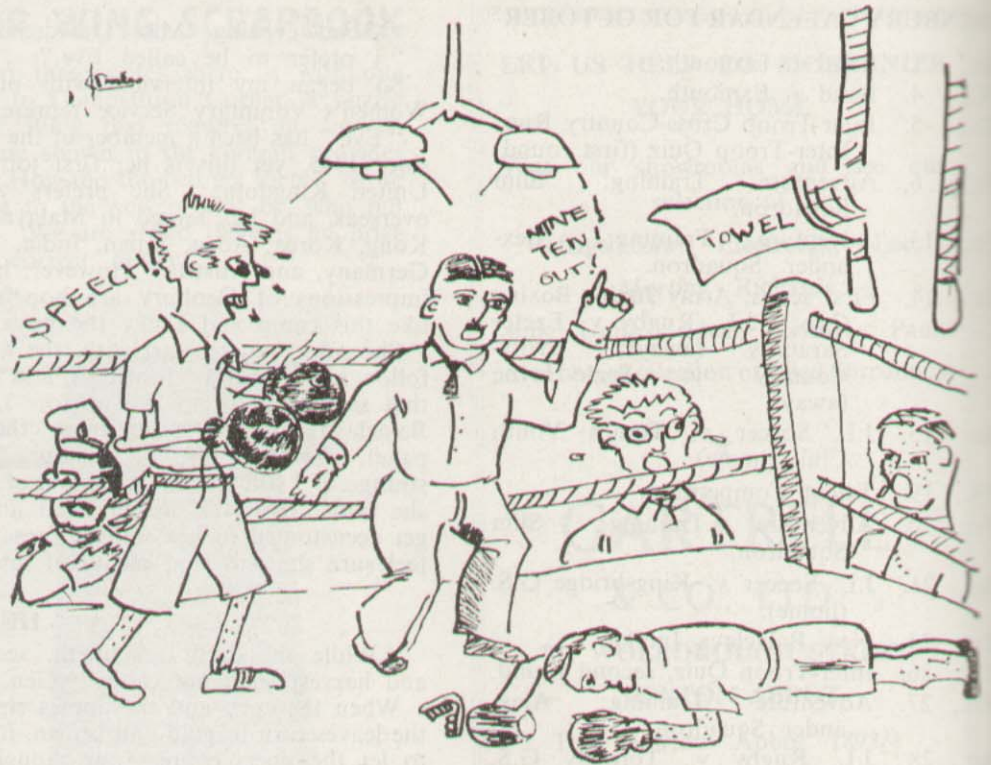
The seconds ticked by with agonizing slowness, both for "X" and his troop.

J/RSM Spearman's voice broke the hypnotic trance "X" had fallen into.

"And in the Blue corner, J/Sig. X." "X" was deaf to the catcalls and cheers of the crowd. His "mate," an intellectual from the backwoods of Inter. IIb, muttered despairingly something about "treatment to dumb animals," and inhaled his fag deeply.

"Box!" screamed the referee, who reminded "X" of the O.C. of a firing squad in a film he once saw.

"X" shut his eyes and stepped back from his opponent. A vast wind seemed



to lift him from his feet and deposit him none too gently on the canvas.

For some reason unbeknown to "X"—perhaps a sub-conscious desire for revenge—he staggered to his feet, closed his eyes once more, and let go a mighty right.

"One, two, three, four . . ."

Now that was funny. He could almost vouch for the fact that the ref. was engrossed in his maths. again, and here he was, still standing.

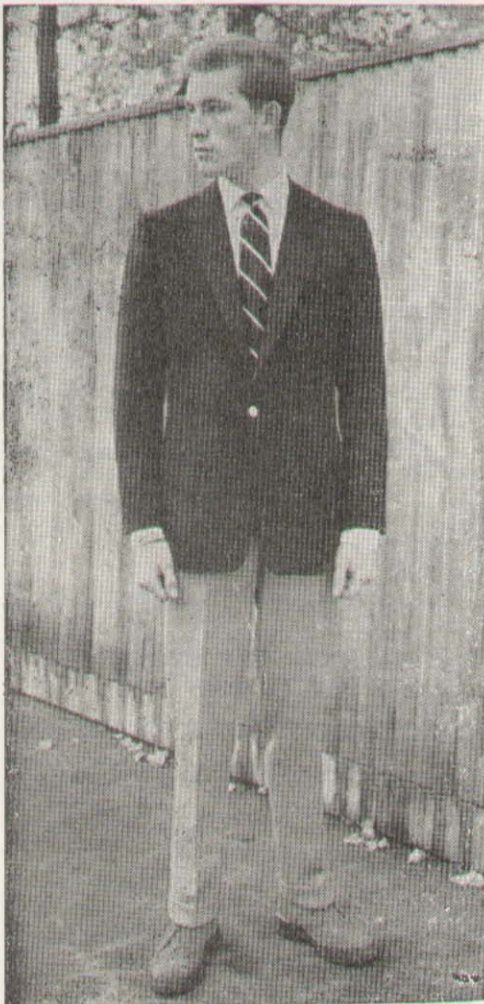
"X" raised his eyelids slowly. He surveyed the cheering crowd; cheering, all but one, that is. He was engaged in spitting

out a recently-swallowed Woodbine.

His focus returned to the ring, where he surveyed his opponent, neatly stretched out on the canvas. Within seconds "X" was his old self. Unfortunately, the J/RSM prevented him from making a speech, as was his original intention, but he did manage to complete a jig around the ring, trip over the rope and land on his troop commander's lap.

"Congratulations, 'X,' you've made the quarter-finals," smiled the officer concerned.

"X's" jubilation subsided in the manner of a burst balloon.



Off-duty smartness

Gieves have been making uniforms from Wellington's day onwards. But here's proof that we know a thing or two about clothes for off-duty wear. The illustration shows a single breasted blazer in serge or hopsack with cavalry twill trousers

Gieves

LIMITED



66 MUTLEY PLAIN - PLYMOUTH

Telephone 65497

Official Outfitters to the Regiment for Regimental Undress

SOLDIERS OF THE QUEEN

4. THE INDIAN PLATOON, 1933

by WO1. P. TAYLOR, R.A.E.C.

When I joined the 1st Bn. The Royal Scots (RR) in Quetta, it was to discover that I was to be sergeant in a machine-gun platoon of D(8) Company.

