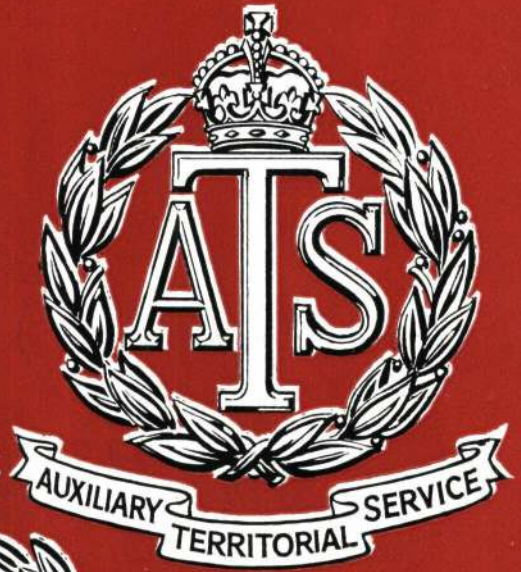


THE LIONESS



Try a Tonic and make it Schweppes



SCHWEPPERESCE LASTS THE WHOLE DRINK THROUGH

Cooking On Call



In an increasing number of Naafi canteens one of the most modern cooking methods is now available to the Service man and woman.

Gone are the days when dishes had to be cooked in advance and kept warm to meet the demands for meals over a prolonged period. With this new method the food is cooked only when ordered yet there is no tiresome delay. A steak by infra-red cooking is perfectly grilled in less than 2 minutes and egg and bacon and similar dishes are ready for the plate in a matter of seconds. Under these conditions the vitamins and natural flavours are retained in the food and the absence of fat for frying ensures that your meal is easier to digest.

This

Go-ahead

NAAFI

The Official Canteen Organisation for H.M. Forces
IMPERIAL COURT, KENNINGTON LANE, LONDON, S.E.11



standing orders . . .

"Belonging to a service family it's been a standing order for three generations that we get our uniforms tailored by Bernard Weatherill. Of course I soon found out they were much more than 'service' tailors—their Ladies Department also make my civilian suits. They've also a system for payment by bankers order and I find that a great help."*

* We have, in fact, enjoyed serving officers of H.M. Forces for more than 55 years as appointed tailors to many famous regiments. More and more officers of the W.R.A.C. are finding that we are equally well equipped to provide the finest civilian suitings. Please call and inspect our materials at your leisure.



BY APPOINTMENT
TO HER MAJESTY
THE QUEEN
DRIVING CLOTHES SUITING
A LIVERY TAILORS

*Appointed Tailors
to the
W.R.A.C.*

Bernard Weatherill Ltd

55 CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W.1

and at 47 HIGH STREET, ALDERSHOT

Contents

	PAGE
Editorial	41
London Gazette	41
Twenty Years Ago	42
Obituary	44
Corps Day Overseas	46
Sport	47
Golden Jubilee of the Territorial Army ..	48
W.R.A.C. (T.A.) News	50
W.R.A.C. Depot	53
Outward Bound	53
12th Battalion	54
8 Independent Company	55
Co-ordinating Committee	55
News from the Branches	56
Reunions	59
W.R.A.C. Headquarter Mess	60
Officers' Postings	60
Personal	60

A MESSAGE

from the Chairman of HER MAJESTY'S FORCES SAVINGS COMMITTEE

IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY started saving, you should try to develop the savings habit while you are in the Services.

There are excellent facilities for saving in all Units of the Services in every part of the world—in fact the slogan of H.M. Forces Savings Committee is "Wherever you serve, you can save."

We have an excellent series of leaflets (as illustrated above) which tell in simple language all about Forces Savings.

Why not write for a copy of the leaflet which applies to your Service? Write to me personally:—

Air Chief Marshal Sir Hugh Saunders,
GCB, KBE, MC, DFC, MM.

Chairman, H.M. Forces Savings Committee,
1, Princes Gate, London, S.W.7.

W.R.A.C. ASSOCIATION ADDRESS BOOK

General Secretary

(to whom all communications should be addressed re Membership and Distribution of *The Lioness*, Personal Column and Box Numbers)

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

Editor

(Contributions to the Journal, except the Personal Column.)

