

Old Comrades' Association



GAZETTE.

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

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EDITORIAL

The Annual General Meeting will take place at the Y.W.C.A. Hall, George Street, Hanover Square, W.1., at 2.30 p.m., on Saturday, October 22nd. All members of the Association are invited to attend.

For the Duration—and After.

So there are really no more Waacs left. The St. Pol unit arrived home on September 26th, and was welcomed by a crowd of Old Comrades, Press representatives and cameras: it was officially demobilized at the War Office the following day. The unit had a splendid send off from France, and we all owe it a debt of gratitude for having faithfully maintained the best traditions of the Corps to the end. We may well be proud of our length of service overseas. The first unit went out early in 1917, and the last returned late in 1921, so that the Corps has been 4½ years in France. We all signed on for the "duration," but as the war officially came to an end on September 1st, some of us have more than carried out our contract.

The Association gives a very hearty welcome to Miss Brodie of Brodie and her unit, and now that they all automatically become Old Comrades, hopes to welcome them individually in the various branches. We are glad to be able to publish the following extracts from a letter which Miss Brodie sent to Dame Florence Leach: "We actually leave the camp with the O.C. and the troops so the Corps has remained with the Army so long as it was in France. I think it shows that they couldn't do without us! I know I can tell you that the unit here has been a very great success. There is nothing but praise for the work of the girls and also the way they have held themselves in the camp. The camp has been a very happy one, and the Waacs have helped a great deal towards making it so. I wish you could have visited us here. We should have loved to have been inspected by you.

"We have had no issues of uniform for a long time, and it is wonderful how well the girls still turn themselves out. We have remained real Waacs all the time, another few months and we should have been rags!"

The Army of the Rhine.

Although it is now a long time since they were officially Q.M.A.A.C., there are still several ex-administrators in Cologne doing much the same work as before they were demobilized. Miss G. M. Mumby writes: "You will see I am still in Cologne, and my sister also. It isn't nearly as attractive as it was two years ago, but still one is glad to have had a decent job all this time as from all reports good jobs are not easily picked up. We had a small re-union Waac dinner this week, as it is just over two years since the Censor Waacs came out. We were 11, two being on leave, it was quite a jolly little evening. I dare say you would hear of the death of one (Miss Miles) about four months ago. It was a great blow to us as she was immensely popular and exceptionally capable."

Annual Re-Union Dinner.

An effort is to be made to combine all the re-union dinners which took place last year into one. It seems rather a large undertaking, but if everyone helps and co-operates, it ought to be a huge success. Last year a certain member who happened to have wandered about the Corps a good deal and served in several units, complained that she was spending all her money and her spare evenings, and ruining her digestion, by dining in turn with every one of her old units.

Miss Ireland, who probably knows more members, individually and personally, than anyone else in the Corps is arranging the dinner this year. She is no longer Secretary of the London Branch, so can give her whole attention to the dinner (and the Helena Hostels!) It is hoped that people will endeavour to gather themselves into units, or commands, or groups of friends, and then write and ask for seats to be provided for them together. The room engaged will hold 600, so there ought to be no difficulty about fitting everyone in as they wish. Don't be prevented from taking the initiative because you think your Controller or your U.A. should get to work first. If you are in touch with several of your Corps friends, and know their addresses, write to them and urge them to come to the dinner. It will be great fun if everyone plays up properly.

Consultative Committee of Women's Organisations.

A letter has been received from Viscountess Astor, the Chairman of the Consultative Committee of Women's Organisations, asking us to call attention to the need of new members and voluntary helpers in the fifty-seven organisations which constitute her Committee.

Full particulars can be obtained from the Secretary, Consultative Committee of Women's Organisations, 62 Oxford Street, W.1., and we hope that those who have time to give will write to her for information.

As indicated by the number of organisations concerned, the work is very varied and something can be found to suit almost everyone. Most people are very busy but some of us can perhaps still find a little spare time.

Competition.

The entry for the competition which was announced in the August number has been somewhat disappointing, as comparatively few members sent in essays or poems. Possibly the weather was too fine for anyone to be interested in indoor occupations. The prize has been awarded to Miss Collin Baillie (late of Bostall Heath) whose rhymed description of her visit to Shanghai appears in this number. She therefore becomes entitled to a free week at Shanghai next season, and a railway ticket, at any time after the opening of the camp.

Overseas Settlement.

Readers are reminded that the privilege of a free passage to any of the Dominions which has been granted to ex-Service women, is only open until December 31st. Sailings can be arranged next year, but the passage must be booked and all details settled by the end of 1921.

Subscriptions.

No one who reads the Gazette regularly, and knows anything of the numerous activities promoted by the O.C.A. and its various branches, can doubt that the Association is flourishing and is supplying a real need. It is disappointing therefore to learn from the various branch secretaries that they are having so much difficulty in collecting renewal subscriptions. In most cases this is simply laziness on the part of members. They hate buying postal orders, and put off doing so again and again. This is very hard indeed on the branch secretaries, who give their services to us all, and ought to be helped and not hindered in their work. Come Comrades, treat this matter as urgent, please, and run along to the nearest post office at once. All these post cards we have to send you, to extract your half-crowns, make a serious inroad on the funds.

Local Branches.

Secretaries are reminded that monthly reports are due at the office on the first day of each month. If there is nothing to report a postcard to that effect should be sent, but any item of information is welcome.

Reports and all contributions for the Gazette should be written on one side of the paper only.

HEADQUARTERS REPORT.

It has been decided to hold the Annual General Meeting of the Association at the Y.W.C.A. Headquarters, 25 George Street, Hanover Square, W., on Saturday, 22nd October, at 2.30 p.m. (prompt). Tea will be provided, and it is hoped that large numbers will attend. This date has been arranged specially to give members living out of London an opportunity of attending.

The Secretary would be glad to receive all Local Branch reports monthly, if only on a post card. It is interesting to know exactly what the branches are doing.

A small sub-branch of the Newcastle O.C.A. has been started at Wallsend-on-Tyne, Secretary, Miss Conder, Y.W.C.A., Girls' Club, Wallsend-on-Tyne. A club room has been obtained and it is hoped to have jolly meetings during the winter months.

Owing to unforeseen circumstances the reception accorded to the St. Pol Waacs on their arrival at Victoria on 26th September was not so demonstrative as it should have been. Dame Florence Leach, Miss Hilda Horniblow and a large crowd of Old Comrades, pressmen and photographers were ready waiting at 7.30 p.m., when the boat trains came in but unfortunately no Waacs could be found. After making inquiries we were told they could not possibly arrive till 10 p.m., and were advised to disperse and come back again. Fortunately the London Branch Secretary and the Headquarters Secretary remained on the spot, and when the Ostend train came in at 8.30 and the Waacs arrived, someone was there to greet them. Headed by Miss Brodie of Brodie, they had been on their way since 6 a.m., having had a tremendous send off from France, and it was very disappointing that the reception on this side was not equally demonstrative. After causing great excitement in the station the Waacs proceeded to the Helena Residential Club, where Dame Florence Leach, Miss Horniblow and Miss Ireland joined them. After spending the night there they went to the War Office to be demobilized next day, but delay was caused owing to their luggage and papers not coming through from France on account of a railway accident. The next day, after all formalities had been completed and they had all gone off from the Helena, it was found that in the good old army way their warrants had been made out in an obsolete book and the railways would not accept them!

