

A FUTURE IN LEADERSHIP

THE TEXT OF H.R.H. THE PRINCESS ROYAL'S SPEECH
DELIVERED TO THE JUNIOR LEADERS REGIMENT,
ROYAL SIGNALS, ON 12th JUNE, 1959.

WHEN I last visited your Regiment in July 1954, it was stationed at Beverley and was known as the 6th (Boys') Training Regiment. Now you are called the Junior Leaders Regiment and the principal reason for this change was to give a new and greater emphasis to the importance of junior leadership.

Throughout the world today, in all walks of life, there exists the most urgent need for sober, honest and imaginative leadership. Your contribution in this respect is of the greatest importance.

Seldom has a greater mission been entrusted to my Corps than the maintenance of a ceaseless watch over the communications so vital to our Commonwealth and international obligations. The task is one of high trust and a challenge to the skill and integrity of all ranks in my Corps. Should the horror of war burst upon us again these activities will be extended on to the battlefield and we must bear ourselves there, with courage and fortitude, as we have done in the past.

The eyes of every Regiment in My Corps are upon you. They are keen to receive you as full and equal members and potential Junior Leaders, of the Corps to which we are all proud to belong. You may be assured of their help, their encouragement and their support. You must not fail to live up to the standards they have set for you.

You are fortunate in having a comfortable and well appointed camp. I congratulate you on winning the team competition in the Army Boys Boxing Championships in December last year. I am sure you will want to repeat that success and add others to it in the future.

I am delighted to see that your training programme embraces a variety of subjects. The visit some of you made to the Norwegian Army in March this year is to be followed by a visit from the boys of the Norwegian Army Apprentice School in September. In July this year 36 of your number will be taking part in the International Marches at Nijmegen. Your Commanding Officer tells me that we may expect to see your Regimental Choir make its first appearance in London next year. I am delighted to hear this and I wish the choir every success.

Your academic, military and trade training is to be knitted together more closely in order to give you a better overall military education. There will be closer command and greater continuity in troops and more opportunities for Outward Bound and leadership training.

The interests of your social and games clubs are to be widened and affiliated to schools and youth clubs in the towns around you. I have not the slightest doubt that the response to this venture will be warm and spontaneous and I am equally sure that you will be a credit to My Corps wherever you go.

I have asked your Commanding Officer to grant you a holiday on the 27th of June to mark the occasion of this first visit to My Junior Leaders Regiment. I am pleased to learn from him that you will be holding a Carnival on that day open to the public of Newton Abbot.

I am very happy to have seen you all. I congratulate you on the excellence of your turnout and bearing and I wish you every happiness and good fortune in the future.

EVER ONWARD

WHEN the Commanding Officer thanked Her Royal Highness for visiting the Regiment he assured her that its first purpose would always be to maintain the high standard of the Corps.

Lt.-Col. Gregory informed Princess Mary that Scottish Dancing had been introduced in the Regiment. The Royal Signals Reel would be included in the repertoire. Playing the bagpipes was to commence as a hobby and a file of Pipers would be added to the Corps of Drums, which itself was soon to be attired in scarlet tunics. It was intended that these ideas would foster closer relations with the other Regiments of the Corps.

She was also informed that suitable accommodation had been allocated for a Regimental museum in order to keep a central record of some of the more interesting things we do here and in the Museum we intend to build a large model of Dartmoor showing all the interesting features of the moors, including the various types of granite to be found there. The project will take the best part of two years and will be linked to our Outward Bound activities.



H.R.H. meets two R.S.M.'s

by Sgt. Ash

12.6.59

Mary
Colonel in Chief.

EDITORIAL

"If you can meet with triumph and disaster,
And treat these two impostors just the same."

THESE immortal words of Rudyard Kipling sum up our feelings as we go into print on this, our second edition. "Triumph," in that our last issue was generally popular; there were mistakes and omissions for which we crave indulgence, but on the whole, the "Junior Mercury" was well received both inside and outside the Regiment. "Disaster" which has struck us two-fold in the imminence of a strike in the printing trade, and the unfortunate accident to "Les" Mant, our artist, who is at present in Plymouth Hospital. This has meant that we are forced to produce our "copy" earlier than we had hoped. We thank L/Cpl. Steer of H.Q. Squadron, who has kindly drawn the cartoon in this edition, and Lt. Robb (R.A.D.C.) who has drawn an appropriate "X" strip cartoon.

The Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. L. H. M. Gregory, has made it clear, both in his speech on the occasion of the Queen's Birthday Parade and in what he told the Princess Royal, that this Regiment is to advance. Boys of the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Signals, are destined to become the future leaders of the British Army, and no effort is to be spared to ensure that the training they receive is of the right type. Emphasis is being placed not on blind obedience to orders, but on developing the ability to make decisions—these decisions to be the right ones.

These are ambitious aims, and it is obvious that this Regiment will be improving and becoming better known. We of the "Junior Mercury," very humbly, pledge ourselves to keep improving with the Regiment, to maintain a standard in keeping with the fine tradition of the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Signals, and to play our part in the advance of this Regiment to the forefront of the future British Army. We would like to welcome to the ranks of our staff J/Sig. Morgan, who has been appointed our Band Correspondent. "Taff" Morgan is a trumpeter in the Corps of Drums, and is covering all the band activities for us in his spare time.

