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Q.M.A.A.C. & A.T.S.

Comrades
Association
Gazette



MARCH—APRIL

1950

BRANCHES

When sending alterations to the Editor please write out the complete entry in capital letters

- Active Service.**—Mrs. M. H. Waley Cohen, Duke of York's Headquarters, King's Road, Chelsea, S.W.3.
- Adelaide.**—Miss L. M. Smith, 52, Wattle Avenue, Brighton, Adelaide, Australia.
- Ayr.**—Miss J. Howie, 5, Alton Terrace, Monkton, Ayrshire. Second Wednesday every month, 7.30 p.m., Greenlodge Hotel, Charlotte Street, Ayr.
- B.A.O.R.**—R.S.M. Hildyard, W.R.A.C. H.Q., B.A.O.R.
- Bath.**—Mrs. Kennard, 2, Raby Place, Bath, Somerset.
- Bedford.**—Mrs. E. Hayman, 9, Cardington Road, Bedford.
- Belfast.**—Miss M. E. Edgar, 35, Loopland Crescent, Cregagh, Belfast. First and third Friday each month, Presbyterian Women's Union, Howard Street.
- Birmingham.**—Miss E. I. Dipple, 17, Somerset Road, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham, 20. Second Monday every month, Townsend Club, 65, Church Street, corner St. Charles Street, 7 p.m.
- Bournemouth.**—Miss Lunniss, Lamorna, Stapehill, nr. Wimborne, Dorset.
- Bradford.**—Mrs. Harrison, 25, North Street, Low Moor, Bradford. Last Monday in month from 6.30 p.m. onwards.
- Brighton.**—Miss M. Roberts, "L'Oasis," Tivoli Crescent North, Brighton, 5.
- Bristol and West of England.**—Miss K. M. Cottrell, 435, Fishponds Road, Fishponds, Bristol. First Thursday each month, Y.W.C.A., 27, Great George Street, Bristol, 1.
- Canterbury.**—Miss Marshall, Oak Lodge, Boughton, nr. Faversham, Kent. Third Wednesday every month, 22a, High Street, 6.30 p.m.
- Cardiff.**—Mrs. D. Pucknell, 11, Kyveliog Street, Cardiff. Every second Thursday at the British Legion Club, Castle Arcade, Cardiff.
- Carlisle.**—Miss E. Wightman, 11, Orfeur Street, Carlisle.
- Chelmsford.**—Miss E. J. Hemsley, 80, Wood Street, Chelmsford, Essex. Second Monday each month, Drill Hall, London Road, Chelmsford.
- Cheshire.**—Mrs. Coathupe, 12, Filkins Lane, Chester. First and third Wednesday every month, 7.45 to 9.30 p.m., Home Guard Club, Lower Bridge Street, Chester.
- Chesterfield.**—Miss E. M. Cleary, 543, Chatsworth Road, Chesterfield. First Monday every month, 6.30 p.m., Drill Hall, Bonthorpe Road, Chesterfield.
- Colchester.**—Miss Manley, 118, St. Andrew's Avenue, Colchester.
- Derby.**—Mrs. C. V. Neal, 41, Marjorie Road, Chaddesden, Derby.
- Donnington.**—S./Sgt. Vowles, W.R.A.C. Grp. H.Q., W.R.A.C. C.O.D. Grp., Donnington, Salop.
- Dumfries.**—Miss M. Eaton, Dunroman, Sherwood Terrace, Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire.
- Dundee.**—Miss G. J. O'Hara, 283, Strathmore Avenue, Dundee. Second Tuesday each month, Old Steeple Clubrooms, Dundee, 7.30 p.m.
- Durham City and District.**—Miss M. Crow, 37, Claypath, Durham City. Meetings third Tuesday every month at 7 p.m., St. Oswald's Institute, Church Street, Durham.
- East Africa.**—Mrs. M. Ewing, P.O. Box 619, Nairobi, Kenya Colony.
- Eastbourne.**—Mrs. B. A. Clulee, 26, Moy Avenue, Eastbourne.
- Edinburgh and East of Scotland.**—Mrs. D. G. Hardy, 51, Lockharton Avenue, Edinburgh, 11 (Tel. Craiglockhart 1612). Women's United Services Club, 12, Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh. First Tuesday of each month, 7 to 10 p.m.
- Exeter and District.**—Miss E. M. Powell, 89a, Heavitree Road, Exeter. Last Friday every month, Y.W.C.A. Canteen, 99, Fore Street, Exeter, 7 to 9 p.m.
- Germany.** W.R.A.C. Signals.—C.S.M. V. Kirby, W.R.A.C. Signals, Germany, H.Q. B.A.O.R.I.
- Glasgow and West of Scotland (Q.M.A.A.C.).**—Miss C. I. McDonald, 144, The Oval Clarkston, Glasgow. (Tel. Merrylee 1833.) First Monday each month at 59, Elmbank Street, Glasgow, C.2, at 7.30 p.m.
- Glasgow (A.T.S. and W.R.A.C.).**—Miss J. Mackay, 19, Elizabeth Street, Ibrox, Glasgow, S.W.1. Write for particulars of monthly meetings.
- Great Yarmouth.**—Mrs. Harrison, 14, Addison Road, Gorleston, Great Yarmouth.
- Guildford and Woking.**—Miss A. Humphries, 19, Common Close, Horsell, Woking.

Continued on inside back cover



QUEEN MARY'S ARMY AUXILIARY CORPS
AND AUXILIARY TERRITORIAL SERVICE
Comrades Association Gazette

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MARCH—APRIL, 1950

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EDITORIAL

THE first task of the new Editor is an easy one. It is to try to express on behalf of all our readers our grateful thanks to Mrs. Warr for the devoted work she has put into the GAZETTE during her term of office. Little can be added to the appreciations written in the last number of the GAZETTE by Dame Leslie and Dame Helen, except that those of us who have been ordinary readers have also watched the paper grow during the past five years and have realized the amount of work entailed. We wish Gill Dearmer, as most of us still remember her, the very greatest happiness and good fortune.

As it appears that Dame Leslie is merely going to work harder than ever on her farm, it is with feelings of almost unrelieved gloom that we express our regret at her resignation as Chairman of Council. We have all learned to know and love her during the two years of her chairmanship, in spite of the fact that her illness prevented her from attending all the meetings. Many of us who served with her know the devoted work that she gave in a Territorial capacity to her own unit before the war, after embodiment as a junior officer at the War Office and then, in ever-increasing importance, until she became the first officer to hold the rank of Senior Controller as Deputy Director A.T.S. But it was as Director that most of us knew her. She assumed that office when the Service was at its greatest strength and continued until after victory had been secured. During her term of office the Service took on more and more jobs in spite of decreasing strength. We were always conscious of the fact that the Director cared about the welfare of each one of us, and it was to a great extent this knowledge which enabled many members of the Service to rise to such heights of self-sacrifice. It is perhaps small comfort to know that her hens and cows will benefit from our loss, but we look forward to seeing her amongst us next year.

Saturday, 18th March, 1950

This day was memorable in many ways. Unfortunately the GAZETTE was going to press at the time, and there is therefore no chance of giving a full account of what happened. For this we shall have to wait until the next issue. Suffice it to say that the resolutions of Council were eventually passed and, as and when the Association is recognized by the War Office as the Regimental Association of the Women's Royal Army Corps, the new rules will be adopted.

The Reunion is briefly reported on another page, but it is hoped to include far more information in the next issue. Accounts of the many unit reunions and other parties would be much appreciated.