I was not unduly worried until I discovered that the transport was not the beautifully-compact limbers and fine eight draught horses of the home battalions, but the pack-mule. Many were the dire tales, narrated in my hearing, of what mules did to rooky sergeants in India. I did not think then that in future years I was to become greatly attached to these perverse, staunch, but utterly ribald creatures. To manage these mules was an Indian platoon composed of Sikhs, who were a fine, upstanding group of soldiers.

The Subhadar-Major, O.C. Indian Platoon, was a much-bemedalled, long service soldier who became my mentor in all things pertaining to India, the Sikh, and the mule. It was he who delivered the first of many much-needed lessons in modesty and humbleness to a brash, young, over-confident sergeant.

Shortly after my arrival in Quetta there was to be a Sikh festival to which it was customary to invite, as representatives for the Company, the oldest and youngest soldiers of each rank. One bright morning the Subhadar-Major invited me as the youngest (in service) sergeant. Immediately I started to protest vehemently at this slur on my service, but was interrupted by the Subhadar, who said quietly: "But, Sergeant Sahib, you only soldier in India." By this it was driven home to me that I had two weeks service to count as a soldier. This and many other lessons had to be received and acknowledged before being accepted as the Sergeant Sahib of 15 Platoon, D(8) Company.

To get the most and best out of a Sikh Sepoy, it was essential to know his background, and to find this it was necessary to study his history, customs, and habits. I had a good tutor in the Subhadar, who taught me first the recognition of the militant Sikh, the wearing of the five K's—Kes, the uncut hair; Kachh, short pants ending above the knee; Kara, the iron bangle; Khandra, the small steel dagger; and Khanga, the steel comb.

One is led to wonder why men, especially warriors, should allow their hair to grow into long, womanly tresses, but one will find out that this, with the remaining K's, were one and all completely utilitarian,

and their use dates back to the beginning of Sikh history.

A body of Hindus, led by a "Guru," the leader and wise man, broke away from their religion because of the caste system, an inherent part of Hinduism. This party wanted a religion in which a man could, by his own capabilities, rise to any heights, and not a belief that man must remain at the level into which he was born, and so must his children and his children's children and so on for ever; a system in which the higher caste scorned those of the lower caste, and so scorned them that even the casting of their shadow on the higher caste was anathema.

This breakaway led to dreadful persecution which, in turn, moulded this mild, religious group into a militant society for mutual protection. This militancy later led to conflict with the Moslem rulers, and from this fiery crucible of war emerged a finely-tempered soldier, the Sikh.

During these persecutions and wars, various decrees were laid down by the "Gurus." On initiation, a Sikh youth took the name Singh (the lion), foreswore alcohol and tobacco; alertness and endurance would be required to survive. They also decreed that Sikhs would become meat-eaters as a prerequisite to building a strong nation. The hair must remain uncut so that iron rings could be woven into this long hair and thus give a form of head protection against sword cuts—a necessity in a poor but militant society. It follows that the Khanga became an essential part of wear to induce cleanliness and tidiness of hair.

The national dress of the Hindu of this period was the "dhoti"—a length of cloth wound loosely about the loins, which was sufficient for the normal lackadaisical movements of the hot country residents, but hardly the wear for the hurly-burly of militant life. Hence the Kachh, which could be guaranteed to stay put in the heat of battle.

In a persecuted society, it behoved one to be armed night and day, so the Khand. The iron ring, never to be removed, a constant reminder that the Sikh must ever be resolute and firm, and bow his head to no man but his Guru.

"SHOOT THE REF!"

Congratulations to S/Sgt. Rose on successfully qualifying as a Devon Rugby Union referee.

He told our reporter that "the final interview, lasting for 45 minutes, with five senior referees firing questions at me, was worse than refereeing a dozen Troop matches."

WHEN IN NEWTON ABBOT
WHY NOT VISIT THE

THE RAILWAY HOTEL

- ★ Freshly-Cut Sandwiches
- ★ Luncheons to Order



ASSURING YOU OF A WARM
WELCOME AT ALL TIMES!

MILKY WAY CAFE

HOT MEALS OR SNACKS
TEAS COFFEE
MINERAL WATERS BISCUITS



Take your choice in picturesque surroundings



A Selection of Martial Music and "Pop" Records

125, QUEEN ST., NEWTON ABBOT

Dry Cleaning?

send it to

Craftsman Cleaners Ltd.

2 Union Street 126a, Queen Street
Newton Abbot 1 2 8 6

For:—

48 and 24 hour service direct from
the ONLY DRY CLEANING WORKS
IN Newton Abbot

YOU too can ENJOY your Leave
in a . . .

WESTERN GARAGE

GUARANTEED USED CAR

PLEASE WRITE, PHONE OR CALL FOR OUR
OCTOBER USED CAR LIST

WOLBOROUGH ST. - NEWTON ABBOT

Telephone: Newton Abbot 2552

READERS' CORNER

Telephone 380

IPPLEPEN BAKERY

AND

GROCERY STORE

Props.: M. E. JENSEN, N. G. MORRIS

THE SQUARE, IPPLEPEN

★

● HIGH-CLASS BREAD AND
CONFECTIONERY MADE IN
OUR OWN BAKERY



Tel.
Ipplepen 389



One advantage for Denbury is its
proximity to

DAVID SCRASE Ltd.

RED POST GARAGE
NEAR TOTNES

All Motor and
Agricultural Repairs

Welding, Cellulosing, etc.

Collection and Delivery

Service Specialists

"THANKS," Sgt. GREAVES

DEAR SIR,—We are both writing to say how much we enjoyed our stay at Denbury, and to thank everyone who helped us, especially Sgt. Greaves, who taught us to type, and we managed to pass our course in teleprinting at Catterick in seven weeks.

We miss the lads from Kukri Troop who, when we were there, never let the troop down and always tried hard in the Cobb Memorial Trophy. Keep it up, lads! White Spear can't touch you.

We know that Denbury is living up to its good reputation, and we will see you in the new year. We will never forget our stay at Denbury—pleasant, exciting, and so helpful.—Yours, etc.,

(Sig.) DOUGALL FRIEND (Sig.) EDDIE PHILIPS
'B' Troop, 2 Squadron, 28 Signal Regiment, BFPO 40.

AN "OLD COASTER"

DEAR SIR,—I would like you to send my copy of 'Junior Mercury' to this address and to let me know when my next subscription is due. Fine though Denbury's write-up was in the last 'Soldier' magazine to reach us here, I do not want to depend on it for news of Denbury.