Finally, we thank all our readers for the support which they have given, and for the countless valuable suggestions and criticisms which have been offered. We aim to please, and can only do this if we know what gives pleasure.

ROYAL VISIT

THE visit to this Regiment of Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal, was met with traditional British pomp and ceremony. The day's proceedings began at 1200 hours with a spectacular Parade which lasted for just under an hour. The Parade was watched from the sideline by visitors from the outlying districts, and selected school parties from all over Devon, as well as by the Staff and their families.

After the Parade, Princess Mary retired to the Officers' Mess, where she was entertained to luncheon, and introduced to the Officers and their Ladies. She then toured the Regiment, taking a great interest in the Outward Bound kit used by boys on Dartmoor, and in the canoes. She visited the Hobbies Block where she spoke to many of the boys, also visiting the church and the cookhouse. On completion of this tour, she went as a guest of the Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess to a Garden Party held on the top sports field. It was here that she was introduced to the Sergeants and their Wives. Tea was accompanied by selections of music played by a small contingent of the Corps Orchestra. Invited to have tea with Her Royal Highness were J/R.S.M. Cole and J/S.S.M. Parry, who had the pleasure of a lengthy conversation with her. Directly after tea she circulated for a short time amongst the crowds of boys who were standing nearby. Throughout the day Her Royal Highness was accompanied by her Lady-in-Waiting, Lady Paynter, who also took a keen interest in the affairs of the Regiment. Her exit route, through the South Gate, was lined by hundreds of boys who saluted her as she passed, accompanied by an escort of Police cars.

The day was considered to be a great success by all concerned, brilliant sunshine and blue skies helping to make it so. Spectators congratulated the boys on their performance on the Parade Ground, and older members of the Cadre declared that they had never seen such a splendid performance given solely by Junior Leaders.

THIS VISIT WILL LIVE IN THE MEMORIES OF US ALL.

THE NIJMEGAN MARCH

AT the beginning of next month at a place called Nijmegen, in Holland, contingents from many regiments in Europe will meet to display their marching prowess. The object of this meeting is to promote comradeship between the countries of Europe by providing friendly competition.

The only "entrance fee" is that each

BEATING OF RETREAT

(from Our Special Band Correspondent)

ON 5th June, the first Ceremonial Guard Mounting Parade took place at 1800 hours, followed by "Beating of Retreat" by the Corps of Drums; it is now a Friday feature in the Regiment. One and Two Squadrons take it in turns to provide the Guard from the Senior Troops, and the smartest member is selected weekly as the Commanding Officer's Stick Orderly.

The Corps of Drums march on playing a fanfare, J/L/Cpl. Humphries then plays a solo "Advance," followed by the drums only advancing in Review Order, and the Drum solos. Then comes the "Troop" in slow time, two more fanfares and the "Retreat." Whilst the "Retreat" is being played all within earshot stand to attention and the Regimental Police lower the flag. The Parade ends with the Advance in Review Order, and then Drum Major Fisher requests permission to march the band off.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY

THE Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Signals, paraded at Rawlinson Barracks on 13th June to celebrate the official birthday of Her Majesty the Queen. The ten troops formed up independently on the parade ground with their troop officers and sergeants in command, and with the Second in Command, Major Dunkley, as the Parade Commander. The Corps of Drums were smartly clad in Number One Dress, as was the "Colour" and His Escort (J/Sgt. Henderson with J/Sigs. Coope and Pickens); and once again we were blessed with brilliant sunshine. The Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. L. H. M. Gregory, M.B.E., inspected, and later made a congratulatory speech in which he praised the previous day's Parade given in honour of Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal, and said, "I am proud to be a member of the Regiment to which all of you belong."

The troops then advanced in Review Order, presented arms and gave the Royal Salute, at which the Union Jack was raised. The silence of Denbury was then split by three rousing cheers for the Queen. Thus did we pay Our Homage!

group should be able to travel 25 miles in 11 hours, and that they shall have covered 400 miles by way of travelling.

It is hoped that this Regiment will be represented by 12 boys of each squadron. At the moment four boys from each troop have been picked, but it is expected that many will fall by the wayside during the training period.

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ROUND THE CAMP

UP THE TAMAR

(by J/Sig. Rhodes, A.)

DURING half-term a party of eight boys set off under Major Nye, W.O. I. Braithwaite, and S/Sgt. Thwaites for a week-end's canoe-camping. We arrived at 1900 hours, having taken a few wrong turnings on the way—Major Nye had the map!

After a "brew-up" we got the canoes out, and Mr. Braithwaite began demonstrating his skill; but as he turned into a bend we suddenly saw the bottom of his canoe, but no Mr. Braithwaite! However, when he re-appeared a few seconds later, scowling—we all laughed, none more heartily than Staff Thwaites.