Colonel S. M. Crawley,
War Office (AG. 16), Stanmore, Middlesex

Advertisement Representative

Nuview Advertising (Maj. E. O. Coven (Retd.))
22 Cadogan Court, Draycott Avenue, London, S.W.3
Phone: KENington 8296

Charges

Personal column: 3 lines 3s., each additional line 1s., non-members 50% more. Box Numbers 6d. Reunion notices: Notices of forthcoming reunions where admission is charged may be inserted at a cost of 1s. a line.

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR NEXT ISSUE BY
SEPTEMBER 30**

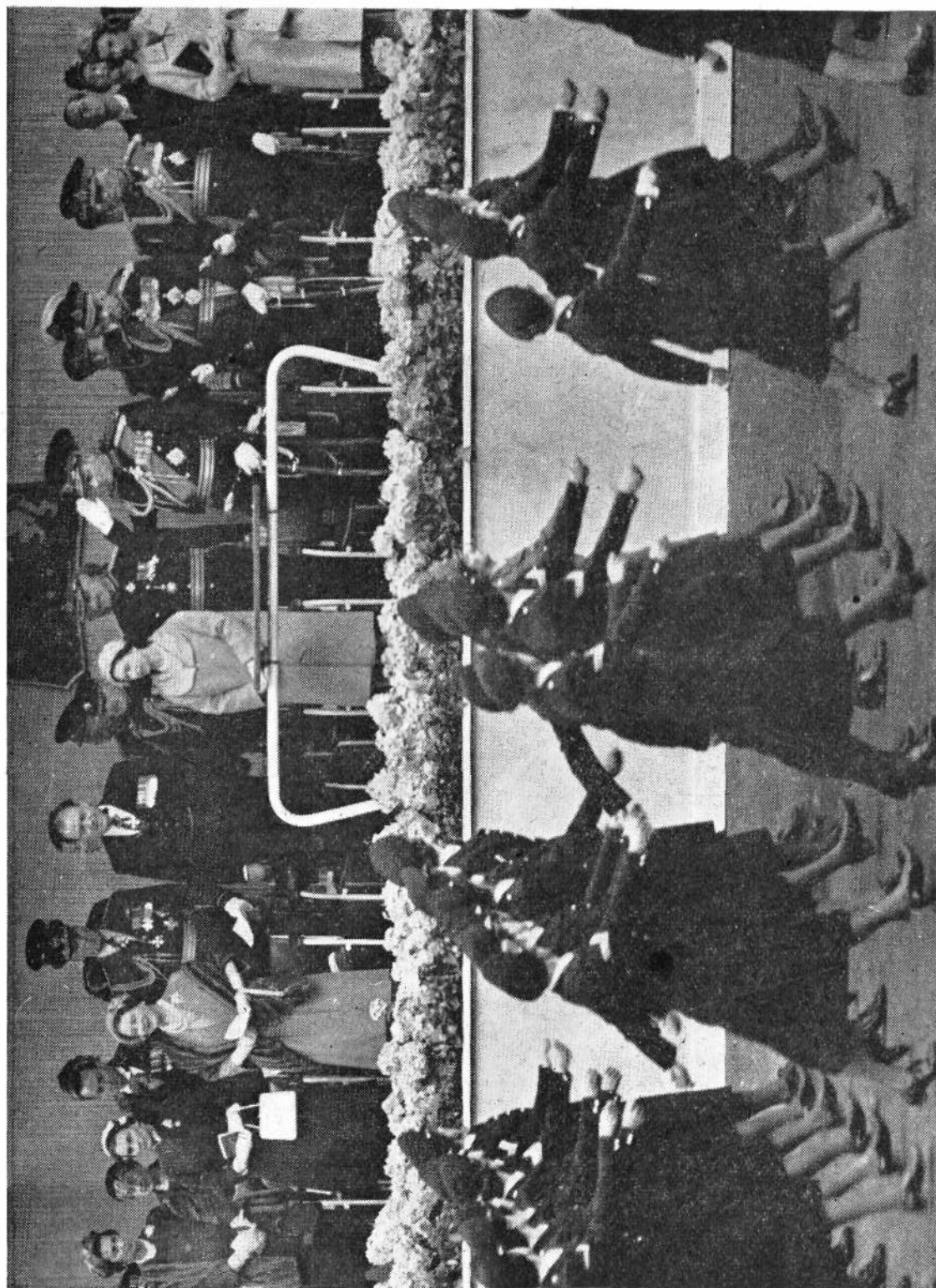


Photo by P.A.-Reuter

THE GOLDEN JUBILEE OF THE TERRITORIAL ARMY
A Detachment of W.R.A.C. (T.A.) passes the Saluting Base in Hyde Park



