

Old Comrades' Association



GAZETTE.

Duke of York's Headquarters, London, S.W.3.

DECEMBER, 1920. No. 6.

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EDITORIAL

Hearty Christmas Greetings to all Old Comrades, whether at home or overseas. May 1921 bring you happiness and prosperity, and still further cement the bond of comradeship which unites us all.

Armistice Day, 1920.

Q.M.A.A.C. were well represented in the ceremonies which distinguished Armistice Day in London. Dame Florence Leach attended the service in Westminster Abbey. Miss Haythorne (late D.C.C.), and Misses Vickers (4253) and Turner (45779), walked in the procession in uniform, and passed the Cenotaph, and Mrs. Esslemont, Miss Chapman, and Miss Horniblow laid a wreath on behalf of the Old Comrades' Association on the Cenotaph. A photograph of the wreath, which was a beautiful one, is reproduced in this number of the Gazette.

We have received the following account from one of our representatives in the procession: "We turned out in uniform, and reached Charing Cross at 9 a.m., where we found the members of the other Women's Services. We lined up, and had a very good position, and while we waited we talked with the men round us, hearing all their war experience. Then, as we got towards Whitehall we heard the Funeral March, and all officers stood at the salute, and civilians took their hats off as the cortege turned into Whitehall. The road was lined with soldiers and mounted police galloped down the sides to keep us in line. We got close up to the Cenotaph, then stopped, and a band from Westminster played 'O God our help,' very solemnly. We could not hear the Lord's Prayer, but we could see the Cenotaph, it was covered with a flag very beautifully—a great mass against a yellow sky, such as you often see in Paris. The buildings and trees of Montagu House were all soft and misty—silhouetted, with flags at half mast, in layers against the Tower of the House of Lords. Then Big Ben boomed out, the officer gave the soldiers the word of command to reverse arms, I think. The two minutes great silence started on the last stroke. It was terrible. No one moved. Then the flag fell, and the Cenotaph was seen, and our standards waving on either side. Then we slowly filed past, officers saluting, and so to the Abbey. The service was over. We were admitted by the Parliament square entrance, and filed quietly, to slow music, down the nave, past the grave, which was covered with cream brocade, embroidered with armorial devices of England, candles at the head and feet of the coffin, one or two great wreaths, laurels and roses, and at the four corners a soldier, sailor, airman, and marine, immovable, with arms reversed. Then we went out towards Victoria. We left Trafalgar Square at 10.45, and came out of the Abbey at 12.30."

N.A.C.B.

Two thousand six hundred and forty-four women are still employed by the Navy and Army Canteen Board. Although the women are being replaced by ex-service men wherever possible, it was stated in the House of

Commons that in certain departments the work is more suitable for women, and that "the service of women has markedly raised the standards of tone and comfort in the canteens." This is very pleasant hearing.

School of Military Administration.

Those who were stationed at Chisledon, in Wiltshire, during their term of service will be interested to know that this camp has been turned into a School of Military Administration. The editor of "Truth" says:—

"Experiments have shown that large savings of money may be effected by introducing business methods into administration. The ordinary barrack refuse, for example, which was usually buried, burnt, or 'given away,' realised in twenty months a sum of £2,700,000. This fact alone was sufficient to urge the Quartermaster-General to extend his business operations, and the Chisledon school of instruction will enable him to develop a great scheme of efficiency with economy."

Q.M.A.A.C. may feel with a good deal of satisfaction that directly or indirectly we had something to do, both with raising the tone of the canteens, and in saving what had hitherto been considered refuse. Both are achievements of which we may justly feel proud.

Unemployment.

The period for the granting of out-of-work donation has been extended to March 31st, 1921. Ex-service women can draw 15s. a week maximum. Fortunately, however, very few are now in receipt of relief, most of them having pluckily determined to take what work they could find. The following question and answer, quoted from the House of Commons on November 24th, will be of interest:—

The Minister of Labour was asked whether he was aware of the demand for women to fill situations in domestic service; and whether he would take steps to ascertain the pre-war occupation of ex-service women registering for unemployment donation or pay in order that women who have had previous experience in domestic work may be placed in suitable domestic situations through the Labour Exchanges?

In reply, the Minister stated that he was aware of the general shortage of domestic servants, and that ex-service women for whom suitable employment could be found in domestic service were not allowed to remain on donation. He mentioned, however, that the total number of ex-service women in all claiming donation on 5th November was no more than 923. These figures, of course, include all the enrolled services.

Helena Residential Clubs.

On November 12th, Princess Christian opened at 81 Lancaster Gate the first of the Helena Residential Clubs for women working or training in London. Of the fifty beds available twenty-five will be reserved for ex-service women.

This club is the first tangible result of the hard work the Service Women's Association has been putting in during the last six months. The first instalment of the money from the United Services Fund (£10,000) has

actually been received, and has been paid over to the Helena Residential Clubs. Q.M.A.A.C. are, as usual, well to the fore in this enterprise. Miss B. Ireland is general secretary of the scheme, and Miss Laird (St. Pol), and Miss Tiltman (Shirehampton), are on the staff of the first club. Several Q.M.A.A.C. are also already in residence. It is hoped to open club buildings in several of the larger provincial towns.

Overseas Settlement Within the Empire.

The Government facilities for the settlement of service women within the Empire have been extended for an additional period, and free passages will be granted under the same conditions up to December 31st, 1921. At present only 687 ex-service women have actually availed themselves of these free passages, of whom 334 have gone to Canada, 210 to Australia and New Zealand, 85 to Africa, 15 to India, and the remainder to New Guinea, Ceylon, West Indies, Hong Kong, Egypt, Malay States, and Straits Settlements. Inquiries should be addressed to the S.O.S.B.W., Hotel Windsor, Victoria, S.W.1.

The Gazette.

By way of a Christmas present to subscribers, we have doubled the size of the Gazette, and given them all the news we can collect of absent friends. We none of us ever grow tired of hearing what the rest are doing, and their activities are astonishingly varied and interesting. In fact, as a correspondent remarked the other day, "The Old Comrades seem even more wonderful than the Q.M.A.A.C." It is very comforting to be able to blow one's own trumpet quite loudly, and to know that we all think the same.

The Gazette is published on the 14th of each month, and a copy is posted to each subscriber. These are checked carefully before despatch, but a few appear to go astray in the post. Efforts are being made to circumvent this, and you will help materially if you will notify the Secretary on a post card if your Gazette has not arrived by the 18th.

[Although you may miss the Gazette very badly, it is recommended that you do not express your natural annoyance too crudely on a post card. It depresses the Secretary.—Ed.]

SERVICE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

The annual Council meeting was held on November 26th, at 115 St. George's Square, where, through the kindness of the Women's Legion, the Association now has its offices. A report of the work of the Executive Committee since the last meeting of the Council was presented, detailing the progress in the negotiations with the United Services Fund. The sum of £65,000 has been earmarked by the fund for schemes for residential clubs and holiday homes, and of this sum the first cheque for £10,000 was received by the Association on November 25th. This has been handed over to the Helena Residential Clubs, of which Miss Ireland, so well known to members of the Q.M.A.A.C., is secretary. The first house has been opened by H.R.H. Princess Christian, at 81 Lancaster Gate.