SHANGHAI-ON-THAMES.

Camp was closed for visitors for the winter months on 25th September, but the storing and packing up of perishable equipment has been done later by a working party. The guests of the last week-end included many of those who had spent their holiday in Lugano, and they invited nineteen members of the W.V.R. who had been with them at Lugano to a dance on the Saturday night. Some vocal items were given, and the late Secretary, London District Branch of the O.C.A., appeared in yet another successful

role—that of a singer. Miss Murray kindly came down from London to play, Mr. and Mrs. Crosse were also amongst the guests.

Up to the very end the weather has been kind to us, and if it were not for the misty mornings and dark evenings it would seem a pity to close yet, but it won't be long before Easter is here, and we shall be in full swing again.

Nearly 300 visitors have been to Shanghai during the season and we hope to see them and many new friends next year. From the large number of appreciative letters sent to Miss McClosky the camp has found favour in the eyes of Old Comrades. Miss McClosky left for Ireland on 19th September, taking with her our heartiest thanks for all she has done for Shanghai. Any photographs of camp taken by visitors would be welcomed by the Secretary as she wants to prepare a record of the first season. They should be sent to her at 8 Chaucer Mansions, Queen's Club Gardens, W.14., with the date and occasion on the back of the photograph.

HILDA HORNIBLOW.

Hon. Sec., Camp Sub-Committee.

LOCAL BRANCH REPORTS FOR SEPTEMBER.**Brighton.**

Wednesday, October 26th, 8 p.m., a General Meeting of this branch will be held in the Chocolate Parlour, Western Road, near Stafford's Corner. Will all members make a great effort to attend, as there is a good deal of business to get through. We should be glad of suggestions from any who cannot come about fixtures for the winter, etc.

Wednesday, November 9th, 7.15 p.m., a whist drive in the Chocolate Parlour, price 1s. Mrs. Jolly and Misses Wagner and Smith have kindly offered prizes.

The Committee have been meeting to arrange a winter programme, as we have heard that Miss Cable will not be home till Christmas. We decided that we could not carry on without funds, a regular club room, and support from members. Accordingly an application for help was sent to H.Q., and the general committee have kindly allowed us something towards a club-room. Perhaps if we can round up all the ex-Service women in Brighton and get in touch with the W.R.N.S. and W.R.A.F. O.C.A.'s we might be able to apply to the United Services Fund for a grant for the rent of a room. As to the temporary club room, one member of the Committee got in touch with the proprietor of the Chocolate Parlour, who most kindly offered us the use of a delightful room. He is letting us have it free for the first three weeks, but we think we should pay for the lighting and trouble at least in future. A notice was inserted in the "Brighton Herald" and meetings for September 28th and October 5th arranged. We have to acknowledge with many thanks a contribution towards expenses from Miss Nellen.

The evening trip to Lancing, on September 8th was much enjoyed. We took the 'bus there, and walked back via the Aerodrome and Shoreham. It was soon dark, but lovely walking. At last we caught a 'bus, as one of our number was afraid of being locked out at 10 p.m., not having a late pass, otherwise the key! Memories were conjured up of scrambles for roll-call, and the fear of being up on charge in the orderly room.

Sunday, September 26th, was a glorious day, and we 'bussed to Lewes, hoping to see the Lewes members. On our arrival we were delighted to be hailed by a Birmingham member staying in Brighton, who had read of the meeting in the Gazette. She was Miss Dipple, who went to France in May, 1917. It is always "Did you know Miss Ireland, and so-and-so, and so-and-so?" We found plenty to talk about and after a stroll round the old county town, with its castle, we set off home over the Downs. Up and down again we climbed, and saw numbers of rabbits scuttling about, and pheasants. Blackberries were great thirst-quenchers. At last we arrived home, tired and happy, after 4½ hours steady walking, and voted for another ramble.

H. A. BARON, Hon. Sec., 25 Wellington Road, Brighton.

Leeds.

The holidays are now nearly over, and everybody appears to be in harness again. Last month Miss Berry and Mrs. Leonard went down to the Victoria Institute, Cook-

ridge Street, Leeds, to see the Y.W.C.A. programme for this session, which is most attractive. We are asking the members Q.M.A.A.C., Leeds and district, to have tea with us, to form a committee, and for them to decide what they wish to do this winter. The same room has been kindly placed at our disposal by Miss Hopkins, who is very interested in all the members Q.M.A.A.C. After 8th October the address of Miss Berry and Mrs. Leonard will be Flat III, 2 Moreland Road, Hyde Park, Leeds. We intend to be at the club as often as possible on Tuesday evenings. We hope that this winter more and more girls will join the club and look upon it as a place where they can arrange to meet their friends and renew former friendships; also if possible, that they will try to join some of the classes.

London.

Bazaar.—In connection with the bazaar which will be held in the R.E. Drill Hall, Duke of York's Headquarters, King's Road, Chelsea, on Saturday, 3rd December, a work party will meet in the lower room in Belgrave Road on Thursday evenings. Materials will be provided.

Rambles.—A joint ramble with the Association of Wrens has been arranged for Sunday, 16th October. Meet at the Richmond terminus of the 33 'bus at 12 noon. The November ramble will take place on Sunday, 6th November. Meet at Golders' Green Station, at 11.30 a.m. Destination: Edgware.

Dinner.—The reunion dinner, which is being arranged next month in London, is open to all members of the Association and it is hoped that Old Comrades will endeavour to get into touch with members of their old units and ask for tables to be reserved for them. The dinner will be held in the Baltic House Restaurant, 27 Leadenhall Street (near the Bank) on Saturday, 12th November, at 7 p.m. Tickets price 6s. each, can be obtained from the London Branch Secretary.

General Meeting.—In view of the General Meeting of the Association, which is being held on Saturday, October 22nd, a meeting of the London Branch will be held previous to this on Tuesday, October 18th, at St. John's Institute, Tufton Street, Great Smith Street, Westminster, at 7.30 p.m. Copies of the Agenda have now been circulated to all members.

Sports and Garden Fete.—The Sports and Garden fete held by the London Branch in the grounds of Bedford College on September 17th were very successful. Though the weather was not too good, we had an attendance of nearly 500, who all thoroughly enjoyed the races. In the relay race the Q.M.A.A.C. won the cup, with the W.V.R. second, and the Waacs were well represented all through the prize list.

Subscriptions.—All members who joined the Association during 1920 and who have not paid their second subscription by October 31st will be struck off the roll of members.

S. B. MURRAY, Hon. Secretary.

81 Lancaster Gate, W.2.

Manchester.