Next morning we tested the canoes, and set off upstream after dinner. At a weir five miles up we had a competition. We hung three tins up on a rope across the river, and had to go down the rapids, through the tins, turn round, paddle back between the tins again and up the rapids. The first two pairs were successful, the third pair had to get out and carry their canoe up the rapids, while J/Sigs. Morrissey and McKie tried to cut across the current and overturned.

The following day we set off back for Plymouth. One canoe started to leak, and we had to get out every half hour to empty it. All the way to Plymouth, Staff Thwaites paddled, with J/Sig. Stacey sitting in the front taking the "Mickey" out of him. At Plymouth we were met by a truck, and back to camp after a very enjoyable week-end.

FORCEPS v. DRILL

MAJOR Smith Owen and Lieut. Robb both belong to the Stover Golf Club, and by a coincidence these medical associates were drawn to play each other in a Cup Match. An interesting thought, to weigh the merits of one spending his life jabbing needles around whilst his rival is tugging and pulling all the time. The victor? After a close match the "saw-bones" triumphed over the "ivory-smatcher."

CARELESS HANDS

RETURNING from half-term leave J/Sig. Merrylees (J.) mislaid his ticket, resulting in his return to camp 16 hours overdue. He had more trouble explaining his absence than in finding his ticket.

THE DEAD AND THE DYING

IT has come to the notice of the Commanding Officer that certain Jnr./Sigs. have been found dying on parade, and, due to negligence, failing to fall over. This practice must cease forthwith. W.e.f. 3rd July, all Jnr./Sigs. found dead in an upright position will be immediately removed to the Guardroom.

In future if an N.C.O. notices a Jnr./Sig. has made no movement in the period of one hour, excluding NAAFI break, it will be his duty to investigate the cause, as it is very difficult to distinguish between death and the natural movements of some of the Jnr./Sigs. of this camp. Sergeants are advised to make careful investigations by holding a photograph of Sergeant Yates in front of the suspected corpses, as this has proved the most reliable test. There have, however, been cases where natural instinct has been found so deeply ingrained that the hand of the corpse has been seen to give spasmodic clutches after Rigor Mortis has set in.

The most successful, and most reliable test is to whisper "Discharge," as this has been known to restore animation to a body which has been motionless for a week.

The above test should not be applied to N.C.O.'s and Commissioned ranks, as in these cases movement of any kind is unnecessary, and merely wasting valuable war material.

Signed,
Lt.-Col. Rigor-Mortis, S.D.

MAJOR ADDITION

CONGRATULATIONS to Major R. W. Nye, Senior Education Officer, on the birth of his second son. Paul Richard Nye made his appearance in the early hours of 9th June, "weighing-in" at 9 pounds and 2 ounces. Taking the "Junior Mercury's" suggestions at face value education instructors were given four days free of all teaching—the 10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th of June!

GAELIC GALLOPS

THE Commanding Officer has started Scottish Dancing classes on Thursday nights, and is hoping for a team to dance at the Carnival on 27th June. At present there are about a dozen regular enthusiasts, but more support is required. Great energy is expended, and other customers at the NAAFI must not be surprised if a kilted figure lands in their cup of tea.

TROUBLE IN TORRENTS

IT was evening. The camp was at rest. Suddenly there was an almighty clattering and banging round the camp. "Fire!" There was an officer suffocating in No. 2 Drill Shed! Within seconds the Regiment were lined up on the square, watching with interest the fire picket in action.

Like the well-trained body of men that they are, the cadre had the equipment out in a flash, and they were all ready to go. The water was turned on but, unfortunately, there were two lengths of hose which had not been joined together. The result? An ornamental fountain in the middle of the square—just hard lines on the poor roasted officer. To add to the horror, the N.C.O. i/c. made the fatal error of trying to connect the two ends with the water at full blast. The final result was that Newton Abbot fire brigade were the first to actually get water trained on the drill shed. A certain Squadron Commander was overheard dismissing his boys with the immortal words:—

"Dismiss the Squadron, but if anyone wishes to stay and watch the pantomime, they may."

CHOKED

J/SGT. Home and J/Cpl. Brooker were delighted when they heard of our new style Outward Bound training. Here was a chance for a trip home. They applied to their troop officer for a week-end exercise mentioning casually their preference for something in the London area. A well conceived plan—hitch-hike up to London, call in somewhere for a signature, and then home for the week-end. But alas! "the best laid schemes of mice and men . . ."

A fiendish and diabolical plot was devised for them, and their faces dropped as Captain Rogers outlined it to them. They were to go to Aldershot, the Parachute Regiment, there to ascertain the number, rank and name of every ex-boy, and his subsequent history. One feels spare time will be negligible.

THE "HERRENVOLK"

ONE of our reporters is greatly perturbed at the Fascist influence creeping into "M" Troop, where large painted Swastikas and "S.S." signs have been appearing overnight. We have guessed who is Herr Fuerher, but are doubtful of Dr. Goebbels' identity.

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LES ENFANTS DU CORPS

THE REGIMENT THAT BELONGS TO ALL OTHER REGIMENTS OF THE CORPS

“READERS not in the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Signals, stand fast; Junior Leaders, sound off!” Our Drum Major has never given this order, but we want to give it now. For we feel that those in other Signals Regiments and potential recruits do not know much about us here. Since by the nature of our job, we belong to all Regiments of the Royal Corps of Signals, we want to rectify this situation so: “Junior Leaders, Sound Off!”