Immediate extension to the provinces is being pressed forward, and schemes from districts where there is real need will be welcomed. A further application has been made for a grant to form a Benevolent Fund, and it is understood that this proposal is being sympathetically considered.

The principal business before the Council was the re-election of its Chairman and Executive, and Lady Londonderry was unanimously re-elected, and consented to serve, but owing to her frequent absence from London it was thought advisable to elect two vice-chairmen. These were Miss Ellis (late Commandant of the Women's Legion Motor Section), and Miss Glyn, who was resigning the secretaryship of the Association. The new Executive Committee comprises: Dame Meriel Talbot, Dame Florence Leach, Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan, The Hon. Mrs. Northcote, Miss I. Crowdy, Miss Edith Thompson.

We are glad to announce that Miss Davy (late C.C., Overseas) has kindly consented to act as joint hon. secretary. Mrs. Powell (late W.R.A.F.) has also been approached.

Great efforts are being made to see that the ex-service

women take a proper part in the Service Men's Exhibition and Winter Carnival, to be held at the White City, from December to January. A special committee has been appointed, with Miss Davy as Chairman, to deal with this matter.

HEADQUARTERS OFFICE.

Q.M.A.A.C. Old Comrades' Association.

The Headquarters Office of the Association will be closed from Tuesday, December 21st, 1920, to Friday, December 31st. It is particularly requested that only most urgent correspondence should be forwarded during that time. Letters should be addressed, Miss Ethel Thomas, 1 Oxford Road, St. Annes-on-Sea, Lancs; telephone St. Annes 326.

The annual general meeting, held at the Duke of York's Headquarters on December 3rd, was very well attended, between four and five hundred members filling the large territorial hall, kindly placed at our disposal for the evening.

The following summary of the President's address gives briefly the main points under discussion:—

"During the present year very nearly 3,000 members have joined the Association, and by the end of the month this figure will certainly have been reached, and this in spite of very great difficulties in getting into touch with ex-members of the Corps. At the present rate of progress our numbers twelve months hence will be very large indeed. About forty local branches have been started, and several other are on the way. The Headquarters Offices of the Association have proved a tremendous asset. In addition to the ordinary work of the Association, enrolments, local branch work, and so forth, nearly 150 cases have been dealt with by the Benevolent Fund, over 100 claims for compensation have been forwarded, and watched over; and almost an equal number of cases dealing with the loss or non-receipt of pay, or official documents.

"Help, both in cash and kind, have been given to members starting enterprises of one kind or another. I should certainly like to emphasise the immense advantages we have derived from the Hostel, at 91 Belgrave Road. I am not referring only to the fact that it houses 100 of our members, and provides a weekly social for several hundreds more, but also to the fact that it is constantly used by members from many of the provincial branches, and especially those going overseas.

"You will all be glad to know that at last the Service Women's Association is reaping some return for all its work and its trouble. A cheque for £10,000 has actually been passed to the Helena Hostel Committee, through whom we are working. One hostel is already open, at 81 Lancaster Gate, and before long we shall see others springing up where the demand is greatest. Next you will see a scheme for convalescent homes gradually materialising but this all takes a very long time to set in motion.

"A more immediate benefit, and one that will appeal to all Q.M.A.A.C.'s will be the opening of the camp on the Thames. It is hoped that this will be available next Easter, or at any rate in time for the summer holidays. Last but not least in our achievements is the Gazette, which promises to be a most satisfactory enterprise. You will be glad to hear that now there are sufficient subscriptions to enable it to pay its way, and even to allow of an occasional double number.

"The financial position will be laid before you by the Treasurer, but I wish to impress on you all, that members subscriptions do not by any means cover the expenditure. The new committee must consider the problem and decide how much is to be spent on administration, organisation, and to what extent local branches can be expected to support themselves."

The most important business before the meeting was the consideration of various proposals for electing the Executive Committee on a more representative basis. The original rule having been rescinded, much discussion ensued, and a system of direct branch representation recommended by the out-going committee was finally agreed upon. Under this scheme every branch with a membership of 35 will be able to elect one representative on to the Executive Committee. This has been explained in detail to all branch secretaries, who will lay it before their members.

LOCAL BRANCHES.

Bournemouth and Dorset.

On November 6th the first meeting for the winter was held. As the members are so scattered only three turned up. It was then decided to have the next meeting on November 24th, which was then postponed until December 8th, and, if the weather is fine, will take the form of a ramble. The members from Christchurch will start from their end to meet the Poole members at the Square, in Bournemouth, and then all go to tea together.

On November 9th we were asked by the "Circle of Hope" to help with the decoration of the soldier's graves, and although the notice was so short, the members in Poole undertook to make wreaths for sixteen graves out of the twenty-nine in the cemetery.

The "Circle of Hope" is organising a large exhibition of work done by ex-service men and women, at St. Peter's Hall, Bournemouth, to be held some time in the spring of next year, and we have been asked if we could undertake a stall. If any of the other local branches could lend things it would be a great help, and if any branch would like to assist, they could communicate direct with Miss Sandys-Simpson, of "The Hermitage," St. Peter's Road, Parkstone, Dorset.

The Secretary of the branch has a few copies of the photo of the Y.W.C.A. Hut at Camp III., Abbeville, if any member would care to have one, they would be forwarded on receipt of name and address. (A contribution towards the branch funds would not be refused).

13 Longfleet Road, F. E. LEVER, Hon. Sec.
Poole, Dorset.

Glasgow and West of Scotland.

On November 6th a party of Old Comrades proceeded to Edinburgh to be present at the bazaar. A very enjoyable time was spent, meeting and conversing with old friends, and it was most refreshing to see the uniform once more. We are very glad that the efforts of the Edinburgh branch have been crowned with success.

This branch is very busy sewing for the sale on the 11th December. At the close of the sale there will be a concert, kindly arranged by Miss Laird, of Dumbarton.

A Hockey Club has been formed, and suitable ground obtained. The opening game will be played on the afternoon of Saturday, 11th December.

It is proposed to give a series of short lectures on interesting subjects. The first will take place on Wednesday evening, 15th December, at the Club, 13 Newton Place, at 7.30 p.m. The lecturer is Miss Eunice Murray, and the subject, "The Need of the Present Legislation," from a non-party point of view. An invitation has been extended to the W.R.A.F. Old Comrades to join us on that evening.

The first dance of this branch took place in the High School, on 26th November. There was a large turn-out of members and their friends, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. The floor, band and refreshments, were of the best. Special thanks are due to Miss Maxton and her committee, who worked so hard to make the evening a success.

It was with great regret we parted from Miss Mary Laird, who has gone to take up a post in London. Miss Laird was a keen and enthusiastic member of committee, and organised the sale so that every member could take part. She has the best wishes of all the members of the branch.

13 Royal Terrace, E. M. GILCHRIST, Hon. Sec.
West Glasgow. November 29th.

Leeds.

It is hoped to arrange for one of the rooms in the Victoria Institute, Cookridge Street, Leeds, to be used by the O.C.A. one or two Saturday evenings per month. Further details as soon as possible.

L. LEONARD (Mrs.) Hon. Sec.

188 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds.

London.