The club room for the winter months is open every Friday evening from 6 o'clock for the use of members, and is situated at 57 Princess Street, 2nd floor, over the Pioneer Club. One of our members, Miss Anderson, has kindly given us a gramophone and records, so we hope to have some jolly evenings. As an opening night we are having a whist drive and dance on October 8th, at the Pioneer Club. The W.R.N.S. and W.R.A.F.S. are joining us, so we should have a record attendance.

There are many subscriptions still outstanding, and the Hon. Sec. hopes members will forward them as soon as possible, as the branch is getting very short of money. It is also hoped that we shall get better support from the members and that during the coming winter they will attend the club room and the meetings arranged more frequently. The Committee are getting disheartened at the little interest shown by the members in their efforts to make the branch successful.

Nottingham.

We have been unfortunate with our meetings this summer. The members are all drawn from the outlying districts and villages, and it has been impossible for us to have the rambles we intended, owing to the difficulties of transport, because of the coal strike. Then smallpox broke out, and it seemed to be wiser to postpone our meetings

for a few weeks. We are very glad to have the grant from the Service Women's Association to pay for the hire of a room for our meetings. I hope soon to be able to report that we are again having enthusiastic meetings, with increased numbers. I am sure most of the members will want badges.

L. T. NEWBERRY, Hon. Secretary.

Oxford.

The Secretary has been away from Oxford since July, and has only just returned. A general meeting of all members will be called to discuss our winter activities as soon as possible. May I remind members that annual subscriptions (2s. 6d.) are due: will they send them to me at once please? The Headington Ladies Hockey Club is resuming play, and is open to our members. Will anyone wishing to join let me know please?

Classes in folk dancing, held under the auspices of the Oxford Branches of the Young Men's Christian Association and the English Folk Dance Society, will be held at 115 High Street, Oxford, on Wednesdays at 7.30 p.m. Fee 1s. each evening, to be paid at the door: any of our members with or without their men friends will be made welcome. Members should wear rubber shoes. I am glad to have better news from Mabel Parsons, Farnham, Blandford, Dorset. She writes saying that "she is feeling much better and stronger although it seems slow work." She is so pleased to receive any news of Old Comrades.

Miss J. M. Payne has returned to her work in London after a glorious holiday in Lucerne and Grindlewald. She sends news of a most happy engagement that has just occurred in her family, which I am hoping will be the means of securing for the Oxford Branch a most valuable member shortly.

E. T. HAWS, Hon. Secretary.

Edinburgh.

We have been fortunate enough to have been lent several very nice rooms at 22 Rutland Square (first floor). The club is open on Wednesdays from 6 to 9.30 and on Saturdays from 4 to 9.30. On Wednesday, September 7th, we had a visit from Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan. A very pleasant evening was spent, and Dame Helen spoke to the members. Miss Tait, one of the Club Secretaries, thanked Dame Helen for coming to the club, and also for her very kind gift of a gramophone.

On Wednesday, 17th, Miss Ireland visited the club. Her visits are looked forward to and we envy the London Branch, having her always.

An Extraordinary General Meeting will be held at 22 Rutland Square on Friday, 14th October, at 8 p.m.

It is proposed to hold a meeting of ex-Service women in Edinburgh towards the end of October. Due notice will be given in the newspapers.

A Hockey Club is being organised for the winter, and Miss Mary Innes, Glengyle, Liberton, is Secretary.

Glasgow.

At the invitation of the W.R.A.F. Old Comrades' Association the members of this branch were present at a reception held at the Carlton on the 14th September in honour of the visit of Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan. After tea the members of the two services assembled in the lounge, where Dame Helen explained the various schemes connected with the United Services Association, and also gave suggestions as to the running of a permanent club for ex-Service women.

The reminiscences (without which no gathering of ex-Service women is complete) were much enjoyed. Dame Helen appealed to the members that, as they had helped their country so well in time of war, so they would continue to do in time of peace, and when they reach "that terrible age of thirty" they would use their vote and use it wisely and well. Dame Helen then conversed with the company individually and in groups, and later with real army cheers ringing in her ears, and holding aloft her bouquet (presented by the W.R.A.F. O.C.A.) left to catch the night train for London.

This branch greatly appreciates the compliment paid to it by Dame Helen's visit, and counts itself very fortunate in having such a stimulating start given to this season's meetings.

The club will meet at St. Andrew's Halls on Wednes-

day evenings at 7.30 p.m. (enter by Berkeley Street "G" door).

The General Meeting was held on Thursday, 23rd September, in the S.G.F.S. Lodge. Miss Banks, Chairman, intimated to the meeting that a grant of £2,500 had been received from the United Services Fund for a permanent club for ex-Service women in Glasgow, also a gift from Dame Helen Gwynne Vaughan of £10 for a gramophone. The committees for the coming year were then elected, and other business discussed.

Miss Cook, Secretary of the Hockey Club Committee, urged the members to turn out on Saturday afternoons, as it was very disappointing to keep post-carding members and to receive no reply.

A letter was received from Miss Mary Laird, 81 Lancaster Gate (our representative in London) wishing us success during the coming winter and many jolly evenings at the club.

The second annual dinner will take place on Armistice night, November 11th, at The Carlton, 111 St. Vincent Street, at 8 p.m. Tickets 5s. 6d., or 5s. 8d. post free, to be had from the Secretary, or at the club, not later than the 4th November. A W.R.A.F. O.C.A. fancy dress dance will be held in Charing Cross Halls on November 4th. Particulars from Miss Service, 21 Wilton Mansions.

The first meeting of the Executive Committee took place at the S.G.F.S. Lodge on 29th September. Miss Banks was re-elected Chairman, Miss Gilchrist, Secretary, and the following are members: Misses Miller, Macdonald, Maxton, McLellan, Fulton, Lockhart, Nixon, Steele.

CORRESPONDENCE.

From Richmond, Surrey.

I wish to become a member of the O.C.A., and enclose subscription for membership, badge, and Gazette. I had often thought how nice it would be to belong to such an association, but did not know one really existed until my friend, Miss Young, forwarded her copy of the Gazette to me a few weeks ago. I shall inform several of my old hut comrades also, as I am sure there are quite a few who do not know of the Association. In the Gazette I saw a letter from Dr. Cowan. I knew Dr. Cowan well as our medical officer in Brocton Camp, where I spent such a number of happy days. I experienced Brocton at its worst and best, as I was drafted there from Newcastle with the very first big draft, to open the Waac quarters in 1917, and strange to say I was one of the last to leave, when the Brocton unit disbanded. I think there were five of us left to clear up, after all the others had gone. I had never been moved from there, so had the distinction of having served under every U.A. we had. Rather a record, isn't it? My only regret is that when joining the Corps I was not passed for service abroad. I feel sure that conditions in France could not have been much harder than our early days in camp. However I am proud to have belonged to the Corps at all, and shall always look upon my army life as the happiest one, in spite of parades and roll calls. Wishing the O.C.A. every success.

L. BRADSTOCK.

From Auckland, New Zealand.

