



Q.M.A.A.C. and A.T.S.
Comrades Association
GAZETTE



GENERAL SECRETARY: Mrs. Johnston, Q.M.A.A.C. and A.T.S. C.A., 82, Lancaster Gate, London, W.2.

Vol. XX. No. 4.

NOVEMBER—DECEMBER, 1942.

3/6 p.a. post free.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

All contributions for the Gazette should reach the Editor, Q.M.A.A.C. and A.T.S. C.A. Gazette, 82, Lancaster Gate, London, W.2, **not later than the 21st of the following months:- January, March, May, July, September and November.**

Christmas & New Year Greetings

The President and Council send greetings and good wishes for Christmas to all Comrades, old and new. They hope that the coming year will bring Victory, with the possibility of a great Peace Reunion of the Comrades in a future not too far distant.

Miss Ireland sends Christmas Greetings and sincere good wishes for the New Year to all Old Comrades, particularly Miss Edith Thompson in South Africa, Hedley in New Zealand, and Hodgson in Kenya.

HEADQUARTERS REPORT FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

A Meeting of Council was held at 2.15 p.m. on Saturday, October 31st, 1942, when Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan was in the chair. The following members were present: Junior Commander Bilbrough, Mrs. Powell, Miss Cliff, Mrs. Mayhew, Miss Binks, Miss Saunders, Miss Davy, Miss Turner, Miss Ireland, Miss Billington, and Mrs. Johnston (General Secretary).

The members were very sorry to learn that Miss Billington was resigning the post of Hon. Treasurer, which she had held for the past thirteen years. They expressed their deep appreciation of all the good work that she had done for the Comrades Association during that time.

It was agreed that the Chairman and the General Secretary be given authority to elect and appoint an Hon. Treasurer to carry on until the date of the Annual General Meeting of the Association in February next, when the Hon. Treasurer will be elected, as usual, by the meeting. Miss Margaret Slee (London Branch) has very kindly undertaken to carry on the work of Hon. Treasurer, and we are most grateful to her.

A draft copy of amendments to the present Rules was before the meeting, each paragraph being carefully considered. Further amendments will be laid before the

Council Meeting in January next, before being placed on the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting for consideration and confirmation if approved.

It has been encouraging to receive capitation fees from some of the Branches who were listed as defaulters in our last issue! Leeds, Cardiff, Manchester, Northern Ireland and Tees-side have all sent in fees. We hope that the other Branches will soon follow suit.

The meeting agreed that late subscriptions to the Bren Fund (which had been closed) might still be added, as two Branches were among the late-comers as well as a few individual members. One member of Council, Miss Cliff, kindly offered to make the subscriptions up to the round sum of £70.

The General Secretary was delighted to report, and the meeting equally pleased to hear, the good news that during the month of October 1,603 serving members of the A.T.S. had joined the Comrades Association as annual members and 88 as life members.

In consequence of the extra work involved, it was agreed that the General Secretary be permitted to find someone to help her until the rush of applications was over.

The next meeting of Council will be held on **January 2nd, 1943.**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Comrades Association will be held on Saturday, February 27th, 1943, at 5, Buckingham Gate, London, S.W.1.

The Branch Secretaries' Meeting will be held on the same date, and at the same place, before the Annual General Meeting.

This is only a preliminary notice so that members may have time to book the date and make any necessary arrangements about attending the meeting. A fuller notice will appear in the January-February issue of the Gazette.

Q.M.A.A.C. Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Thanksgiving

Bren Gun Fund

How true is the old proverb: "Better late than never." Here are the "better lates": Miss Innes (Edinburgh), Miss I. Turner, Miss O. Mainland, Miss M. Slee, some further contributions from **Norfolk Branch** (which include Miss Brown, Miss Edwards, Mrs. Sutehall, Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. Murton and an extra donation from Mrs. Chilvers), and the following have sent from **Glasgow Branch**: Miss E. Anderson, Miss J. Angus, Miss K. Angus, Miss Brown, Miss Crawford, Miss Frail, Miss Gilchrist, Mrs. Inverarity, Miss Jaffray, Miss McLelland, Mrs. Maxwell, Miss McCreadie, Miss E. Smith, Miss Scott, Miss McDonald, Miss McNair, Mrs. Pettigrew, and Mrs. Wallace.

It is now nearly two months since the notice about the PHOTOGRAPH of the Bren Gun was mentioned in the Gazette, and as only one application has been received, it would appear that the idea does not appeal in general to the Branches; perhaps this is not surprising, as one Bren Gun must be VERY like another Bren Gun! In these circumstances, no order will be placed for the photograph.

THE GAZETTE

The Editor and the Gazette Secretary would be glad if subscribers to the Gazette would "read, mark, learn and inwardly digest" the following, quite important, bits of information:—

- 1.—That **duplicate** copies of the Gazette cannot be supplied free of charge to subscribers who have failed to notify their change of address. Applications for a duplicate copy to be sent must be accompanied by a payment of 7d. for the Gazette, which includes postage.
- 2.—The Gazette is always carefully sent to the known address, but it is clear that when a subscriber has moved, the Gazette is not always forwarded from the old address to the new. In these days of expensive printing and postage it is not possible for free copies to be sent in replacement.
- 2.—That subscriptions to the Gazette are normally due on the 1st of January. The majority of subscriptions to the Gazette expire with the current issue. Those whose subscriptions, for various reasons, cover a part also of 1943, will find a reminder leaflet in the final number to which they are entitled. In such cases the sum asked for will cover the balance due for the remainder of the year 1943. It simplifies the keeping of the Gazette accounts when the subscriptions exactly cover the year, instead of covering parts of two years.
- 3.—That receipts for Gazette subscriptions will be enclosed in the Gazettes sent to subscribers, as far as possible, in order to save postage and paper. It is important that the counterfoils should be carefully completed and kept in case of loss or queries.