Being on my second tour in Nigeria now, I just about qualify for the title of 'Old Coaster,' though Kaduna is, in fact, 500 miles from the sea. Junior Leaders would love it here; endless days of glorious sun, all the English sports of hockey, football, rugby, cricket, plus a splendid swimming pool (and again the sun), and the chance to learn to ride the spirited ponies of which Northern Nigeria is proud.

There are not many British officers and NCOs out here now, and fewer still in the Nigerian Army Signals, though the OC of the NAS is, in fact, Major D. L. James, who was OC HQ Squadron, as it was two years ago, in Denbury. If you want to get out to Nigeria, Col. Gregory will have to get one of his ideas!

There is a Nigeria Junior Leaders unit near here, the Nigerian Military School at Zaria. They have just moved on to five days a week education, with junior, inter., and senior standards (of roughly the same standards as in the UK), being regarded as stepping-stones to GCE. I taught there for three weeks, and were they eager!

Keep up the good work at Denbury.—
Yours, etc.,

JOHN MEYRICK (Capt.).

NMTC, PMB 2022, Kaduna, Nigeria.

"ENVIIOUS OF DENBRIANS"

DEAR SIR,—Having found that my subscription for the 'Junior Mercury' has ended, I feel I must hasten to renew this monthly link with my old Regiment.

I must congratulate you and your staff on building the paper into something even better than it was when I left the Regiment, which I hardly thought possible. Well done!

I must say how much I really envy everybody posted at Denbury and, speaking for most ex-Boys, how much I would like to be back.

Well, I must close for now. Hoping this finds you all in good health.—Yours, etc.,

L/Cpl. BROADBENT.

'C' Troop, 1 Squadron, 10 Signal Regiment, BFPO 34. August 9th.

LUCKY THIRTEENTH

DEAR SIR,—The Denbury Wives Club held its last meeting in the Denbury Arms on September 26th, and were sorry to say goodbye to Mesdames Lane and Bowyer. Our loss of Mrs. Lane will be the Far East's gain.

The next club night will be Friday, October 13th, when we look forward to welcoming Mrs. Scott, and also hope to have a special guest. We are planning a big games night for this occasion, and hope to have a full house. Don't be put off by the date.—Yours, etc.,

MAY ROBERTSON.

Ashburton.

COMMONWEALTH LINKS

TO ALL JUNIOR MEMBERS OF ROYAL SIGNALS.—Today I am forwarding to you this programme, together with the photographs that it contains, of the visit of Her Majesty The Queen Mother on February 26th, 1958, for the purpose of presenting to the Royal Military College at Duntroon, in Canberra, Australian Commonwealth Territory, the Queen Elizabeth II.'s Banner.

I had the honour of being allowed to be present at this great occasion, and I took the photographs that are shown.

This programme, together with the photographs, are to be kept in your museum, and shown to all those who come into the service, so that they might respect any officer of the Royal Australian Army with whom they might come in contact during their service.

Having belonged to both the Royal Corps in the U.K. and in Canada, as well as being attached to the Royal Australian Signals, I feel that it is far better for me to turn this over to you in the hope that it will bring good fellowship between all our countries, so that officers on exchange duties may get to know each other and understand the men under them.

Should any of you ever come into contact with an Australian or a Canadian, you can tell them that, from my point of view, we are all one happy family, and that we hope to be from here on.

Next Monday is my birthday, but this will be well past before you get this letter.

You can appoint me an honorary member of your organization, and please send me one of your badges so that I might wear it. Good luck and all good wishes always.—

UNCLE MAC (G. Mackenzie Cluness).

c/o 56, Albion Street, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia. July 6th, 1961.

COMPETITION

The August competition—a rather laborious one, perhaps—produced some very fine efforts. Many readers sent us lists of well over 100 words, all made from the word "equatorial."

The winner, however, was Miss Stott, of Newton Abbot, who has received a book. Her entry numbered 231 words, a great number of which we have been unable to trace in our dictionaries. But after thorough checking, 143 bona-fide English words were sieved out, which put her 11 words ahead of her nearest rival.

This month's competition is a matter of proverbs. We want you to take any six of the ten things listed below and make your own proverbs from them, on the lines of existing proverbs.

For example, the words may be "Army boots." On the lines of the proverb about glass houses, we could say, "People who live in barrack rooms shouldn't throw army boots." Get the idea?

And the funnier the better. The best two entries will get book prizes.

- 1.—A string of sausages
- 2.—A full moon
- 3.—A pot of glue
- 4.—A knockout
- 5.—A Regimental Sergeant-Major
- 6.—A boil
- 7.—A flea
- 8.—A NAAFI sandwich
- 9.—A Russian
- 10.—A pint of beer

BALACLAVA

It was on March 28th, 1854, when England, having sided with Turkey, declared war on Russia. The Crimean campaign was about to be launched.

By October 24th the British had sailed across the Black Sea and fought their way down from Eupatoria to Balaclava. The Army was in poor condition; climate and sickness had taken a heavy toll, and now 25,000 Russians were massing to swoop down on Balaclava. The British were in a position of extreme difficulty. The Army was encamped on the heights at Sebastopol. Balaclava, the only port, the only arsenal, the only gateway to the outside world, lay far below, garrisoned by the 93rd, now the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and 1,100 Turks.

Two miles above Balaclava, however, was the cavalry camp.

Slowly the great mass of Russians advanced up the valley. Because of the shape of the land, the opposing forces were invisible to each other, but could be watched from the heights. Four squadrons of Russian cavalry galloped over a ridge and bore down on Sir Colin Campbell and his 550 men of the 93rd. He ordered them to lie down, two deep, facing the enemy below a ridge. The Turks suddenly fled; the 93rd were alone, and every man expected to die.

The Russian cavalry came on, thinking the hillock unoccupied when, in front of their noses, sprang up a line of Highlanders in red coats—the Thin Red Line. The Russians checked and halted in amazement, and a deadly accurate volley came from the small force. Then the cavalry began again to advance, and a second volley was fired.

Again the Russians wavered, and there was a forward movement by the Highlanders, who were eager to dash out and engage the enemy. Sir Colin Campbell steadied the line, and a third volley was fired. The Russians had had enough. They wheeled and withdrew, and Balaclava was saved for the moment.

General Scarlett, in the meantime, had been sent with eight squadrons of heavy Dragoons to support the wavering Turks. By the time he received the order the action was over but, unknowing, he rode on, only to cross the enemy line and, looking up, saw 3,000-4,000 Russian cavalry bearing down on him from a few hundred yards away.