Three hundred and forty tickets were sold for the dance, which was held on November 13th, and although this ensured a great success financially, it is much regretted that the room was so crowded. It has been decided to limit the tickets in future, in order that the hall shall not be too crowded for dancing. We are, however, very grate-

ful to the Old Comrades for their response, and hope in the New Year to arrange for a larger hall, so we shall still look to you all to give us your support.

Thirteen of us met on December 20th for tea at 91 Belgrave Road, and proceeded "en masse" to the London Coliseum, only to be met with the news that there was not a single seat left in the house. However, we were not at all depressed, and were quite happy to wander round to various theatres, endeavouring to get in somewhere. At last we succeeded at Daly's Theatre, and spent a very jolly evening.

It has been decided to dispense with the permanent club room at 83 Belgrave Road, owing to the fact that so few members use it. Reunions on Thursday evening will take place as usual, at 91 Belgrave Road, from 7.30 until 10.30 p.m.

Sub-Committees of the London Branch General Committee have been formed for sports, dances, rambles, and entertainments. It is therefore hoped that many new activities may be initiated early in the New Year.

The membership of the branch is now about 950, and a wish very near to the heart of the Hon. Secretary is that we should reach 1,000, so do your best to obtain recruits.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

January 2nd, 1921.—A ramble will take place, but the decision in regard to route has not yet been made. Members to meet outside Lyon's Corner House, Strand, near Trafalgar Square, at 10 a.m.

January 3rd, 1921.—League of Nations Union meeting, at the Royal Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, W.C., at 8 p.m. This meeting has been arranged for ex-service women. Speaker: Miss Currey, O.B.E. (ex-W.R.N.S. Officer). Admission free. Please come.

February 3rd, 1921.—Concert is being held in King George's Hall, Y.M.C.A. Headquarters, Tottenham Court Road, W.C., at 7.45 p.m. Reserved seats 7/6, 5/-, 2/6, and 1/3, inclusive of tax. This concert is being arranged by a talented concert party, who are kindly giving their services, so that the proceeds of the entertainment may be devoted to the branch funds. It is hoped that you will give your support and bring your friends.

It is hoped to start a vocal music class in the New Year for part-singing, and glee-singing. Twenty-five members are required to form the class which will probably be held in a hall in Marylebone Road, fee 2s. for the session. The class will be on Wednesday evenings. Will any member who would like to join kindly communicate with Miss Ireland, 12a Sydney Road, St. Margaret's.

Norfolk.

On Thursday, November 11th, 1920, an informal meeting of ex-W.A.A.C. officers and members was held to consider the possibility of forming a local branch of the Old Comrades' Association. Although the attendance was small, the following proposals were made, to be adopted in the event of getting a sufficient number to join:—

1. Officers elected: President, Mrs. Houchen, "Westleigh," Attleborough, Norfolk; Secretary, Miss D. Marsters, 51 Christ Church Road, Norwich; Committee, Miss Sheringham, "Flaxmoor," Caston, Attleborough, Miss Hurrell, 39 Highland Road, Norwich, Miss Oakley, "The Heath," North Elmham, Norfolk.

2. Steps to be taken to obtain use of room at Comrades of the Great War Headquarters. (Miss Sheringham to approach General Jackson).

3. Names of vice-presidents suggested.

4. Meetings to be held monthly. Next meeting arranged for 27th November, 1920.

The Secretary meanwhile to take steps to get in touch with as many ex-members as possible in the district, through inquiries, advertisements, etc. This meeting was held at the house of one of the ex-members.

A second meeting of the old Comrades Association was held at Norwich on Saturday, 27th November. Although numbers were still small, keenness was shown (especially by two girls, who had cycled in 20 miles to attend), we are hopeful that the branch will grow. The next meeting has been fixed for January 6th, and is to be held in a room lent to us by the Comrades of the Great War Club. The suggestion was put forward that we should amalgamate with the W.R.A.F.S.

A strong appeal for support is being sent to all known ex-Waacs in the district and before long we hope to have the Norwich branch well established.

51 Christ Church Road, D. MARSTERS, Hon. Sec.
Norwich. November 30th, 1920.

Northumberland and Durham.

Special efforts are being made to form a branch of the Old Comrades' Association in these counties. Will all ex-Q.M.A.A.C.'s in that neighbourhood write to one of the following: Miss M. Conder, Y.W.C.A. Girls' Club, Station Road, Wallsend-on-Tyne; Miss M. S. Mackenzie, 212 Grosvenor Terrace, Linthorpe Road, Middlesboro; Miss M. M. Sivewright, 5 Radcliffe Terrace, Hartlepool. A beginning has already been made in Newcastle.

Oxford.

It is with great pleasure I am able to announce that Mrs. Herbert J. Morrell, of Headington Hill House and Streatley, has consented to be our President, and that Mrs. Rowse Rowell, of Barton End House, and Major Melville Lee, of Stoke Place, Headington, will act as Vice-Presidents.

Very pleasant social gatherings have been held at Mrs. T. M. Bateson's house (78 Bullingdon Road, Oxford), these will be continued fortnightly, on Thursdays, from 6.30 to 8 p.m. The next will be on December 2nd. Members are asked to bring books of carols if they have any.

Mrs. Piper, of 38 High Street, is giving a social on November 30th, from 7 to 11 p.m. Games, music, dancing. Each member is invited to bring a friend.

The social evening given by Mrs. Piper (ex-hostel forewoman at Pirbright) on Tuesday, November 30th, at 38 High Street, was a great success, socially and financially. Games, music, dancing, were all enjoyed, from 7 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. The refreshments, consisting of home-made cakes and sandwiches were all contributed by members of the Committee, so that, all expenses paid, the sum of 30s. will be in hand for future entertainments. A most encouraging result for a first attempt.

During the evening it was heard that a member going to London shortly intended putting some flowers on the Cenotaph from the Oxford Branch, Old Comrades Association. Mention was made of this to the company assembled, and as everyone was unanimous in wishing to join in carrying out this nice thought, a collection was made.

E. T. HAWS, Hon. Sec.

Correction.—In the November Gazette it was stated that "A Committee was then formed, consisting of two ex-officers and two ex-members." in place of, "two ex-officers" it should read, "two ex-forewomen."

Portsmouth, Southsea, and Gosport.

There are now eighteen members, all of whom are very keen. The branch will be called the "Portsmouth, Southsea and Gosport Branch," as there are so many of the members from Gosport.

The following Committee and Secretary have been elected: Secretary, Miss E. E. McGuire Bate, 97 High Street, Portsmouth. Committee, Miss E. Sterndale, Miss K. M. Hawkins, Miss S. Orrin, and Miss R. Lush.

Reading and District.

As it was found more convenient to postpone the first social evening of the branch to the first week in December, there is little to report for November, beyond a good deal of steady work on the part of members in looking up ex-Q.M.A.A.C., and incidentally discovering several who have not heard of the Committee. Though much interest is shown, enrolments come along very slowly. Messrs. Huntley & Palmer kindly promised to make the Association known to their Workers Committee, and the Comrades of the Great War and the Y.W.C.A. have also been approached with the same object in view.

Social Evening, December 3rd, 1920.—The first social re-union of the Reading and District Branch was held on December 3rd, at the Cheapside Cafe, Reading, and was much enjoyed by all who attended. The whist drive was won by Miss F. G. Bradford, and the guessing competition by Miss Rogers. Overseas as well as home comrades were well represented.