The W.R.A.C. Museum

The Corps Museum will be opened by Major-General H.R.H. The Princess Royal, C.I., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., on the afternoon of Wednesday, 9th August, 1950, at Guildford. Members of the Association who wish to attend should apply for tickets to the Hon. Secretary, W.R.A.C. Museum Committee, Queen's Camp, Guildford. A very special welcome will await donors.

"London Gazette"

As the last Editor complained of lack of news of the W.R.A.C., the new Editor rushed to the pages of the *London Gazette*, which have been full of information about the Corps. The original idea was to follow the example of all other regiments and corps and print extracts, but after several night's work and covering about thirty pages of foolscap, that idea had to be abandoned. It is hoped to reproduce the information contained in the GAZETTE in small doses in a tabulated form and then to keep us up to date by extracts—as up to date, that is, as one ever is in the GAZETTE. It must be remembered that there is often considerable delay between acceptance of an officer for a Regular commission and the notification in the GAZETTE. It sometimes takes a long time to verify all particulars from an officer's documents and make sure that she gets the seniority to which she is entitled and it is not until everything is settled that the notice appears. Even then the entries are not always accurate and readers will be sorry to see that Dame Mary was incorrectly gazetted as a temporary senior controller when she was, in fact, substantive. Controller Hammond, better known as Controller Haynes, had completed three years as a controller when she was awarded her C.B.E., and had long since ceased to be "Acting."

IMPORTANT NOTICE

All contributions for the next GAZETTE should reach the Editor not later than **15th May, 1950**. Please note change of address. Contributions should now be sent to **Colonel J. M. Cowper, Women's Royal Army Corps, Headquarters, Northern Command, York**, and please note that they should be addressed personally in order to ensure that they are not mislaid or held up in Central Registry. Changes of address of branch secretaries should still go to the General Secretary of the Association at the Duke of York's Headquarters.

ANNUAL REUNION, 18th MARCH, 1950— ROYAL ALBERT HALL

THE fourth Annual Reunion was held on Saturday, the 18th March. Major-General H.R.H. The Princess Royal presided over an attendance of nearly four thousand. During the evening Brigadier Dame Mary J. C. Tyrwhitt, D.B.E., A.D.C., presented, on behalf of the Comrades Association, a specially bound copy of the A.T.S. Monograph.

The guest of honour was Field-Marshal Sir William J. Slim, G.B.E., K.C.B., D.S.O., M.C., Chief of the Imperial General Staff, who spoke of the value of tradition in the Army and expressed his appreciation of the pioneer work done by the Q.M.A.A.C. and the war service of the A.T.S. In welcoming the formation of the W.R.A.C. the Field-Marshal made the first public announcement of the new rank titles of serving officers, which now conform with those of other corps. This was received with acclamation.

A varied programme consisted of selections by the Band of the Welsh Guards under Captain F. L. Statham, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., community singing by Mr. Arthur Caiger, and sword dancing and reels by the Scottish pipers.

A first-class display of foot drill was given by the 327th (County of London) Bn. W.R.A.C. (T.A.), and Lieut.-Colonel M. D. Thorne, C.B.E., W.R.A.C. (T.A.) and her officers are much to be congratulated.

The detailed accounts and balance sheet for the Reunion will be published in the next issue of the GAZETTE.

REGINA EVANS, D.B.E.,
Chairman, Reunion Committee.



**Major-General H.R.H. The Princess Royal, accompanied by
Field-Marshal Sir William Slim at the Albert Hall Reunion.**

TERRITORIAL ACTIVITIES

315 (SCOTTISH COMMAND) BN. W.R.A.C. (T.A.)

This Battalion was formed in March, 1949, but, owing to many setbacks, including the difficulty in obtaining officers, it did not really get on its feet until September. S.Comd. E. R. Robinson was appointed as C.O., and when she arrived on 7th September she found only four officers and three other ranks. The total is mounting slowly and the Battalion is now 79 strong. The smallness in numbers is however offset by the keenness of all ranks, some of them having averaged 44 drills in one month. One corporal put in 53 drills during the month of February. There is also a good turn-out for weekend camps and courses. There is something going on nearly every weekend, and technical training takes place under very pleasant conditions at Dundonald Camp and Churchill Barracks, Ayr. There are platoons in Glasgow, Ayr, Hamilton and Paisley, and also a company at Glasgow University for the University students. Ex-Service women in these areas would be warmly welcomed. They would find in the T.A. an interesting job which would keep them in touch with Service life. More officers, in particular, are badly needed, but any ex-Service woman who feels that she could spare the time to join should write to the C.O. at her Battalion headquarters, 203, West George Street, Glasgow, C.2.

301 (EASTERN COMMAND) BN. W.R.A.C. (T.A.)

This year we have excellent locations for our camps. "A" Coy. (Bedfordshire) and "B" Coy. (Hertfordshire) go to Penhale, near Newquay, Cornwall, from 20th August to 3rd September; "C" Coy. (Cambridgeshire) goes to Bude, Cornwall, from 14th to 28th May. We are all looking forward to "going West" during what we hope will be the best weather of the season.

In all three companies we have an element of ordnance platoons, and the remainder are intended for the "housekeeping" side of training units of different Arms. Platoons are formed, or to be formed, at Bedford, Luton, St. Albans, Hitchin, Welwyn Garden City, Bishops Stortford and at Cambridge. The ordnance platoons give facilities for training in driving, maintenance of vehicles, clerical work and store-keeping, while the others have a percentage of all administrative trades and employments. We have no officers in Bedfordshire and would be grateful to hear of anyone in the county who would be interested or could give names of friends who could help. Everywhere there are vacancies for all ranks and we would welcome ex-Service women to leaven our younger recruit element.

Anybody who requires further particulars should write to S.Comd. R. P. Marchbank, O.C. 301 (Eastern Command) Bn. W.R.A.C. (T.A.), Kempston Barracks, Bedford.

NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

BOURNEMOUTH

ANAGRAMS of football teams, and an Advertisements Competition, were particularly popular amongst the amusements provided at our Social Evening on Saturday, 25th February, 1950. We invited men from a local convalescent home to join us on this occasion, and they appear to have enjoyed themselves. Anyway, they expressed the hope that we should send them an invitation to our next party.

BRIGHTON

This Branch has been carried on under rather difficult conditions owing to lack of accommodation.

We have at last found a meeting-place in a more central position at the R.N.O.C.A. Club, 191-193, King's Road Arches, opposite the Old Ship Hotel. There, amongst congenial surroundings, we hold our meetings on the third Thursday of each month at 7.30 p.m. The Club has many facilities of which we are able to avail ourselves.

In January a dinner party was held, and an enjoyable evening was spent. We are now looking forward to an excursion into the country to pick primroses, followed by a tea-party at the home of one of our members, who has very kindly renewed her invitation of last year. We have not forgotten the happy time we had on that occasion and the sumptuous tea in which we indulged.

BRISTOL AND WEST OF ENGLAND

At our February meeting we had a very interesting talk on her work by a local Public Health Officer. Also in February a party from this Branch went to see the pantomime "Mother Goose" at the Bristol Hippodrome. Our March meeting consisted of a Business Meeting and a Bring-and-Buy Sale, which realized just over £3.

At a recent visit of Princess Elizabeth to this city, several of our members who have joined the T.A. took part in the guard of honour.

It was Jill's birthday at the end of last month (the little girl our Branch has adopted), and we gave her a green dressing-gown. She also received a number of cards from our members.

Our sympathy is extended to our Chairman, Miss Keynton, who lost her mother just before our last meeting.

