



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. 6.

MARCH—APRIL, 1943.

Subscription and Gazette,
Life, £5. Annual 5s.

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.**

23rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27th, 1943

The Twenty-third Annual General Meeting of the Association was held at 5, Buckingham Gate, London, S.W.1, at the hour of 3 p.m., with the President, Dame Florence Simpson, D.B.E., in the Chair.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Twenty-second Annual General Meeting having been published in the Gazette of March—April, 1942, were taken as read and signed as correct.

ABSENCE

The General Secretary read apologies for absence from Mrs. Armstrong, Chief Commander Ackland, Mrs. Clough, Senior Commander Mordaunt, Miss F. Lever, Miss Mounstephen, Mrs. G. D. Hardy, Mrs. E. C. Jolly, Mrs. L. E. Herbert, Chief Commander Potter, Mrs. E. Kelly, Miss M. F. Corner, L/Cpl. D. Manning, Mrs. Eager, Sergt.-Major Wilson, and Miss Shearman.

BUSINESS ARISING

The General Secretary reported that subscriptions had been invited for the purchase of a Bren 303" Machine Gun, costing £56, to mark the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the formation of Q.M.A.A.C. £70 had been subscribed, and this had been sent to the Under-Secretary of State for War, asking him to purchase the Bren Gun, to which the Badge of the Corps, sent with the cheque, was to be affixed. The balance of the money to be used for the purchase of such other weapons as came within its scope. The following letter had been received expressing the appreciation of the Army Council for the gift:—

The War Office.

14th January, 1943.

"Madam,

"I am commanded by the Army Council to acknowledge the receipt of a cheque for £70 (seventy pounds) from your Association subscribed by ex-members of Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps as a Twenty-fifth Anniversary Thankoffering.

"I am to convey to you the sincere thanks of the Council and their appreciation of the patriotic feelings and generosity which have prompted the members of your Comrades Association to make this gift.

"A formal receipt is enclosed.

"I am, Madam, Your obedient servant,

"(Signed) G. W. Lambert."

REPORT OF COUNCIL

The Report of the Council (copy attached) was read by Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan, Chairman of Council, and adopted.

REPORT OF THE HON. TREASURER

The Treasurer's Report (copy attached), with Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st October, 1942, and Auditor's Certificate, was presented by the retiring Treasurer, Miss H. M. Billington.

It was proposed by Junior Commander Bilbrough (London), seconded by Miss Mainland (London), and carried unanimously: "That the Report of the Treasurer and certified Balance Sheet be adopted and attached to the Minutes."

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

The President: I should like to associate myself most heartily with what Dame Helen has said about Miss Warrior. We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to her for her devoted help over all these years. I should like at the same time to go back to Miss Thompson, who started the Gazette and ran it for so long. Miss Thompson is one of the best organisers we ever had in the Corps, but I think she has surpassed herself by arranging that she should arrive from South Africa at the same time as we have our Meeting here. I would also say how delighted I am to see so many of you here and how pleased I am to be with you. Now I must thank Miss Billington for her Report and all her work for us, and then I will call upon Dame Helen to deal with No. 5 on the Agenda.

RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION

Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan: This is a big and in some ways rather a complicated question, and I would suggest that we take the Rules one by one and agree them as we go along.

1.—NAME.

The name of the Association shall be "Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps and Auxiliary Territorial Service Comrades Association."

Agreed.

2.—OBJECTS.

The objects of the Association shall be to promote the interests of all who served in Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps and of all who served or are serving in the Auxiliary Territorial Service, to foster the comradeship which exists between them, to help them to obtain assistance in need and to encourage preparedness to give service to the Country in peace and war.

Agreed.

3.—MEMBERSHIP.

(a) **MEMBERS.**—All officers and other ranks of Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps and of the Auxiliary Territorial Service are eligible for membership. If they have served for less than three months or if their retirement or discharge from the Service

is due to misconduct, they shall not be admitted without the authority of Council. Adequate proof of service must be given. Women medical officers who have served with either of the above-named Corps are eligible for full membership.

(b) **HONORARY MEMBERS.**—Those whom the Association wishes to compliment by reason of their good work for the Association or for one of its Branches may be recommended for election by Council as Honorary Members. They are not required to pay a subscription, and have no voting powers.

(c) **TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP.**—The membership of any member or honorary member may be terminated by the Council on the vote of a three-fourths majority of those present and voting. Before such a vote is taken the member or honorary member concerned shall be informed, shall have an opportunity of stating her case to Council, and shall be told that the decision of Council is subject to appeal to a General Meeting of the Association. Notice of the intention to appeal must, however, be given within four weeks of the decision of Council being communicated to the member.

Dame Helen: In regard to Rule 3 Membership, I had better explain that there are just two changes. One is that full membership (not for present members) demands more than three months' service. If anyone has served for less than three months, or gone out on misconduct, her case will be referred to Council for consideration. The second change is that we should no longer have Associate members. We think it is quite possible for friends to be able to come to a meeting without being Associate members. The Clause (c) is new.

Rule 3 agreed.

4.—OFFICERS.

The officers of the Association shall be the President, the Chairman of Council, the Treasurer, and the General Secretary.

An Honorary President, Vice-Presidents and Vice-Chairmen may also be appointed. The President shall be appointed by a General Meeting of the Association; the Treasurer shall be elected annually by the Annual General Meeting. All other officers shall be appointed by Council.

Agreed.

5.—GAZETTE.

Under normal conditions the Gazette of the Association is published once a month.

Agreed.

6.—SUBSCRIPTIONS.

(a) The Life subscription to the Association is £5.

(b) The Annual subscription, due on January 1st each year, is five shillings.

(c) These subscriptions include the subscription to the Gazette.

(d) Life members who joined the Association before January 1st, 1943, may pay a life subscription of £2 10s. 0d. for the Gazette or an Annual subscription of 2s. 6d. Annual members who joined before that date may obtain the Gazette for an additional 2s. 6d. a year.

(e) If membership is terminated under 3 C. above, no part of the subscription will be returned.