Scarlett, with his 500 troopers, decided to charge—uphill, on very difficult ground, and overwhelmingly outnumbered. His force was drawn up in two lines, with two squadrons coming up behind.

The first line crashed into the Russian mass and was swallowed up. They fought like demons, and the huge Russian square began to heave and sway. Then the second line followed and, a few seconds later, the two remaining squadrons thundered in; one on the right, the other on the left. The great mass began to sway uphill. Then the 4th Dragoon Guards charged in from the flank and the Russians disintegrated and fled.

Lord Raglan, on the heights, saw that now was the chance to recapture the redoubts on the ridge above the valley while the enemy troops there had no support. British infantry were expected, but were late in coming; but Lord Lucan, who commanded the British cavalry, received the order to recover the heights, and word that he would be supported by infantry. He waited, but the infantry did not arrive.

Then Lord Raglan saw that the Russians were removing the British naval guns with which the redoubts had been armed.

This had to be prevented, and he sent a note by reckless Capt. Nolan to Lord Lucan 700 feet below, to the effect that he had to advance and prevent the enemy carrying away the guns. To Lord Lucan the enemy was invisible; the order ridiculous.

"What guns?" he asked, and Nolan, a light cavalry man, pointed, not towards the redoubts, but towards the end of the valley, where the Russians, with their guns in front of them, had re-formed. It was a genuine mistake, but fatal.

Lord Lucan rode up to Lord Cardigan, who commanded the Light Brigade, informed him of Lord Raglan's order, and told him to advance down the valley, while he himself followed in support with the Heavy Brigade.

The Russians had a battery in front of them and batteries and riflemen on both sides.

The Light Brigade was drawn up in three lines; about 700 of all ranks. Lord Cardigan, alone at their head, began to trot down the valley and a great hush fell. Then the Russians opened fire. Volley after volley

poured down on the advancing cavalry, who continued to trot steadily forward with parade-ground precision, filling in the places of the fallen, but keeping perfect line.

The numbers grew smaller by the moment. The fire grew fiercer and then the first line came within range of the guns at the end of the valley and fell, not singly, but by groups. Now the trot became a canter. The first line was halfway down the valley. The canter became a gallop.

Eight minutes had now passed, and the survivors had reached the guns and disappeared into the smoke. Then the second line and then the third charged into the fray and took on the might of the Russian Army at close quarters. The battle raged. The Russians retreated from the guns, but then the British had to withdraw. Twenty minutes it lasted, from the time the trumpet sounded the advance to the return of the last survivor.

Of the 700 men who had ridden into the "Valley of Death," only 195 returned.

**Personal Service, Friendly Atmosphere
at NEWTON ABBOT'S
MODERN FOOD STORE**

Grocery and Provisions; Delicatessen
Fresh Fruit and Vegetables; Health
and Diabetic Foods; Smedley's
Frozen Foods; Pets' Foods and
Medicines; Health and Toilet Needs

SLADE & SONS

(Branch of Williamson and Treadgold
Ltd., Bournemouth)

**THE GROCERS of 5, BANK STREET
NEWTON ABBOT** Phones 1827/8

Other Branches at Torquay, Chelston,
Ashburton and Bovey Tracey

For all that is good . . .

go . . .

CO-OPERATIVE SHOPPING

WITH THE

★ Quality



Co-operative
SOCIETY LIMITED

Service ★



ON EVERY OCCASION SAY IT
WITH FLOWERS

from your Interflora Florist for
World-Wide Delivery

★

**R. B. WEBBER
& SON**

6, WOLBOROUGH STREET
NEWTON ABBOT
Telephone 1126

LEARN TO DRIVE
with Skill and Confidence

**NEWTON ABBOT
MOTOR
TRAINING
CENTRE**

Member of the
Motor Schools Association

We have successfully trained
thousands to become really
roadworthy

15a, COURTENAY STREET
Telephone 1135

SERVICEMEN WILL RECEIVE SPECIAL
ATTENTION

TOP RECORD HITS!

WARDS

4 BANK STREET, NEWTON ABBOT
Telephone 74

All Makes and Types of Records in Stock

ROUND THE

OLD BOYS ANNUAL DINNER

By J/RSM Spearman

On Saturday, September 16th, RSM Pavey, SSM Rodriguez, J/SSM Brister and I attended the RE (Signals) and Royal Signals ex-boys eighth annual dinner in London.

At 6.30 p.m. everyone assembled to meet old acquaintances. Many of them asked us about the Regiment, and were very impressed by the developments since their time (as far back as 1905), and by our late achievements.

Later on we all went in for dinner. The guest of honour was Maj.-Gen. A. M. W. Whistler, CBE. Following the dinner the loyal toast was honoured and speeches were made.

The chairman made the first speech, welcoming all the guests, extending a very warm welcome to "our old friends, the Junior Leaders Regiment, represented by J/RSM Spearman and J/SSM Brister, and to the two boys from the Army Apprentice School, Harrogate."

Maj.-Gen. Whistler then spoke of how important these two Regiments were. He said: "These boys are the future; they will hold the positions you once held."

A great number of the guests were colonels, majors, etc.—all ex-boys.

The General then spoke about recruiting, saying that there were far more young people joining than ever before, and that it was hard to cope with the numbers of applications.

After dinner, Mrs. Whistler spoke to J/SSM Brister and me about the social life at Denbury.

One amusing incident was when one of WO II. Rodriguez's instructors told us of the tricks he and his mates got up to when they were in training—the same tricks and pranks Junior Leaders play now, with a little modification. "So now you know why your Troop senior NCO knows where all the trouble is started, and if anyone is missing from parade, where to find him."

Altogether we had a very rewarding experience.

OVERHEARD IN THE SOCIAL CLUB

Amid the noise of two pianos (out of tune and horribly discordant), the latest rag-time tune on a record-player, the shouts of table tennis fiends and of couples dancing, a shy Junior Leader sidled up to the W.V.S. lady and whispered: "Eve, we only want the bagpipes marching in now . . ."

MECHANICAL ADVANTAGE

In addition to the numerous Junior Leaders of Romulus and White Spear Troops who belong to motor-bikes, J/L/Cpl. Herod and J/Sig. Mason, of Quadrant, have recently become attached to a car, a black 1945 Morris 10.