LONDON BRANCH—THE COMFORTS REPORT

I am pleased to report that in spite of many difficulties, our Comforts Club has a good account to render of its work during the past year. We have a balance in hand of £15 12s. 1d., making a total of £5 16s. 3d. more than last year at this time.

Our total garments to date from our commencement are 629. This does not include those in the cupboard now awaiting delivery, but are the actual number sent to the regiment since December, 1940, till October, 1942.

Three parcels have been sent this year—one in December, containing 76, another in April with 60, and a third in September of 50, making this year's total 186. Attached are letters from the regiment expressing their gratitude and appreciation to all members of the O.C.A. who have worked so well on their behalf.

More garments still would have been included but we were delayed in the beginning by the Aid to Russia Week, and we have lost several of our good knitters, who are too busy with Civil Defence and other duties to continue their good work for the club.

With plenty of money in hand our

wool supply is assured during the next few months, but there is an urgent need for more and more knitters! A 1,000 garments are still the target for which we are aiming at, so roll in the garments by the 100 before Christmas, please.

Three parcels of wool have already been distributed and a fourth is ready at the club for those who can take wool now. Those who have finished garments are asked to send them in as soon as possible. The men's Christmas parcels depend on your efforts for the next few weeks.

Since the last report a parcel has been sent by Miss Mann, with three pairs of gloves, also a bag for raffling, also garments from the following: Misses Mason, Stone, Burnett, Binks, Pitt, Winter, Peattie, Starling, Lawson, Machin.

Donations in money from members this year has amounted to £2 12s. 4d. This has been kept as petty cash and is not included in the balance shown by the treasurer. Postage for correspondence and the sending of wool has amounted to 12s. 6d., leaving £1 19s. 10s. in hand.

Many thanks to all those who have helped in the good work.

L. SAUNDERS.



BRANCH REPORTS

Birmingham.

Our meetings are held on the last Saturday of the month, but there will not be one in December. We hope to meet again on Saturday afternoon, January 30th.

I have not chronicled anything since July 25th, when the meeting was held at the home of Miss E. Dipple and Miss Fanny Dipple. It was a sunny evening, for a change, and a lot of members came. We wandered into the garden and noticed the lettuces and things planted in the former flower-beds, which the sparrows regard as their perquisites to peck at! Sergt. Willetts was there after her operation for goitre. Mrs. Hunt, ex-A.T.S., was quite well again and working all day near her home. Mabel Pearce packs parcels for prisoners at the Red Cross Depot. At present she is a part-time war worker as well. In fact, nobody has any leisure now. Mrs. Katie Pearce came with her daughter, Mrs. Fisher.

Blanche Fidele, looking about seven-stone in weight, came in for a lot of teasing about getting fatter!

On Saturday, August 29th, Alice Smith turned up after ages. Sergt. Willetts is now a grandmother, and Ernie, her son, is in Northern Ireland.

On Saturday, September 26th, we had an afternoon meeting. Mrs. Cooper came, also Mabel Pearce, Mrs. Jones, Blanche, Sammie and Mrs. Robinson from Marston Green. Mrs. Glover brought her little girl Cynthia, and at our October meeting we had the pleasure of seeing her older daughter, who was on leave from the W.A.A.F. Sammie came in her smart Civil Defence uniform.

Mrs. Jones's son is at Medicine Hut with the R.A.F., and he wants a Canadian wife, she says. Several members brought milk so that we could manage a cup of tea. Little rock cakes and such popped up for refreshments, and we dispersed before it got dark.

On Friday, November 20th, we attended the Annual Meeting of the Digbeth Branch of the British Legion, of which nine or ten of us are members. Those present included Mabel and Bert Pearce, Sergt. Willetts (W.A.A.F.), Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Robinson, and one we were delighted to see again—Marjorie Peers, Flight-Sergt., W.A.A.F., on leave from Prestwich.

E. A. R.

Bristol.

On Saturday, October 3rd, 14 of us gathered at "The Cosy Cafe," Whiteladies Road, Bristol, and were provided with a very good tea.

We were delighted to have Miss Herridge with us again; she has been absent from our meetings since the November, 1940, blitz, when she lost many relatives, but she has now taken up life again with her old spirit, and we hope to see much of her in the future.

Mrs. Skidmore came in right from Winterbourne after having taken part in a First-Aid Competition.

We were glad to get good news of Miss Nespole, whom Miss Sims has been visiting; we hope next time she will be fit enough to join us.

Since our meeting we have another new member, Mrs. Williams, of Abbey Road, Westbury-on-Trym, and only this week I have been given the name and address of another likely member. So our numbers are increas-

ing, and I hope that we may have many gatherings where good comradeship may help to ease aching hearts in these sad days.

Edinburgh and East of Scotland.

The Annual General Meeting of the Branch and reunion of members will be held on November 28th at 4 p.m. at 12, Drumsheugh Gardens.