(f) Only financial members, i.e., those who have paid their current subscription (or whose subscription has been waived) have the right to vote at Meetings of the Association or its Branches.

Dame Helen: It is better if we include the Gazette in the subscription, as in this way we make sure that a much larger number of people subscribe to it, and, as it is much cheaper in proportion to print a large number, it will be more profitable to us.

Miss K. Simons (London): Can those who have paid 3s. 6d. for this year but have not paid their Annual subscription, pay 1s. 6d. instead of 2s. 6d. for the subscription, to make up the total of 5s.?

Dame Helen: Yes, if you have already paid one of your two subscriptions, either Gazette or Annual membership, you will only have to make the sum up to five shillings to have paid both of them. If you have already paid both, totalling six shillings—well, you have given the C.A. a shilling.

Miss Ireland (London): At the London Branch Committee the point was raised as to the position we were going to be in at the end of twenty years as regards the Gazette. We feared

that then we might not have the funds to carry on the Gazette, if all Life subscriptions had run out by that time.

Dame Helen: The Life subscriptions are invested, not used year by year, and therefore there is a permanent capital.

Controller Carlisle: Is it going to be a little dangerous to allow Annual members to pay Life subscriptions for the Gazette? Because they will get the Gazette and may not pay their Annual membership subscriptions.

Dame Helen: Yes, we must clarify that. Annual members can pay a Life subscription for the Gazette, but if they cease to be members they cannot, of course, get the Gazette, because that only goes to members. So I strongly advise Annual members to be annual for everything and Life members to be life for everything.

Rule 6 agreed.

7.—GENERAL MEETINGS.

(a) The Annual General Meeting will be held on, or as near as possible to the last Saturday in February, this being the month in which the first of the Auxiliary Services was constituted.

The General Secretary shall give each Branch Secretary three months' notice of an Annual General Meeting, and shall invite her to forward, at least six weeks before the Meeting, any resolutions her Branch wishes to place on the Agenda.

(b) An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called by the Council either on its own motion or on receipt of a requisition signed by not less than 100 members of the Association and deposited with the General Secretary. The requisition shall state the object or objects for which the meeting is called, and no other business shall be dealt with at the meeting. A requisition may consist of several documents signed by one member or by more, provided that the same object or objects are stated in each. At least 14 days' notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be given, and shall be accompanied by an agenda setting out the business of the meeting. The date, time and place of the meeting shall be decided by the Council.

(c) Publication in the Gazette of the Association shall constitute sufficient notice of any General Meeting. No General Meeting, Branch Meeting or Meeting of Council shall be invalidated by the fact that any member or members have failed to receive a notice of the meeting.

Dame Helen: In Rule 7 there is one change, about the Annual General Meeting. The Branches are given rather longer notice. And we are making it less difficult to have an Extraordinary General Meeting.

Rule 7 agreed.

8.—COUNCIL.

(a) The Council are the executive body of the Association, and, as such, have power to manage the affairs of the Association and to deal with all monies and investments. They shall invest or use such monies at their discretion for the benefit of the Association. Members of Council shall not be held liable, either individually or collectively, for any losses incurred, provided that they have acted with reasonable care and, to the best of their belief, in the interest of the Association. The Council have power to make such regulations and to appoint such sub-committees as they may from time to time consider necessary, subject to any directions received from a General Meeting of the Association. The Council may invite the attendance at any Meeting of Council of members of the Association or of other persons who they consider would be helpful in their deliberations. Such persons shall leave the Meeting when the business for which they have been invited is concluded.

(b) Six members of Council other than the General Secretary and the Treasurer shall form a quorum.

(c) The members of Council shall be the Hon. President, the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Chairman, the Treasurer (if unpaid), the Area representatives, and three members co-opted by the Council to ensure representation of interests for which provision has not been otherwise made. The General Secretary and the Treasurer (if paid) may be appointed to Council as Area Representatives.

(d) At the first meeting of Council after the Annual Meeting of the Association the chair shall be taken by the Chairman of the previous year, if present, whom failing, by a member chosen by the Meeting. The General Secretary shall call for nomina-

tions, from members of Council, for Chairman and Vice-Chairman to be sent to her in writing. The new Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be those having most nominations, and shall take office at the second Meeting of Council. The same person shall not hold office for more than four consecutive years.

(e) The Council shall meet ten times a year or as arranged under exceptional circumstances. Members shall receive 10 days' notice in writing of a Meeting of Council.

Miss M. Slee (London): With regard to clause (d), "shall not hold office for more than four consecutive years"—I take it that this is not intended retrospectively?

Dame Helen: I think that is a reasonable interpretation.

Rule 8 agreed.

9.—AREAS.

The country shall be divided into AREAS, each of which shall be co-extensive with a Home Army Command. In addition, a Headquarters "Area" shall be formed, and shall include all members overseas or otherwise unattached who do not wish to retain their membership of a geographical Area. So long as members of the Association are serving in H.M. Forces they shall constitute an Active Service Area.

Every Area of less than 501 members shall appoint one member of Council, and every Area of more than 500 members shall appoint two members of Council, one of whom shall, if possible, have served in Q.M.A.A.C. and one in the A.T.S. The Area representative need not be resident in the Area which she is chosen to represent, but must be a financial member of the Area.

A Committee of Branch representatives shall be formed in each Area; the members of the Committee shall elect a Chairman and Secretary from among their number. The duty of the Area Committee shall be to appoint the Area representative or representatives on the Council of the Association. The Area Committee may also organise Area reunions or dinners, and may undertake such other duties for the good of the Branches as a whole as a majority of the Branches in the Area shall agree to delegate to them.

A sum of up to £5 to cover postage may be issued annually to each Area Secretary by the Treasurer of the Association.

Dame Helen: Now we come to a big change, but your Council recommend that that change should not come into force until demobilisation or until a General Meeting so decides. Hitherto, as you know, representatives of Branches have been on Council. With 20 Branches, Council might have 80 members. It would not work. We therefore recommend that the country be divided into eight Areas, as set out in Rule 9, six Commands and two Districts, of which London is one. Each Area would appoint one or two members, according to the size. The Branches in an Area would send their representatives to meet together and choose the Area representatives. This means that the leading members of the Branches in the Area would get to know each other and so choose wisely.