THE LIONESS

Vol. XXXI

August 1958

No. 3

EDITORIAL

HISTORY may be more easily recognised by those who read it than by those who build it, but there are moments when we embark on a new undertaking which seems even at the time to be more than a personal adventure. Last year we looked back to one of those significant moments, on the fortieth anniversary of the formation of the first Women's Service. This year we celebrate two more—the Golden Jubilee of the Territorial Army, and the twentieth anniversary of the formation of the A.T.S. The coincidence of dates is a happy one, accentuating the pride and joy with which the women are playing their part in the tremendous Jubilee celebrations all over the United Kingdom.

THERE may have been a few crusty old regular soldiers in 1908 who viewed the new Citizen Army with gloom and misgiving. There were certainly many thirty years later who distrusted the innovation of women in the peacetime Services. If there are any left who feared the undermining of our traditional standards by these unorthodox ventures, they had their answer when the Territorial Army of 1958 swung past their Sovereign in the Jubilee Review, bands playing, Colours flying, every marching man and woman doing credit by bearing and turnout to the years of voluntary training and discipline, every face stamped with the enthusiasm, pride and loyalty on which military tradition is built up.

MANY of us who watched the members of the M.W.R.A.C. (T.A.) parading in No. 1 Dress as an integral part of their Command Contingents must have looked back with a wistful amusement to the first struggling months of the A.T.S. of twenty years ago. In this issue we publish a birthday page of reminiscences which contrast poignantly with the precision and polish displayed by the well-established Service of 1958. Most A.T.S. readers could contribute a few of such memories. Our own favourite picture is of our first Company Office, a dark corner curtained off with hessian from the Drill Hall, in which, as an earnest and conscientious Company Assistant, we were permitted to spend one unscheduled evening a week catching up with those dreaded Part II Orders. On that evening our T.A. Unit did not train, and the hall was allotted to the Women's League of Health and Beauty, so that we approached our office by weaving shyly through close-packed ranks of lightly clad ladies rhythmically waving their plump pink arms in every direction.

AS we grow older, anniversaries tend to take on a greater importance, and the milestones behind us grow more vivid than the signposts in front. The Jubilee Review reminded us that the glory of the T.A. does not lie in the fact that it was formed in 1908, but that it goes on still from strength to strength with a record of unstinted service through two world wars and many uneasy and frustrating years of peace. The A.T.S. achieved much in the ten years of its existence, but its greatest achievement of all was the creation of the Corps which succeeded it, serving on with the same spirit under a different badge, as a permanent part of the Regular and Territorial Army. The shadow of decay will never fall on us, as a nation or as an army or as individuals, as long as we confidently believe that the greatest pages of our history have still to be written. The A.T.S. bugler on our first recruiting poster called us to army service in 1938 and she calls us still, with the same rousing insistence, to fill the honourable place which the A.T.S. prepared for us. Her uniform may be laid away in a Regimental Museum with the scarlet and blue of the first splendid Territorials, but let us make no mistake about it—the bugle call which she sounds is not the Last Post, it is the Reveille.

London Gazette

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Birthday Honours:

O.B.E.: Major Lady Martha Bruce (T.A.).
M.B.E.: Major A. M. Metcher, Capt. M. K. Reid (T.A.), Capt. G. E. Simmonds.
B.E.M.: S/Sgt. A. C. Spears.
T.D.: Major B. J. Turner (T.A.), Capt. I. Holmes, M.B.E. (T.A.), Capt. G. R. Pyke (T.A.).

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

REGULAR ARMY

Lieutenant-Colonel: M. D. M. Humphery.

Major: O. W. Watt, J. E. Rodway.