We were sorry that Miss Lila Davy found it impossible to meet the members at the Club during her visit to Scotland this summer, but we recognise how hard it is to fit everything in. We were, however, fortunate in having a visit from our President, Miss Alice Low, in June, when we had a good turn-out of members.

Our very good wishes to one of our members and two "Waaclets" married during the summer.

We, unfortunately, have no particulars of Mrs. Murray's (nee Syme) marriage, nor of her service during the Great War, but believe she was for some time at Headquarters, Buckingham Terrace.

Sergt. Mary Riach, A.T.S., was married in St. Mark's Church, Edinburgh, on June 3rd to Sergt. Eric Melvin, R.A. A.A. Regiment. The marriage was a military one, the bridesmaid being Sergt. S. Munro, A.T.S., and the best man, Sergt. G. Muir, R.A. A.A. Mary, like her mother, met her husband while on active service, Mr. and Mrs. Riach (Clara Stracey, 5579) having met while serving at Pont de L'Arches. Their son, Maurice (R.A.F.) is engaged to a W.A.A.F., and of their two younger daughters, Davina is a Sea Ranger, and is longing to be old enough to join the W.R.N.S.

Brenda Burr was married at Newington South and Hope Park Church, Edinburgh, to James Pope, Army Pay Corps. She is the elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Burr (Peggie Ellis, 137), who both served in the Pay Corps at Wimereux.

Brenda is in the Civil Service and exempt from war service, but does good work fire-watching and helping in canteens. Members will remember how attractively she danced at our children's parties and reunions. Her brother Eric is a telegraphist in the Navy, and is at present in Trinidad. We hope to be able to record some of his exploits at a future date.

North Staffs

A meeting was held at the Nell Gwynne Restaurant on Monday, October 26th. We were delighted to have some members of the A.T.S. with us. They were quite interested in hearing our stories of Army life, and we enjoyed hearing of their experiences. The question of uniform came up for discussion, and it was agreed that the new issue was far superior to the one we had. After we had got over our first shyness we had a most hilarious game of "Beetle," and later did justice to a sumptuous supper provided by Mrs. Smith. Seven new members have joined our Branch, and we hope to have some more social evenings during the winter. We were pleased to see Alice Hudson once more. It was very brave to come all the way from Leek in the black-out. Carrie and Alice Myatt were not able to be with us, but we hope they will be with us on November 27th, when we have our next meeting.

H. CLOUGH.

BRANCH REPORTS—continued

London

To all my Comrades, both Old and New, I send my greetings for Christmas and for the New Year, a Victorious Peace.

There was a very good gathering at the November reunion, and members not present may be interested to hear that an airgraph letter has been sent to Miss Edith Thompson, with Christmas greetings from the Branch.

A very pleasant afternoon was spent on October 17th, when competitions were arranged by various members, and this proved to be both amusing and a financial success. The proceeds reached the very high total of £14 18s. 6d., and the Hon. Treasurer kindly augmented this by 1s. 6d., thus making a round figure of £15 in all. This sum is being devoted to the wool fund. We were very glad to have Miss Ireland with us, also Mrs. Johnston, Lieut.-Col. Pasmore, Major Mayhew, Major and Mrs. Griffiths, Lieut. Morrish, and Lieut. Taberman also attended, thus greatly contributing to the afternoon's enjoyment. Sideshows were run by the Misses Roger, Billington, Saunders, Benson, assisted by friends; also Mrs. Rose and the Hon. Secretary.

After all the stalls had been well patronised, Lieut. Morrish ran an American Auction, and successfully disposed of goods which had been presented by various members. An egg-boiler which had been given by Mrs. Johnston raised the goodly sum of £5. It is not possible to give the names of donors of goods on this occasion, as from the results it would seem that everyone present must have contributed in some way. The "Bring and Buy" stall was most popular, especially the food section, and this stall likewise raised about £5.

At the close of the afternoon prizes were presented by Lieut.-Col. Pasmore, and these were won by the following: Miss Peggy Carr, "Peggy" (Miss Benson's niece), Lieut. Morrish.

Lieut.-Col. Pasmore, in a few words, expressed his thanks and appreciation to all for their good work for the Battalion. Miss Ireland replied, expressing the pleasure of all members that Col. Pasmore and his brother officers had been able to attend, and who had in great measure ensured the success of the afternoon's enterprise.

Many thanks to all who attended and contributed and thus brought in so good a sum towards the furtherance of the Branch's good work for the Middlesex Regiment.

Miss Webb, ex-A.T.S., who was unable to attend, sent a very generous donation to the funds.

Old Comrades will be very sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. Rose on November 2nd. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Mrs. Rose, our Old Comrade, and to her family.

There will be a reunion on December 19th (Saturday), at 2.30.

I have been asked to make a special appeal for any odd pieces of wool, and small pieces left over from those knitted jumpers. These will be knitted up into squares

and given to some of our wounded boys for use when going out in their chairs. They make invaluable rugs for them, and are greatly appreciated. Please send to me at the Club, marking same "Not to be forwarded." My thanks in advance for all contributions.

Miss Saunders gives us good news of the progress of the knitters.