The Romans beat us to Denbury as a camp site and their view from the top of the hill was greater than ours at its foot. Even so our view of the edge of Dartmoor is magnificent. The hutted camp was built just before the war, and the Devonshire Regiment promptly mobilised some of its battalions here in 1939. It was left to the Americans to add some of its distinctive features when they took it over as a hospital. To them can be attributed the central heating, the covered ways, and the ramps leading into the spiders. Whilst the depot of the Corps, the camp attempted to burst its seams, but from 1955, when 6th (Boys) Training Regiment, as we were then, moved in, numbers have been more reasonable.

We were geared to take 480 boys between the ages of 15 and 17½ and at present we are 441. They are allocated to two squadrons of five troops each, and an intake troop. H.Q.

Squadron has about 180 instructors and men so that by the time Officers are counted, the numbers hover around the 700 mark. Each troop is commanded by a Captain or Subaltern who looks after it as it progresses through the Regiment.

A Junior Leader normally stays in the Regiment about 6 terms, during which his military education will include trade training, educational training, physical training, and initiative and leadership training, each streamed to suit his ability. Each of these facets of his work has a contribution to make to the Outward Bound schemes, for each satisfies some aspect of that imaginative style of training, and luckily our position within easy reach of Dartmoor, several rivers and the sea, makes concocting interesting and valuable schemes comparatively simple. The Junior Leaders' military, spiritual, and social training combine to make him a potential leader in his future requirements. It aims to make him able and willing to lead a wireless detachment, a radio-relay crew, or to fill other junior posts with confidence, giving others the knowledge, above all, that he would not let the side down.

Determined to foster good relationships with the Regular Regiments of the Corps, Lt.-Col. Gregory has written to ten of them inviting them to adopt a troop, and suggesting that the purchase price of our gay

new head-dress, coloured Balaclava helmets in troop colours, should be the price of affiliation.

A typical reply came from a Regiment in Bielefeld, “We will certainly co-operate by taking a troop under our wing.” This Regiment has already shown its enthusiasm by forwarding the affiliation fee! The Colonel of another Regiment stationed in Essen wrote, “I think you have a very good idea, and would like to assist you by adopting one of your Troops. I would like the Troop to be known as ‘X’ (Bruno) Troop, Bruno being . . . the name of our regimental mascot—The Berlin Cable Bear.”

Other Regiments in this country and abroad have responded with replies like, “A first-class idea, you can count on full support from this Regiment, and myself,” and “the idea seems a very good one.” Yet another reply has extended an invitation to a Troop to attend a forthcoming Regimental weekend.

These, and other enthusiastic replies make us look forward to the links being forged between Regiment and Troop, not a complicated official affiliation, but a warm mutual interest as an Act of Friendship.

This is our organisation, and these our aims. Junior Leaders, “Stand at Ease, Stand Easy!”

“X” ON DEFAULTERS

IT is a beautiful evening and all is still. Wait! What is that strange shape lumbering down towards the lair of Sgt. Yates? Can it be? Yes, it is! Our old friend J/Sig. “X.”

“What you on, mate?” I asked.

“Jankers,” he said, giving a most ghastly smile.

I had, incidentally, guessed this already by the immaculate condition of his S.D. Strange for “X.”

The next question I placed cautiously to him.

“What did you get them for?”

“Well,” said “X.” “It’s a long story.”

By this time my interest was really aroused and after a hasty look at the time, and two “fags,” he condescended to tell his tale.

“Well,” he said, “I went out to see the girl, and not wanting to disturb the guard, I went out the back way.”

“Are you sure that was the reason?” I asked.

“Course it was,” was the rather shocked reply.

He continued, “In the woods coming back I heard a twig crack. I flattened myself against a tree and waited, hardly daring to breathe. Then it happened. A hand descended on to my shoulder and my heart leapt up into my mouth. Swinging round I was surprised to see a sergeant, and I just could not, for the life of me, understand what he was doing there at that time of night. It struck me that maybe he was doing a little bit of

moonlight hunting. Snaring pheasants perchance. Maybe he was just there to persecute me.”

At this point in the story “X” sighed, as if to show that the whole world was against him.

“That’s about it,” said “X.” “I was charged, and here I am with three days jankers.”

Once again he glanced at his watch, and then disappeared in a cloud of dust. The next day I saw him again.

“Where have you been?” I asked. “On Orders,” he said, “I’ve just got three days more.”

“What for?” I asked.

“Being late on Jankers,” he said.



READERS' CORNER

To:—The Editor,
"The Junior Mercury."

Dear Sir,

Heartiest congratulations on the first edition of the new "Junior Mercury." I am sure you will receive a number of letters—with many suggestions—but my advice to you is, that you should not be deflected in your purpose. Steer a steady course and anchor yourselves firmly to the spirit of the proverb at the beginning of your first editorial;

"If there is anything more important than the will to succeed it is that the will shall not falter."