Mrs. Powell (London): I feel this has to come; but does it mean that the Area representative on the Council may not know anything whatever about a Branch? At the moment Branch representatives are, or should be, in close touch with their Branch. But, in this new scheme, the Area representative may not have been anywhere near the Branch.

Dame Helen: That is a good point. But, if we go on having Branch representatives, we may have a Council of 70 or 80 members. Such a body could not undertake the day-to-day running of the Association. Their first act would be to appoint an Executive, and the members of the Executive would have no responsibility towards particular Branches, as would the Area representatives.

Dr. Fairfield (London): It seems doubtful whether it is good to elect an entire Committee, with a Chairman, for the sole purpose of electing a representative to Council. I wonder if you could not achieve the same object by a postal vote on a Command basis.

Dame Helen: I agree that that is simpler, but your Council considered that, if we could get the best, or most available, people on the Branches to meet together, the Area Committee might be useful in other ways. For instance, now that we

are so big, it may be difficult to have only an Annual Dinner in London. Maybe we shall have to have Area Dinners.

Dame Florence: The British Legion run their big organisation on those lines; the Branches have a County Council to which members are elected from the Branches, then the County Councils elect to the Area Council. They have Annual Dinners in the Areas. It really pulls the thing closer together than in having a lot of scattered Branches that do not belong to anything between themselves and Council. After all, the British Legion has done pretty well. You have your proper channels through which things come. And, as they have a County Council, which we should not have, ours is a little simpler.

Mrs. Powell: The people in the Areas would only be in touch with each other in that Area, whereas at the present time people come from all over the British Isles and are in touch with each other.

Dame Florence: So they will again.

Dame Helen: There is no suggestion that people should be prevented from coming together centrally. We hope they will. We have provided for the Annual General Meeting and all the rest of it. But no Annual General Meeting is going to provide for our whole membership. Therefore, here is a suggestion for sub-dividing the thing in such a way that everybody has a say at their own level. The Branches get together to choose the Area representatives. The Branch people coming together and having a meeting, electing a Chairman and Secretary (though they only need come once if they don't want to meet oftener) at least get to know each other personally and see who they are sending up.

The Lady Apsley: It seems to me that some of these Area Committees might be turned into something very useful later, particularly for pensions and so on. This matter of Commands may be very useful in the future, particularly for these Pensions Tribunal cases, of which I see a great many coming along.

Dame Helen: A very good point; and if we don't have some sort of local organisation like that, I think we may not be consulted about things which deeply affect our members.

Senior Controller Whateley: I would support the Resolution; I think the thing would be frightfully unwieldy otherwise.

Dame Florence: If we decide to have these Areas we shall be already on the spot when the time comes for it to be considered who is going to do something for the welfare of that particular organisation. If we have no representatives in Areas who represent the Branches, we shall not. If we have a body, even if it only meets once a year, it is something which can say, "We come into this and must be consulted." Many of you will remember after the last war the difficulties we had in tracing channels through which we could go for this, that or the other when demobilisation came. Therefore, if we establish our Association, which is already recognised, on a basis of this sort, we are then a body which has the right to ask, and also to make a statement. People won't take much notice of a little local Branch, you see; but they will take notice of a representative of several local Branches who is there to speak on their behalf.

Rule 9 agreed.

10.—BRANCHES.

A Branch may be formed in any locality with the approval of Council.

The members of each Branch shall elect a Secretary and a Treasurer from among their number, and shall forward the names of those elected to Council for approval. If Council does not approve, they shall make a fresh nomination. A Branch of less than 50 members may elect one person to fill both offices.

Each Branch of less than 50 members may elect one representative to serve on the Area Committee of the Area in which the Branch is located, and each Branch of more than 50 members may so elect two representatives.

Each Branch shall hold a meeting before the Annual General Meeting of the Association, and the Secretary of the Branch shall forward to the General Secretary, not less than six weeks before the Annual General Meeting, any items to be placed on the Agenda of the Meeting.

It is the duty of the Branch Secretary to keep in touch with the members of her Branch, to collect subscriptions, to inform

members of the Branch of all Branch reunions and meetings and of the Annual General Meeting of the Association, and generally to carry out the instructions of Council in respect of the Branch.

It is the duty of the Branch Treasurer to keep the accounts of the Branch, to forward to the Treasurer of the Association 1/- capitation fee for each annual member of the Branch, and at the end of the financial year (October 31st) to forward to the Treasurer of the Association a Balance Sheet showing the financial state of the Branch.

At the end of the financial year the Treasurer of the Association will forward to each Branch Secretary a sum of 1s. 6d. in respect of each Life member of the Branch.

All monies or investments held by a Branch are distinct from those held by the Association, and a Branch shall be liable for its own commitments. In no way shall the Association, the Council or the Area Committee be held liable for debts contracted by a Branch.

Should a Branch cease to exist, the balance of funds, if any, will be sent to the Treasurer of the Association and included in the general funds of the Association. If, however, a Branch is re-formed in the same locality within three years, the Treasurer of the Association shall forward a like sum to the Treasurer of the reconstituted Branch.

Rule 10 agreed.

11.—FINANCE.

It is the duty of the Treasurer to have the custody of the funds of the Association. She shall receive and bank all monies.

All cheques drawn on the funds of the Association shall be signed by the Treasurer and one member of Council, or alternatively by two members of Council. The Treasurer shall make a report of the Association's finances to the Council at each of its Meetings, and shall submit for audit a yearly Balance Sheet, to be presented at the Annual General Meeting.

The financial year of the Association shall end on the 31st of October.

No alteration shall be made in the investments of the Association without a resolution to that effect passed at a properly constituted Meeting of Council by a two-thirds majority of those present.

The money Resolution shall have appeared on the Agenda circulated to members of Council.

Rule 11 agreed.