The docile appearance of this vehicle covers a courageous, economical engine, and a wheezy hooter which has been heard encouraging the football team during exciting moments in the match.

Apart from its obvious advantages of trips and transportation, this machine has also been used for mobile litter-bugging. When the duty of cleaning the Squadron area falls on Quadrant Troop, a couple jump in, cruise along until they spot some offending toffee-paper or match-stick and hop out and nab it, before it can hide away and jump out again as the sergeant-major passes. Unfortunately, the "Motelization" of the cookhouse has not yet been completed, so Mason and L/Cpl. Herod must still walk to meals.



CHRISTMAS BRIDE

Mrs. Dagnall, the mother of J/Sig. Brumfield (Kukri Troop), was unable to come here for Parents Day last term, but instead presented this beautiful doll which she has dressed as a bride.

Mrs. Dagnall suggested that perhaps the doll could be raffled in aid of regimental funds. So some time, a bit nearer to Christmas, we shall discover the lucky 'groom who will win her.

GRANGE RESTAURANT

SEA FRONT - BABBACOMBE DOWNS
Telephone: TORQUAY 87561

OPEN ALL THE YEAR ROUND

Fully Licensed. Dinners and parties specially arranged.
Also CONCERTS, DANCES, SOCIALS, etc.
CAR PARK. Coach Parking facilities

REASONABLE CHARGES

Daily and Sundays for Morning Coffee, Luncheons,
Teas, Suppers, etc., from 10 a.m.

CAMP

FARM PROFITS

Imagine the surprise of Capt. Willmott one day when, on a lonely country road just outside the camp, he came upon a large, black, ferocious-looking pig. Having failed to drive it in front of his car to camp, he reported its approximate map reference to Sgt. Aven.

A few minutes later J/Sig. Gould was seen triumphantly entering the camp, brandishing a garden rake and a broom-handle, herding a scared pig before him. He reported to Sgt. Aven: "Mission accomplished. Now we have four pigs in their sty."

However, on investigation, Sgt. Aven found no pigs in their sty, as the newcomer, dissatisfied with Denbury's pig-sty conditions, had broken down the sty barrier. Undaunted, Sgt. Aven placed the miscreant in a wire compound. Here the pig, having seen the Signals display team in action, got up speed and momentum and charged his way through the wire, making a body-sized hole about a foot above ground level.

The beast later ambled across the lawn in full view of the Sergeants Mess. One member pretended he hadn't seen it, another shuddered and went to bed, and a third whistled for "Jock." He also pretended not to see it, and the pig, quite unconcerned, wandered away on some pig business of its own.

OLD COMRADE

Once more we have the pleasure of entertaining Cpl. George Pledger, the ex-Signals Chelsea Pensioner who stayed with the Sergeants Mess last Christmas and, together with CSM "Andy" Anderson, watched the first canoe race at Totnes. George has had a long spell in hospital, and came to stay in the mess again for a fortnight to rest and recuperate. He's a bit short of breath, but says he is otherwise A1, so it won't be long before he's as fighting fit as the boxers he loves to watch.

NEW HOCKEY PITCH

Another improvement of the camp's amenities has been the resurfacing of the half of the Regimental Square which forms the hockey pitch. The square is the largest flat area for many miles, and now the pitch has a fine new top worthy of the many teams, including our own, who play here.

The surface is really first-class for hockey, but is not yet hard enough to stand Army boots.

THE RSM's SWINDLE

This extremely popular fund-raiser (extremely popular with one of the editors because he won the first £3) occurs every week. A sealed sixpenny ticket has two numbers printed inside it, which refer to two of a list of 33 football teams which is printed on the outside of the ticket. If your two teams score more goals in the Saturday's matches than any other two teams you get £3. If your two teams have more teams scored against them (i.e. if they lose to the two teams who scored the most), you get £2.

In addition, eight of the 528 tickets sold are IOU's for 2/6d.

If, when you have opened your ticket, you see "IOU 2/6d." printed inside, the RSM will gladly pay you that sum if you claim before the Wednesday following the match. The last winner of £2 did not claim his prize, so it has gone into the Regimental fund.

RISING SAPS

It isn't Spring, but there's something in the air, and it seems to be over the Sergeants Mess. Several times now the bleary track-suited forms of some of the living-in members have been seen to issue from the Mess in the dawn light and skip lightly in again half an hour later, after running around Denbury Hill with the soccer team. Sgt. Maher's sylph-like figure has also been spotted at this time doing knee-bends in the open air. But he wasn't touching his toes for nothing. No, sir! He was picking mushrooms.

THE DENBURY CROSS

Denbury Camp's landmark is not merely a gesture or a lump of granite. The Maltese Cross which surmounts it has been the symbol of bravery and chivalry for hundreds of years; look at the shape of the V.C.!

Way back during the First Crusade, a hospital was founded in Jerusalem, run by Knights of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. These knights, later to be known also as the Knights of Malta, were primarily Hospitallers. Their rule was: "The sick give the orders, the Brethren obey." They gradually became involved in the wars, but although they were renowned for their fighting skill and courage, they still remained true to their rule of caring for the sick.

In times of peace they wore a simple black mantle, but in war they wore a tunic of red, with a white Maltese Cross emblazoned on their chests.

WATNEYS

ALES and STOUTS

Main Distributors:

VINNICOMBES

TORQUAY - TEIGNMOUTH

NAAFI

1921-1961

Forty Years of Service
to the Services



Credit Sales Soar

The phenomenal success of the instalment credit sales scheme introduced by Naafi in November, 1959, is telling proof of the extent to which it is appreciated by men and women of the Services. And no wonder. Highly favourable terms make it possible for them to buy from a vast range of household and personal goods without the need of ready cash.

The scheme is open to all officers and other ranks over the age of 17½ years. Units and messes may

also take advantage of it. Dividend or discount is payable on the majority of items and the maximum credit charge is only a penny in the pound each month. Payments may be made weekly, fortnightly or monthly. There is no problem about postings; an agreement signed in the United Kingdom can be transferred to any Naafi shop anywhere. Ask your shop manager for details.

IMPERIAL COURT, KENNINGTON LANE, LONDON, S.E.11.

H.M. Forces' Official Trading Organisation

The
Mid-Devon Stores

Limited
(A Member of the Reeves Group)

for
IRONMONGERY
FURNITURE
CARPETS
RUGS
LINOLEUMS, etc.