Congratulations to our past Vice-Chairman, Miss Hill, on her approaching marriage on Easter Saturday. Unfortunately for us she will be leaving Bristol to live in Glasgow.

CARDIFF

As some of our members can never attend meetings on a Thursday, we have arranged to meet twice monthly in future on the fourth Tuesday as well as the second Thursday. On 19th January, 1950, twenty-five members went to see "Flowers for the Living," featuring Nora Pilbeam as an ex-A.T.S. trying to get used to home conditions again. It was a very appropriate play, and afterwards a dinner was served and enjoyed by all. On 13th February, 1950, a Bring-and-Buy Sale was attended by nineteen members and a profit of £3 14s. was realized for Branch funds. We were lucky on this occasion to welcome a member from overseas who hopes to attend the Reunion.

CHESTER

Twenty-five members and guests attended our Christmas Party on 21st December, 1949. The evening's entertainment included a whist drive, games, competitions and a very nice supper. It was a very representative gathering, including Controller M. K. Crewe-Read, from H.Q. Western Command, J.Comd. Lonsdale (T.A.), ex-C.Comd. Frost, the Lady Mayoress, and many others. Prizes were presented by Controller Crewe-Read, and the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer certainly had the evening well organized, as they carried off several prizes between them, much to the amusement of the rest of the party. The evening was a great success and much credit is due to the committee and helpers. Apologies were received from a number of members who were unable to attend. Owing largely to the generosity of members who sent good wishes and a donation, and to those who gave prizes, we not only had a very enjoyable evening but were able to hand over quite a nice sum to swell the funds.

DUNDEE

At our February meeting we enjoyed a very interesting talk given by C.Comd. R. Wells, A.D.W.R.A.C., Scottish Command, who spoke to us about the W.R.A.C. This was preceded by a glove-making demonstration given by Miss Rosemary Brace, who is one of our Branch members and an expert in the art of glove-making.

EDINBURGH

It was most unfortunate that our report for the last GAZETTE was not published, as it paid our tribute to Miss Lila Davey, a very good friend of the Branch. Our members will all regret to hear of the death, following an operation, of Eileen Sanderson. At our February meeting C.Comd. R. Wells gave us a most interesting talk on the W.R.A.C., and showed us photographs of the new uniform. On 18th February we had our Branch dinner at the Afton Hotel, with C.Comd. Wells as our guest. We are now looking forward to the Scottish Reunion on 1st April, 1950.

GREAT YARMOUTH

We hope to welcome Controller M. Railton at some future date. She will visit Great Yarmouth and talk to members about the W.R.A.C. All members are delighted to welcome Mrs. O. Allard as a new member. There has been little activity during the past month. Come along members! You are letting your Branch down.

LONDON

We had a very lively discussion on the 2nd February regarding the proposition that the Association should become the Regimental Association of the W.R.A.C., and we were fortunate in having Dame Helen with us to explain what this is all about and also answer the many questions members put forward.

On the 16th February we held a Whist Drive, and this was very well attended. Our first meeting in March was a Social Evening, and this was a very jolly affair with community singing, a few more novel competitions and games, and once more a good time was had by all. All members should by now have received their printed fixture cards, but if anyone has not done so will they please let Mrs. Giles or Miss Brown know.

MAIDSTONE

The event of the month was our get-together event on 28th January, 1950. It took the form of a tea and a visit to the local theatre, where we saw the naval comedy "Off the Record," by Ian Hay and Stephen King-Hall. We were very

glad to see a number of members who cannot get to our monthly meetings and to welcome as our guest Mrs. Goodchild, the Chairman of the British Legion (Women's Section). The topic at the tea table was reunions, past, present and future. We meet on the second Wednesday in each month at the Ex-Service Club, Ashford Road, at 7 p.m., and we would be pleased to see any ex-Service woman who can come along.

NORFOLK

Branch meetings have been well attended this winter. On 1st March, Mrs. Rumbold, Eastern Area Representative on the Council, came and talked to members about her work and discussed the agenda of the Annual General Meeting. Members gave her a warm welcome. It was like old times to have her with us again.

Members were sorry to hear of the illness of our Chairman, Miss Prothero, and wish her a speedy recovery.

A visit to the theatre has been arranged for 15th April to see "Careless Rhapsody." Members are being notified individually.

C.Comd. Pine, M.B.E., W.R.A.C., is coming to talk to members on 5th April. It will be interesting to hear about the new corps.

NORTH STAFFS

Our New Year's party took the form of a lovely dinner on 9th January, which was attended by twenty-four members. The Entertainments Committee organized games and guessing competitions. They also presented prizes and the party finished about 10.30 p.m. The February meeting took the form of a whist drive. There were seven tables, made up of fourteen members and their friends. Refreshments were provided at half time, and the presentation of five prizes brought a very enjoyable evening to a close.

OXFORD

At our annual Branch Dinner, on 20th January, we were very happy to have as our guests Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan, Her Grace the Duchess of Marlborough, Drs. Radford and Ince, and Mrs. P. Greenwell. The dinner was held in the Drill Hall, thirty members attending, and an excellent meal was provided by "Margaret's Cake Shop" (Miss Margaret Garrett, a member of the Branch). Replying to the toast of "Our Guests," proposed by the Branch Chairman, Mrs. M. A. W. Vale, Dame Helen stressed how ex-A.T.S. should now use their talents towards helping in all local affairs, the running of one's village, town or city. She also said how present members of the W.R.A.C. would appreciate help, and sometimes the hospitality of those who had served before them.

The toast "The Association" was proposed by the Duchess of Marlborough, who emphasized the point made by Dame Helen about taking part in local affairs, and said that in her work on the County Council, and as a Red Cross worker, she met people in every walk of life, and she thought that the time she had spent in the A.T.S. had taught her to handle people better. Mrs. John Thomson, the Branch President, responding to the toast, presented a silver salver to Mrs. G. M. Jackman for her services as Secretary from 1934 to 1949. Mrs. Jackman said she hoped she would be of use to the Association for many more years.

After the dinner there was a dance open to the public, arranged by the Entertainments Committee under the chairmanship of Miss Margaret Tibbets. This was well attended and, as a result, our funds now stand considerably higher than before.

SEAFORD

We held our first Annual Dinner on 27th January, 1950. We started off with a minute's silence in memory of our late Chairman, Miss Biggart. During the coffee stage we held our meeting, electing Mrs. Gibson as our new Chairman, and made plans for the next few months. We hope to go to a show in March and have a whist drive in April. After that we hope to have a few outdoor activities.

SOUTHPORT

Members are still talking of the very enjoyable evening we spent at our first Annual Dinner party on 10th January, 1950. We had an excellent meal delightfully served, after which toasts were proposed and a presentation made to the Secretary. The time passed far too quickly in dancing and games. The high spot of the evening was the cutting of an iced cake decorated with the Association badge and bearing the inscription "First Anniversary." On 25th January we held our Annual General Meeting, when we elected our new committee, including the re-election of our President and Secretary.

SUNDERLAND

Sixty old-age pensioners were invited to our Christmas Party. Each was provided with supper followed by ice cream and fruit. The Christmas cake was cut by the oldest lady present, aged 97 ; gifts of money were presented to her and to the oldest gentleman pensioner. The entertainment was provided by the Carol Street Women's Bright Hour Choir. The Annual General Meeting was held on 11th January, 1950, and officers elected for the coming year. Meetings will be held on the first and third Wednesday in every month.