Often I've thought of writing, and now, to-day, from my old address, in Sunderland, has been sent on the Gazette for May, and so I'll write at once. Getting the paper is great and is a real bond. I open it rapidly, and turn to the last page, and with eager eyes scan all the names thereon for familiar ones. It was a true brain wave which elected to have those names in blacker type. Having perused this page and been carried backward two years in thought, I soberly turn to and read each word of the paper. My regret is always that it is so small and quickly read. I wonder if it is possible for you to give me any names of ex-Waacs who are in Auckland or its vicinity. It would be lovely if we could have a club, or at least meet. Such lots of things in common we should have to discuss, and outsiders can never fully enter into that life which we in camp knew. Since coming out I've only met one ex-Waac, and she is a distance away from here now.

Auckland is a beautiful city with a grand climate and a wealth of glorious flowers. All the flowers we knew at home bloom here, as well as many others of great beauty.

Those beautiful arum lillies grow wild and fill all the gullies, and nasturtiums climb about and smother every piece of waste ground with a blaze of gay colour. The colonials, especially those in the country, are extremely kind and hospitable. For a new city, Auckland has much to be proud of. We, who come as strangers, find the Maori names of places very difficult, but each place name has a characteristic meaning.

Up to the present I'm not in a permanent position, but by holding temporary appointments at various schools have gained much experience in New Zealand methods. One also sees many places and much that is of interest. This month I've been 158 miles south of Auckland and right inland. From quite close to where I stay is a most beautiful view of the snow-capped Mount Ruapehu, the highest point in North Island. On a clear day we can also see Mount Ngarahoe, an active volcano, with its smoking top, and then a girdle of sparkling snow below. My days in the Q.M.A.C., though not very many, gave me good friends a few of whom write still; one is my old U.A. at Harrowby, Miss Cockburn.

A. M. BOYD,

(ex-Nurse F/W 44330, of York Cavalry Barracks and Harrowby Camp).

From Nyasaland.

We had a very good journey out. It took seven weeks and six days to get here, but it is a most beautiful district, and we are over 3,000 feet up, and mountains all round. We shall have to do a lot of travelling, as the district is over 2,000 square miles, and we don't do more than twenty miles in a day in mshell and buckcar. On our way here in Durban I came across a Waac called Secker, she gave us an introduction to a director of the Castle Line, and so got us on our journey quickly, otherwise we should have languished in Durban for the best part of a week. I had sent Ina Edwards a post card from London, telling her I might be going through Salisbury, Rhodesia, and as luck would have it, she got on to our train at Bulawayo, where she had been for the Agricultural week dance, and general galas. We fell on each others' necks. But wasn't it luck, two Waacs meeting like that? There is also a Mrs. Eldred, an ex-Waac out here. This is such a wonderful country, and the weather is beautiful, quite cold at night, but warm enough to sit in the shade and keep warm in the day. Life is very easy here, and I don't find the native servants at all tiresome, they are very good, and I have most amusing times with the language book in one hand, hurriedly turning up in the index the word I want, and with the other doing great gesticulations. The cook didn't know much, but he is quite willing to learn, so I show him; but when one has only chickens for food and guinea fowls it makes it rather difficult. It is a really wonderful institution, the British Empire I mean (not the medal!) We came up here through miles of bush, and in what is supposed to be a lion-haunted district, and then suddenly we came into Neno, and here was the Union Jack floating away, and all the paraphernalia of English justice, and a comfortable house, with solid Government furniture, and inventory boards. It is so nice to go to bed and hear the Last Post again, and a bugle in the morning. We went into Blantyre, where the Annual Nyasaland Sports Week was held this year. It was most amusing and I had a chance of wearing some of my trousseau, and also meeting various people. Not only the servants, but all the natives are so cheerful and obliging. The women work awfully hard. When we come into a village on ulemdo (i.e. inspection) it is always the women who come and hoe the ground to get a clear space for our tents—with the inevitable babies tied on their backs, and their poor little heads bumping up and down. But the women don't have such a bad time on the whole. They have all sorts of rights. Every woman has to have her own hut in her own village, which her husband has to pay tax for. In most of the villages they had never seen a white woman—still less a red-headed one! Every month we go forth on ulemdo. It is beautiful getting up just before the dawn, and going out into the wilds of Africa with the sun. A thrilling thing happened one night. There had been two bush fires all day, about three miles away, and in the night the wind had got up, and the fire had come within half-a-mile of our tents. So all the village hurried out to hoe and burn and fire break. It was

a wonderful sight, the wall of flames and fire coming along, and it sounded like a machine gun.

J. M. FOSTER,
(née Sandberg, U.A., Bushey and Tidworth).

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

M.N.O. (N.W.4).—Shanghai-on-Thames has nothing whatever to do with the London Branch of the O.C.A. It is managed by a sub-committee of the General Committee of the Association. At present the Shanghai Camp has received a grant of £500. £300 of this came from what is called the "Shanghai Fund," £100 from the Benevolent Fund, and £100 from the General Fund of the Association. The hutments and equipment are of course the property of the Association. The Shanghai Fund consists of money which has been most generously given to the Association by the Race Club of Shanghai, and is earmarked for hostels and holiday camps.

F.L. (Belgrave Road).—Yes, if you are a member of the London Branch and have paid your subscriptions you can certainly attend the weekly club nights at 91 Belgrave Road. There are usually nearly 100 members present.

P.P.N. (Norfolk).—The Service Women's Association is still in existence, but it has practically done its work. The United Services Fund has voted a certain sum of money for the use of Service women and this is being allotted by a Committee, of which Miss Gibson, Hon. Treasurer, O.C.A., has been acting as Chairman. The Committee consists of an ex-administrator and an ex-member of each of the services concerned. Miss Prestage is our other representative. You are quite within your rights in asking for information of this kind. It has all been published from time to time in the Gazette, but one is liable to miss things occasionally.

I.J.S. (Dumbarton).—I am sorry your notice was printed incorrectly, and also that your Gazette went astray. Both mistakes have now been put right.

K.P.K. (Kilburn).—If you are seriously contemplating emigrating you had better come to a definite decision at once, as the grant of free passages for Service women terminates at the end of this year. You can travel next year if you prefer it, but all arrangements must be made with the S.O.S.B.W. before December 31st.

E.L.N. (Cumberland).—It is difficult for members living in isolated places to get very much into touch with the activities of the O.C.A., but you might arrange a holiday at Shanghai next summer and get some of your special friends to plan their's at the same time. You say you are coming South sometime before Christmas. Why not try and fit in the dinner on November 12th? Seats will be reserved for you and your friends together if you ask the Secretary in good time.

M.L.P. (Brixton).—1, No. I don't consider the Committee's decision at all unfair. On your own showing you are no worse off than you were in 1913, and you are lucky to have had well paid work all these years. If you had never heard of the Central Committee grants you would never have thought of trying to be an architect, and I fail to see that the war has had anything whatever to do with it. 2, Lots of people spend their lives doing work they don't care about, but if it is decent work with fair pay and good conditions you will be very foolish to give it up.