It is hoped to hold similar social meetings about once a month in future. The date and place of the Christmas party are not yet fixed, but it will probably take place

about the middle of January. Any O.C.A. members who may happen to visit Reading about that time will be most welcome, and are asked to write to the Hon. Sec. for particulars of the party.

EDITH TROTTER, Chairman and Hon. Sec.

Edinburgh and East of Scotland.

Miss Finlay regrets that owing to personal reasons she is unable to carry on the work of joint secretary. Her resignation has been regretfully accepted by the Committee. Members are asked to note that Miss J. H. Cowan has consented to carry on the secretaryship, and all communications should be sent to her, at 6 Salisbury Road, Edinburgh (telephone Central 1746). Miss Jean Hawley has kindly consented to help Miss Cowan with the secretarial work.

Miss McGeorge, late Signals, Boulogne, and Miss Mary Robertson, late Signals, Rouen, have been successful in obtaining appointments under the Ministry of Labour, at Kew Gardens. The good wishes of this branch go with them to their new work.

A re-union dinner will be held at the Grafton Cafe, Tollcross, on Wednesday evening, 15th December, at 7.30. Tickets, 6/6.

On November the 6th a bazaar was held in the New Gallery, Edinburgh. An original scheme of decoration was carried out by Mrs. Dundas, and above the different stalls were Q.M.A.A.C. badges. The hall was crowded to overflowing at the opening ceremony, which, in the absence from Edinburgh of the G.O.C., Sir Francis Davies, was performed by General Kays, C.B., the Lord Provost occupying the chair, and Captain Jameson, M.P. for the West Division of Edinburgh, proposing the votes of thanks. General Kays laid very special stress on the good work of the corps, and on the way that ignorant people had maligned it, and wished the O.C.A. all success in their efforts to form a club. Many well-known people were present, including the Solicitor-General for Scotland, and Mrs. Murray, Lady Findlay, of Aberlour, Sir John and Lady Dick Lauder, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh and Mrs. Chessier, and Captain J. Gordon Jameson, M.P., and Mrs. Jameson.

We were surprised and delighted at our apparent popularity. During the entire afternoon, until the bazaar closed about 8.30, people streamed past the barrier. They came to buy, and the piled up stalls were surrounded by large crowds. A stranger was heard to remark, "What a particularly nice looking set of women," of course—they were ex-W.A.A.C.'s!

Glasgow, Dunfermline, Gullane, Stirling, and other places were represented amongst those who came to the bazaar. All the stall holders wore uniform, and very smart they looked. The band of the 2nd battalion the Royal Scots proved a great attraction, as did also the well-known palmist, Madame Marie Stewart. We greatly appreciated the greetings received by telegram from Miss Davy, C.C., and Miss Haythorne, D.C.C. The financial results are excellent, amounting to a net profit of £470.

We wish to take this opportunity of thanking all friends, both in Scotland and in other parts of the United Kingdom for their most generous response to our appeals for assistance. We have also to thank ex-W.A.A.C.'s in Cologne, Constantinople, and Canada, for their generous help. Much of the success of the bazaar was due to the indefatigable and untiring efforts of the Bazaar Secretary, Miss J. H. Cowan, to whom we gratefully tender our heartfelt thanks.

A.M.L.

The Bazaar Secretary wishes to thank most heartily all those who sent, through her, contributions in money and work, to the bazaar. It has not been possible to write to everyone, as the contributions were so numerous. She wishes also to take this opportunity of expressing her great indebtedness to the Chairman, Miss Low, and to Miss Lambert, for all the help and support they gave her.

"Winsome Waacs."—The demand for copies of this book has been so great that members are now requested to apply through their branch secretary, if they require further copies, and not to Miss Cowan direct. Branch secretaries can obtain a supply from Miss Cowan, and may return any unsold copies to her.

Liverpool.

Three meetings were held during November, 1920, on Thursdays, November 4th, November 18th, and November 25th. There were twenty members present at the first meeting, sixteen at the second, when music, dancing, and games took place, with an interlude for refreshments. The meetings were as usual in Christ Church Schools, Christian Street, Islington.

The meeting on November 25th took place instead of on December 2nd, in order to vote on the nominations to the General Committee, and to read the agenda for the general meeting of December 3rd. It was purely a business meeting, and plans were also discussed for a Christmas party. This, it was decided, should be just a social evening, to which members could invite their friends. It is to take place on December 28th, and further details will be discussed on December 16th. No new members have joined during November.

December 2nd, 1920.

E. LATIMER, Hon. Sec.

West Lancashire.

It is proposed to hold a re-union of members of the Association living in the Fylde District about December 29th or 30th. Will all those who see this write without delay to Miss Ethel Thomas, 1 Oxford Road, St. Annes-on-Sea, Lancs., sending their addresses, and saying which day would be most convenient and if afternoon and evening are equally suitable.

East Suffolk.

A branch in East Suffolk is in course of formation—will ex-Q.M.A.A.C.'s in that district who would care to join send their names and addresses to Miss Edith Thompson, Aldeburgh, Suffolk? Those who are already members of the Old Comrades' Association will not, of course, be required to pay any further subscription. If there is sufficient response, it is proposed to arrange meetings of various descriptions in several centres, and to endeavour to keep in touch with as many members as possible.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We quote the following extracts from some of the many interesting letters recently received from all parts of the world:—

"I had a long letter from Miss McDonald (R.G.P.S., Boulogne) from Toronto, Canada, she had a most gorgeous trip, and met several W.A.A.C.'s on board. They had every protection, and on arrival they were met and hostelled in such a nice place; she is so happy to be with the W.A.A.C.'s again, they meet at the hostel two or three times a week, and everyone is so kind. Several W.A.A.C.'s, like Mac, had no work to go into, but on arrival they were snapped up. Mac is companion to a doctor's wife, and says it is just like home. They talk about the Waacs in Canada and think them wonderful."

L. B. FORD, 597.

"How can I ever thank you for those magazines. I devoured every word of them over and over again. They do contain a lot of news, don't they? Can't I have them sent to me? and can't I become a member of the O.C.A.? (I was a Waac.) Who do you send the money to? and do they want any particulars or only just your number and unit. I was a year and three months at Unit 1, Wimereux, and the rest of the time with F/w, Lewis. When you write again will you tell me where to write in order to become a member? At my club the other night, I met a Mrs. Rouse, who served with the Women's Legion at No. 1 Rest Camp, Folkestone. Didn't we chatter. The other members asked us if we would ever be able to leave off talking and say 'goodnight!' She has invited me to her house to look over a lot of Waac photographs. Did I ever tell you about my club. It is called the 'Daughters of England,' only English people can belong to it. We have some good times together."

"How is the world using you? When are you going to tire of Blighty, and come over here. You can have £100 a year here, working as a cook-general, that is the average, but I get more than that, and I have all my indoor clothes found me. My people came back from New York last week. They motored down there. Mrs. Stewart brought me a brooch, and her mother a lovely Georgette blouse. Then last Friday, on my birthday, Mrs. S. treated

me to a pair of fur-lined bed-room slippers, and her mother gave me a beautiful nightdress, and the two little girls sent a large bunch of pink carnations, and an invitation to the nursery to tea. Mrs. Stewart made me a birthday cake, all by herself. Wasn't it sweet of her? She iced and decorated it, and then stuck little coloured candles around it. It looked awfully pretty when it was lit. (Doesn't that beat the English ladies?)"