You will need to engage the services of additional assistant reporters, who, I hope, will go out and find news and interviews in divers places and keep the "Junior Mercury" well supplied with "copy." There will be vacancies for cartoonists, composers, and typists; advertise for them at once and select applicants with great care. You should make it known that the "Junior Mercury" is run exclusively by young soldiers of the Junior Leaders Regiment, and I would like to ask, in particular, that you thank W.O. II. P. M. Wheatley, R.A.E.C., on behalf of all readers for the tremendous help and guidance he has given in helping you to produce such a first-class paper.

I am sure your appeal to the Regular Regiments of our Corps will not go unanswered, and I wish the "Junior Mercury" a rich and fruitful career.

Yours faithfully,
Lionel Gregory,
(Lt.-Col., Commanding Officer.)

To:—Editor of "Junior Mercury,"

From:—J/Sig. Longhurst, B. Troop.

Dear Sir,

Most of the boys in the camp are very pleased with the changes in dress that the Commanding Officer has made.

Until the Regimental "civvies" come into use, it would be very nice if we were permitted to leave camp at week-ends in shirt sleeve order.

Most boys go to the pictures on Saturday and sit with S.D. jackets open all the way down. I think we would look a lot smarter in shirt sleeves, and much more comfortable.

I remain, yours hopefully,

S. C. Longhurst.

To:—The Editor,
"Junior Mercury."

Sir,

The military band, with its spirit, colour, and style, is traditionally a means to stir the hearts of men and create a link between the soldier and the civilian population.

This basic appeal has enabled our own Corps of Drums and Trumpets, to which I was sorry to see no reference made in your recent issue, to make a greater impact on the local population than practically any other unit activity. The high standard achieved by our drummers and trumpeters in what is officially only a "hobby" is, in fact, a great credit to them.

Your readers will, however, be glad to hear that the Band is not content to rest on its laurels, and that plans are in hand for expansion and improvement.

These plans include the formation of a section of pipers, who will in due course wear the tartan of the Clan Grant, by gracious permission of the Countess of Seafield. A few boys to form the nucleus of the section are being specially enlisted in the near future and the training of the remainder will, it is hoped, begin shortly on practice chanters we are ordering from Edinburgh.

The pipers will be supplemented by a selected team of Scottish dancers, who are already being put through their paces by the Commanding Officer. When the Male Voice Choir is superimposed on the whole, as is intended, the result will be a versatile organisation with considerable panache. This will not only have a colourful part to play in our lives, but will do a great deal to carry our banner into the world outside.

Turning finally to the immediate future, the Band will appear at Lustleigh on the 4th July, and at Hastings in the Carnival Competition on the 8th and 9th July. The beating of Retreat by the Band on Fridays will, by the time your next issue is published, have become a regular feature of life in the Regiment.

Yours, etc.,

Worsley, Lt. Q.M.
(Band President.)

To the Editor of the "Junior Mercury,"
From J/Sig. Sarahs, D Troop.

Dear Sir,

May I ask why Junior Leaders who live within reasonable distance of the camp cannot have 36 hour passes at least once every three weeks. Personally I live in Dawlish, and try to get home most Saturdays and Sundays, which costs me 3/8 each time for the return journey.

You may say "don't go home then," but I find that I spend more money in the camp area or down at Newton Abbot. Another objection lies in our missing church parades, but surely it would be possible to obtain the signature of a minister to confirm attendance.

Hoping this meets with your approval.

(Signed) J. B. Sarahs.

ANSWERS TO LETTERS

1. Editor replies to Lt. Worsley.
The policy of the "Junior Mercury" will always be to give publicity to such worthwhile organisations as the Corps of Drums, and we are very grateful to you for your excellent forecast of future events. As will be seen on page 2 we had already anticipated your criticism concerning lack of reference to the Corps of Drums, and hasten to remedy this deficiency.
2. The Adjutant replies to J/Sig. Longhurst.
"Once again I am able to say that this query has already been resolved, but we are waiting for the arrival of Regimental belts. Standing Orders will be amended to allow Junior Leaders to walk out in shirt sleeve order until 1900 hrs. in Newton Abbot only, during the summer."
3. The Adjutant replies to J/Sig. Sarahs—
"I hope that all boys are well aware that they will always be allowed to go home for any special reason. However the 'week-end pass' is something which has only happened since National Service was introduced and in the Regular Army we must all strive to make our camp a second home, as it must be when we are serving overseas.
It is to foster the Regimental family spirit so essential to a Regular Regiment that leave is restricted to half-term and end of term holidays."

COMPETITION RESULTS

The June competition was won by J/Sig. Lamb (F), who submitted 18 out of 28 answers correct. The second best entry came from J/Cpl. Redman (J) with 16 correct answers. Both these entrants will receive prizes.

The Correct solution:—No, Yes, Yes, Yes, No, No, Yes, Yes, No, No, Yes, No, No, No, No, Yes, No, Yes, Yes, No, Yes, Yes, Yes.

This month's competition is on Page 6.