TULSE HILL AND DISTRICT

We held our first meeting at the Drill Hall, 132, Upper Tulse Hill, S.W.2, on Wednesday, 8th February. It was a great success, and we agreed to meet again on 8th March at a place to be arranged later. We hope that many ex-Service members will communicate with us so that they can join us, anyway, before our third meeting. We still have not heard from any ex-A.T.S. apart from our own private contacts.

WIMBLEDON AND DISTRICT

We held a social in February, which was by way of being a first birthday party for the Branch. We had nearly a hundred present, including members and friends, and we were very pleased to welcome Dame Helen to Wimbledon once again. We had dancing, games and competitions, and the evening was a great success from every point of view.

It is hoped to have some speakers at meetings this autumn and winter, and details of our future programme will be issued later. In April, Controller M. Railton is coming to tell us about the W.R.A.C., and we hope to have a good attendance to meet her.

So far it has not been possible to book tickets for Olympia, as we are informed that all bookable seats are already taken, but inquiries are being made with a view to a theatre visit in June or July, so members interested please notify the Secretary. Our membership remains steady at 130, but unfortunately *all* 1950 subscriptions have not yet been paid. How about it, members ?

BRANCH STANDARDS

Benjamin Edgington, 29, Queen Elizabeth Street, Tower Bridge, London, S.W.1, can supply the Association Standard, 4 ft. 6 in. by 3 ft., for 4 guineas. They also provide two-section polished pole with brass spearhead, gold cords and tassels, leather carrying-straps and holster, and waterproof pole cover, for a further £4 18s.

NEWS OF COMRADES

(Where no addresses are given, letters will be forwarded from H.Q. Office)

Pte. Mary De Vall (now Mrs. J. W. Hodgson) is anxious to hear from anyone who knew her. She served in "L" Coy., Western Command Group, 19 Sub. Workshop, R.E.M.E., Chester, 1942-43, and Kidderminster Pay Office, and her present address is Pemberton, Western Australia.

Ex-J.Comd. Miki Allen now lives at 8, Victoria Park, Weston-super-Mare, Somerset, and she is anxious to have news of J.Comd. S. Payton, ex-539 Battery, and Cpl. "Jimmy" Young, ex-439 Battery.

Ex-C.S.M. V. Easterbrook (now Mrs. R. H. Hill) would very much like to hear from any old comrades of No. 2 Coy., 1 Command Signals and No. 3 Coy., H.Q., A.T.S. (B.) Ceylon. Her address is c/o Nyasaland Railways Ltd., Limbe, Nyasaland, where she is living with her husband and daughter Patricia. We might add that we should very much like to hear from Mrs. Hill. There should be a great deal of interest to our readers in an account of the A.T.S. in Ceylon.

Among comrades who sent us greetings for the Reunion were **Mrs. Warr**, our late Editor, who telegraphed from Germany, and ex-C.Comdr. Service. **Ex-S.Q.M.S. Joan Parsons** wrote from 334 East Avenue, La Grange, Ill., U.S.A., and particularly wished to be remembered to old friends of East Central District, 1943-45, to the W.Os.' and Sergeants' Mess at Bad Oeynhausen and the members of the B.A.O.R. hockey team who toured England in 1948, and in which she was the goalkeeper. **Rosemary Smith** sent special messages to "D" Coy., No. 1 Essex Group. She writes from 8, Rough Lane, Broseley, Shropshire. **C.S.M. Norcott**, now serving in the W.R.A.C. with 211 Ismailia Transit Camp, M.E.L.F. 10, sent her good wishes, especially to her very good friends in the 14th Bucks Coy., at Aldermaston, in the Isle of Man Company at Fugglestone Camp, and the "Inbetweens." **Sergt. Mary Cater**, now serving in "B" Coy., 16th Bn. W.R.A.C., Moascar, M.E.L.F., sent a very special "hallo" to all who served with her at Budbrook, Birmingham and Fugglestone.

REUNION NOTICES

(A charge of 3d. a line is made for Reunion Notices)

SECOND REUNION, A.T.S. CLERICAL GROUP (E.A.)

The second reunion of the A.T.S. Clerical Group (E.A.) was held at the Duke of York's Headquarters, London, S.W.3, from 2.30 to 5.30 p.m., on Saturday, 3rd September, 1949.

Fifty-three people were present. As several friends who attended last year have since gone abroad, this means quite a few new members, and we hope the number will continue to increase. We were especially pleased to welcome one of our overseas members, Mrs. Cooper, who was home on leave with her husband from Tanganyika and managed to fit in the reunion before returning.

An excellent tea was provided, after which a short meeting was held. Miss Joan Croft was elected Treasurer on the resignation of Miss Kay Shepherd. Subscriptions for 1950 (2s. 6d.) should be sent to her at 14, Fleetwood Road, Dollis Hill, London, N.W.10.

It is hoped that the News Letter for 1950 will be published shortly.

A.T.S. (MIDDLE EAST) OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

The fifth Annual Reunion of the A.T.S. (M.E.) Officers' Association will be held on Friday, 28th April, 1950. For full details please write to the Secretary, Mrs. H. Constanduros, 76, Cambridge Mansions, Cambridge Road, London, S.W.11.

A.T.S. BENEVOLENT FUND

Most grateful thanks are expressed to the Branch secretaries who at short notice most enthusiastically collected for the Fund at the Reunion. £190 was collected.

The Annual Meeting was held on the afternoon of 17th March. H.R.H. The Princess Royal presided over a crowded room at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, when the principal speaker was Dame Caroline Haslett, D.B.E. The Annual Report of the Fund gave particulars of some of the two thousand cases with which the Grants Committee had dealt, and a particularly welcome feature of the work was that in many cases a grant had enabled the recipient to obtain specialized training for a career not otherwise available, or had been instrumental in saving a business or providing a home. Grants during the year amounted to £17,541 13s. 11d.

Everyone who served in the A.T.S. is eligible to ask for assistance from the Fund, and the number of genuine cases considered is so great that the expenditure far exceeds the income, even with the continued support of the Army Benevolent Fund. If the Fund is to continue with its good work so long as members of the A.T.S. require its help more subscribers are required, and no better cause can be found for branches to support than to provide more funds for their less fortunate comrades.

A.T.S. BADGE BROOCHES

Gilt Badge Brooches, at 2s. 6d. each, are still obtainable from the A.T.S. Benevolent Fund, 73, Elizabeth Street, London, S.W.1, to which the proceeds of sale are credited.

BADGES

The Badge of the Association, the design of which you can see on the cover of this GAZETTE, can be obtained, price 1s. 6d., from the General Secretary.

WOMEN'S ROYAL ARMY CORPS WITH THE BRITISH ARMY OF THE RHINE

Last year a training camp was held by the W.R.A.C. in Germany. It was attended by 130 women who had undertaken regular engagements in the Corps. They erected and struck their own tents and, as well as learning how to live in camp, they studied first aid, map-reading and field cookery. They did physical training daily, and those who were interested practised rifle shooting on the range. Evenings were filled with impromptu concerts by different companies.

The camp ended with an all-day exercise in which the women went off in parties of three. Each group was given a route which they followed by map-reading, and they carried their food which they cooked in mess tins.



A Map-Reading Lesson at the Rhine Army Camp.



Mess-tin Cookery at the Rhine Army Camp.

OBITUARY

HILDA E. DALTON, C.B.E.

The sudden death, on 2nd January, of Mrs. H. E. Dalton, C.B.E., better known among us as Hilda Horniblow, will have come as a great shock to many of the original "W.A.A.Cs.," for she was one of the best known officers in the Corps and one of the pioneers.