K.G. (Belfast).—I am very sorry your letter has been overlooked and the answer so long delayed. 1, Q.M.A.A.C. medals. These are being issued in exactly the same way as those allotted to the troops, and by the same department. It is inevitably a very slow job, but no doubt they will all be duly received. If you know any definite case where there has been a hitch, let us know and we will see what we can do to expedite matters, but it will be as well to wait until the distribution ceases—at present it is in full swing. 2, I am sorry you are bored by all the personal items in the Gazette, and am not quite sure what sort of news you mean by articles of "general interest." We can't afford to rush into much print or compete with newspapers that appeal to a larger public. Perhaps the Lugano Epic will interest you. 3, it is very difficult to keep in touch with Old Comrades in Ireland, but perhaps there are better times coming. There are one or two quite near you however, and probably several more if we could only get at them.

NEWS OF OLD COMRADES.

Hearty congratulations to **Miss M. C. Bartlett** (late Connaught Club) who has passed the Civil Service Examination and is now on the permanent staff at the Foreign Office. In spite of the hard work necessitated by the examination, Miss Bartlett has always been able to spare time to help on the work of the London Branch. She has organised the gymnasium class and has given invaluable help at the Headquarters Office in times of stress.

The Secretary has received copies of a group photographed by **F/W E. A. Linsell** (late of Unit 1, Wimereux) also photographs of **Mrs. Dundas**, of the same unit. Members desiring to have copies should apply to the General Secretary, enclosing postage.

Miss M. Mounstephen has written from Macclesfield, S. Australia to distinguish herself from Miss M. Mountstephen, who was mentioned in the April Gazette, writing from London, Ontario. The similarity of name has puzzled some friends. She will be in Adelaide soon and hopes to meet Waac friends there.

Miss Batty left England for Egypt on September 19th. Her last public appearance was at the sports at Bedford College, where many old friends were delighted to see her.

Miss Shee (Bostall Heath and Grosvenor Street) has recently been appointed Assistant Secretary to the Federation of University Women. **Miss Lillie-crap** has left London for St. Heliers, Jersey. The Gazette has been the means of renewing friendship with many old friends for **Miss Helen Newman**. She has been staying at Shanghai-on-Thames and is sure that one visit must be the forerunner of others for everyone who goes there. **Miss Emily Sutton** has been in residence at the University Settlement, Bristol, for eighteen months, taking a course in Social Study as she hopes to take up Welfare Work. She was a Deputy Controller in the Southern Command. **Miss Constance Sutton** (U.A., Rouen) has sailed for Canada, as mentioned in the last issue. She has gone to take up an important post there. Miss Sutton was most successful in her work at Paddington, and had a very nice letter of thanks from the Board of Guardians, as well as most laudatory notices in the local press.

Miss Eleanor Rhodes (Rouen) is out of hospital at last, after sixteen weeks, but fears she may have to return. She says the kindness of members of the O.C.A. relieved the tedium of her time in hospital very much. She is most grateful for the books and papers sent her. **Miss Dorothy Whitting** (Languard Fort) has been teaching in a French School for a year, not far from Rouen, but she now contemplates taking a post in England for a time. **Miss Young** (late U.A., Scottish Command) is now Mrs. Debnam, and lives in Essex. **Miss Swan** (also late U.A., Scottish Command) has just returned from a three months trip in the United States and Canada.

Miss M. G. Harvey (Qrs. F/W., 48888) is now Superintendent of the G.F.S. Lodge, Church Walks, Llandudno, and she will be very glad indeed to see any Old Comrades who are in the neighbourhood. Miss Harvey was in charge of the G.F.S. Lodge at Newport, Mon., until recently, but the place did not suit her. While there she called upon **Miss Barke**, hon. secretary of the Cardiff Branch, who gave her a very warm welcome. **Miss Hewitt**, who has just been demobilized on her return from France, has taken a post at the Helena Hostels, where she will be head waitress. She has been with the St. Pol Unit for nearly two years.

Among many others **Miss Logan** (S.U.A., Calais) and **Mrs. Bircham** (née Saunders, U.A., St. Omer and later Controller, Northern Command) will be present at the dinner on November 12th, so their respective units should turn up in full force.

Miss Elsie MacDonald, who has rendered such invaluable help to Miss McClosky at Shanghai, is taking a course of Household Science at King's College, Campden Hill. She is living at the Helena Hostels, where there are now a strong contingent of Q.M.A.A.C.

Miss Doris M. Childe (late A.A., Gateshead and Scarborough, and later O. i/c, Q.M.A.A.C., Pay, Ripon) is engaged to **Mr. Edward Payne**, brother of **Miss Janet Payne** (late U.A., Ashley's Boarding House (Emergency Qtrs.), Scarborough). They hope to be married early in 1922, and will live at Oxford. Miss Childe's present address is Hurlstone, Purley, Surrey.

Miss C. F. M. Mussell says, "Will you please mention in the Gazette that my sailing to Sumatra to be married has been postponed until the rubber market improves. I will let you know when I do go, as I don't want my friends in the Corps to write to me at Sumatra yet."

Miss N. M. Waldron writes a very nice letter from 67 Sydney Street, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, and asks to be remembered to all Old Comrades of Boyton Camp and Penlee, Salisbury. **Miss May Petrie**, writing from Glasgow, says she spent a very pleasant holiday in Wales, and in the Lake District, visiting two Waac friends with whom she had served in France. They were all three so pleased to meet again. Miss Petrie enjoys the Glasgow O.C.A. Club evenings very much.

Miss Comyns Lewer has spent the last six months on a poultry farm in Gloucestershire. **Mrs. Leslie Parker** (A.G.XI.) is living in the South of Ireland, where her husband is farming. **Miss Louie Maskell**, who was for two years clerk to Mrs. Long and afterwards attached to Administration at Headquarters, has trained in shorthand and typing, and is now clerk at the O.C.A. Headquarters. **Miss Kelly**, the former clerk, has just started a course of secretarial training. **Miss Ethel Thomas**, the late secretary, has been ordered a long rest, and is now in Scotland.

Miss Elinor Hughes hears from her cousin, Mrs. Williams (vice-president, London Branch) that **Mrs. Taylor** (nee Miss Towyn Jones) has sailed for home, and is about due now. **Miss Low** (late D.C., Overseas) wishes to thank her friends for the many delightful letters she has received. So far she has been unable to answer them all, but hopes to do so later. She is making good progress towards recovery.

FURTHER ADVENTURES OF OLD COMRADES IN SWITZERLAND AND ITALY.

On August 2nd we had our first introduction to a frontier town. We travelled by train to Chiasso, and after a short walk arrived at a gateway, which stretched across the main road, on the other side of which was Italian ground. We felt rather sorry for the women who had been shopping there, and who, on return, were directed into the Customs Office to have their baskets searched. We too, found shopping cheaper in Italy, but the difficulty lay in disposing of our purchases round our persons to pass the Customs.