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DISC-USSION

BRITISH television recently brought before the public a shy, retiring character, who adds his own lyrics to old tunes. His morbid, sometimes biting wit, makes it hard to believe that Tom Lehrer is in real life a professor in mathematics at Harvard University. Johnny Duncan's new disc "Kansas City" has also been recorded by Little Richard, but his version of it sounds nothing like Johnny's and if Little Richard changed the name of his disc, it also would be a hit. Jack Parnell has also recorded this disc. "Bonaparte's Retreat" has recently been edging its way towards the top twenty, but has not quite made it yet. Nineteen-year-old Adam Faith, "Drumbeat's" resident singer, was discovered by Jack Good when singing in the "Two I's Club" in Soho, and since then has been making a big name for himself. Connie Francis has a new hit in "Lipstick on my Collar" but many record fans prefer her to sing the slower songs such as "Frankie." Anthony Newley's "Idle on Parade," has given way to another of his songs entitled "Personality" and this is coupled with "My Blue Angel." "Happy Organ" is no longer in the Juke Box Top Ten, and it is also dropping in the American Top Ten, but it had, as most people predicted, a good run in the parade.

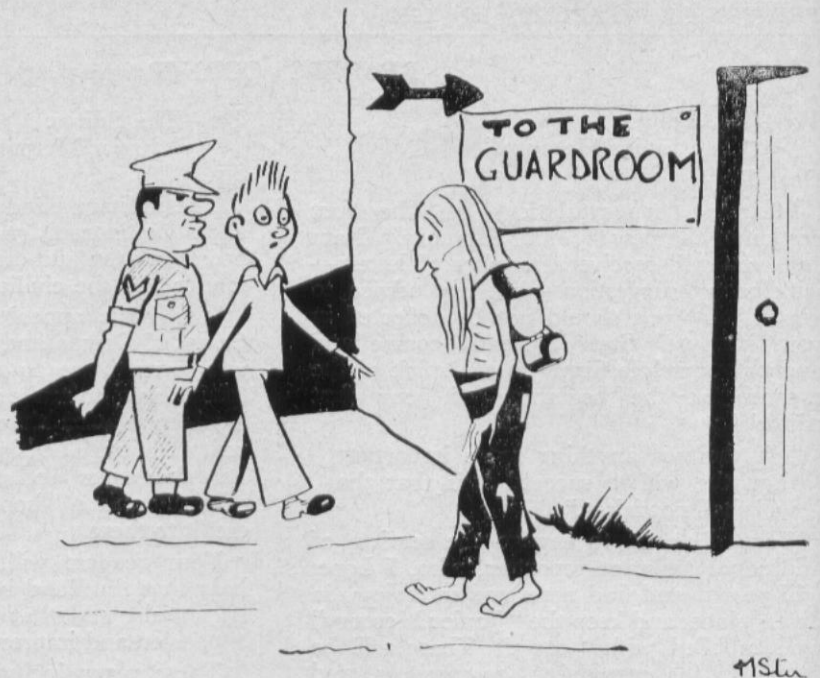
RECORD ROUND-UP

1. "The Quiet Village" by Martin Denny
Imagine yourself to be sitting in a jungle clearing. Wafted along on the evening breeze come the strains of a piano from a nearby house, punctuated by the calls of jungle birds. This then, is the theme of "The Quiet Village," a fabulous record, beautifully played by Martin Denny. The atmosphere of the record is very realistic, and immediately conjures up the jungle and its mysteries.
This record is, at the moment, riding high in the American Hit Parade, and it should soon be a great hit here.
2. "Songs by Tom Lehrer" Decca
This record contains 12 songs written, played, and sung by Lehrer. The singing and accompaniment make the most of some clever lyrics. Mathematics, scouting, love-songs and problems of the southern United States are all subjected to the biting wit of a man to whom nothing appears sacred. Lehrer's humour at times verges on the morbid. In fact one side of the record is positively "bloody," bodies being draped all over the place. The humour at times is subtle, but Lehrer also uses the obvious.
3. "Rachmaninov's No. 2 Piano Concerto" by Julius Katchen
For our classic of the month, we take another Decca "Ace of Clubs" record which, to the classics specialist, is perhaps the finest record that they have produced. It is the Rachmaninov No. 2 Concerto,

the most popular and the most lyrical of all his concertos. Its melodies are probably the most eloquent that Rachmaninov ever composed.

The solo writing is gorgeous and sparkling, and in this recording, it is done full justice by that brilliant young American pianist, Julius Katchen. His performance is both brilliant and poetical, and at 21s. 5d. it is a bargain.

4. "Fort Worth Jail" by Lonnie Donegan
This record keeps up with the brilliant standard Lonnie has set up for himself, and it also has the speed and movement for which he is renowned. Lonnie has reduced his group, but the sound they produce is the same. As the name implies this disc is the story of Fort Worth Jail. This record is on the way to becoming another of the many hits Lonnie Donegan has made in his singing career.
5. "The Buddy Holly Story"
This album of songs is a fitting tribute to Buddy. The record contains most of his more popular songs. His current 'smash hits,' "It doesn't matter any more" and "Raining in my Heart," are featured. Two years ago he made his first popular record; this disc traces his path of fortune from then onwards. His old favourites "Early in the Morning," "Peggy Sue," are contained as are "That'll be the day" and "Think it Over," two of his latest hits. Another two of last year's hits, "Oh Boy!" and "It's So Easy," sound forth from this record.