B. MAYHEW (Hon. Secretary).

Ilford

Our last meeting was held at Mrs. Smith's, who now lives at Harold Wood. Only six of us were able to meet this time; Drutt could not manage another day's leave, or she would have been with us. We are hoping now she is at Wembley we may see more of her. It was very nice to hear her on the telephone the other day. Mrs. Spaul was unfortunately in hospital, having to undergo a minor operation. She is now out, and, we hope, will feel better. We all thought of her and missed her. Then we are pleased Miss C. R. Leach has joined our branch, and we were hoping to see her that day, but unfortunately she lost my direction and could not get to Harold Wood. Anyway, we hope to see her at our next meeting, which will be on Saturday, December 12th, at my home, 4, Richmond Street, Plaistow.

As this will be the last report this year, I would like to wish all Old Comrades everywhere as Happy a Christmas as possible under circumstances, and hopes that 1943 will bring us an early Peace.

PADDY PARKER.

ARMISTICE DAY

On November 11th (Remembrance Day) a wreath was laid on the Cenotaph at 11 o'clock by Miss W. Rogers, who was accompanied by Mrs. Johnston. The wreath was, as usual, in the form of the Badge of Q.M.A.A.C., and was made by disabled ex-Service men at the Poppy Factory at Richmond. They take a great interest in the work, making the laurel wreath in bronze laurel leaves, with the initials A.A.C. and the scroll with the words "Queen Mary's" beautifully carved in wood and coloured in the same way as the leaves. We are now allowed by the Censor to say that the day was a very foggy one. This did not prevent the usual crowd from standing in silence to watch the laying of the wreaths.

INVESTITURE AT THE PALACE

The King recently held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace, at which his Majesty presented decorations awarded for gallantry.

Able Seaman William Bevan, of the Royal Fleet Reserve, received a bar to the George Medal. The medal and the bar were both awarded for gallantry and undaunted devotion to duty.

Subaltern Helen Cassavetti, of the A.T.S., received the British Empire Medal (Military Division) for her courage in carrying on her work during an air raid when she was a corporal.

AUXILIARY TERRITORIAL SERVICE

Our thanks and acknowledgements to "The Times" for the leader, "Sisters of Grace Darling" and the article "Messages to the Army," which will be of special interest to all our Comrades.

SISTERS OF GRACE DARLING.

In to-day's quotation from "The Times" of 1842 Grace Darling is said by a correspondent to be nearing her end. The end came on October 20th, hastened by the same treatment for consumption as had killed Mrs. Siddon's lovely daughter—the total exclusion of fresh air. Four years had passed since her share in the rescue of those on board the Forfarshire had made her famous. Notoriety had, as always, its ugly side, though in these days no one will think it very shocking that Grace Darling should have been all but lured into appearing (for one performance only) in a circus at Edinburgh, and offered a good salary for coming to London to row a stage boat on a stage sea. For the most part, the enthusiasm of the public took forms appropriate to the simple, sensible, modest girl; and the best of all tributes has been the awakening of interest in the lot of the sailor, leading to the growth of the lifeboat service and other means of protecting and preserving him.

Nothing can dim the splendour of Grace Darling's action on that fearful night; yet to our own age her heroism is not so surprising as the excitement it aroused. Allowance must be made for the romantic nature of the scene on that hallowed coast—the tempestuous dawn, the wild seas, the wreck, the perilous rescue, all very rich in appeal to a romantic age. But we of to-day have our own reasons for believing that, even at a time when the general view of womanhood took colour from the sentiment enfolding the young girl Queen, Grace Darling was not the only woman ready to face untold labour and almost certain death as a matter of course. "There is not a single record in this war of any British woman in uniformed service quitting her post or failing in her duty under fire." The words are those of the "Short Guide to Great Britain," issued by the War Department at Washington for the use of the American troops over here; and more there said about women is worth quoting. "They have stuck to their posts near burning ammunition dumps, delivered messages afoot after their motor-cycles have been blasted from under them. They have pulled aviators from burning planes. They have died at the gun posts and as they fell another girl has stepped directly into the position." They have taken control, we might add, of rafts and lifeboats, and have kept high the hearts of men, women and children for days on end. They have nursed the wounded on board ship while enemy aircraft were bombing and machine-gunning them; they have been known to shield the helpless with their own bodies. In the reign of King George III. a former

editor of this journal, Thomas Barnes, wrote of women that "their magnanimity of 'devotedness is as regular as it is certain'—and was nervous lest his praise should be mistaken for patronage. In the reign of King George VI. any one of us may shake hands any day with a woman as heroic as Grace Darling; but small thanks, on her sex's behalf or her own, should we get for making a fuss of her noble deeds.

MESSAGES TO THE ARMY

World Service from London.

(From Our Special Correspondent with the Army.)

Telegraphic and wireless communication is a peaceful science, and its application to the needs of modern war does not change its character. The War Office Signal Office, therefore, differs but little from an exceptionally well equipped telegraph and wireless station, except that it is staffed by men of the Royal Corps of Signals and women of the A.T.S., and is built deep underground—very deep indeed.

Distant commanders in the Middle East, Madagascar, the Far East, or anywhere else can receive messages from the authorities in Whitehall, and send messages to them, almost as quickly as if they were in London. The signal office deals with about 30,000 messages a week, which include all important operational communications with every part of the world where there are British troops. Much of the work demands high technical skill; all of it demands a keen sense of responsibility.

Signals and A.T.S.

The A.T.S. are taking an increasing share in this important branch of the Army's work. At the beginning of the war girls from the G.P.O. provided a useful nucleus of skilled operators at this signal office, but to-day members of the A.T.S. at work here have come from all sorts of civilian occupations—clerks, factory hands, typists, hairdressers, and so on. The teleprinter room is staffed almost entirely by them, and they have their own N.C.O.s with a small number of members of the Royal Signals, including the Chief Signalmaster, a captain.