The business of passports, with which we were to become so familiar, was not devoid of interest, though it was somewhat protracted. Our passports were collected and taken into the office, where presently we followed. The outer room was rather small for such a number, and we all talked and laughed—quietly we thought—but it is probable that the official who burst like a cyclone from the inner office was quite justified in thundering unknown maledictions at us; also in turning half the party outside, whence they had to be fetched when their passports were ready and their names called. Great intelligence was displayed in the recognition of our names, which the Italian official had much difficulty in pronouncing; there was more than one chuckle over the renderings, especially when "Eerie-land Blonsh" was heard. Miss Ireland was to the fore immediately, only to be treated to a suspicious look and a demand to know her destination. Evidently continental folk never bear the name of a country. We spent a very lazy day in Como, mostly sampling ices at Hotel Metropole Suisse. We did visit the Cathedral, which was very beautiful, but like the famous Notre Dame of Paris, has paled almost to insignificance beside Milan, of which more in due course.

The following morning we ascended Monte San Salvatore, no vision is to be conjured of alpenstocks, hefty shoes, and the glory of the achievement, for we unshamedly went by the funicular railway, which was obligingly situated next door to our hotel. The ascent was wonderful enough then, and until the system is explained one wonders how the train manages to emulate a fly on a wall. One of the chief recollections of the ride is not the sighting of the Monte Rosa group of snow-clad mountains, but that the driver had been eating garlic, a fact which was borne in upon us forcibly, though he was in the next compartment. It appears to be very popular among the natives, but to the average Britisher, no subtlety of flavour could compensate for the violence and far-reaching quality of its smell. In the evening, remembering our precious time on

the lake, some of us arranged to go on for an hour after dinner, though owing to unforeseen circumstances, the hour was more like two. We had got well away from land when those at the back discovered they were having an involuntary paddle, as there was an inch or two of water in the boat. Consequently the back became unpopular, and there was a general exodus to the front, with the result that the extra weight tipped the boat and all the water rushed into the engine, which, like any self-respecting engine, promptly stopped! Fortunately there were two boatmen, and one set to work to pump the water out of the works; he must now be the proud possessor of a huge muscle, for he pumped during best part of an hour. Eventually the engine was persuaded to start, and was greeted with loud cheers. When we finally reached terra firma the boatmen complimented us on the obvious fact that we were not scared, as we had preserved such a calm exterior. Instead of being in bed early in readiness for the big day of the holiday we were fairly late, but very glad to see our little beds at all. Rising at 4.30 is not a hobby with any of us, but we accomplished the feat with Milan as the prize, though few of us succeeded in getting up any enthusiasm over breakfast. There were the usual formalities on reaching the frontier, and two gentlemen, attired in fascinating hats with a green feather, rather suggestive of Robin Hood, insisted on peering into our haversacks, though we assured them they only contained lunch. Our first business on reaching Milan was refreshment; while partaking of it at small tables outside a cafe restaurant, we discovered the intense curiosity we inspired in the Italian breast. Numbers of men stood round, and with absorbed interest, watched us eat; it was disconcerting at first, but we were more resigned when one was heard to remark to another on the "many beautiful signoras." When we had lunched we made our way from the Burlington Arcade of Milan, notable for its fine shops, to the Cathedral. One feels one ought to employ capitals only to write the word even as one catches one's breath on first beholding its magnificence of white marble and carving. There are 2,000 carved figures adorning the exterior only, and the whole of the marble was taken from the shores of Lake Maggiore. Some of us essayed the ascent to the top and were well rewarded, for the panorama must be among the finest in the world, embracing as it does, all the nearer towns and villages, the plains of Lombardy, and the snow-clad mountains, majestic and remote. We were reluctant to descend, but intended visiting Santa Maria Delle Grazie, on the refectory wall of which Leonardo da Vinci painted his famous "Last Supper," of which so many imitations are existent. The last incident of the day was that some of the party visited a very famous ice establishment, and still arrived triumphantly at the station in time for our train.

The Borromean Isles are only vaguely known to most of us, and it is hoped that the statement is not libellous that most of us also would make very wild guesses as to their location. At any rate, we are now in a position to supply exact information, for we had a delightful journey down Lake Maggiore past most of them, and landed on the one known as Isola Bella, where we were conducted over the palace of the Borromean Prince; the mosaic of the floors and walls and the inlaid tortoiseshell cabinets were marvels of workmanship; one wonders what we have as worthy to hand down to posterity from the 20th century. The gardens were full of interesting plants and trees, foremost amongst the latter being one whose sensitive leaves curled up at a touch, to re-open cautiously in a few moments much as a snail when danger is past. We did not go through the orange groves but saw here, as at other places, plenty of lemons growing. It is to be feared that it did not stop at seeing merely. The journey on this day was beautiful and novel. The frontier town was not a town at all but a pretty village on a river which formed a natural boundary line, one side of it was guarded by high mesh-wire hung with bells, which were quite effectual as some of us ascertained in passing.

Monte Generoso was our next expedition and we reached the mountain railway by means of two motor boats to Capolago at the extreme end of Lugano lake. Our first view of the engine attached to the mountain train produced the impression that it was an extremely devout little engine and on its knees. A second glance told us that the wheels next the train were shorter and lower than the others. The

English language is reputed richest in adjectives, yet the supply seems inadequate to describe the view on the ascent. There is a half-way halt appropriately named "Bella Vista." The mountain is 6,000 feet high, and there were some fine cloud effects from the top, but we did not remain long as hundreds of flying ants claimed prior possession and drove us down. Employed as one of the plagues of Egypt they must surely have been successful at the first. We were a merry, and would-be musical party on the return journey, but the whole was rather spoilt by the front compartment not being aware of the choice of the back, with the result that "Annie Laurie" and "John Brown's Body" rose simultaneously upon the air. Our unofficial excursions were quite as happy as those arranged for us, and foremost among them was a tea party to which the W.V.R.'s invited the Waacs on top of S. Salvatore. The last trip taken from Lugano was up the lake to Porlezza, thence by train over the Italian border to Menaggio. We are of the opinion that the first train ever used now runs between these two places. In the third class compartment the seat runs lengthwise and one sits in rows, while the first class are provided with ancient and padded single seats like grandfather chairs.