Everything for the Home and Garden



62, QUEEN ST., NEWTON ABBOT
Telephone: 53
Authorized Dealers for Calor Gas and
all Hoover Products

FIRELIGHT FANTASY

An Episode in the Life of a Junior Leader

We have visited you, played for you, sung for you and danced for you in Ashburton, Bovey Tracey, Kingsteignton, Newton Abbot, Paignton, Totnes, Torquay and Taunton.

You honoured us by presenting us with pipe banners which we carry with pride.

WE NOW INVITE YOU TO VISIT US. We are preparing, for your entertainment, a

FIRELIGHT TATTOO

on SATURDAY, 4th NOVEMBER, commencing at 6.30 p.m.



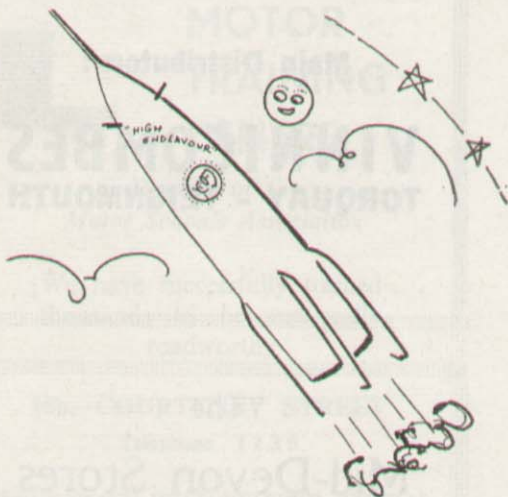
HEAR THE
BAND PLAYING



SEE THE DANCERS
DANCE A
THIRTYTWOsome REEL



★
WATCH THE
LAUNCHING OF THE
DENBURY SATELLITE



LISTEN TO THE CHOIR



THE BURNING OF THE GUY



THERE WILL BE
REFRESHMENTS TO SUIT
THE WHOLE FAMILY

Come and LAUNCH A BALLOON INTO SPACE carrying your Name and Address

THIS IS ALL TO BE HAD IN DENBURY ON

SATURDAY, 4th NOVEMBER at 6.30 p.m.

MAKE A DATE WITH SOUTH DEVON'S OWN JUNIOR LEADERS REGIMENT

RUGBY

DENBURY, 11; TEIGNMOUTH COLTS, 6

Played September 23rd. The game started with play continually in the Colts half. Hill was the first to score—a good try out on the right wing. He made a very good effort to convert, but the ball fell just short of the bar.

The next try also came to us, when Brister took a pass from Barnett, who had run half the length of the field. Barnett, incidentally, was our reserve. Hill converted the try. Near the end of the first half a penalty was awarded against us, in our own half, which was well kicked to make the half-time score 8-3.

In the second half it was a different story, though. Teignmouth seemed to rally round, and made a great effort; they were unlucky not to equalize. Once more, Hill was the first to touch down, but was again unable to convert. Teignmouth then also scored a try, but also failed to convert it.

It was an enjoyable, well-fought match.

SEVEN-A-SIDE RUGBY

Francis Troop 16 pts (J/Sgt Round, J/L/Cpls. Wooler, Keenan, Fitton, Bagnal, J/SSM Brister, J/Sig. Parkinson); Iron Troop 8 (J/Sgt. Wraith, J/L.Cpl. Chisholm, J/Sig. Hargreaves, Vivien, Lyth, Walker, Perry).

As usual, Francisca Troop played a very good game and won comfortably. Brister scored the first two tries, the second one being converted by Parkinson. In the second half Wooler scored a try, followed by Round with another. Round's try was converted, also by Parkinson.

It was very clear that Francisca Troop had the game in their hands from the start. Iron Troop did their best, but it did not halt Francisca at all. Brister played an outstanding game and was unlucky not to score more points than he did. Parkinson also deserved more luck.

This victory made Francisca the regimental seven-a-side champions.

VICTORY TO TORQUAY

Torquay Colts proved too strong for the Junior Leaders Rugby XV. at Torquay. In the first half Torquay completely overran our XV., and we did well to contain them to 11-0. In the second half our side got "stuck in," and made a more open match of it. Torquay finally ran out with a 16-0 victory, but the second half provided encouragement for the future.

J/SIG. WARD

While at school I played for the first team, and in my last season I captained the side. When I left school I gained my position at left-half. While I played for East Metter, I was selected to have a trial for Durham County Boys. I then represented the county on quite a few occasions.

Roker Park, Sunderland; St. James's Park, Newcastle; Ayresome Park, Middlesbrough; these are some of the great grounds on which I have played. The last season I played for them I had the honour of playing against a German Youth international team. It was my last, and best ever.

Then I joined the Army and came to Denbury. I could not make the grade in the first team before the Army Cup, but after the Christmas term I was promoted to Regimental football captain and I played right-back.

So far this season we have had four games and won three. We play against the Royal Artillery on Wednesday, September 27th. We have a good chance of winning it if we train hard and do as Sgt. Peake says. I know that everyone wants to be back at Aldershot winning back the Cup. I know we can do it.

BASKETBALL

A GOOD START FOR THE BASKETBALL TEAM

Monday, September 18th, showed that the team should have a promising season ahead.

J/Sig. Harber (captain) played his usual hard game, scoring eight points in the first half and four in the second.

The newest boy to the team, J/Sig. Albiston (White Spear), showed a lot of confidence and promise in scoring 14 points.

Score: Exeter Bulldogs, 15; Junior Leaders, 46.

HARBER AND LOCKE FIND THE BASKET

The Junior Leaders basketball team only just defeated Exeter Pirates 42-38 in a close, exciting game. Both teams had difficulty in scoring points, and the Pirates' co-ordination made them dangerous opponents.

J/Sig. Harber, our captain, scored 16 points, and J/Sgt. Locke came close with 14. The Pirates were, unfortunately, hit by an injury in the first quarter when one of their players hurt his leg.

CROSS-COUNTRY

CROSS-COUNTRY DEFEAT

Our opening match of the season, against H.M.S. Figgard, resulted in a heavy defeat for the Signals. Running a young team, probably with next term's Army Championships in view, we were thoroughly trounced by 26 to 59. The race was the first to be run over the new course, and thus Grey (Figgard) has set a record of 20 minutes 58 seconds over the 3½-mile course. Our results to count were: Weston, 4th; Gibb, 6th; Stephens, 9th; Robertson, 10th; Dickie, 13th; and Gue 17th.