In other sections of the office, such as the high-speed wireless links, mixed shifts of R.C.S. and A.T.S. work together. Ciphering has recently been taken over by the Royal Corps of Signals, and the A.T.S. also help in this work. The signal office is connected with the cipher office by pneumatic tubes, which also link up with the registry or distribution centre, from which messages pass to all branches of the War Office. The arrival of a high priority message for dispatch is indicated in the various departments of the

signal office by red lights controlled by the signalmaster, and lines have then to be cleared of all other traffic.

There is still a considerable demand for women recruits, through the A.T.S., in the signal office and the service offers good opportunities of promotion for the right type of intelligent girl. Experienced technical men of the Royal Corps of Signals are not being replaced by A.T.S., but as the service increases—which it must necessarily do—the proportion of women enlisted is becoming higher.

MARRIAGES

DALE—COODE.—On November 7, 1942, at St. Mark's, Hadlow, Devon, Captain Geoffrey Dale, Toronto Scottish Regt., elder son of Dr. and Mrs. Gordon Dale, of Toronto, to Prudence Coode, 2/Sub., A.T.S., youngest daughter of Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Coode, of Hadlow Down, Sussex.

OLIVER—FREEMAN.—On September 26, 1942, at Stratford, Suffolk, B. W. W. Oliver, R. Signals, son of the Rev. and Mrs. B. Wilson Oliver, to Margaret Anne Freeman, A.T.S., daughter of Mrs. Freeman, of Canterbury.

WILSON—BARNE.—On November 16, 1942, at St. Mary-le-Strand, Michael Henry Wilson, second son of the late H. L. Wilson and of Mrs. Wilson, to Senior Commander Betty Barne, A.T.S., daughter of Brigadier W. and Mrs. Barne.

RADFORD—PRODGERS.—On Thursday, October 1, 1942, at St. Luke's Church, Queen's Park, Brighton, Captain R. O. Radford, R.E., of Nottingham, and Malaya, to Jnr. Cdr. V. A. Prodgers, A.T.S., of Brighton.

ROBERTS—JOSE.—On November 12, 1942, at Shevlock, by the Rev. Bernard Low and the Rev. Bertram Lycett-Lycett, Brian Pelham Whightwake Roberts, Fleet Air Arm, to Kathleen Laira (Kit) Jose, A.T.S. (F.A.N.Y.).

Mr. W. J. L. Willson and the Hon. Anne Curzon.

The marriage arranged between Mr. W. J. L. Willson, Grenadier Guards, and the Hon. Anne Curzon, A.T.S., took place on Saturday, October 17, at 2.30 p.m., at the Royal Military Chapel, Wellington Barracks.

Captain the Hon. D. Woodhouse and Miss S. Irwin.

The marriage took place on Saturday, November 7, at St. George's, Hanover Square, of Captain the Hon. David Woodhouse, The Royal Norfolk Regiment, elder son of Lord and Lady Terrington, and Suzanne Irwin, Subaltern, A.T.S., youngest daughter of Colonel and Mrs. T. S. Irwin, of Justicetown, Carlisle. The Archdeacon of Middlesex and the Rev. W. G. Howard officiated.

The bride was given away by her father, and Captain Eric Cooper-Key, The Royal Norfolk Regiment, was best man.

A small family reception was held at the Berkeley Hotel.

Obituary

KING.—In October, at Dormers, South Park, Gerrards Cross, William, dearly loved husband of Olive K. King (Jordan, (U.A. Havre and Boulogne).

ROSE.—On November 2nd, at his residence, No. 1, Elgar Avenue, S.W.16, Thomas Stephen, dearly loved husband of G. F. Rose (London Branch).

ANDERSON.—On November 1st, in Edinburgh, Isobel Anderson, after a long illness, borne with great courage and patience.

EDINBURGH.

Miss Isobel Anderson.

It is with heartfelt sorrow that we record the death of Miss Isobel Anderson, which took place at Edinburgh on the 1st November after a long illness borne with great patience and courage.

Miss Anderson was one of the original members of the Edinburgh and East of Scotland Branch of the O.C.A. She was a member of the Committee and had been for some years Press Secretary and Joint Hon. Secretary of the Branch Benevolent Fund. In 1917 she was serving as a V.A.D. at Seafield Hospital. Early

in 1918 she joined the "Waacs," and after serving at Haddington and Tili-coultry she became a U.A.; she was stationed at Cupar and then at the Depot in Buckingham Terrace until November, 1919.

After the war she helped Miss Ireland in opening the Ex-Service Women's Club at 5, Buckingham Gate, London.

At Gifford, where she had a small house, she took an active part in the W.R.I., serving first as Hon. Secretary and then as President. On the outbreak of the present conflict she played a leading part in the W.V.S. as long as she was able but for some time past ill-health had compelled her to give up many of her activities although she was always eager to do as much or more than her strength would allow.

Miss Anderson's passing is a great sorrow to her comrades, to whom she had endeared herself through her kindness and her willingness to help in trouble and to her unflinching interest in all that concerned the O.C.A.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to her sister in her great sorrow.