When, in 1915, the Women's Legion appealed for women cooks to work in Army camps, she was one of the first to respond, promptly giving up a good post in Yorkshire. She was appointed Superintendent of Summerdown Convalescent Camp, Eastbourne, where she remained until June, 1916, when she became Deputy Commandant to Dame Florence Simpson, D.B.E.

In February, 1917, she enrolled in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps as Assistant Controller of Inspection, with her headquarters in Salisbury, and this was perhaps the happiest time of her service. She set herself to make friends with all the officers under her, and her inspections and visits to their camps are well remembered. She was always thorough and constructive and set a high standard of efficiency, but she was helpful and understanding. Young administrators owed a great deal to her sympathy with their difficulties and her sound advice. There was general regret at her departure from Salisbury in July, 1918, when she went to Bourges, France, as Chief Controller of Q.M.A.A.C. who were attached to the American Army, a difficult post which she filled with great success. Finally, she returned to Q.M.A.A.C. Headquarters in London to fill the post of Chief Controller, and acted as second-in-command to Dame Florence during the period of demobilization and closing down the camps and hostels.

After the war Hilda Horniblow took a great interest in the formation of the Old Comrades Association, and worked very hard as chairman of the Committee who ran the Summer Camp, "Shanghai," on the Thames.

She returned to the Ministry of Education and became H.M. Inspector of Schools and later H.M. Inspector of Women's Technical Work in Schools and Colleges. She retired on her marriage, and for the past few years has been living in Yorkshire devoting much of her time to the two sections of the British Legion.

She was only 63 when she died, and much sympathy will be felt for her husband and sisters, while all who knew her will deeply regret that so useful and happy a life has been cut short.

FRANCIS IDA GAMMON

Many ex-Q.M.A.A.C. will be grieved to know of the death of Miss Gammon at Bristol on Sunday, 29th January, 1950, after a very brief illness. Miss Gammon served overseas during 1914-1918, joined the staff of the Service Women's Club at Buckingham Gate in 1925, leaving in 1929 to take up a post of responsibility on the staff of the Imperial Tobacco Co., Bristol, with whom she remained for twenty years and until her death. Miss Gammon will be missed by her many friends, and our deep sympathy is also with her sisters.

ELLEN JOHNSON

All who knew Ellen Johnson (*nee* Ramage) will hear with great regret of her death on 13th January, 1950. She served at home with the Q.M.A.A.C. in 1917-1918, and was an active worker for the British Legion as well as for the Newcastle Branch of the Comrades Association.

ELIZABETH MILLER

Many ex-members of the Q.M.A.A.C. will be grieved to hear of the death of Elizabeth Miller (*nee* Betty Chubb). Late of Cardiff, South Wales, she died at San Diego, California, on 20th February, 1950. She will be especially remembered by those who served with her and were attached to A.E.F., Somie-ut-Bourges, 1917-19.

EILEEN SANDERSON

Many of those who served in the A.T.S. with Eileen Sanderson will hear with very deep regret of her death after a serious operation on 2nd February, 1950.

Eileen joined the F.A.N.Ys. early in 1938 and, with other Edinburgh F.A.N.Ys., formed part of the 4th (Scottish) M.T. Company. In 1940 she became an officer, and served in the 17th (Glasgow) M.T. Company, afterwards at Headquarters, South Eastern Command, and at the A.T.S. Wing of the Staff College and later at the A.T.S. Junior Officers' School.

By both her F.A.N.Y. and A.T.S. friends, Eileen will be sadly missed. She was one of those that the world can ill do without, for not only was she a sincere and delightful friend, but she was so utterly unselfish and genuinely interested in other people, especially those in trouble or less fortunate than herself. To those of us who knew that during the latter years of the war she was in constant pain owing to an injury to her back, her courage and cheerfulness, and her determination not to allow her suffering to interfere with her work or affect others, were a constant inspiration and example.

Not only will those who were her friends or who served with Eileen mourn her passing, but there will be many in her home town in Edinburgh, both young and old, who will long remember the many thoughtful and kindly actions of a charming and happy personality whom one felt the better for having known.

BRANCHES—*Continued from inside back cover*

Southend.—Mrs. G. Rickus, Alloa, 30, Queen's Road, Rayleigh, Essex. First Thursday of every month at 7.30 p.m., at Haig Hall, 41, Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea.

Southern Ireland.—Miss M. Rafter, Ard-na-Griene, Chapelizod, Co. Dublin.

Southport.—Mrs. J. Paine, 20, Hawkshead Street, Southport, Lancs.

St. Leonards and Hastings.—Miss M. Osler, 21, Stockleigh Road, St. Leonards, Sussex.

Sunderland.—Mrs. E. Herdman, Old Laburnum Cottage, 43, Norman Street, Hendon, Sunderland.

Tees-side.—Mrs. O. A. Groves, 11, Collins Avenue, Norton, Stockton-on-Tees, Co. Durham.

Tulse Hill and District.—Miss L. P. Moran, 33, Thurlby Road, West Norwood, London, S.E.27.

Wimbledon and Epsom.—Miss Samuda, 25, Wordsworth Drive, Cheam, Surrey. Third Friday each month at T.A. Centre, St. George's Road, Wimbledon.

Wolverhampton.—Mrs. Wilday, 35, Clark Road, Wolverhampton.

Worthing.—Mrs. E. M. Boot, 1, Cissbury Road, Broadwater, Worthing. Second Wednesday each month, The Legion Hut, Union Place, Worthing, 7.30 p.m.

Victoria.—Mrs. E. F. Armstrong, Royal Bank of Canada, Government Street, Victoria, B.C.

York.—Mrs. A. G. Calvert, Flat 4, Fulford Park, Fulford, York. First Monday in every month, Flying Services Club, 33, Coney Street, York.

LONDON GAZETTE

SINCE the inception of the Women's Royal Army Corps the pages of the *London Gazette* have been full of the names of members of the Corps. Officers and other ranks have been honoured, officers have been commissioned and promoted. Here are the honours and awards earned by officers and other ranks up to and including the New Year Honours of 1950, as they appeared in the *Gazette*:—

Senior Contr. Mary Joan Caroline Tyrwhitt, O.B.E., Director, W.R.A.C., is appointed Honorary Aide-de-Camp to the King, 2nd Apr., 1949.

The King has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following promotions in, and appointments to, the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire :—
To be an Ordinary Dame Commander of the Military Division of the said Most Excellent Order:—

Senior Controller (Temporary) Mary Joan Caroline Tyrwhitt, O.B.E. (192895).

To be Ordinary Commanders of the Military Division of the said Most Excellent Order:—

Controller (Acting) Catherine Elisabeth Hammond (196073).

To be Ordinary Members of the Military Division of the said Most Excellent Order:—

Senior Commander (Temporary) Ruby Hill (297978).

Senior Commander (Temporary) Sheila Catherine Puckle (196357).

No. W/167050 Warrant Officer Class II Winifred Darby.

The King has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the British Empire Medal (Military Division) to the undermentioned:—

No. W/152566 Warrant Officer Class II (Acting) Elizabeth Allen.

No. W/157591 Staff-Sergeant (Acting) Sheila Gayward (*nee* Howe).

No. W/152857 Staff-Sergeant Ellen Mary George.

No. W/123567 Sergeant Florence Lilian Lowe.

No. W/1775 Private Lilian Sage.

No. W/74376 Staff-Sergeant Alice Ida Coyle-Williams.

The King has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the British Empire Medal (Military Division), in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in Malaya during the period 1st January, 1949, to 30th June, 1949, to the undermentioned:—

No. W/177558 Warrant Officer Class II (Acting) Dorothy Margaret Slinger.