DAISY MINNS,

10 Seaforth Avenue, Montreal, Canada.
October 18th, 1920.

"I have such pleasant memories of my three years in the Q.M.A.A.C., in fact it is among the members of that corps I made some splendid friends, several of whom are joining me very soon. I have two with me, in New York now, whom I sent for from England, and got positions for—Miss Ena Jones and Miss Annie Styles, both B.E.F. girls from Q.E.C., Vendroux, then Miss Violet Cook is coming on from Toronto on October 30th to New York, she is one of my very old friends, an A.E.F. girl. Then Miss Norah Giles, A.E.F., and Miss Gertrude Dutton, A.E.F., are coming to me in November. Miss May Hyslop, a B.E.F. girl from Vendroux is also coming in a few days from Toronto, so you see we are getting quite a colony in U.S.A. I also met Miss Irene Kelly, an ex-Waac officer, in Central Park yesterday, and it was awfully exciting. In addition to these Miss Rees and Miss Leckie are here, all three ex-officers from the A.E.F., and all of whom I know very well. I am making a call on Miss Leckie to-day, and shall in all probability find Miss Rees with her, as they are great friends. I imagine we could have a dinner in New York with all the officials and members, about Christmas time. Please put in the Gazette that "Some Hut" girls from Bourges are nearly all over this side, and the rest had better hurry up. I shall be pleased to help any old member who is coming over at any time. Tell them to call.

26 East 82nd Street,
New York City, U.S.A.
October 27th.

ROSE LEESON,

"I feel I must write and say how greatly I enjoy getting the Gazette each month, and hope so much that both the Association and the Gazette will grow and prosper. It is so encouraging to read that the O.C.A. is really a going concern, and I feel sorry that I shall not be able to attend the meeting on December 3rd. My love for the old corps seems to grow stronger each day, and I am ever glad that I had the honour of belonging to it. May I take this opportunity of wishing all with whom I worked the happiest of Christmases and a New Year full of opportunities and blessings.

"I am spending the winter in France with my mother, and feel it would be perfect here if I could have one of my old camps to look after!"

(Mrs.) A. E. B. JOHNSTON,
(Late U. A., Etaples, First Army Infantry School.)

Hotel Augusta, Cannes, A.M. November 26th, 1920.

Miss F. Sulton sends hearty season's greetings to all the old members of Princess Patricia Camp, Penpligues, Calais, and also of Rue de l'Ecole billet, Rouen, and those who were with her in England during Women's Legion days. If at any time any are near Peronne House, 15 The Leas, Folkestone, she will be delighted to see them, and remember the happy times spent in camp.

"Australia is a very beautiful country, Miss Dixon was quite correct when she told us about Sydney. I often think of all the girls I have left behind, some of them came out to Australia on the Demosthenes, which was the boat that I came out by, so I had the pleasure of their company then. Now we have all been separated, but I happened to be very lucky. I was engaged by an English lady before we got to Cape Town, so as soon as I landed I had work to go to. I am quite happy. Everyone lives in bungalows, so really there is not much in housework here.

P. M. WOOPCOCK (Main Camp, G.H.G.)
Sydney, October 27th.

"Since being demobilised in March last I have endeavoured to keep in touch with many of my old camp associates by correspondence but it is rather a large undertaking. By means of the O.C.A. we shall feel we are still one big family, and able to get news of one another, and oftentimes meet again. I am proud to have belonged to the dear old corps, and only wish it were still in existence. The life was so open, free, and healthy, and a much more natural one than that which our return to civil life offers. I was in Abbeville (Somme) for two years and a month, and saw that quaint old town under many aspects and we lived through some of the most strenuous and stirring times. Conditions were not always of the rosiest, but as I look back I feel certain that the very happiest hours of my life were spent there. The glorious comradeship, the feeling that we were really up against things, and doing something that was really worth while, fired us with enthusiasm and interest, and gave us something to hold on to, that was true and real, and brought to the surface the highest and best ideals. We were able to know and understand one another much better than we can ever hope to do under the conditions of ordinary life. These days of peace that we have looked forward to, and prayed for so long, seem to fall very short of expectations. I suppose things have hardly had time to shake down into their proper course. The dislocation after so many years of warfare must of course require careful nursing, and healing time."

E. E. CURTIS (S804),

(late Wkr., Q.M.A.A.C., att. H.Q., Abbeville, Camp III).

"I am just now in a state of great excitement and happiness because I have had sent on to me a copy of the O.C.A. Gazette, and believe me, it has been just lovely to read all the news about old friends. I do occasionally meet one or two of them, and always we talk about 'the good old days.' Luckily I have a friend who is living in London at Mrs. Parkes' place, she tells me all the news about things there, and it makes me wish I were in London too. I am looking forward to the time when I can be down for one of those social evenings. I am sending on my subscription to-day, as I don't ever want to feel that I am not one of the old corps. Isn't it surprising what a tremendous love one takes for these kind of things after one leaves—I am sure we did nothing but "grouse" whilst we were in France, and I only wish I had never, never grumbled even once. I have missed the old life more than I can say since I got back—did you ever go to our camp at Etaples? It was just the most beautiful spot ever created, I think, and in the summer, well, it was just glorious. Often when I sit in this office, and look out upon the dingy old chimneys and buildings opposite, my mind goes back to the dear little office by the riverside at Etaples—built on the sands, with wild flowers growing all round and trees sheltering it from the views of any stray "Bosch" plane that might be hanging round. Then when one got back to camp in the evenings, perhaps the sun would be going down, and we would take our rugs outside the hut on to the grass—let down our hair for a sun bath, get the old gramophone from the next hut, or perhaps a book—and wait until the arrival of our mail from home, when we could sit out and enjoy ourselves until time for bed. We were all happy really, and I think all the girls I met in France were simply splendid. I always remember Miss Pridden (whose clerk I was for some months) used to call our hut 'The Perfect Hut,' and we were so very very jealous of its reputation. We were the first to send home to buy pretty cretonne curtains, lamp shades, Harrison Fisher pictures, etc., and always tried to be first in everything—but it was a good spirit, and it surely helped us to be happy. I know I spent one whole hot sunny afternoon digging the most stubborn sods to make a garden at the front, and I believe I had to rest after it for a solid week! If only I were clever, I am sure I could write the most beautiful book about our old camp at Etaples, and I wonder if anyone will ever sit down and write their experiences, I think it would be well worth reading."

NORAH ATKINSON (753).

Ben Rhydding Hydro, Yorks.