Dame Helen: Well we have passed our new Rules. Those Rules come into force forthwith, except the one about Areas. That is delayed until one of two things has taken place—demobilisation, which will automatically bring the Areas into being; or a General Meeting which decides to constitute Areas. We may think it advisable to do so before demobilisation. Suppose, for instance, all active hostilities end, it might be wise to get established with our Areas before demobilisation. In that case we should have an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting and decide the question. But everything else comes into activity forthwith.

This was agreed.

Dame Florence: I feel that we all owe a great debt of gratitude to the Chairman and members of Council for having drawn up these Rules for us. And I am sure you would all like me to thank Dame Helen very much on your behalf, as I certainly do on my own, also the members of Council and Mrs. Johnston.

Vote of thanks carried by acclamation.

ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES ON COUNCIL

The General Secretary read the following list:—

BIRMINGHAM: Mrs. Powell; BOURNEMOUTH: Miss W. Clark; BRIGHTON: Miss Turner; BRISTOL: Miss Pratt; EDINBURGH: Miss Davy; LONDON: Mrs. Mayhew, Mrs. Eager, Miss Saunders, Miss Binks, Jun. Comdr. Bilbrough; NORFOLK: Miss Batty; OXFORD: Mrs. Grundy; HEADQUARTERS: Mrs. Pratt-Barlow, Miss Billington, Mrs. Johnston; ACTIVE SERVICE: Chief Comdr. M. F. Patrick, Sen. Comdr. Viscountess Swinton, Sen. Comdr. The Lady Apsley, Sen. Comdr. Harvie-Anderson, W/21215 R.S.M. A. Glass, W/123213 Pte. J. F. Harvey, W/150296 Pte. Turner.

Election of above-named carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF HON. TREASURER

Dame Helen: I have a sad piece of news for everybody; that is that Billington has resigned. I should like, therefore, to place on record our very deep thankfulness for all the good work that she has done for us as Treasurer for a great many years. She saw the finances of the Association through a very difficult period, and, as her Report to-day showed, it has come out admirably. When your Council learned of that resignation it was their duty, in the absence of a General Meeting, to appoint an Interim Treasurer, and I am pleased to be able to tell you we did appoint Miss Margaret Slee. Slee makes one proviso: that is, she will not accept an honorarium; which makes a very acceptable donation to our funds.

I should like, on behalf of the Council, to propose Miss Slee as Treasurer for the coming year.

Carried by acclamation.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dame Helen: Under "Other Business" I want to express our deep appreciation for our President's presence here to-day. When we see her amongst us, somehow it makes us all feel younger. This is a rather memorable occasion. For the first time in our history there is with us an honourable and gallant Member of Parliament who is a woman. And, whatever the Navy and the Air Force like to say, she is one of our people. I think it gives us all the very deepest satisfaction, whatever our political views may be, to know that we have Lady Apsley, as an understanding ex-Service woman, in the House. We have also with us the Deputy Director of the Auxiliary Territorial Service, my old friend Senior Commander Whateley. I won't make a list of the other eminent persons present; our President has already referred to Thompson. I will just end by thanking you once more, Dame Florence, for your chairmanship to-day.

The Lady Apsley then presented the A.T.S. Benevolent Fund Report (copy attached), which was considered very satisfactory.

There were calls for Miss Thompson.

Miss Thompson: Thank you very much for your kind welcome. I thought, after I had been away for two and a half years, that I should feel out of touch, but I find that there is no question of that. Never, with London Branch! It seems extraordinary that in the midst of war I should step on a ship at Cape Town and say, "I am going to a Q.M.A.A.C. General Meeting." I got here at 9.15 this morning, so I did it very neatly! I am so pleased to find you all looking so much better than I expected. I thought everyone would have bare blue legs, shabby clothes, and all look hungry. I am going to write and cheer them up on the other side. I thought I should find London flattened out, but I have been looking for a sign of any enemy at all. May I thank you all tremendously; I hope to get a chance of talking to London Branch in more detail later on. It is simply lovely to be here.

Dame Florence: I need hardly tell you how pleased I am to have been here to-day. Dame Helen said I made you all feel younger. I can return the compliment and say perhaps you have the capacity to make me feel a little younger. It takes a lot of doing, I can assure you, so that you have really achieved something this afternoon. With all the hard work I have to do at the present moment I am beginning to feel rapidly very much older. Still, I am trying to hang on a bit longer so as to be present at the first Annual Dinner after the war. I think we shall have to take Olympia and have it there! I want to thank everybody who has come to-day, Dame Helen and the Council, Billington, Mrs. Johnston, and everybody who keeps the flag flying and the Comrades Association going; and I think we have every reason to be very grateful to our A.T.S. sisters for supporting it in the splendid way they are. They certainly have the advantage over us in having something, however small, already in being; because our trouble was we could never catch all those who were dispersed immediately after the war, and out of 58,000 women we only managed to collect a few, in spite of all the efforts we made afterwards. We must hope that the A.T.S. will get a lot of members during the war and immediately afterwards, so that they will carry on the old tradition and, when we are all dead and gone, there will still be a Comrades Association that started with Q.M.A.A.C.

There being no other business the Meeting then closed.

REPORT OF COUNCIL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 27th FEBRUARY, 1943

Your Council have to report another year of quiet work. At the Annual General Meeting last year 111 members signed the attendance roll. As the result of the decisions of recent Annual General Meetings all ranks of the A.T.S., whether serving or retired, are eligible for membership, and our Association is known officially as Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps and Auxiliary Territorial Service Comrades Association. It is pleasant to think that the name of Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps in this way appears once again in the Army list.

One result of these decisions is a great increase in the membership of the Association. Our strength at the end of September, 1942, was 976. It is now 3,398. It may be expected further to increase. Your Council has taken this probability into consideration in drafting the revised **Rules**, which will be placed before you this afternoon. They have been the subject of careful and prolonged consideration. So that every member should have the opportunity to think them over before voting on them, they have been printed in the January—February Gazette.

In accordance with the wishes of last year's Annual Meeting, the **Bren Gun Fund** was launched by a notice in the May—June Gazette. It was finally closed at £70. This left a little money in hand for other weapons. The Gun will bear the badge of Q.M.A.A.C. Twenty-four bars of chocolate, received from the Ex-Service Women's Branch of the Empire Service League at Calgary, were raffled, and the proceeds added to the Bren Gun Fund.