The King has been graciously pleased that the following be mentioned in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in Malaya during the period 1st January, 1949, to 30th June, 1949:—

Junior Commander (Temporary) B. M. Gracie (223304).

No. W/41529 War Substantive Sergeant M. Morrison.

No. W/209143 War Substantive Sergeant M. F. Phillips.

The following officers have been granted permanent Regular commissions and have been promoted to the rank of Substantive Senior Commander, or above. As many as four entries have occurred in the *Gazette* about some of these officers, and in each case only the last one before 28th February, 1950, has been quoted. Promotion to Senior Commander is by time, promotion above Senior Commander is by selection. With a few exceptions each officer's seniority has been calculated as though she was commissioned on her twenty-third birthday. It follows that, provided she is recommended for it, she gets her seniority back-dated to the time that she would have earned it had she been commissioned on that date. The regulations about time promotion were changed on 1st July, 1946, which explains why a number of officers were promoted on

that date. Since then promotion to Senior Commander should normally fall on an officer's thirty-sixth birthday.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Substantive Rank</i>	<i>Date of Seniority</i>	<i>Date of Gazette</i>
M. J. C. Tyrwhitt, O.B.E. ...	192895	S.Contr.	1 Feb. 49	1 Apr. 49
H. A. Toft ...	192042	Contr.	23 Jan. 49	23 Dec. 49
E. I. W. Hobkirk ...	196046	"	1 Feb. 49	"
M. F. Coulshed, C.B.E. ...	196327	"	"	"
J. M. Cowper ...	192016	"	"	"
S. Cooke ...	192088	"	"	"
M. K. Crewe-Read ...	192954	C.Comd.	"	"
E. S. Macfie ...	192453	"	"	"
M. Railton ...	192959	"	"	"
C. W. Hull, O.B.E. ...	192719	"	"	24 Feb. 50
M. D. Morgan ...	192770	"	"	"
A. C. D. Hind, M.B.E. ...	196086	"	"	"
D. C. M. Hingston ...	196085	"	"	"
M. H. Pine, M.B.E. ...	192780	"	"	"
S. F. M. Nimmo ...	196297	"	"	"
M. K. R. Colvin, O.B.E. ...	192684	"	"	"
E. D. Stilgoe ...	227973	"	"	"
J. G. Grierson ...	223914	"	"	"
T. Morris ...	196166	S.Comd.	9 Jul. 45	13 Sep. 49
L. E. Weston ...	192992	"	14 Nov. 45	8 Jul. 49
E. R. Robinson ...	239504	"	30 Jan. 46	25 Nov. 49
S. M. Crawley ...	192230	"	1 Jul. 46	8 Jul. 49
A. D. S. Hurburgh ...	239555	"	"	"
N. K. Cadden ...	211199	"	"	"
B. M. Balmer ...	252561	"	"	30 Dec. 49
L. E. Holt ...	192740	"	"	11 Oct. 49
M. Tompkins ...	234261	"	"	5 Aug. 49
E. M. Sykes ...	223899	"	"	14 Oct. 49
J. E. R. Drake, M.B.E. ...	234025	"	"	8 Jul. 49
C. A. Cecil ...	192585	"	"	11 Oct. 49
D. S. Gray ...	263946	"	"	6 Dec. 49
A. A. Locke ...	244888	"	"	8 Jul. 49
B. M. Gracie ...	223304	"	"	17 Feb. 50
M. H. Plant, O.B.E. ...	196278	"	"	13 Sep. 49
J. Berry ...	192806	"	"	8 Jul. 49
M. E. Crawford ...	211212	"	7 Feb. 47	19 Aug. 49
M. H. Boydell ...	192297	"	31 May 47	17 Feb. 50
D. L. Pooley ...	196251	"	26 Sep. 47	13 Sep. 49
H. A. Campbell ...	196550	"	3 Nov. 47	19 Aug. 49
A. M. McIlwraith ...	248954	"	28 Dec. 47	5 Aug. 49
E. W. Gibson ...	196228	"	26 Mar. 48	13 Sep. 49
J. E. Shelmerdine ...	236980	"	26 Mar. 48	6 Dec. 49
G. F. Fleetwood-Jones ...	270222	"	17 Jul. 48	28 Feb. 50
E. M. Cowan ...	192191	"	17 Aug. 48	13 Sep. 49
R. F. M. Canning ...	221944	"	19 Aug. 48	8 Jul. 49
M. M. Gibson ...	221126	"	29 Nov. 48	"
E. V. Watts ...	309801	"	22 Feb. 49	11 Oct. 49
I. M. Smith ...	244429	"	26 Feb. 49	6 Jan. 50
J. L. Cooper ...	291493	"	8 Mar. 49	13 Sept. 49
B. L. M. Anwyl-Passingham ...	223106	"	8 Apr. 49	12 Jul. 49
E. J. Thomson ...	196381	"	3 Jun. 49	12 Jul. 49
C. de G. Martin ...	211221	"	14 Jun. 49	5 Aug. 49
W. G. Merrells ...	192147	"	2 Jul. 49	1 Oct. 49
B. D. A. Tansley-Witt ...	196485	"	18 Jul. 49	31 Jan. 50
R. D. Allerton ...	192401	"	31 Jul. 49	17 Feb. 50
O. A. Grant ...	196194	"	6 Aug. 49	13 Sep. 49
E. Askham ...	252576	"	3 Nov. 49	6 Jan. 50

PERSONAL ADVERTISEMENTS

Charge for three lines, 1s., each additional line 6d. For non-members of the Comrades Association the charge is 1s. 6d. for three lines and 9d. for each additional line. Prices for whole or half-page advertisements on application. Please pay bills promptly. We cannot afford to present them more than once.

Accounts, duplicating, typing. Account books of schools, hotels, clubs, property, etc., kept and written up for income tax or audit. Duplicating and typing also undertaken. Miss P. Morris, 1, Elmwood Crescent, Kingsbury, London, N.W.9.

Bexhill-on-Sea. Small hotel (run by two ex-A.T.S. W.Os.), set in spacious grounds, secluded yet within easy reach of sea (12 mins.) also Hastings and Eastbourne; on main London-Bexhill road. Comrades specially welcomed. Write for brochure. Mrs. I. R. Barnard, Thorne Hotel, Ninfeld Road, Bexhill-on-Sea. Tel.: Ninfeld 212.

Ex-Corporal (A.T.S.) wishes to purchase old stamp collections or accumulations. Good prices paid for right material. Immediate settlement by return. Anything sent should be registered, together with price required, to Mrs. A. F. Slow, 28a, Farnaby Road, Shortlands, Kent.

When in Edinburgh, stay at the Women's Services Club, 12, Drumsheugh Gardens. Telephone: Edinburgh 20877.

For Sale. A.T.S. Officer's Service Dress (tailored Savile Row). Height, 5 ft. 7½ in.; bust, 40 in.; hips, 42 in. £6 10s. Reply to Mrs. Miki Allen, 8, Victoria Park, Weston-super-Mare.

Khaki Shirts and Skirts in good condition required urgently by Guider, to dye for Guides. Official uniform almost unobtainable. Small payment. Reply Miss K. Coffey (ex-A.T.S.), Greystones, Middleton, Ilkley, Yorks.

Port Isaac, North Cornwall. Fully furnished flat. Electric light, hot and cold water. Situated facing quay. Reasonable terms. Write now. Bookings available from Easter to end of June and September onwards. Apply E. Priest, 21, Melrose, Delabole, N. Cornwall.