HOCKEY

OPENING SUCCESS

The Junior Leaders Hockey XI. opened the season in a blaze of glory by defeating their rivals from H.M.S. Figgard 1-0. The game itself, as the score suggests, was very even, but the players found it very exhausting as the sun was shining throughout. The only goal was scored by J/Sig. Heard, one of last season's regulars.

J/Sig. Thompson played an outstanding game in goal and made some sparkling saves. The whole team played well outside, but of particular note was J/L/Cpl. Sharpe, whose energy seemed inexhaustible.



by Sgt. Martin

STAFF SPORT

CREEK INJURED

In addition to the absence of Sgts. Angell and Meekings, the Staff basketball team suffered further misfortune in the opening minutes of their first league match, against Exeter "B." Sgt. Creek (captain) wrenched his ankle. This threw a great strain on the remainder. Capt. Burke was also temporarily off court injured. Scorers were WO II. Wheatley, S/Sgts. Hammond and Nicholls, and Sgt. Jamieson, who got one basket with an "Angell special" from the halfway line, and Sgt. Tyler, making his debut with the team.

The Staff lost 50-16, and it is only fair to say that, despite absenteeism and injury, there were also clear signs of lack of fitness and basketball practice.

HAPPY FOOTBALLERS

The Senior Wing XI., under new management by WO II. Hales (ACC), are now proudly described as "a happy team, who play because they enjoy it."

In their first match in the Torbay Wednesday League, against St. Marychurch Rovers, they were defeated 3-1. Sig. Oliver scored our only goal, but it was an even game, with a lot of early seasonal mis-kicking. S/Sgt. Hammond, in goal, put on a fine display, and Sgt. Lockyer distinguished himself by being offside at least twenty times.

BRILLIANT GOALKEEPING

The second match for the Senior Wing XI. was against Hotels and Caterers, always a strong side. S/Sgt. Hammond was sadly missed in goal, although Cpl. Grey, who saved a penalty, did well. After being 4-1 down at halftime, the Signals started to play the better football, and could well have won by five clear goals if it had not been for a fine performance by the opposing goalkeeper, especially in saving three or four "Lockyer specials."

The final score was 5-3 to the Hotels, our scorers being Sgts. Lockyer and Hall and Sig. Fagg.

The defence, with Sgt. Angell and Sigs. Marriott and Moorhouse prominent, played well. In attack, Sgt. Hall's brilliant dribbling and Cpl. Murray's aggressiveness on the right-wing made a formidable pair.

STAFF BEAT R.N.E.C. 8-1

The Staff hockey XI. opened the season with a comfortable win over R.N.E.C. at Plymouth. In sunshine, on a good grass pitch, the team soon clicked into action and were never really troubled. Goals came steadily, and it was not until well into the second half that R.N.E.C. scored. Rothwell scored five goals, Hartnett two, and Angell one.

TORBAY PROVE STIFF OPPONENTS

The inaugural match on the new hard pitch was played at a furious pace. Play swung from end to end, and the Staff XI. were forced into several errors. Angell opened the score, but Torbay soon equalized and the half-time score was 2-1. Torbay pressed very hard, but the Staff went further ahead to win by four goals (Angell 3, Hall) to one.

MIXED XI. DRAWS

A mixed Staff and Junior Leaders Hockey XI. did well to draw with Exeter Hockey Club.

Exeter started off with a quick goal, and play waxed fast and furious. Then Exeter scored again. However, just before halftime, a quick burst through the centre by Major Rothwell made it 2-1.

In the second half the superior fitness of the Denbury side began to tell, but after Major Rothwell's equalizer, the winning goal just wouldn't come.



for comfort and value

THE 614 COUCH

An attractive new Vono couch in the modern idiom. Well sprung seat and back rest becoming luxurious mattresses when the couch is converted to single beds, or, if preferred, a double bed.



Come and see our Range

TAPPERS

VONO STOCKISTS

8-12, WOLBOROUGH STREET, NEWTON ABBOT

Tel. 2021/22

BOXING



J/Sig. Martin Hits J/L/Cpl. Spree by Sgt. Martin

INTER-TROOP BOXING COMPETITION

The finals of the competition were fought on Friday, September 22nd. Class "A" boxing took place in the afternoon and seven bouts were on the programme.

The competition began with a contest between J/Sig. Lane (G) and J/Sig. Quinn (J), but Quinn was disqualified for slapping.

Next we saw J/Sig. Smith (J) prove himself too strong for J/Sig. Smith (G), and the referee stopped the fight. J/Sig. Moloney (G) was awarded a walk-over due to an injury to J/Sig. Waight (L) which prevented him fighting. The next bout was won by J/Sig. Watson (L), who outpointed J/Sig. Wraith (G) in a hard-fought contest.

The Commanding Officer later paid public tribute to the "guts" displayed by Wraith.

J/Sig. Fawcett (K) knocked out J/Sig. Telford (F), and J/Sig. Morgan (J) defeated J/Sig. Anstey (M) on points. In the last bout J/Sig. Murphy (D) was awarded the fight when J/Sig. Gibbs (J) was disqualified for slapping.

The evening's boxing opened with a clean, spirited bout in which J/Sig. Tofield (M) defeated J/L/Cpl. Dryhurst (A). Then came an explosion as J/Sig. Spree (F) knocked out J/Sig. Birchall (H) in the opening seconds of the first round. J/Sig. Trenchard (D) defeated J/Sig. Wicks (K) in a close fight, but it was an unconvincing victory as was the next contest, in which J/Sig. Procter (B) outpointed J/Sig. McGookin (H). Procter has a very long reach, which as yet is not fully developed as a boxing skill.

The bout in which J/Sgt. Wilson (M) defeated J/Sig. Barnard (G) was excellent entertainment, with the former throwing some strong, aggressive punches, and the latter revealed himself as a neat, compact boxer. J/Sig. Powell (L) did well to outpoint J/Sig. Hawkins (B), demonstrating how a straight puncher can defeat one who swings. J/Sig. Nelson (B) proved too strong for J/Sig. Jepson (M), and the referee stopped the fight in the first round.

During the interval the packed audience was vastly entertained by a "television-type" wrestling

match between J/Sigs. Kearns (B) and Radford (B). The comfortable winner was Referee Sharman.