"It is seven weeks to-day since I landed here with my family of sixty domestics. I had been told in January that there would be 150 of them, but I found sixty quite enough, and it is—up to date—the largest conducted party since the war. I have not written sooner because I wanted to see first how the girls settled down. The larger number are doing very well, and are quite happy in their work. There are a few who would return by the next boat could they afford it. Domestic service is by far the best work for women in this country. They get paid well, fed well, and generally kindly treated, and if not they can leave, 48 hours notice, and find another place the same day. Often they have their own sitting-room and bath-room, and nearly always a bed-room to themselves. My girls were a very nice lot, and they have obtained good reports, though some were very inexperienced. I think the authorities at home should make the girls understand that they may encounter much hostility from the Australian girls. They are, in most cases, frankly antagonistic, and make sport of the deserted Australian war brides. For this reason I recommend the girls going into private houses and not institutions, where they meet other Australian maids. It is also inadvisable for the girls to go into the country, or on to a station until they understand existing conditions. They have sometimes to carry logs for the fires, carry water from distances, wash sheep shearers' overalls, and cook for big numbers at unearthly hours. Three or four of my girls tried the country and were back in a week, paying their own return journey, thereby being out of pocket. One stood it for a month, and then left, but she got a good report. The Labour Exchange deals with the domestic immigrants, and the employers are supposed to send a report at the end of the first month. I think nearly all my girls have had good reports, though in many cases their mistresses were surprised to find them so ignorant about cooking. I believe that most Australian girls can cook. I wish girls at home, who so often become nurses or governesses would take up cookery and then come out here, they would be able to save up, and either return home with a modest competence or acquire land and houses here. Two women who have been in this very house, as cooks, have been able to buy, in one case a fruit farm with a cottage, and a horse and sulky, in the other case two houses, which are let at good rentals. Next week I am going right out into the country about 400 miles to amass 'local colour,' and incidentally about 35s. a week, and return fare. This is as house help (no cooking) whilst the present one takes a holiday. I hear that domestic work in New Zealand is better paid than here. Three of my girls went to the same house. The cook's wages were 30s. weekly, parlourmaid's 27s. 6d., housemaid's 25s., all to be raised later. Two bed-rooms between the three. The cooks at the Y.W.C.A. get £2 weekly. No woman with any ordinary capabilities need be out of work twenty-four hours in Sydney. I mean domestic work. Clerical work is much harder to get, and anyone trying to get it is up against the girls here, as they want that sort of work themselves. Married couples have a good chance here on stations. Wife as cook and husband as good all-round man, £150 or £180 yearly, and all found. Do you remember Forewoman Flynn, W.L., who was in a camp in Northern Forework for two or three years? She came from near Kildare, lost two brothers and fiancée in France. She was sure you would remember her, and she wished me to tell you she was of our party. She sold up her little farm in Ireland, no longer able to stand the prevailing disloyalty. She is very happy in her country place and rides. Miss Neale, O.B.E., and Miss Dorothy Baker are in Sydney. I met Miss St. John Clarke (Crystal Palace), at Melbourne. She longs for England.

Sydney, N.S.W.

October 24th.

M. MUNRO MATHEWS,

(late D.A., Q.M.A.A.C.)

League of Nations Union.

A special meeting for service women will be held at the Royal Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi (near Charing Cross Station) at 8 p.m., on Tuesday, January 3rd. Speaker, Miss Currey, O.B.E. (late W.R.N.S.) It is very much hoped that there will be a good attendance.

NEWS OF OLD COMRADES.

Mrs. Catchpole, who writes to us from near Wickham Market, Suffolk, is difficult to identify, as she does not give her name before she was married. She is a member of the O.C.A. **Miss Rose Brighton**, writing from 47 Harley Street, W., asks for the addresses of **E. Elphick**, who was stationed with her at Bisley, at Christmas, 1918, and **E. Bond**, who was in the W.L. at Weybridge, and afterwards in the Q.M.A.A.C. at Winchester and in France.

Miss Annie Abbott writes from the Royal Herbert Hospital, Woolwich, where she is head cook, and kindly sends us details of **Miss Atkinson** (U.A., Biggleswade) who when last heard of was in Serbia. She can be heard of however at the Sweep, Clapham. **Miss E. Maynard** is at Newquay, Cornwall. **Miss A. West** (late 25759) asks us to recommend a book dealing with the Q.M.A.A.C. in France. She will probably find "Johnnie of the Q.M.A.A.C." very interesting. The official history will not be published, but merely added to the War Office record of the War, and will not be of popular interest. **Miss West** is living in Alverstone.

Miss Mayes (F/W cook with the "Heavies," at Rouen) is shortly to be married to J. L. Tennant, late of the Scottish Rifles. They became acquainted while he was stationed at B.M.T., Baupaupe. Mrs. Tennant's address will be, 11 Cardwell Road, Gonrock. **Miss Faith Kenworthy Brown** has been appointed art mistress at St. Alban's College, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, Canada. She sailed in October, and expects to be away for two years.

There is still a tiny Waac unit at Caterham, which was one of the first W.L. centres. **Mrs. Bottom** (nee Hilda N. Clarke) writes, saying, "Since I became an Old Comrade I have been married to a Corporal in the Coldstream Guards at the depot. I am now living in Caterham until I get my quarters. I had a glorious day for my wedding, in September, and am perfectly happy. There are two or three old Waacs here, **Bessie Evans** and **Bessie Arnott** among others." **Miss Helen Golt**, who went out to France as a gardener, to tend the soldiers' graves, is now organising secretary of the league called, "Le Jardin de la France Dévastée," with headquarters in Paris.

We quote the following from an Australian paper which has been sent us: "In the Perth Town Hall on Tuesday evening of last week an interesting lecture, entitled, 'Women's Work Behind the Lines in France,' was given by **Miss Neale, M.B.E.** (Military Division). The lecturer was a unit administrator in Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps, and spent some years with her unit in France, so her subject was discoursed on from close personal experience with the women and their work. **Miss Neale's** lecture had a specially personal touch, delivered with a charm all her own, sympathy and understanding only such as could have been gained by her personal experiences, and a refreshing touch of humour in the form of amusing little anecdotes making the lecture particularly interesting and attractive. At the close of the lecture his Grace the Archbishop of Perth, thanked **Miss Neale** for her interesting lecture, and the proceedings were brought to a close by the singing of the national anthem."

Miss E. M. Carter, writing from the Clarence House School of Dancing, Weston-Super-Mare, sends us news of **A. Harvey** (1663, Unit 8). Since being demobilised **Miss Harvey** has been twelve months in India, but is now in Durban, South Africa. **Miss Carter** has come across a number of Old Comrades in Weston. How about a local branch there?

Miss M. E. Fairbairns (Recruiting), who returned from New York in July, is now Vice-Principal of Belmont School, Bickley, and seems to like the post very much.

Miss Dorothy Mathews (A.A., Headquarters, Q.M.A.A.C.) is taking a course of secretarial training in London. **Miss Comyns Lewer** (Bostall Heath and Warwick Square) is sub-editor of "The Feathered World," a paper which her mother has edited for nearly thirty years. **Mrs. Lacey Pritchard** (Controller, Ireland) is teaching Domestic Science under the London County Council. **Miss G. M. Rogers** (Gordon Square) has been taking considerable interest in the Girl Guides movement in East Suffolk.

Miss Annie Guthbert (2094) writes very happily from Seaford, where she is assistant matron at St. Wilfred's School. "I have a dear little bed-sitting-room," she says,

"with what I call my 'overseas corner,' that is all photos and snapshots collected out in France (Outreau, or 'The Orchid' Camp I was stationed at) I have pasted on brown paper and fastened them on the wall in the most conspicuous part of the room, so that everyone must see them, and I have also a few ornaments, etc., given me by the girls of the camp, which I prize very much indeed."