How many of you remember "Maybe Baby" or "Everyday"? Not many. If you buy this record your memory may be stirred to hear some of his old songs again.

COMPETITION

Carefully read through the following descriptions, each one represents a common object. Three prizes are offered for simply giving the answer to each and then making up a fourth description of a similar nature. The closing time for these entries is 1200 hrs. on 15th July. All entries to be sent to the "Junior Mercury" Office.

1. Whether you puff me or blow me I never give out smoke. You can't eat me, but I'm there at all meal times. I'm about 14 inches tall, but usually work horizontally. I start in brass and graduate to silver.
2. A lucky mascot I am often picked up; but not a sound if you wish to hear me. If you are cramped get rid of me, but for double me you may see a momentous decision. Useful when split I am sold at the opposite end of the scale to the piano.
3. Not very popular because I require a lot of looking after, I am often the centre of attraction. I can cover a half-crown twice over, but am about to become redundant even though I am still going ahead.

The answers to last month's competition are on page 5.

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by Sgt. Ash



by Sgt. Ash

GYMNASTICS

S.S.I. JOHNSON (A.P.T.C.)

S.S.I. Johnson (A.P.T.C.) started to take an active interest in gymnastics after leaving school. He attended evening classes at a local school until joining the Dorset Regiment at the age of 18. After completing preliminary courses in P.T., Staff Johnson transferred to the A.P.T.C. in 1954, his first posting being to Aldershot where his gymnastics improved under expert guidance. In 1955 he was selected for the display at the Royal Tournament. He was a member of the A.P.T.C. team which took part in the Anglo-French Inter Services Tournament, Paris 1957, and the last big display he took part in was the Royal Tournament at Earls Court, 1958. This was televised, and the A.P.T.C. display team was honoured by being chosen as the finale of the whole show. A few weeks later he was posted to this Regiment, where he enjoys his gymnastics in hobbies time, training a boys' display team for the Carnival. As to the next step in his gymnastics career, he hopes to attend an advanced gymnastics course at Aldershot in the near future. A good all-round sportsman, he has been a stalwart member of the W.O.'s and Sergeants' Mess soccer, rigger, and hockey sides in their "battles" with the Officers' Mess.

J/SIG. WALKER

J/Sig. Walker first learnt to throw the Javelin at school. He made "a go of it" and the first time that he threw for the school, was soon recognised as an athlete of promise. He was picked for the team to represent Leicestershire in the County Championships, but could not throw because of a pulled muscle which he sustained in training. He did well at school and received certificates and medals. When he represented his school he said that it was a proud moment for him. In June last year he qualified for the Army Boys' Championships at Aldershot, his throw being 129 feet. Since then he has improved, and this term he beat the Regimental Record of 141 feet 7 inches with a throw of 143 feet 9 inches. In July, he is to represent the Regiment at Plymouth and also at Aldershot, again in the Army Boys' Championships. He is at the moment in training for these events and is receiving instruction from R.S.M. Pavey, a former Army Champion and Record Holder. He says that his one ambition is to throw well over 150 feet and could well do it, either at Plymouth or Aldershot. His tip for good throwing is to fix the eye on a certain spot and throw for it.

REGIMENTAL SHOOTING

United Services, S.W. District

A team consisting of: Lt. Chase; S.S.M. Cox; S/Sgts. Nicholls and Watson; Sgts. Rose, Easter, and Diggle; L/Cpls. Holmes and Burbidge, represented the Cadre of this Regiment in the United Services South-Western District Rifle Meeting. The shoot was held under National Rifle Association Rules, and took place at Trevol Ranges, Devonport. Units from the Royal Navy, Royal Marines, and Army were represented by teams of eight.

The majority of the team prizes were won by H.M.S. Drake, a Royal Navy Training Establishment. They were undoubtedly the best team at the shoot. The team from this Regiment were second in the Sub-Machine Gun match, being beaten by a Royal Navy Team. In the Falling Plate competition our team was knocked out in the semi-finals, by one plate. In the individual championships (Rifles) L/Cpl. Holmes was sixth. S.S.M. Cox was seventh in the Sub-Machine Gun Match. Everyone who took part in the match was impressed by how efficiently the Shoot was organised.

Signals S.W. District Trial

The team took part in the S.W. District Trial for the Royal Signals, the meeting being held at Bulford Ranges on the 10th and 11th of June, in preparation for the Army Championships at Bisley.

Teams of four took part in the Roberts, Whitehead and Rupell cups. The team won all three team prizes. Special mention must be made of L/Cpl. Holmes who won the individual prizes (B Class), in the Whitehead and Rupell Cups. L/Cpl. Burbidge won the prize in the Roberts Cup. A team entered for the Parachute Regiment Cup and the Sub-Machine Gun Competition were again successful. The "A" Team won the Falling Plate competition after a long struggle, with the 4 Squadron Com. Can. Team.

The overall team championship was won by the Regiment, S/Sgt. Watson coming second in the individual championships. L/Cpl. Holmes won the "B" Class Championships. The following have been selected to practice for the Corps Rifle Match. Lt. Chase; S.S.M. Cox; S/Sgt. Watson; Sgts. Gray, Easter; L/Cpls. Burbidge and Holmes.