It is a pleasure to record the continued interest of our **Honorary President**, the Princess Royal, who, as Queen Mary's daughter and as Controller Commandant of the A.T.S., so happily combines the allegiance of both Services. She has presented to the Headquarters Office a photograph of herself in uniform, which was reproduced in the May—June Gazette.

Owing to the many duties devolving on **Branch Secretaries**, it was agreed that these posts should not be held by personnel serving on a general service enrolment. This necessitated three changes, Junior Commander Skellington was succeeded at Nottingham by Miss N. Osler, Sergeant-Major Hughes by Miss Smyth in Northern Ireland, and Corporal Fryer in Tees-side by Miss E. Kendra.

Many of the **Branches** have been almost in abeyance, and have failed to send in capitation fees, others have kept steadily on, and, during the summer months, their members have been able to meet with some regularity. Leeds, Northern Ireland and Tees-side show signs of revival. Your Council appreciate the excellent work that the Secretaries of the active Branches, in spite of many calls on their time, have managed to put in.

There have been even fewer calls on the **Service Women's Benevolent Fund** this year than last, 19 have been helped compared to 22 in 1941. Grants were made for help with arrears of rent during illness, for treatment for rheumatism at a Red Cross Clinic, towards maintenance when a member was sick or in search of work, for extra nourishment and for fares to hospital. One of the applicants was provided with a surgical belt, another with an artificial limb, a third with treatment at Harrogate, while a fourth was helped to furnish a room. In several cases the British Legion or the United Services Fund co-operated; indeed, one member was helped by four societies to furnish a room.

The usual wreath was laid on **Armistice Day**, this time by Miss W. Rogers, who was accompanied by Mrs. Johnston.

Following the decision at the last Annual General Meeting

as to our name, the **Gazette** appeared for the first time in the May—June issue with the Badges of both Corps. The circulation has increased slightly, but additional subscribers are still greatly needed. Additional matter for publication would also be appreciated, the Editor sometimes finds it hard to fill the pages. A whisper has been heard that there is too much A.T.S. and also that there is too much Q.M.A.A.C. No one has the smallest excuse for either statement who has not herself helped to provide interesting matter of the right kind. Your Council wish to express the very cordial and sincere thanks due to **Miss Warrior** for her unflinching work in the distribution of the Gazette. Warrior joined the Gazette Committee in 1923, more than 20 years ago. For the greater part of the time she has been Gazette Secretary. When the war came and the Gazette Committee melted away to other duties, Warrior carried on single-handed, kept all the Gazette records, and sent off all the Gazettes. She never failed, nothing that would help the O.C.A. was too much trouble for her. It is she who has completed all but a few hundred of the cards for the new Active Service Branch of over 2,000 members. We have learnt within the last few days that she is leaving London. I know that I am voicing the feeling not only of Council, but of the whole Association, in saying that we want to give concrete expression to our great admiration of her steadfast work. I am therefore going to ask the President to let me do something quite irregular and move a Resolution which is not on the Agenda. I am going to ask you to carry that resolution by acclamation. Madam President, I propose that we offer Miss Warrior life membership both of the Association and of the Gazette, and I will ask her, when she receives her Gazettes, to remember the comrades to whom she has set so excellent an example.

CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

HEADQUARTERS REPORT FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH

No Council meeting has been held since that reported in the January-February issue of the "Gazette." The chief news is of the Annual General Meeting, which was held, as all will know, on Saturday, February 27th. It was quite the biggest A.G.M. which has been held since the war began and it was most encouraging to see the room getting more and more packed each minute, indeed many had to stand out in the small annexe at the back of the drawing room in which the meeting was held, as usual.

We had the pleasure of having our President, Dame Florence Simpson, with us after an absence of two years, and it was a comfort to know that this year she was well enough to come up from Gloucestershire. Dame Helen, who never fails to help with her presence and her wisdom, undertook the task of dealing with the question of the new rules, which were before the meeting for consideration. These were passed without any amendments; they had been most carefully considered and drafted by Council, and it was a tribute to the work of Council that members were able to agree to such changes as had been considered necessary.

A great surprise to everyone was the presence of Miss Edith Thompson, who after 2½ years in South Africa, managed to arrive in England the very evening before the meeting and arrived in London at 9 o'clock the same morning. We understand that she did come in a ship, though it would seem that a Magic Carpet would have been the more appropriate means of transport for such a timely arrival.

It was a great pleasure to see so much khaki among us. The Deputy Director of the A.T.S., Senior Controller Whately, was present, as well as Controller Carlisle, Controller Thorne (who some years ago attended an Annual Dinner as member of Emergency Service), Senior Commander Windeatt, who had only joined the Comrades Association the day before, and many others too numerous to mention. It was an added pleasure to see Lady Apsley, who found time to be with us despite her Parliamentary duties. As there is much to be printed in this issue, this short report will be sufficient to show that the headquarters is still functioning.

A.T.S. BENEVOLENT FUND

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT, 1942

Subscriptions received as 638 separate donations amounted to £9,898 16s. 9d. as compared with £1,755 18s. 1d. for 1941. This may be considered very satisfactory, but should be surpassed in 1943.

Total Expenses (Printing reports, postages, stamps, sundries) amount to £24 3s. 8d.

The Auditor.—Mr. J. Basil Watling, Chartered Accountant, of Messrs. Watling, Parker and Co., of 40, Broad Street, Bristol, 1, generously audited the books of the fund in an Honorary capacity. We tender to Mr. Watling our grateful thanks.

The Committee of Management met three times during the year.

The Income received from Investments (January, 1941–December, 1942) was £59 8s. 3d., to which a further £18 0s. 7d. is due to be added from claims pending with the Income Tax Department, making a total of £77 8s. 10d. It will be remembered that during war-time only the income of the Fund may be used for making Cash Grants in specially necessitous cases (see par. 6 Notes on Benevolent Fund). £10 was received from 236 A.A. (A.T.S. O.F.C.) Training Regt., specially marked for "Income."