Miss Warrior, who was D.C. in the Northern Command has a secretarial post in Harley Street. **Miss H. G. Myers** (34510), who was in the office of the Medical Controller at York, writes as follows: "If it will be of interest to you I would like to tell you a little of my life since I came to Antwerp. On March 1st I took up a post with the British Army on the Rhine, British Base, Antwerp, as shorthand typist, where I remained for two months, when I was sent to the military hospital as typist. Afterwards I again returned to the camp, and was posted at the office of the D.A.D. Docks and Waterways, British Base, and where I still am. I like being at the camp very much, and it reminds me very much of the old W.A.A.C. days, working with the army. When I first came there were six typists altogether, the other five were Belgians, speaking excellent English, which they learnt whilst in England during the war. They are very nice girls indeed, but I find them very different from English girls, they are not so 'pally.' My parents are returning to England in December. If by any stroke of good luck I find a good post in England I will stay but if not I think I will return here, as since I was demobilised I do not seem to be able to settle for long anywhere."

Miss G. M. Sutton (U.A., Rouen, and Abbeville) is housekeeping sister at the Paddington Infirmary. Others holding appointments there are: **Miss Hemmings** (Rouen), **Miss Harris** (Bakeries, Dieppe), **Miss Williams** (Wimbledon), **Miss Shanley** (London and Boulogne),

Miss McGuire Bate (Camp 3, Abbeville) has started a branch of the O.C.A. at Portsmouth. The camp dog, "Biddy" is with her.

Miss Farmer (late D. A., Hardelet 11 and Wimereux 11, Aubengue) has resumed work as Commandant, British Red Cross Society, Southampton, and is on the Committee of the Old Comrades Branch, under **Miss Mills**, at Ordnance Survey Office.

Miss Ingram, who started her Q.M.A.A.C. career in the ranks and ended as Paying Officer at Catterick, was married to an officer in the R.A.S.C. at the beginning of the year, and now has a baby. Her husband is abroad, and she hopes to join him before long. **Miss Guest**, Northern Command, York and Gateshead, is to be married next June, to Mr. Reginald Rollinson. She also was in the ranks in France, and subsequently promoted to A.A. Everyone is sorry that **Miss Young** (U.A., Woking) is no longer at the War Office working in A.G.I.W. She has been extremely helpful to the Old Comrades in putting forward compensation cases, and in safeguarding our interests wherever possible. We shall miss her sadly. **Mrs. A. Smyth** (45922) is living in Belfast. She hopes to be in London before long however, and call at the Duke of York's and at Belgrave Road. She gives a lively description of the troublous times in Ireland.

Miss E. Holder (W.L. and Q.M.A.A.C.) writes from Brant Sanatorium, Boundford, Ontario, and says she is very happy indeed in Canada, and is getting on well. She left England in April.

Miss Nora White writes from Gosforth, Northumberland, and is now doing all she can to further the starting of a branch in Newcastle, but most of her W.A.A.C. friends were stationed at Wimereux, Unit II., and are now living in London.

The following absent friends will like to be remembered by Old Comrades at Christmas time.

In Canada: Misses Florence Elmhurst (Alberta), Elsie Chambers and E. Holder (Ontario), Dr. Douglas and Daisy Minns (Montreal), McDonald and Janet Morse (Toronto), T. E. Veitch and M. Graham (Vancouver, B.C.), F. Kenworthy Brown (Prince Albert).

United States: Misses Ena Jones, Annie Styles, Violet Cook, Nora Giles, Gertrude Dutson, May Hyslop, Irene Kelly, Rees and Lecky, Constance Fuller (née Smith).

South Africa: Misses Dennis and A. F. Porter (Cape Town), Eastgate, Stokes, Stillwell, James, M. B. Thomas, G. C. Russell, McSwiney, Rudd, Christine Lorrimer, A.

Harvey (1663 Durban) I. Bowditch, Jean Innes (788) and Mrs. Eldred (Rhodesia), Mrs. Sarsfield-Hall, née Clowes, (Sudan).

Australia and New Zealand: Misses Q. M. Monckton (Auckland), Neal, P. M. Woodcock, M. Monro Mathews, Dorothy Baker (Sydney), Trask (Wellington), Bookies (N.S.W.), St. John Clarke (Melbourne), Rouse, Weston, and S. Brown.

Middle Europe: Misses Chevalier, E. Hughes, R. E. Reid, Eve Bertrand, were in Cologne when last heard of. Misses B. Clay (Warsaw), M. McKnight (Vienna), Atkinson, May Geddies, Carlisle, Jolly, Lascelles (Serbia), Acland (Berlin), Chapman (Silesia), Whyte (Berlin), Huffell

India: Miss E. K. Fowler and Mrs. Whitaker, née G. M. Blackwood (Burma), Misses I. Collins (G.H.Q.) and Wilkins.

Egypt and Palestine: Misses Batty, Sarah Slater (40027), Mrs. Samuel (née Elkin).

China and Japan: Misses Lilian Hooper, Jane Morrison, and Buckley (Singapore), Dr. Cowan (Manchuria).

West Indies: Dr. Fairfield and Miss Feiling.

St. Pol.

A member of the Q.M.A.A.C. unit still with the Graves Registration in France, writes to one of our members as follows:—

"Our concert party is going very strong, and we have been away from camp twice, once we went to Duisans, where we played one night and arrived "home" in the early hours of the next morning, and two weeks back to Eterpigny (near Peronne). Here we played for two nights. We are looking forward to playing at St. Omer, the Imperial War Graves Commission Headquarters, on Saturday week. We started a shorthand speed class, under the leadership of the R.Q.M.S., but the concert party has rather put it in the shade for the present." We understand that Q.M.A.A.C. are likely to remain in France some months longer, so the corps is still in being.

Rouen Dinner.

Eighty-two officials and members of the Q.M.A.A.C. who served in the Rouen Area were present at a re-union dinner held at the Vogue Restaurant, Victoria Street, on Saturday, November 20th. Among those present were: Miss L. Davy, Chief Controller; Miss E. Pratt, D.C.C.; Miss Haythorne, D.C.C.; Miss de Putron, D.C.; Miss Sanders and Miss Stanhope, Western Unit; Miss Turner, Eastern Unit; Miss Wotzel, Signals' Unit; Miss Pickford and Miss Brown, Camp 1; Miss Laird, Camp 1a; Miss Richards, Camp 4; Miss Rhodes, Camp 5; Mrs. Hills, Camp 6; Miss Sutton, Camp 7; Miss Collins, Camp 9; Miss Judge, Camp 10; Miss Waterhouse, Pont de l'Arche. The guest of the evening was Dame Helen Gwynne Vaughan, D.B.E., the first Chief Controller overseas, and much regret was expressed at the absence of Dame Florence Leach, D.B.E., and Miss Edith Thompson, C.B.E.

After drinking the healths of His Majesty the King, our Commandant-in-Chief, Her Majesty the Queen, and "Our comrades who died or were killed on active service," it was proposed and unanimously agreed that a message of greeting should be sent to Her Royal Highness, the Princess Mary, reminding her of her visit to Rouen, November, 1918, and the following reply was received from Her Royal Highness's Lady-in-Waiting.

I am desired by H.R.H. the Princess Mary to thank the 82 officers and members of the Q.M.A.A.C., who served at Rouen very much for their kind message, which H.R.H. much appreciates, and for which she is most grateful.