An "A" class shot is a soldier who has been in the Army for more than three years. "B" Class shot is a soldier who has been in the Army for less than three years. The "A" Class shot is only for Officers, W.O.'s and Sergeants (substantive).

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Bentham wins Mile

by Sgt. Ash

WATER POLO

Cadre v. Newton Abbot Otters

Newton Abbot opened the score with a goal after 5 minutes play and seemed to be on top most of the time. However, not long after, Sig. Gosnell equalised with a strong shot. At half time the score still stood at one goal each. In the second half Newton Abbot seemed to put on the pressure and soon scored again. In fact it was nearly all Newton Abbot. All the team played well and the defence must be congratulated on setting up many fine attacks.

TRIANGULAR ATHLETICS MEETING

In this meeting between the Regiment, Totnes and Newton Abbot Grammar Schools, J/L/Cpl. Cattermole came second in the short sprints, beating his own personal best times. There was rather a tangle at the finish of the Youth 440 yards, but J/Sig. Broadberry-Brook managed to get the second place. In the 880 yards J/Sig. Jacobs came a very close second and beat his own personal best time for the event. The mile was won by J/Sig. Bentham. A fine performance!

Further performances of note: Javelin—Walker 1st; Shot—Beere and Lindsay, 1st and 2nd; 880 yards—Merrylees 3rd; High Jump—J/Sgt. Walker 1st; Hop, Step—PICKENS and Broadbent, 2nd and 3rd.

THIS MONTH'S SPORT

Cricket

J.L.R. v. Newton Abbot Grammar School.
Signals 73.
Newton Abbot 63—5.
Drawn.
J.L.R. 2nd XI v. Wessex Brigade.
Signals 41.
Wessex 54.
Lost by 13 runs.
Cadre v. Newton Abbot T.A.
Cadre 95—4.
T.A. 68.
Cadre won by 6 wickets.
W.O.'s and Sergeants v. Corporals.
W.O.'s and Sergeants 172.
Corporals 42 and 110.
W.O.'s and Sergeants won by an innings and 20 runs.

Hockey

Officers 3 W.O.'s and Sergeants 2
(Col. Gregory 1) (Sgt. Angell 2)
(Capt. Meyrick 2).
Regimental XI 3 Franklins XI 3
(Sgt. Angell, Col. Gregory, Maj. Parker).

Water Polo

Cadre 1 Newton Abbot Otters 5
(Sig. Gosnell).

Triangular Athletics

Result : 1. N. Abbot Grammar School.
2. Junior Leaders Regiment.
3. Totnes Grammar School.

HOCKEY

Officers v. Sergeants

The game started at a fast rate, which was kept up throughout. The Officers scored first, through Captain Meyrick, from a short corner. A minute later Sgt. Angell levelled the score, he got his goal from a short corner. Staff Foster's brilliant goalkeeping kept the Officers at bay until towards the end of the second half. The Colonel scored a marvellous goal, taking the ball from the half-way line. A few minutes later Captain Meyrick scored his second goal, but Sgt. Angell made it 3-2. Well done the Officers!

Regimental XI v. J. L. Franklin's XI

The visitors included several Devon County players. Our team showed a few new faces, and it was one of these new faces, Sgt. Angell, who scored our first goal. The game was very fast and there was plenty of fine play on both sides. Franklin and Pike scored two goals for the visitors. Staff Foster played a safe game in the goalmouth. Our other two goals were scored by Lt.-Col. Gregory and Major Parker. The final score was 3-3, a very good draw, and a very enjoyable game to both player and spectator.

CRICKET

J/L/R R. Sigs. v. Newton Abbot G.S.

In this match against Newton Abbot Grammar School the Signals batted first and kept up a steady pace of runs. There was some good batting. The main cause of the Signals being out quite quickly was due to the crumbling pitch and also to some excellent bowling. Thompson batted steadily for 30. The Signals were all out for 73 runs, quite a good score!

After tea Newton Abbot went in to bat and stood up well to the bowling of J/Sigs. McGibbon and Day. Rooke, behind the stumps, played well. The fielding of the Signals was good and the team was well captained by Cpl. Howlett. At the close the Newton Abbot team had scored 63 for 5. A very enjoyable match.

W.O.'s and Sgts.' Mess v. Corporals' Mess

The W.O.'s and Sergeants batted first, and the batting was of a very good standard. Sgt. Saxby with R.Q.M.S. Irvine put on 110 runs before the latter was out for 31 runs. A very good innings. Soon after, Sgt. Saxby was bowled out for 71 runs. The final score was 172 all out. The bowling of the Corporals had been quite good, and Eckersall took 7 for 22.

Mr. Braithwaite (5-12), the R.S.M. and Sgt. Saxby soon had the Corporals out for 42. Following-on, the Corporals improved, Corporals Hankin and Eckersall scoring 41 and 29 respectively. It was not enough however, and with the R.S.M. taking 4 for 13, the W.O.'s and Sergeants did not have to bat again.

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