Our original plans were somewhat altered, for a terrific storm prolonged our stay at Menaggio and prevented us from crossing the lake of Como to Bellagio to see the native wood cutters; against the disappointment may be set the grandeur of a mountain storm, which is not witnessed every day. The second part of the programme was carried out, and we walked to the Villa Carlotta at Cadenabbia to see the statuary by Thorwaldsen and Canova, outstanding among the latter's being his masterpiece of Amor and Psyche. We noticed the electric lights burning in broad daylight on the lake road, and the inquiry elicited the fact that on account of the extra power it is cheaper to leave them than to employ labour to put them out. When the steamer passed Gandria on the homeward journey a large party of American college girls were very interested on hearing us sing out to our Irish friend. The remaining day in Lugano was spent in last ices, shopping, packing, and dancing, and the following morning saw us en route, armed with dainty lunches of ham rolls, pears, chocolate and a bottle of wine between each two, thoughtfully provided by M. Daetwyler. The journey was by train as far as Fluelen, where a steamer conveyed us down the lake to Lucerne. We dined at Lucerne and journeyed on again to Basle, the Franco-Swiss frontier, and thence by the night train to Paris, which we reached about 9 a.m. Madame Garreau had arranged accommodation for us and we were glad to get to our hotel for a wash and breakfast. The party broke up into sections somewhat during the day, and some of us visited Les Invalides, the Louvre and St. Madeleine, inside which we met three members on leave from St. Pol Unit. It was a happy encounter, and we were able to arrange for them to meet us in the afternoon, when we placed a wreath from ex-Service women on the grave of the unknown soldier at l'Arc de Triomphe. In the evening a few of us went to the theatre, but the majority retired early in readiness for the final stage of the journey in the morning. At the Gare St. Lazare we parted regretfully from Madame, to whom we had grown quite attached. The re-crossing was not in the least like the outward journey, and was enjoyed by most of the party, though there were who gazed enviously at the folk who could disappear below and consume a good lunch. At Victoria the happy family of two happy weeks broke up, and many goodbyes or or adieux were said.

In conclusion, it only remains to be pointed out that short of becoming a guide book, it is impossible to enter into detailed descriptions of places, journeys, people and things, even supposing that description could be attempted, but if individual readers would like particulars on any point we need no provocation to talk "Lugano" till further orders, as some of our confreres have already discovered. Also, if a Swiss holiday is contemplated, it is doubtful whether any more beautiful and convenient spot than Lugano could be found, and definitely impossible to secure fine accommodation than that of the Hotel Daetwyler, where Monsieur and M^{me}. aim rather at collecting a happy house party than pence. There is a danger of ending up like an endorsement in a seaside visitors' book if one says more, but we are sure that M. and M^{me}. have a soft spot

for all ex-Service girls and will welcome more with open arms.

Lugano comrades, are you agreed that this is a true and faithful record of the period July 29th—August 14th. If so, please signify in the usual way—Wah-wah-wah-wah yu-wah-Hoo!!

SHANGHAI—A MEMORY.

In the boiling, grilling splendour of a summer afternoon
I sat glaring in my window, near the street.
I'd a "grouse" and proudly aired it, and was wallowing
in gloom,

With a sulky glance each friendly girl I'd greet.

For one was off to Margate and another going home,
A third unto the country she'd hied.

And here was I, without a friend, with no fair lands to
roam,

Condemned to stay in town at Whitsuntide.

I pretended not to see the fun, each girl was madly keen,
I sniffed a sniff and wiped a tearful eye
Reading (carefully inverted) a month old Waac Magazine
And longing to enjoy a real good cry.

While I idly glanced at "adverts" (Yes, old Grey is growing
fruit,

And Brown, A.A.'s a nurse I do declare).

I saw "Try Shanghai Camp, all loyal Waacs it's sure to
suit,"—

And all suddenly it vanished, my despair.

So I should have a holiday, oh! what a piece of luck,
Our "Ma'ams" have never failed us now or then,
So I wrote a little letter and I wrote with frantic haste
Till the words all spluttered ink from off my pen.

In time I got an answer—"There's a camp down there for
you

If you don't mind joining four brave pioneers.

You'll have to do the work yourself, it's all quite crude
and new,"

I felt quite brave and gave three hearty cheers.

Then the camp had no McClosky, no verandah and no punt
When it greeted me that merry Whitsuntide.

As I "swatted" from the station, for the place I had to
hunt,

Cart a suit-case and a hold-all too beside—

When at last the pumping station showed its friendly bulk
in sight

I felt tired out, and sad, and almost done,
When a wild "War-Whoop" from campers drew me quickly
to the spot,

Where a good substantial tea had just begun.

"Did I see you once at Bostall?" "D'you remember how
Ma'am straffed?"

"I believe I met you once at Connaught Club."

Here are five good Waacs and merry, so we chatted and
we laughed

As merrily the supper plates we scrub.

Oh! the yarns, and song, and gossip, sitting underneath
the stars.

Of dear, dead days that never come again.

Those far queer days when sorrow and when joy, they both
were ours

And the war was not all sorrow and all pain.

Sleeping out beneath the stars, or gathered round a table
bare,

Spread with simple fare and flowers grown near by—

We're once again the care-free Waacs who'd done their
little share

To win the war and push the grey clouds by.

Gentle water softly lapping as a boat slips down the stream,
While a nightingale soft trills his notes of bliss

Why must people live in crowded towns, consumed with
petty cares,

When earth holds a little paradise like this?

Time is slipping, swiftly slipping, and the days pass quickly
by.

Back to worries, cares and troubles, oh! so soon,

And my friends they sadly leave me, at the Bridge they
wave "Farewell,"

At the finish of one golden afternoon.

Oh! I struggle bravely homeward, and I jostle in the tube,
At the close of London's very hottest day.
But the suit-case feels much lighter, and I've lost my
"grouse" at last,
And my arms are full of white sweet-scented may.
For I'm the very firstest Waac (the firstest with four more)
That our perfect little camp did choose to try.
If you want to know my name, my dear, you'll see it in
the book
At that happy little spot they call Shanghai.

BRISTLES.

(Colin Baillie, Botches, Wivelsfield Green, Sussex).

Q.M.A.A.C. OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION. (London Branch).

A General Meeting will be held in St. John's Institute, Tufton Street, Great Smith Street, Westminster, on Tuesday, October 18th, at 7.30 p.m.

Agenda:—(1) To elect the Branch representatives to the General Committee of the Association; (2) to consider subdivision of the London Branch; (3) to consider arrangements for the Annual Re-Union Dinner; (4) To consider arrangements for the Bazaar which is to be held at the Duke of York's Headquarters, R.E. Drill Hall, King's Road, Chelsea, on Saturday, 3rd December; (5) to receive suggestions for the further development of the Branch; (6) any other competent business.

S. B. MURRAY, Hon. Sec., London Branch.
81 Lancaster Gate, W.2., 5th October, 1921.

NOTE:—A very large number of subscriptions are now overdue. Any members who joined in 1920, and have not paid their second year Subscriptions on **October 31st** will be struck off the Roll of Members.

Q.M.A.A.C. OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION, Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, London, S.W.3.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Y.W.C.A. Headquarters, 25 George Street, Hanover Square, London, W.1., on Saturday, October 22nd, 1921 at 2.30 p.m.

Agenda:—(1) To read and confirm Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, held on December 3rd, 1920; (2) to receive President's Report; (3) to receive Treasurer's Report; (4) to read and discuss Memorandum and Bye-laws; (5) to report Registration of the Association under the Board of Trade, as advised by the Solicitors to the Association; (6) Any other business. Tea will be provided, nearest tube station, Oxford Circus.