Miss Marion Anderson has most generously given a donation to our Branch Benevolent Fund and has sent

some money, which was intended for a wreath, to the Earl Haig Fund to be used for the benefit of ex-Service women. We thank her, most heartily for these generous gifts.

A. L.

C.S.M. E. E. McGUIRE-BATE.—We announce, with deep regret, the death of W/14156 C.S.M. E. E. McGuire-Bate, of "M" Company, Leeds and Sheffield Group, A.T.S., Beckett Park, Leeds, on November 21, 1942, at the age of 45 years. She was buried at Harehills Cemetery, Leeds, on November 24, with full military honours. S.S.M. McGuire-Bate will be known to many members as she served in Q.M.A.A.C. She was for some time secretary of the Portsmouth Branch of the Old Comrades Association. Not very long ago she called at the headquarters of the Comrades Association and gave a very interesting account of her life in the A.T.S. and of how pleased she was at the opportunity of being in the Army again. She was most anxious to interest the auxiliaries in the Comrades Association and had forwarded a number of applications on their behalf. We cannot but feel that the auxiliaries of her Company will miss her experience and wise advice. We can be sure that she was happy in "passing on," while still in the Army and serving her country until the last.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES

Mr. J. G. Ward and Miss D. N. Mulholland.

The engagement is announced between John Guthrie Ward, H.M. Diplomatic Service, and Senior Commander Daphne Mulholland, A.T.S., daughter of the late Captain the Hon. A. E. S. Mulholland and the Countess of Cavan.

Mr. R. W. Smith and Miss M. Parry.

The engagement is announced of Lieutenant Robert Wyville Smith, The Gordon Highlanders, only son of Brigadier Sidney Smith, F.R.C.P., K.H.P., and Mrs. Sidney Smith, Woodlands, Mortimer West End, Reading, and Mary Parry, Junior Commander, A.T.S., granddaughter of Mrs. L. Haydn-Parry, Arne-wood, Bournemouth.

Mr. C. W. Tickner and Miss P. A. Blyth.

The engagement is announced between Lieutenant Colin Windsor Tickner, R.A., elder son of the late Reginald W. W. Tickner and Mrs. Mabel Tickner, of Hadleigh, Suffolk, and Second Subaltern Pauline Argent Blyth, A.T.S., younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Blyth, of Sudbury, Suffolk.

Mr. G. R. Price, R.N.V.R., and Miss Corke.

The engagement is announced, and the marriage will shortly take place, between Sub-Lieutenant Godfrey Ronald

Price, R.N.V.R., only son of Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Price, of Malvern, and Margaret Ida Corke, A.T.S., only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. M. Corke, of Ewell.

Mr. P. W. R. Sexty and Miss J. Wordley.

The engagement is announced between Officer Cadet Philip William Randall Sexty, only son of the Rev. Percival and Mrs. Sexty, of The Rectory, West Lavington, Devizes, and Joan Wordley, Second Subaltern, A.T.S., elder daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Eric Wordley, of St. Mildred's, Plymouth.

Lieutenant-Colonel T. Murray Niven and Miss M. W. Wares.

The engagement is announced between Lieutenant-Colonel T. Murray Niven, Royal Signals, younger son of the late Mr. T. O. Niven and of Mrs. Niven, 25, Falkland Mansions, Glasgow, W.2, and Second Subaltern Moira Wallace Wares, A.T.S., youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wallace Wares, The Homestead, Wetherby Road, Harrogate.

Captain J. F. Lockwood and Miss E. G. Kirkpatrick.

The engagement is announced between Captain John F. Lockwood, R.A., only son of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. B. Lockwood, of New Barnet, Hertfordshire, and Junior Commander Eileen G. Kirkpatrick, A.T.S.,

only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Kirkpatrick, of Eyreton, Douglas, Isle of Man.

Captain G. W. Batterbury and Miss M. Oliver.

The engagement is announced between Captain Geoffrey William Batterbury, Royal Corps of Signals, only son of Mr. and Mrs. William Batterbury, of Colwyn Bay, and Mary Oliver, Subaltern, A.T.S., only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Oliver, of York.

Captain A. W. Goldney and Miss Bruce.

The engagement is announced between Captain Alan Wilfrid Goldney, R.A., son of the late Wilfrid Goldney and Mrs. V. M. Pinn, of Oxford, and Second Subaltern Sheila Elizabeth Bruce, A.T.S., elder daughter of the late W. Hunter Bruce and the late Mrs. E. Bruce, late of Chersonese Estate, Kuala Kurau, Perak, Malaya.

Captain G. Bazeley and Miss A. Blewitt.

The engagement is announced between Captain Geoffrey Bazeley, R.A., younger son of the late Mr. Sydney G. Bazeley and of Mrs. Bazeley, Alverne Bay, Penzance, and Anne Blewitt, A.T.S., elder daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Guy Blewitt, D.S.O., M.C., and Mrs. Blewitt, Pond House, Boxted, Colchester.

NEWS OF OLD COMRADES

We are sorry to hear that **Miss Blanche Bailey** has had to leave the A.T.S. on medical grounds. She is hoping to take up a light post as soon as the arthritis is better, which we trust will be quite soon.

When we last heard of **L.-Cpl. D. O. R. Manning** she was in hospital with a bad eye, and there was some doubt as to whether she would ever recover the full sight. We send our best wishes for a complete recovery, and hope she is now quite free from worry on that account.