Princess Mary has very pleasant recollections of her visit to Rouen in November, 1918, to the officers and members of the Q.M.A.A.C.

After dinner the party adjourned to another room, and dancing, music, and much conversation brought to a close a very enjoyable evening.

Northern Command Dinner.

There have been rumours of this festivity, but nothing official has reached us in time for this issue.

Overseas Officials Dinner.

Suggestions were put forward in the October Gazette with a view to ascertaining the opinion of officials on the desirability of this dinner being held annually, and as to what would be the most suitable date.

It has been decided that the dinner shall take place annually, and the majority are in favour of the 2nd or 3rd week in January as the best date.

As not more than twenty officials have expressed a desire to be present at the dinner proposed for January 14th, 1921, the second annual dinner will be postponed until 1922.

102 Abbey Road Mansions, N.W.8. A. L. de PUTRON.

Jolly.—On the 25th November, at 21 Hereford Square, S.W., Joan (née Learoyd), the wife of W. Arnold Jolly, of a daughter. (Late A.C.C. i/c Administration).

Wiggins—Campbell.—At St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church, Chatham, on the 16th November, William, second son of the late Engineer-Commander W. T. Wiggins, R.N., and Mrs. Wiggins, Runnymede, Elm Avenue, to Eileen second daughter of the late William Campbell and Mrs. Campbell, 47 Albany Street, Edinburgh, late 232 F. William E. Campbell, Casualty Branch, 3rd Echelon.

Evans—Campbell.—On September 8th, in Dundee, Marjorit Stewart Campbell (A.A., Chadderton), to Captain R. R. Evans, R.A.M.C.

Tucker—Corse.—At Plymouth, on October 7th, Aubrey W. Tucker to Margaret R. Corse (O.B.E. Medallist, late Haynes Park, and Maresfield).

Garrard—Barr.—On the 23rd November, at Richmond Hill Church, Bournemouth, by the Rev. D. R. Jones, D.D., Ernest Edward Garrard, A.M.I.E.E., Capt., Royal Engineers, formerly of Canton, China, third son of the late Mr. I. Garrard, of Percy House, Egham, to Elizabeth Eva Barr (D.A., Etaples and Calais Areas), eldest daughter of Mr. James Barr, the Authors' Club, Whitehall Court, S.W., and niece of Mrs. W. C. C. Anderson, "Ranfarly," Bournemouth. Present address: Hakone, Bures St. Mary, Suffolk.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

[RATES.—Members of O.C.A. three lines free of charge, space permitting, every additional line 1/-. Non-members, 3/6 two lines; 1/6 each additional line.]

Cook-General wanted (Q.M.A.A.C. preferred) for Cambridge in January good salary for experience. Branch of O.C.A. in Cambridge. —Write Box 119, O.C.A.

Christmas Presents by Post. Parisian novelties in veils, handkerchiefs, bags, powder-boxes, collars, dresses, blouses, jumpers, lingerie, etc., £2 deposit.—Miss E. A. Drew, 16 St. John Street, Cambridge (late Y.M.C.A. Cologne).

House-mistress wanted at Reading, good at games, not over 30, public school girl, pleasant appearance. Good holidays and free time: to replace Q.M.A.A.C. administrator, "wh ohas proved a real treasure," salary £36 resident.—Box 120, O.C.A.

Organising Secretary wanted, £6 per week, to lecture in factories, etc., to women on industrial and other subjects.—Apply to Miss Evelyn Gates, British Commonwealth Union, 24 Abingdon Street, S.W.1.

Johnnie of the Q.M.A.A.C., by Agnes Anderson, price 6/- net. Heath Cranton, Ltd.

New South Wales. 100 Girls wanted as home helps: wages 20/- to 45/- weekly, all found: free passage out (under S.O.S.B.W. Scheme). Friends may travel together; good homes, liberal free time.—Apply Immigration and Publicity Office of New South Wales, Australia House, Strand, daily 10 to 12 and 1 to 5; Thursday evenings 7 to 9.

Good Plain Cook (Q.M.A.A.C.) required for Surrey, 18 miles from Waterloo. Q.M.A.A.C. housemaid and butler (ex-Marine) kept; Women's Institute in village.—Apply c/o Miss Edith Thompson, O.C.A. Office.

Ex-Foreman Clerk, 21, desires situation, experienced typist, well recommended, willing to go abroad.—Box 121, O.C.A., Duke of York's headquarters.

Ex-Administrator desires morning work, fond of children, Hyde Park districts preferred.—Miss Thompson, 21 Inverness Terrace, Bayswater, London, W.2.

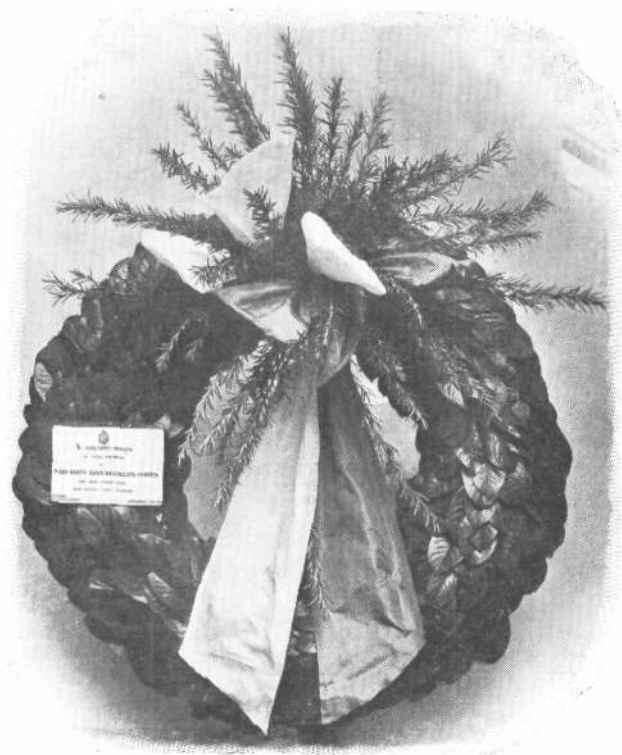
Manhattan Luncheon and Tea Rooms, 13 Kensington High Street. A bazaar is now open. All kinds of gifts and toys, suitable for Christmas presents.

Home Made Cakes and Sweets for Christmas. Chocolates, fondants, caramels and toffee, orders taken.—Miss Cooksedge, 2 Bracken Road, West Brighouse, Yorkshire (late Q.M.A.A.C., B.E.F.).

Two Women Carpenters wanted, first week in January, to help in the erection of an army hut which is being converted into a bungalow at West Bay, Bridport, Dorset.—Applications to Mrs. Walrond Sweet, above address.

Wanted. Two ex-members Q.M.A.A.C. as cook and housemaid for West Hampstead.—Apply Mrs. Hickson, 75 Broadhurst Gardens, N.W.6.

Ex-Q.M.A.A.C. (well educated) requires position. 4½ years' experience as clerk (correspondence and wages) and typist. Good reader and elocutionist. Can drive Ford car.—Miss Akerman, Retreat, Coseley, Bilston, Staffs.



Wreath from
Q.M.A.A.C. Old Comrades' Association.
Placed on the Cenotaph Armistice Day, 1920.