Captain: E. M. Miseroy, C. A. F. Smith.

Lieutenant: D. P. Chandler, B. J. Stone, J. L. Joaquim, A. M. M. Clissitt, C. S. McFarlane, M. G. Garrett.

RETIREMENTS, ETC.

REGULAR ARMY

Retirements on retired pay: Lt.-Col. D. S. Gray, Lt.-Col. M. M. Berry, Major (Hon. Lt.-Col.) M. H. Rainsford, O.B.E.

Retirements with gratuity: Major K. M. Foggitt; Capt. M. Morley, H. Matthews.

Resignations: Capt. J. M. Lester, S. M. Powell; Lts. M. I. Best, P. Kitchenor (Blakeley), M. M. E. Bateson, J. D. Gordon, H. P. Ogden, B. M. Hickey; Lt. (Q.M.) G. F. Masterton (Porteous).

Short-Service Commissions

Resignation: Capt. E. L. Morgan.

Honorary Colonels

The following have been appointed Honorary Colonel:

Lt.-Col. V. K. Stead, O.B.E., T.D., to 305 (E. and W. Riding) Battalion, W.R.A.C. (T.A.).

The Duchess of Devonshire, to 307 (Northern Command) Battalion, W.R.A.C. (T.A.).

Lady Tweedsmuir, M.P., to 316 (Scottish Command) Battalion, W.R.A.C. (T.A.).

TWENTY YEARS AGO

ROYAL WARRANT

Formation of the **Auxiliary Territorial Service**

GEORGE R.I.

WHEREAS WE deem it expedient to provide an organisation whereby certain non-combatant duties in connection with Our Military and Air Forces may from time to time be performed by women; OUR WILL AND PLEASURE Is that there shall be formed an organisation to be designated the Auxiliary Territorial Service; OUR FURTHER WILL AND PLEASURE Is that women may be enrolled in this Service under such conditions and subject to such qualifications as may be laid down by Our Army Council from time to time.

Given at Our Court at St. James's this 9th day of September, 1938, in the 2nd year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command

LESLIE HORE-BELISHA

THEN AND NOW

W/140 R.S.M. SYBIL GLOVER, W.R.A.C.

THIS year we celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the T.A. and also the 20th anniversary of the formation of the A.T.S. I cannot go back to the beginning of the T.A., but I can claim to be one of the earliest recruits into the A.T.S. In this 20th year I find myself serving again with the T.A. in the H.Q. where I first joined the A.T.S. This tempts me to look back on those early days and compare them with the W.R.A.C. (T.A.) today.

Why did one join the A.T.S. in 1938? There were various reasons, some patriotic, some purely selfish. I joined as a result of seeing a picture in a paper of girls driving Army vehicles and decided it would be fun to be one of them. Having been in the F.A.N.Y. I was rather rapidly raised to the terrifying rank of a Section Leader—terrifying because I found myself a supposed fount of knowledge when in fact I knew no more than the rest. The training we could cope with, but what really called for courage was walking through London in uniform—and what ill-fitting uniforms some of

them were in the early days. In spite of that and the cryptic comments, we were very proud to be in khaki. One well-remembered incident occurred in those early days. Gas drill was the order of the day. Marching women down the street, to my horror I spotted an officer approaching on the right. Determined to do the right thing I prepared to pay the necessary compliment and gave my squad a smart eyes left.

On the outbreak of war the T.A. was mobilised. For me and 50 others this meant a move to Campden Hill where we lived in two condemned houses without electricity or water. The worst possible conditions, but we did not complain and, oddly enough, as the war progressed our living conditions improved.

With the end of the war one wondered what was going to happen, and whether women would still be required in the Army. The answer came with the formation of the W.R.A.C. in 1949. A year earlier the A.T.S. (T.A.) had re-formed. I continued to serve and in my spare time gave what help I could to a local T.A. unit which started in 1948. Since 1950 I have been serving on the Permanent Staff of a T.A. Battalion, during which

time a vast number of women have passed through my hands. Are they any different from those girls who joined in 1938? Not really—they join to do something different in their spare time and to make new friends, and they too are proud to wear uniform.

THE FIRST OF THE MANY

DIANA STEVENSON (J. COMD. SEROCOLD, A.T.S.)