Mrs. L. M. Smith, the Secretary of the Adelaide (South Australia) Branch, has sent two very interesting letters. She is very busy as an officer in the Defence Society, and is teaching girls to use the rifle, bayonet practice, with a real 303 and bayonet, pistol shooting and ju-jitsu. So one sees that they are preparing very thoroughly to be ready for the Japanese. She asks about Miss Clowes, who was U.A. at Abbeville, 1st A.M.T.D., and says that there are four members of the Branch who were at that depot. They have a nice new club-room, and meet there once a month. Several members are doing munition work, and others helping in various ways. The Branch

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES

—continued—

Captain P. C. Jones, R.M., and Miss G. L. Pym.

The engagement is announced between Captain Peter C. Jones, Royal Marines, only son of the late Lieutenant-Colonel W. T. C. Jones, C.B., D.S.O., R.M., and Mrs. Jones, and Catherine Lucy Pym, Subaltern, A.T.S., youngest daughter of Mr. Pym, M.P., and Mrs. Pym.

Captain C. A. Ashcroft and Miss Dooley.

The engagement is announced between Captain Charles Anthony Ashcroft, The King's Regiment, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Ashcroft, of Birkenhead, and Peggy Dooley, A.T.S., adopted daughter of Mr. and Mrs. V. H. Minton, of Welwyn Garden City.

Captain J. W. St. John Whitehead and Miss H. D. Mitchell.

The engagement is announced, and the marriage will take place at 2.30 p.m. on January 6, 1943, at the Garrison Church, Fulford Barracks, York, between Captain John William St. John Whitehead, 60th Rifles, and Helen Daireen Mitchell, Subaltern, A.T.S., younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Mitchell, of Penzance and Lamorna.

had a stand for the appeal on behalf of Malta, and made £17, which was excellent. In addition, they keep up their knitting for the British Merchant Seamen.

Miss E. K. Brown writes from Cambridge. She is in charge of the bed-makers and other household staff at Caius College. Before that she was Head Housekeeper for nearly seven years at Girton College, and four of her colleagues there had served in Q.M.A.A.C. If circumstances had permitted she would certainly have joined up again this time.

Miss E. Budd asks news of Sadie (Paddy) Bell. Can anyone help her? She tells us that **Ethel Cutler** joined the W.A.A.F., but was discharged on compassionate grounds, as her mother was ill. Cutler served at St. Omer and Wissant.

Mrs. E. Kilgour Roberts is now a sergeant, No. 390454, in the Australian W.A.S., and is very happy in her new Service. She was stationed at Killara when she wrote to give this news; she also said how pleased she was to hear that the A.T.S. are now eligible for membership of the Comrades Association.

Mrs. Clara G. Whittaker (Shimell, 16755) is now Transport Officer at Holcombe First Aid Post. She has lately come across two old comrades of whom she had heard nothing for 25 years. They were both drivers with her in Havre 1917-1919, and they had much to talk about. Mrs. Whittaker was delighted to get the Gazette again through **Mrs. Balchin**, of Walderslade, and to read news of Old Comrades, especially of Miss Ireland.

Miss M. E. Roberts is now working as full-time gardener in complete charge of Ibsley, an annexe of Hope Hall (a hostel for women) of the University of the South-West. She is very interested in this new post.

Miss Molly Howes writes a very interesting letter from Kenya. She still has her little house, and a friend lives with her. Despite her ill-health she manages to help as cashier at the British Legion Canteen, and also carries on with her sewing, though at times the rheumatism is very bad in her arms as well as in her feet. We are sorry to learn that an operation has been necessary for trouble in the antrum, but we hope that she was well over that some time ago. Unfortunately, censorship does not permit of interesting news from the Colony, so she was afraid that her letter was a dull one. Nevertheless, we are very glad to have heard from her.

Our congratulations once again to **Junior Commander M. E. Bilbrough**, who has reached another "starry" eminence since her name appeared in this column not so many months ago. We are delighted at her promotion.

Sergt. M. Thornhill is now at the Provost Wing, "somewhere" in England.

She is in charge of the section there, and finds the work most interesting. She had twelve good girls as policewomen, as well as a cook and an orderly. Previously she was Sergt. Instructor at the A.T.S. Clerks' School for 14 months. She did police work in Q.M.A.A.C., hence the reason for her present appointment.

Mrs. A. Low sends us the sad news of the death of Miss I. Anderson, but none of herself! **Miss Lambert** is busier than ever with her work with the W.V.S., and hard work seems to suit her, as she is very fit.

Mrs. Ethel Mills, the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of the Ex-Service Women's Club in New South Wales, has written three long letters giving an account of their doings. The members are all fully occupied with helping at the buffet, knitting for the men of the Navy, with the added difficulty of finding wool, as it is now rationed. The club had its birthday party last month, and their Annual Dinner is always held in November. I fear that this year it may have been more difficult if the black-out is imposed, as I expect will be the case after the episode when Japanese submarines attempted to get into Sydney Harbour. Next month the Children's Party will be held as usual. The Ex-Service Women's Bulletin opens with the New Year Message which Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal sent to all Old Comrades. This gave great pleasure to all our members overseas. Mrs. Mills's three letters were dated June 12th, June 18th, and September 5th; they arrived quite regularly and without much delay on October 7th and 15th and November 5th, and we were delighted to have them and get news of our friends who are now so much in the battle area too.