Special prices for Service and ex-Service personnel. Hussif Ltd. (Directors: Ex-Cpl. R. Martelli, W/20736, and ex-Pte. E. M. Brown, W/161220) offer superior domestic woodware—i.e., Ironing Tables, 12 in., with adjustable sleeve-board, 30s; 12 in. Ironing Table, without sleeve-board fitting, 25s.; Two- and Three-fold Clothes Horses at 9s. 6d. and 13s., plus carriage and packing 2s. 6d. to any address in G.B. All prices include P. Tax. First-class workmanship and all products fully guaranteed. Please send cash with order to 127c, Parchmore Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey. LIVINGSTONE 2569.

Clacton-on-Sea. Comfortable homely accommodation and excellent food in pleasant surroundings. One minute from sea front, five minutes shops and station. Few vacancies Easter. A welcome awaits all comrades and friends. Please write Grimmer, Trelawne Hotel, Lancaster Gardens West, Clacton-on-Sea, or phone Clacton 979.

Comrades assured of a warm welcome and a happy holiday at St. Bernards, 20, Hawkshead Street, Southport. 14s. 6d. full board. Central. Howard and Paine (ex-Sgt. A.T.S.).

Why not spend your holidays at "Quiet Ways," King Edward Road, Axminster, the ideal centre for Lyme Regis, Seaton, Sidmouth, Beer, West Bay, Charmouth? Tours arranged to many of Devon and Dorset places of interest. Ex-J.Comd. E. J. Stockton and ex-Sub. E. J. Blackmore extend a very warm welcome to ex and serving members at reduced terms. Phone: Axminster 2293.

Rothsay, Bute. Boarding house (run by ex-A.T.S.) in excellent position, with commanding view of hills and sea, including the famous Kyles of Bute, Loch Stiven and across to the mainland. Excellent centre for all Clyde steamers. Local bus service passes gate. Comrades especially welcome. Please write for further particulars to: Miss M. M. Webster, Dunvegan, Craigmore, Rothsay, Bute. Tel.: Rothsay 780.

Westgate-on-Sea, Kent. Garden site for caravan. Pleasant situation. Outdoor lavatory and water-tap. 12, Queen's Road.

Fox Fur for sale. £5. Will would-be purchasers please write to Miss E. M. Howson, 129, Rosary Road, Norwich.

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BRANCHES—*continued from inside front cover*

- Harrow and Watford.**—Mrs. F. Cormack, Melrose, 23, Towers Road, Hatch End, Middlesex. Meeting Watford last Monday in every month, 7.30 to 9.30 p.m., Verulean House, 12, St. Albans Road, Watford.
- Hartlepool.**—Miss M. Middleton, 6, Errol Street, West Hartlepool. Second Wednesday each month at 7.15 p.m., The Armoury, West Hartlepool.
- Headquarters.**—Mrs. Pratt Barlow, O.B.E., Duke of York's H.Q., King's Road, Chelsea, S.W.3. For members who have no local branch.
- Hendon.**—Miss J. Meredyth, 27, College Crescent, Hampstead, N.W.3. Last Thursday each month, Drill Hall, Algernon Road, Hendon, 8 p.m.
- Hull.**—Mrs. Thomas, 47, Westland Road, Kirk Ella, Yorks. First and third Thursday each month at 7.30 p.m. in the Annexe, British Legion H.Q., Beverley Road.
- Ilford.**—Miss P. Parker, 4, Richmond Street, Plaistow, E.13. First Saturday each month at 44 Park Road, Ilford.
- Ipswich and Suffolk.**—Miss C. Robertson, M.B.E., 2, Anglesea Road, Ipswich.
- Isle of Wight.**—Miss P. Cleeter, The Waterfall, The Esplanade, Bonchurch, I.O.W. Fourth Wednesday of every month.
- Lanark.**—Miss M. C. Stodart, c/o Reid, 67, Bent Road, Hamilton, Lanark.
- Leeds.**—Miss E. M. Wharam, 51, Parkland Gardens, Stonegate Road, Leeds, 6. Second Thursday, St. John's Church Rooms, New Briggate, 6.15 p.m. onwards.
- Leicester.**—Mrs. P. Crymble, 26, Orton Road, Abbey Lane, Leicester. First Monday each month at British Legion Headquarters, 128, Regent Road, Leicester.
- Liverpool.**—Miss I. F. Smith, 9, Meredale Road, Liverpool, 18. First Wednesday each month, 7.30 p.m., at Sefton Hall, Leece Street.
- London.**—Either Mrs. Giles, Q.M.A.A.C./A.T.S., 4, Arlington Drive, Carshalton, or Miss I. E. Brown, 40, Salisbury Road, Manor Park, E.12. Subscriptions should be sent direct to 52, Lower Sloane Street, S.W.3. Reunions first and third Thursday in every month, 7.30 p.m.
- Maidstone.**—Mrs. Court, Isolation Hospital, Fant Lane, Maidstone.
- Manchester.**—Mrs. Yeomans, 51, Orchard Road, Northenden, Manchester. Second and fourth Tuesdays each month, Thatched House Hotel, New Market Place, Manchester.
- M.E.L.F.**—S./Comd. M. Green, W.R.A.C. Officers' Mess, Egypt Command Signals Regiment, Moascar, M.E.L.F.
- Middle East Group.**—Miss B. Haddon, 9, Pond Road, Blackheath, S.E.3.
- Newbury.**—Miss C. Rashbrook, 5, Chesterfield Road, Newbury.
- Newcastle-on-Tyne.**—Miss N. Saxelby, 10, Waverley Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne. First Monday of every month, 7 to 9 p.m., at British Legion House, 24, Great North Road (corner of Jesmond Road), Newcastle-on-Tyne.
- New South Wales.**—Mrs. B. Briggs, 67, Tillock Street, Haberfield, Sydney, N.S.W.
- Norfolk.**—Mrs. L. W. Chilvers, 2, King's Head Terrace, Great Witchingham, Norfolk. First Wednesday each month, 6 to 9.30 p.m., The Lounge Comrades Club, St. Faith's Lane, Norwich.
- Northampton.**—Miss Cole, 4, Abbots Way, Northampton.
- N. Ireland.**—See Belfast.
- North Staffordshire.**—Mrs. M. Haliburton, 32, Pilkington Avenue, Newcastle, Staffs. First Monday every month, 7 p.m., at Nell Gwynne Café.
- Notts.**—Mrs. E. Williamson, 71, Colwick Road, Nottingham.
- Omagh.**—Miss Emo, 6, Clement's Villas, Omagh, Northern Ireland.
- Oxford.**—Miss J. Deadman, 52, James Street, Oxford.
- Perth.**—Miss B. S. T. Allan, 4, Westgrove Avenue, Jeanfield, Perth, Scotland.
- Peterborough.**—Miss L. Beeken, 42, East Street, Crowland, Lincs.
- Plymouth.**—Mrs. O. Foster, 2, Notte Street, Plymouth. 7 p.m. first Tuesday every month.
- Portsmouth.**—Miss E. Hebb, 79, Warren Avenue, Milton, Portsmouth.
- Preston.**—Miss N. Poole, 19a, West Beach, Lytham, Lytham St. Annes, Lancashire.
- Reading.**—Miss E. B. Ridley, 4, Kidmore Road, Caversham, Reading.
- Ross-on-Wye.**—Mrs. Mason, Rowgarth, Penraig, Ross-on-Wye.
- St. Leonards.**—Miss Osler, 21, Stockleigh Road, St. Leonards, Sussex.
- Salisbury.**—Mrs. A. Harris, 7, St. Andrew's Road, Salisbury.
- Seaford.**—Mrs. Patterson, Wyeham, Dane Road, Seaford, Sussex.
- Sheffield.**—Mrs. D. Olivant, 107, Whitham Road, Broomhill, Sheffield, 10. Meetings first and third Thursday each month, Milk Street Ex-Services Institute, 7.45 p.m.
- Sleaford.**—Miss B. Neaverson, Fleet Road, Holbeach, Spalding, Lincs.
- Southampton.**—Miss B. Lincoln, Woodspeen, Ashurst, Southampton.