The total available for Cash Grants was therefore £87 8s. 10d.

Applications for assistance were received on behalf of 59 applicants. All received help of the kind necessary. The majority were found eligible to receive assistance from other quarters, merely requiring advice, local addresses, and/or an introductory letter to one of the following: The Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association, the Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Help Society, the W.V.S., the British Legion and the Women's Section of the British Legion, to all of whom we tender our grateful thanks and appreciation. In all the cases not specifically recommended by Commanding Officers as known to them, the trained British Legion investigators kindly investigated the home circumstances of the applicant, in the majority of cases providing all or the greater part of the necessary assistance themselves.

Only two cases were found to be fraudulent.

Help Leaflets.—In dealing with the applications, the Hon. Secretary experienced great ignorance on the part of the women discharged from the Service as to the source of help open to them. To assist in overcoming this disability, the Committee recommended the publication of leaflets briefly setting forth the types of assistance available at the present time, with the relevant addresses. This was agreed to by the Director A.T.S. and the Council A.T.S., the War Office. A leaflet ("Help," No. 1) was prepared with the co-operation of Chief Comdr. Whiddington, O.B.E., (A.G.19). This leaflet is now distributed by the kind co-operation of the Officer-in-Charge Records to all discharged Auxiliaries, and a few copies have been made available to all Company Headquarters for information.

"Help Leaflet No. 2," for the information of officers as to advice for their women, is in course of preparation, and will be circulated down to Company Headquarters through official channels early in 1943.

Officers' Subscriptions in the main are included with those of their Companies and Groups. Many have given generous donations and helped enormously in getting the Fund known. The Director allocated her B.B.C. fees to the Fund.

Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan, G.B.E., gave £100 from the Royalties on the sale of her book, "Service with the Army."

For 1943 it is hoped that we shall succeed in obtaining a still greater total for the A.T.S. Benevolent Fund, as it is evident that the aim of 100 per cent. subscription, consisting of one day's pay a year from all ranks, is not yet achieved. It should be noted that £1,502 18s. 7d. was collected by **Special Donations**, and it is hoped that during 1943 all Companies who can will contribute under this heading, especially if their subscriptions fall short of their quota.

It is suggested that all Companies this year:—

- (1) Arrange for at least one Church Collection for the Fund.
- (2) Give the proceeds of a dance or social to the Fund.
- (3) Set a target figure for the year, based on the quota of all ranks subscribing a day's pay in 1943.

The Honorary Secretary would be grateful if units would forward their subscriptions in a single cheque at a time, if possible, instead of numerous small cheques.

We have the honour to record with deep appreciation the

practical interest of Her Majesty the Queen, Controller-in-Chief, A.T.S.

We have also received great assistance from H.R.H. The Princess Royal, Controller Commandant, A.T.S.

The Hon. Secretary desires to record the continued support of the Director A.T.S. and the constant assistance given to her by the Deputy Director the War Office, by the A.T.S. Council, by A.G. 19, and by all the D.Ds. A.T.S. at Commands in getting the Fund known and appreciated by all ranks of the Service.

Group Commanders, Company Commanders and Officers commanding Training Centres, mixed Regiments, and the small units, all deserve special thanks for their work on behalf of the Fund in 1942.

(Signed) VIOLA APSLEY,

Hon. Secretary, A.T.S. Benevolent Fund
and Chairman, Benevolent Committee.

MISS WARRIOR

The following letter of thanks has been received from Miss Warrior and is published as we feel sure that all members will be pleased to know how much she appreciated the honour of being made a Life member of the Comrades Association and of the "Gazette" by acclamation at the Annual General Meeting on the 27th February last:—

"My dear Mrs. Johnston,—Will you be so good as to convey to the Council at its next meeting my most grateful thanks for the privilege accorded me at the Annual General Meeting on the 27th February. It was the most acceptable and delightful acknowledgment of my work for the Association that could possibly have been devised and I cannot tell you how happy and honoured I feel by my election as a Life member of the Comrades Association and 'Gazette.'

"The 'Gazette' evenings, first at Chelsea and then at Hopkinson House, were always very friendly and cheery ones and when my faithful Committee was dispersed as a result of the war I presently had the satisfaction and pleasure of closer co-operation with Mrs. Johnston at the Helena Club, an association which I relinquished with the greatest regret.

"Through the pages of the 'Gazette' I shall follow the progress of the great joint Association as it goes from strength to strength.

Always yours most sincerely,

15/3/1943.

EDITH M. WARRIOR."

AUXILIARY TERRITORIAL SERVICE

We acknowledge with thanks our indebtedness to "The Times" for the following interesting items of news about the A.T.S.:—

AMMUNITION SALVED BY A.T.S. GIRLS

More than 50 A.T.S. girls have just completed the job of salving £1,000,000 worth of flooded ammunition. Working at a central depot in the north-west, they broke down the ammunition into parts, inspected, cleaned, and made it serviceable again—all to the complete satisfaction of their officers.

These A.T.S. ammunition repairers are in the charge of Second Subaltern Edith Jacobs (22), who is the only ammunition officer in the A.T.S. Her home is at Prestwich, Manchester, and she was a shorthand-typist before joining up two years ago.

A.T.S. ARRIVE IN NAIROBI

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

NAIROBI, March 17th.

Kenya has warmly welcomed the No. 1 A.T.S. clerical company, which is the first unit of the A.T.S. to arrive for service in the East Africa Command. The band of the King's African Rifles met them at Nairobi station and the girls were greatly interested in the colourful scene. Many of them come from London and some from Scotland, Wales and Ireland. Their company commander, Junior Commander Marne Wellis, is from Aberdeen.

We were interested to read of the marriage of the elder daughter of **Senior Commander G. E. Jagger** (who is a member of the Comrades Association), which took place in Alexandria.

Our best wishes for her happiness go to Mrs. Stevenson, who was well known to some of us in the days of Emergency Service as **Diana Serocold**, and who is now a Junior Commander in the A.T.S.

BRANCH REPORTS

Bristol and West of England Branch

Our first meeting of the year was held at Bristol on Saturday, March 20th, at the "Cosy Cafe," Whiteladies Road.