The second half opened with a victory for J/Sig. Young (M) over J/Sig. Gethin (B), with the referee stopping the fight in the first round. J/L/Cpls. Wooler (F) and Pollard (K) provided a great display of two quick, hard punchers, battling with might and main, with the former emerging as the winner. Congratulations to two very plucky losers in the next two contests, in J/Cpl. Murray (L) and J/Sgt. Lycett (J), who were outclassed by J/Sigs. Tucker (D) and Cook (L) respectively. These two winners are both "class" boxers, and their opponents did magnificently to last the distance.

J/Sig. Kay (B) had a walk-over from J/Sig. Stanger (F) who, unfortunately, was unable to box, for medical reasons. J/Sig. Black (B) outpointed J/Sig. Porter (M), demonstrating the old boxing rule that a proficient and stylish boxer should defeat a hard-hitting scrapper. J/S/Sgt. Barrett (A) proved far too strong for J/Sig. Warr-Wood (D) in the first round, after three counts of eight seconds. The last fight, between J/L/Cpl. Greenwood (B) and J/Sig. Smith (D) proved disappointing. So much had been expected of this particular bout but, in fact, Greenwood won by a first-round knockout.

Kukri Troop were the worthy winners of the Troop Trophy, with Romulus Troop a close second. 'Junior Mercury' ratings: Best contest of the evening, Wooler v. Pollard; best loser, Barnard; pluckiest loser, Murray; best boxer, Barrett.

SOCCER

DENBURY v. TEIGNMOUTH G.S.

Played September 16th. This was our first match, and turned out to be a very good one. Both teams played hard and cleanly, but Denbury were clearly superior and won by 5-3. Scorers G. Nelson (2), Beaumont (2), and Booker.

2nd XI. v. TEIGNMOUTH JUNIORS

It was drizzling rain at Teignmouth on September 16th for the 2nd XI's first match. Farquhar opened the scoring to put us in the lead after only four minutes. Teignmouth immediately equalized. Gourley went through on his own to score our second goal, then Teignmouth scored again. Davis then scored from 35 yards, and once more Teignmouth equalized. Forrester scored the fourth for us, then right-half Douglas also scored from 35 yards.

Teignmouth scored to make it 5-4, and then Pretty shot, the ball being deflected into the net by a Teignmouth defender. Davis scored his second to make our score seven; the last goal was scored by Forrester, who leaped high to nod a shot into the net.

Teignmouth had also scored pretty freely during this time, and the match ended in an 8-7 victory for us.

PLYMPTON G.S. v. ROYAL SIGNALS

Played September 20th. Plympton kicked off and scored after five minutes. It was pretty hard for Signals to stand their ground on this very small pitch. Plympton scored again at 3.10 p.m. and, 25 minutes later, again making it 3-2 to Plympton. Then Booker equalized.

In the second half Plympton scored four more goals, and the match ended in a 7-3 defeat for Signals. Scorers G. Nelson (2) and Booker.

TOTNES YOUTH CLUB v. J.L.R., R. SIGNALS

Half-time: Signals 4, Totnes 2. Full-time: Signals 9, Totnes 2.

Played Sunday, September 17th. Totnes kicked off, and after four or five minutes both teams began to settle down. With attempts by Wilson, Stanger and Booker, Signals tried their hardest to score soon after they kicked off, but the Totnes forwards broke through our defence and scored within ten minutes.

After the first goal, G. Nelson and Prior of the forward line, together with the wing-halves, went soon around the Totnes goalmouth attacking strongly. From a throw-in by Hollander, Wilson hammered in a goal with a long, accurate shot. The game settled down a bit after that, but in the 25th minute Totnes gave away a penalty. G. Nelson took it and scored a sure goal, putting Signals one goal ahead. After half an hour's play, Totnes tried vainly to fox our defence, but after a take-over by Booker, on the right wing, he started a long run up the pitch and scored with ease. After the second goal by Signals they started to attack more than before, but the Totnes centre-forward got the ball and scored. Later, G. Nelson made a fantastic effort and scored a goal. The whistle blew for half-time, when the score was Signals 4, Totnes 2.

Signals kicked off after half-time, making sure of every stroke. The ball went to Booker, who passed to G. Nelson, who made a dive and headed a goal, making the score 5-2. Then again, after three minutes, G. Nelson hammered home yet another goal—a hat-trick in his second match. Minutes later yet another goal scored by Nelson, from a pass by Booker, made the score 7-2.

After 75 minutes playing, Nelson scored again, making it his sixth goal of the match. Ward, the captain, shook Nelson by the hand on the field to congratulate him on a double hat-trick. Signals kept up the attack and, at 4.34 p.m., Hollander made a goal—the last of the match.

The half-backs, Stanger, Chisholm and Hollander, were backed up extremely well by Ward and Nelson (M) at full-back and Hunt in goal. Indeed, all the players put on a fine display in a great sporting manner.

Scorers: G. Nelson (centre-forward) 6; P. Booker (left-wing) 1; Hollander (left-half) 1; and J. Wilson (inside-left) 1.

J.L.R., R. SIGNALS, 12; ROVER COLTS, 0

Played September 23rd. Signals attacked from the start, and after five minutes G. Nelson scored. A few minutes later he scored again. Booker banged in the next one, and then Nelson scored again. The Colts attacked fiercely all the time; the left-back in particular played a fine game, but Signals were just getting into their stride.

Just after half-time Hollander passed to Nelson, who headed a very fine goal. A little later Hollander again sent a lovely pass, this time to Booker, who made no mistake with a fine shot. In less than a minute after the second half kick-off, G. Nelson scored again. Soon after it was obvious that Signals were even yet not satisfied, and the ball was continually in the Rovers goalmouth. Booker scored another with ease, and Nelson shot a long goal from a pass from his brother, right-back M. Nelson. This was his sixth goal.

A few minutes later, after splendid team-work from the rest of the forwards, Nelson scored and, shortly after, he made another. Then Prior made the score 12-0 with a lovely shot, and the whistle blew.

Scorers: G. Nelson 8, Booker 2, and Prior.

The Tower Cycles Ltd. (opposite Odeon Cinema)

Telephone: NEWTON ABBOT 42

★ MOPEDS - BICYCLES - SCOOTERS ★

All the best makes to choose from — the largest variety in town:

RALEIGH	HUMBER	DAWES	HERCULES	B.S.A.	NEW HUDSON
RUDGE	TRIUMPH	PHILLIPS	DAYTON	SUN	ROYAL ENFIELD

CYCLES from £14 5s. CASH or EASY TERMS—10s. Deposit

Immediate Delivery Your Cycle in Part Exchange Full After Sales Service Repairs and Accessories