Continued on page 13

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

IT is hoped that as many members as possible will come to the Annual General Meeting. It will be held at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday, 18th March, 1950, in the DRILL HALL OF THE DUKE OF YORK'S HEADQUARTERS.

BRING THIS WITH YOU TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

AGENDA

1. The Minutes of the 29th Annual General Meeting held on Saturday, 26th March, 1949, and circulated in the March/April issue of the GAZETTE.
2. Business arising from the Minutes.
3. Report of Council.
4. Report of Hon. Treasurer.
5. Council Resolutions:

It has been suggested that this Association, which became the Regimental Association of the A.T.S. in 1941, should be the Regimental Association of the W.R.A.C. Certain changes in the Rules would, however, be necessary. These are embodied in Resolutions 1 to 15, which should be considered together. If passed, these resolutions will come into force ONLY when the Association is formally recognized as the Regimental Association of the new Corps. Members of the W.R.A.C. are anxious that there should be no division in the Association, which has already existed for more than thirty years.

The Council strongly recommend that these Resolutions be passed, so that we who have served, may give all possible help to our comrades and successors who are now serving, and so that the traditions, inaugurated in 1917, and expanded in the recent war, may continue unimpaired.

The proposed resolutions do not alter in any way the powers or activities of Branches.

- (1) "That Her Majesty the Queen be asked graciously to honour the Association by becoming its Patron.
- (2) "That in future the Chairman of Council be elected by the Annual General Meeting and the Hon. Treasurer by the Council." (Amending Rules 8 (d) and 4.)
- (3) "That the objects of the Association be:—
 - (a) To foster *esprit de corps* and to maintain comradeship among members of the Association.
 - (b) To promote the welfare of the Corps, of its personnel, past and present, and of all who served in Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps and/or the Auxiliary Territorial Service.

- (c) To help members to obtain assistance in need.
- (d) To encourage preparedness to give service to the Country in peace and war.” (Amending Rule 2.)
- (4) “That all W.R.A.C. personnel serving with the colours shall be deemed to be members of the Association in return for an annual subscription of one shilling and sixpence per head exclusive of the GAZETTE paid on the 1st January, capitation fees being forwarded by the unit through Command Headquarters. The production of a Unit certificate of payment of subscription up to 31st December shall be proof of membership of a woman who is serving in the W.R.A.C. or who was discharged or transferred to the reserve during the current year. This does not affect the position of serving O.Rs. who are Life Members.” (Amending Rule 6.)
- (5) “That in addition to the Branches already provided for by the Rules of the Association serving members may be formed into Unit Branches under the chairmanship of the Unit Commander, assisted by four members only one of whom may be an officer.” (Clarifying Rule 10.)
- (6) “That the number of Vice-Presidents on the Council be limited to four who will be elected by the Annual General Meeting, who may serve for four years, and who will not be eligible for immediate re-election.” (Amending Rule 4.)
- (7) “That the Director W.R.A.C. and ex-Directors for three years after relinquishing that appointment be members of Council; and as such they will be ineligible for election as Council Vice-Presidents.” (Amending Rule 8c.)
- (8) “That the Anti-Aircraft Command, though not territorial, shall constitute an Area under Rule 9, and that Northern Ireland District shall continue to constitute an Area.” (Amending Rule 9.)
- (9) “That the Active Service Area shall cease to exist, representation of serving members being made through Area Committees on which the Unit Branches are represented.” (Amending Rule 9.)
- (10) “That the following shall be ex-officio members of Council:—
- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| A.D.W.R.A.C. | A.G. 19. |
| Commandant | W.R.A.C. School of Instruction. |
| Commandant | W.R.A.C. Training Centre. |
| Second-in-Command | Medical Services and W.R.A.C. Records.” |
- (11) “That the following addition shall be made to Council:—Two O.R. serving on a Regular Engagement.” (Nominated by D.W.R.A.C.).
- (12) “That the Council shall meet at least four times a year, and shall appoint an Executive Committee. The Council has at all times power to appoint *ad hoc* Committees. The Executive Committee shall be:—
- Chairman.
The Vice Chairman of Council.
Three ex-Service Members of Council (one of whom shall be the Hon. Treasurer).
Three Serving Officers selected from the ex-officio W.R.A.C. members of Council.” (Amending Rule 8e.)

- (13) "That a Q.M.A.A.C. representative of the Service Women's Benevolent Fund and a representative of the A.T.S. Benevolent Fund who has served in the A.T.S. or W.R.A.C. be members of Council." (Amending Rule 8c.)
- (14) "That the Chairman of the Area Committee shall in future be the senior W.R.A.C. officer in the Area, and that, whenever possible the Vice-Chairman shall be an ex-service member." (Amending Rule 9.)
- (15) "That the Association on being recognized as the Regimental Association of a Corps of the Regular Army shall be known as The W.R.A.C. Association (incorporating Q.M.A.A.C. and A.T.S. Comrades Association). (Amending Rule 1.)

6. Branch Resolutions

(a) LONDON BRANCH

"That consideration of any change in the title or status of the Comrades Association be deferred for one year."

(b) LONDON BRANCH

"That voting at General Meetings of the Association shall normally be by show of hands, but that any accredited Branch representative may demand a card vote in which each Branch representative shall record a number of votes equivalent to the number of members of the Branch who, at a Branch General Meeting, declared themselves for or against any Resolution."

(c) CHESTERFIELD BRANCH

"That the arrangements at the Albert Hall are thoroughly unsatisfactory and should be improved."

(d) NORTH STAFFS

"That a Reunion be held in the Midlands or North West, as there are many members who cannot attend the London meeting on account of the cost."

(e) PRESTON

"That Reunions be held in different areas to enable more members to attend from Branches too far distant for them to travel to London."

(f) CHESTER

"That persons who have not served in Q.M.A.A.C., A.T.S. or W.R.A.C. be eligible as Associate Members on payment of a small subscription."

(g) SOUTHPORT

"That the badge should be improved and be in the style of the small A.T.S. badge purchased from the Benevolent Fund."

(h) CHELMSFORD

"That para 2 of Regulation 10—Branches, be amended to ensure that no one member shall hold joint office of Secretary and Treasurer irrespective of the number of Branch members."

7. Reports of Committees:

(a) Museum.

(b) Hospitals.

8. Appointment of Chairman of Council and four Council Vice-Presidents*
9. Date of next meeting.
10. Any other business.

PHYLLIS GREENWELL,
A./General Secretary.

* Nominations from Branches can be received up to 1st March, 1950.

BRANCH SECRETARIES' LUNCHEON

The Branch Secretaries' meeting will be held at 11.30 a.m. on 18th March, in the Drill Hall of the Duke of Yorks H.Q., to be followed by the Secretaries' Luncheon in the T.A. Mess at 1 p.m.

To reach the Duke of Yorks H.Q. at the Sloane Square End of the Kings Road, take a No. 19, 22, or 137 bus; or Underground at Sloane Square.

Duke of York's H.Q.,
London, S.W.3