We took this opportunity of combining pleasure with a little business, and had our Annual Meeting. The accounts for the past year were presented and passed as correct by our President. Reference was made to the resignation of Miss Billington, and this Branch sends greetings and thanks to Miss Billington for all her work for our Association.

We had a very good tea, and the time passed all too quickly in exchanging news of members and their children.

We missed Mrs. Cheeseman, who is recovering from influenza, also Miss Smith, who is getting over colitis; greetings and good wishes were sent to these members, whose absence seems to make a very big gap in our ranks.

After the meeting three of us—Sims, Robinson and myself—called to see Nespoli; she is making great headway and is awaiting the arrival of a surgical shoe so that she can again take up civil life with her old vigour.

It was arranged to hold our next meeting in June, probably a tea-party at Clifton Zoo. B. M.

Norfolk

By the light of a beautiful moon, I arrived back in Yarmouth after attending the first meeting with Norfolk Old Comrades for three years.

There was so much to talk about, and as usual when we meet at Branksome Close a most scrumptious meal was provided.

We know, well that such meals cannot be prepared nowadays without sacrifice on the part of the hostess.

There was one fearsome period when some of us thought we should not get our share of that scrumptious tea.

For some reason unknown the lock of the sitting-room door refused to function.

Some of us were inside the room, others outside, the tea was also outside, hence the agitation.

However, with the help of screwdrivers, etc., the lock was forced off and we inside breathed again.

We had one real big disappointment.

At the last moment Mrs. Chilvers was unable to come. Her mother, a wonderful lady of 80, was not well and could not be left right away in the country, so we sent a telegram of regrets and best wishes.

Miss Thomson and Miss McDermott were also unable to come.

The correspondence and balance-sheet were sent along for us to see, but the business was left to the last, as there was so much to say, that there was rather a hurried departure to catch trains and buses.

Before leaving we thanked our hostesses for a most enjoyable time. They are such busy people nowadays that we appreciated more than ever their giving up a precious Saturday afternoon and the time to prepare for it, for our enjoyment, so we left with expressions of sincere gratitude and resolves to meet again ere long. V. RUMBOLD.

North Staffs

North Staffs Branch Report for February and March, 1943:—

We have now changed our time of meeting to the first Friday in the month at 6.30 p.m., at the Nell Gwynne Restaurant. In February we had a social evening with games and supper, to which some of the A.T.S. came. We were sorry to hear that Sergeant Cosgrave had been posted, but glad to hear that she was stationed nearer to her home. In March the "Old Guard" only were present and we were pleased to hear from Miss Carrie Myatt that she had made a sum of £10 for the Prisoners-of-War Fund by a "draw." She had made a most handsome toy elephant, which I am sure will be a great joy to its new owner.

We hope to have Miss Alice Leake at our next meeting. She served in Q.M.A.A.C. at Harfleur and is at present doing catering work in one of the schools in the district.

We are looking forward to having a whist drive in May. Many of our old friends are asking us to have another one and we hope that by then our black-out difficulties will not be quite so acute. H. CLOUGH.

NEWS OF COMRADES OLD AND NEW

Miss Louie Saffery (who served at Chisledon Camp) writes from Vancouver, where she has been for some years. She finds the "Gazette" very interesting and is glad to know that so many of the old Corps are serving again. She wishes that she had been able to do so herself. Saffery says that they get first hand news of what is happening in England from soldiers who return to Canada for various reasons.

Miss K. Simons, who lives in Eastbourne, says that they have had some lively times there, which keep one busy. Her sister, who was for two years in unoccupied France, has been with her since last October. She arrived very ill, absolutely broken down and starved in spite of five weeks in Portugal, where she was well fed and received great kindness.

Robina D'Olier, who is serving in the A.T.S., sends greetings to old Comrades, in particular to Mrs. Rubio, Rattenbury, and other Wimereux folk.

Mrs. C. Parker (who served as Caroline Bott, 3894, at Pont de l'Arche) lives at Vancouver, keeps busy and visits old soldiers of the last war who are still bed-ridden and in hospital. Each week they are given cigarettes and fruit and taken out in bath-chairs by the members of the Lodge to which Mrs. Parker belongs. In addition, they find many ways of helping "Bombed Britain," as she calls this country. She says that the "Gazettes" arrive safely, sometimes in three weeks, and are a great interest.

Mrs. Riach (Clara Stacey, Pont de l'Arche) has had a long and interesting letter from Mrs. Parker, who had seen her name in the "Gazette." They were in the same hut together in France, and the letter recalls many amusing memories. Mrs. Parker was in a big store one day when some raffle tickets were being sold (apparently for some Service object) and got in to conversation with the sellers and found that they, too, were ex-W.A.A.C.s from Pont l'Arche. How small the world is after all. They were **Holland** (now Mrs. Belfield) and **Jennie Evans** (who is now Mrs. Fenton). Mrs. Parker mentions that they are also rationed now in Canada and in some things get less than we do over here.

Mrs. L. M. Jackson (well known to many in the old days as Rogers) was so sorry that she was unable to get to the Annual General Meeting as she would have enjoyed meeting old friends. For three years she has been running a camp for the Women's Land Army in Suffolk, with 130 girls to look after. She sends good wishes to the C.A. and all old Comrades.

It was a great surprise to get a charming Christmas card and a short letter from **Winifred Urquhart**, at one time a member of London Branch and of the Council, who went out to Australia some years ago. She writes that she has been Assistant Secretary of the Returned Soldiers' League for nearly three years at Melbourne. They look after the comfort of the troops. She tried to get into the Army again but she was turned down on account of age. It is sad that some of us were born too soon; however, we might not have had our opportunity of being the pioneers of the women's Services if we had arrived in the world at a later date! Urquhart says: "I would dearly love to see you all again, but the prospects do not look very good. Hope all old friends are safe and well."

Miss Susie Addison writes from Edgecliff (Australia) and sends her subscription for two years for the "Gazette." She tells us that they celebrated the 22nd birthday of the Club at Sydney and have just had their 21st Annual Dinner.