L. M. JACKSON, Secretary.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Sunday, October 16th, 12 noon.—London Branch ramble, with Association of Wrens. Meet at Richmond Terminus of 33 'bus at 12.

Tuesday, October 18th, 7.30 p.m.—London Branch General Meeting, St. John's Institute, Tufton Street, Great Smith Street, Westminster. To elect Branch representatives and transact other important business. All members of the London Branch are urged to attend.

Saturday, October 22nd, 2.30 p.m.—Q.M.A.A.C. Old Comrades Association Annual General Meeting, Y.W.C.A. Headquarters, 26 George Street, Hanover Square (Oxford Circus Tube Station). All members of the Association should make an effort to attend. Tea will be provided at the end of the meeting.

Wednesday, October 26th, 8 p.m.—Brighton Branch General Meeting in the Chocolate Parlour, Western Road, near Stafford's Corner.

Sunday, November 6th, 11.30 a.m.—London Branch ramble, Golders Green Station, 11.30, for Edgware.

Wednesday, November 9th, 7.15 p.m.—Brighton Branch Whist Drive, Chocolate Parlour. Tickets 1s.

Friday, November 11th, 8 p.m.—Glasgow Branch Annual Dinner, The Carlton, 111 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.

Saturday, November 12th, 7 p.m.—Re-union Dinner at the Baltic House Restaurant, 27 Leadenhall Street, London. Open to all members of the Association.

Saturday, December 3rd, 3 p.m.—London Branch Bazaar, R.E. Drill Hall, Duke of York's Headquarters.
[Secretaries wishing events entered on this list must notify the Editor on the 1st of each month.]

PERSONAL.

Smith—Laird.—At the Parish Church, Dumbarton, on 27th July, by the Rev. W. W. Reid, B.D., assisted by the Rev. A. A. Hamilton, B.D., Walter Smith, London, to Isabel Jean, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Laird, Burnbrae, Dumbarton, N.B. (late D.G.T., G.H.Q., France, and A.A. in the Western Command and at Havre).

McIvor—Anderson.—At Crieff, on the 21st September, Charles McIvor to May Anderson (late Signals, Le Touquet and Le Havre).

Vine—Hutchinson.—At Edinburgh, on the 22nd September, Charles Vine to Madge Hutchinson (both late Casualty Branch, Rouen).

Yelf—Cunningham.—At Golden Lion Hotel, Stirling, on 6th September, Albert Leeds Yelf to Margaret A. J. Cunningham (late of Tours and St. Pol).

Clough—Ormiston.—On August 6th, at the General Hospital, Pembroke, Ontario, Canada, to Mr. and Mrs. Frank R. Clough—Ormiston (nee M. Tester, late of Unit 1, Wimereux) a daughter (Kathleen Marie).

Rumbold.—September 21st, at 86 Southtown Road, Gt. Yarmouth, to Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Rumbold (nee Vic Newing (F/W., Ordnance, Calais and Vendroux) a son.

To **Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Bond** (nee MacGillivray), at Beynderwin, 36 Half Moon Lane, Herne Hill, London, S.E., on August 30th, a daughter (Eva MacGillivray).

ADVERTISEMENTS

[Rates: Members of O.C.A., 1s. for four lines; non-members, 2s. 6d. for four lines. Larger advertisements by arrangement.]

The Clerical and Professional Women's Insurance Society is an Approved Society for professional and business women. The official valuation shows a surplus for additional benefits.—Write to the Secretary for particulars, 12 Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C.2.

TYPEWRITING. Literary, commercial, technical, translations, French, Spanish, German, etc., duplicating, circulars, programmes, notices, etc.—Miss Marion S. Mackenzie (Late D.A., Q.M.A.A.C.), 134 High Street, Stockton-on-Tees.

The United Domestic Employment Agency has been started for the purpose of forming, throughout the country, an organisation for raising the standard of domestic service generally. An important feature is the abolition of booking fees, a small yearly subscription for members, of 1s. being substituted, for which the resources of the Association will be at their disposal. Old Comrades and others wishing for congenial domestic employment are warmly welcome to join the Association and become applicants for prospective posts; a few vacancies being available for friends wishing to share the work of small houses and flats, or singlehanded. A special interest for members is a half-yearly prize fund for original household ideas, cooking recipes, etc.—Particulars from Secretary, United Domestic Employment Association, Roland House, London, S.W.7.

Secretary. Ex-assl. adm. (29). Inter Arts (London), shorthand typing, requires post as secretary, resident or non-resident, home or abroad, would take post in school.—Write Box 259, c/o O.C.A.

New Book, just published, "Memories of France," fully illustrated, dedicated by special permission to Her Excellency, Lady Forster, price 3/6, post free 3/9, from the Author, Miss C. Neale, M.B.E. (late U.A. Rouen, Etaples, Honfleur, Havre).—114a Post Office Chambers, Pitt Street, Sydney, Australia.

WANTED. Cook and house-parlour-maid (Q.M.A.A.C. housemaid kept) for small house in Surrey, good wages and outings.—Apply Box 509, Q.M.A.A.C. Offices.

New Laid Eggs. Mrs. T. O. Leefe (Miss E. T. Clegg, late Deputy Controller, E.C.) would be pleased to supply new 12 eggs during the autumn and winter months. Orders of 3 doz. or over, delivered weekly or fortnightly, shop price, carriage free. Orders of less than 3 doz. are a slightly higher rate than shop price, carriage for the smaller number being higher in proportion.—The Chase Poultry Farm, Cold Norton, Essex.

Smart Business Women Wanted as Agents, all over the World, to solicit orders from Manufacturers and others, for the sale of British and Continental goods, and for the export of native produce. Gums, Oils, Chemicals, etc. Liberal percentage paid, as remuneration.—Write Cameron-Swan and Reynolds, Ltd., Import and Export Merchants, 110, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.3.

W.A.A.C. Hostels, Belgrave Road.—Address Mrs. Parkes, M.B.E., 83, 89 and 91 Belgrave Road, S.W.1. Please note this and address all letters correctly.

"**Johnnie of the Q.M.A.A.C.**" This book can now be obtained at 3/6 a copy, postage extra, from the Hon. Sec., Edinburgh Branch.

The Ladies' Work Association Depot:—12 Spring Street, Paddington, W.2 (Paddington Station 2 minutes). Annual sale of work at the Merrick Rooms, De Vere Gardens, Kensington, on November 9th and 10th, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The workers of the Association are suffering severely from the increased cost of living and the Committee rely on the generous support of those who are fortunate enough to be able to help others. Needlework and wool work can always be seen at the Depot, and orders are taken.

Photographs wanted, Q.M.A.A.C. in France. Would any Old Comrade who has some interesting photographic films dealing with the life of the W.A.A.C.s in France, lend them to M. Onions (late Signals) for the purpose of completing a collection of lantern slides? The films are not damaged at all in the process, and every care would be taken.—M. Onions, 25 Alfred Road, Cloughton, Birkenhead.