We were glad to get news from **C.S.M. Hughes**, lately Secretary of the Branch in Northern Ireland, that she is now stationed at Omagh. After a period without meetings, the Branch has taken a new lease of life, and is holding meetings in the British Legion Rooms at 7, Victoria Street, Belfast. **Miss Smyth**, who has lately been discharged from the A.T.S., with whom she served as a Clerical Sergeant, has kindly undertaken to act as Branch Secretary. **Miss I. Baird**, who has long been the Hon. Treasurer, has sent in the necessary capitation fees, and we are happy to know that the Branch is once more full of life. **Dr. Anderson** is well, despite her very heavy duties, and is pleased that the Branch has been resuscitated. We are indeed sorry to hear of the death of **Mrs. Harris**, one of the members of the Branch.

Members will be grieved to learn that **Miss Ireland** has lost her mother, and that **Mrs. King** and **Mrs. Rose** have lost their husbands. May we be allowed to express, on behalf of Old Comrades, our deep sympathy with them in their great sorrow.

BRANCHES

Adelaide	Miss L. M. Smith, 52, Wattle Avenue, Brighton, Adelaide, Australia.	
Birmingham.	Miss E. I. Dipple, 17, Somerset Road, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham, 20.	
Blackpool.	Mrs. K. Fry, 136 Albert Road, Blackpool.	
Bournemouth.	Miss F. E. Lever, A.T.C.L., Craighurst, 7 Church Road, Parkstone, Dorset.	
Bradford.	Mrs. A. Goodman, 2 Tivoli Place, Little Horton, Bradford.	2nd Wednesday
Brighton.	Mrs. E. C. Jolly, 107 Preston Drove, Brighton, 6.	Aqua Restaurant, Old Steine, Brighton. 2nd Monday and 4th Wednesday, 7.30 p.m.
Bristol and West of England.	Miss B. Mould, 11 The Tynning, Bath.	Not fixed.
Cheltenham.	Mrs. Mann, Cornerways, Churchdown, Gloucester.	
Exeter.	Mrs. Vicary, Castle House, Powderham, near Exeter.	16 Dix Field, Exeter. First Thursday of the month, at 3.30 p.m.
Edinburgh and East of Scotland.	Mrs. G. D. Hardy, 51 Lockharton Ave., Edinburgh 11.	Women's United Services Club, 1st Tuesday of each month, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Glasgow and West of Scotland.	Miss E. M. Gilchrist, M.B.E., 13 Royal Terrace West, Glasgow, C.3	251 Renfrew Street, Glasgow. Every Wednesday, 7.30.
Headquarters.	Mrs. Pratt Barlow, O.B.E., 82, Lancaster Gate, W.2.	
Irish Free State.	Mrs. O'Meara, M.B.E., Cove Cottage, Dunmore East, County Waterford.	Not fixed.
Leeds.	Miss E. Mair, 27 Virginia Road, Off University Road, Leeds, 2.	5 Park Square, first Wednesday, 7.30 p.m.
Liverpool.	Mrs. E. Edwards, 8, Wyndcote Road, Liverpool 18.	
London.	Mrs. Mayhew, c/o 5 Buckingham Gate, S.W.1.	See Branch Reports for dates of meetings.
Ilford.	Miss P. Parker, 4, Richmond Street, Plaistow, E.13.	Thursday evenings, 7.30 to 10 p.m.
Manchester.	Mrs. Cornes, 12, High Bank Crescent, Prestwick, Manchester.	Raglan Café, 24 Mosley St., Manchester. 2nd and 4th Thursday, 7 to 10.30 p.m.
Newcastle-on-Tyne.	Miss C. W. Maunder, 31, Norwood Avenue, Heaton, Newcastle.	Members notified individually.
New South Wales.	Mrs. E. Mills, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer	26, Victoria Street, Bondi Junction, N.S.W.
New York.	Mrs. G. Rose. Phone Nevins 8-5250.	
Norfolk.	Mrs. L. W. Chilvers, 32 Grove Road, Norwich.	Monthly. Members notified individually.
Northern Ireland.	Miss Smyth, 18, Cedar Avenue, Carnalea, Nr. Bangor, Co. Down.	Last Saturday in the month at 7, Victoria Street, Belfast.
North Staffs.	Mrs. G. H. Clough, 3 Eleanor View, Newcastle.	Nell Gwynne Restaurant, Newcastle. Second Tuesday in month 7.30 p.m.
Notts.	Miss Osler, Flat 4, 74, Park Road, Lenton, Notts.	
Oxford.	Mrs. Jackman, 23 Grays Road, Headington, Oxford.	Members notified individually.
Plymouth.	Mrs. O. Foster, 2 Notte St., Plymouth.	
Cardiff and S. Wales.	Mrs. Diana Foster, 7, The Grove, Rumney, Cardiff.	Y.M.C.A., Cardiff. Second and last Tuesday at 7.30 p.m.
Shoreham-by-Sea. (in abeyance)		The Café, 5 The Street, Old Shoreham.
St. Leonard's.	Miss E. Taylor, 58 West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.	2nd Tuesday each month at 7.30 p.m. Not fixed.
Tees-side.	Miss E. Kendra, 21, Thackeray Grove, Linthorpe Middlesbrough.	
Transvaal.	Mrs. Widdicombe, 8 Gascoigne Street Observatory, Johannesburg, S. Africa.	

Editor Gazette—Mrs. A. E. B. Johnston, 82, Lancaster Gate, London, W.2.