We are grieved to record the death, in August last, of **Mrs. Sarah Robson**. She served as Sarah Pollard, D.A., at Folkestone. Mrs. Robson was the widow of Colonel Robson, C.M.G., D.S.O., J.P., of West Hartlepool, who was well known for his services in the last war. Mrs. Robson volunteered again to serve in this war and carried on well and cheerfully but her strength was not equal to service in the A.T.S., and she was obliged to resign. This notice is very belated, but we did not hear of Mrs. Robson's death until her sister acknowledged the receipt of the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting.

Mrs. P. Marten.—Miss Mair (Leeds) has written to say that Mrs. Marten died suddenly at Deal on January 13th last, and was buried at Leeds. She was a very old member of Leeds Branch; later, she moved to Deal and became a member of London Branch. Not many weeks ago we heard that she was returning to Leeds to live, but before she could do so she died at her home in Deal.

BRANCHES

Active Service	Mrs. A. E. B. Johnston (pro tem), 82, Lancaster Gate, W.2.		
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 Drive, 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 Tyning, 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, 12 Drumsheugh Grdns., Edinburgh	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.	Thursday evenings, 7.30 to 10 p.m.
Ilford.	Miss P. Parker, 4, Richmond Street, Plaistow, E.13.		
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, 2, King's Head Terrace, Great Witchingham, Norfolk.		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.	First Friday in month, 6.30 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.	2nd Tuesday each month at 7.30 p.m.
St. Leonard's.	Miss E. Taylor, 58 West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.	58 West Hill, St. Leonard's-on-Sea.	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.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1942

The Balance Sheet this year incorporates some new features. The expenditure exceeds the Income by £99 18s. 11d., the total expenditure for the year is £17 1s. 4d. more than 1941. This can easily be explained. Stationery and Printing is £14 5s. 4d. more than 1941, owing to the influx of the A.T.S. New receipt books had to be bought, as well as loose leaf-binders for Headquarters records, and, of course, these items have increased in price. The telephone account is also £8 2s. 3d. more than last year. The total income is £53 8s. less than 1941. This is due to the fact that in past years Life subscriptions were not carried forward in any special fund, but credited to Income. This year they are added to Capital.

The Benevolent Fund is also shown separately on the Balance Sheet, which has not been done before. An amount of £21 has been transferred from Capital, this amount being the total of donations received since the last disbursement in 1938.

Donations for the Bren Gun to the end of October, which is the end of the financial year, is shown as £64 4s. 11d. This amount has now been increased to £70.

Under Sundry Creditors, subscriptions paid in advance are shown. Although the A.T.S. paid their subscriptions in October, they were counted as for 1943, and they amount to £140 5s.

During the year 19 new members have joined the O.C.A. and 66 have rejoined. The strength of the respective Branches is as under:—

Branch	Annual	Life	Total
Adelaide	10	1	11
Birmingham	18	3	21
Blackpool	—	—	—
Bournemouth	14	8	22
Bradford	—	—	—
Brighton	24	9	33
Bristol	20	8	28
Cheltenham	2	5	7
Edinburgh	52	27	79
Eire	13	6	19
Glasgow	19	9	28
Headquarters	101	190	291
Leeds	—	15	15
Liverpool	—	6	6
London	140	213	353
Manchester	11	14	25
Newcastle	—	2	2
Norfolk	18	1	19
Northern Ireland	2	3	25
Nottingham	3	1	4
North Staffs	16	—	16
Oxford	16	9	25
Plymouth	—	2	2
South Wales and Cardiff	5	4	9
Tees-Side	—	1	5
St. Leonards and Hastings	—	4	4
Transvaal	—	1	1
	508	542	1,050
Grand total			1,050
Less three members belonging to two Branches			3
			1,047

No Capitation fees have been received during the year from Blackpool, Bradford, Leeds, Liverpool, Newcastle, Plymouth, Hastings and Transvaal. The total Q.M.A.A.C. membership is 1,047 as against 1,068 in 1941, a decrease of 21. The total membership of the A.T.S. is being given in another report.

“ Gazette ” Fund

The Expenditure exceeds the Income by £7 5s. 7d. In 1941 it was £12 19s. 5d. I am pleased to say the receipts have increased by £14 17s. 11d., and although the printing charges have also increased by £22 3s. 6d. the year on the whole has not been too bad. During the year 1942 new and lapsed subscribers have started taking the “Gazette” again, and they number 68.

H. M. BILLINGTON, late Hon. Treasurer.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st OCTOBER, 1942

[illegible]

Balance as at 1st November, 1941	...	...	...	184	13	5
Add Total Receipts during 1941/2	...	...	...	68	10	0
				253	3	5
Less Expenses of Production 1941/2	...	...	...	75	15	7
					177	7 10
					£1,736	8 10

Investments at cost:		
162 National Savings Certificates	129 12 0	
Cash at Bank... ..	47 7 11	
Cash in Hand	7 11	
	177 7 10	
		£1,736 8 10

L. M. HARRIS & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

EXPENDITURE.		£	s.	d.
To Salaries and National Insurance	...	55	17	3
" Treasurer's Honorarium	...	25	0	0
" Fees paid to Branches	...	3	0	0
" Stationery and Printing	...	17	6	8
" Postages	...	11	19	1
" Bank Charges	...		5	0
" Insurance	...		13	0
" Audit Fee	...	8	8	0
" Travelling of Secretary, etc.	...	14	6	0
" Hire of Committee Room	...	1	2	6
" Income Tax	...	14	0	0
" General Expenses	...	4	17	9
" Depreciation of Office Furniture	...	2	19	5
" Telephone	...	11	5	1
		£170	19	9

	INCOME.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Annual Subscriptions	...	...	...	...	...	13	12	6
" Donations—General	...	...	...	...	...	13	0	
" Donations—Augmentation	...	...	...	...	...	11	14	0
" Capitation Fees	...	...	...	...	...	12	7	0
" Profit on sale of Badges	...	...	...	...	...	16	17	0
" War Stock Interest	...	...	...	...	...		4	4
" Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year	...	...	...	...	...	28	0	0
						99	18	11
						£170	19	9