BY 1938 the Emergency Service, which had started in 1935 with eight young women who were able to undertake spare-time voluntary training, had grown to about 20. They attended lectures in military history and tradition, military law, and various administrative subjects, they did practical training in lecturing and, of course, drill and physical training. Besides a week's camp on three or four occasions at Abbott's Hill School, several afternoon or evening courses were held in London under the auspices of either the Army or the R.A.F.

When the anxious summer of 1938 culminated in the Munich crisis in late September the A.T.S. was formed and a School of Instruction was set up to train officers who had been appointed to the new Service by County Commandants (themselves nominated by the Lord-Lieutenants of Counties, since the A.T.S. was to be raised under the auspices of local T.A. Associations). Those who had already received some training in Emergency Service came forward as instructors in the school, but as there were more potential instructors than were needed at the first course those who were living in London offered themselves to the County of London. Their services were at once made use of, to go round the Drill Halls of the London units and find out in what numbers and categories women could be employed, and also to interview with a view to enrolment those who responded to the appeal of the recruiting advertisements.

In those days most of the Companies were General Duties Companies consisting of cooks, clerks, storekeepers and orderlies. The Higher Establishment had two officers, one Senior Leader, comparable with a W.O.2, and 52 other ranks; the Lower Establishment Company was about half that size. It was generally found that the T.A. units to which the new Companies were attached were wonderfully kind and co-operative—Adjutants and Orderly Room staff helped with Part II Orders (Part I Orders remained a mystery for some months until we went to camp), Q.M.s took endless trouble to explain forms and to help to fill them in, and P.S.I.s helped with drill. Luckily A.T.S. Companies never paraded together in those days, as they were generally instructed by the P.S.I.s in the unit's drill, so that A.T.S. attached to T.A. Battalions of the Rifle Brigade or 60th marched at a rifleman's pace, while those attached to the London Scottish marched at the same pace as the London Scottish, and in the case of A.T.S. attached to Yeomanry Regiments they were instructed in dismounted cavalry drill. The Drill Hall was made available to the A.T.S. Company one night a week, very often on Friday, and the training went steadily forward.

COUNTY COMMANDANT

COL. JULIA COWPER (RETIRED)

LOOKING back to the summer of 1938 is like trying to recapture another world. The only thing I can remember in common with that of today is a constant, nagging anxiety about something over which one has no control.

I was very busy, embroiled in most of the committees in the county and up to my neck in the work of the National Fitness Campaign. We knew this work was likely to be of value if the ominous clouds of war really gathered, but there seemed to be little other opportunity to do anything more active. Then my mother came back from a visit to the south one day and said she had heard of some organisation of motor drivers who worked with the R.A.S.C., so when a strange woman rolled up a few days later and said she was enrolling recruits for the Women's Transport Section of the Women's Legion I joined with alacrity, under the impression that it was the same thing. I am sure that my record of attending two rallies made me into one of the thousands of "fully trained women" Lady Londonderry was at that moment promising to bring into the A.T.S. if it should ever be formed.

During the Munich crisis it seems to me now that the whole earth stood still. My only memory is one of planting crocuses while a loud-speaker blared forth the latest news of Mr. Chamberlain's efforts to avert war. I was on the telephone to the adjutant of the nearest T.A. unit volunteering to join the A.T.S. before the announcement of its formation was really complete. The next day Mr. Chamberlain came back brandishing his agreement with Hitler, and though our names remained on the record at the Drill Hall the urgency faded, and I went back to my interminable committees.

So completely had I forgotten the panic of that week that when the job of County Commandant was offered to me I almost decided that I had not the time to take it on, but my father told me sternly to give up something else and not talk nonsense. My enrolment forms were completed and despatched to the War Office and I sat back waiting to hear what should happen next.

One night the local Territorials held a prize-giving, followed by a dance. As my father had commanded the Battalion after his retirement from the Regular Army, we were sitting in the second row surrounded by people in mess kit and officials from the T.A. Association. It was cold in the hall and I was wearing my fur coat as the platform party climbed the steps. Speeches went much as usual until the Divisional Commander began to be facetious about "the fair sex," prophesying a great increase in recruiting when the citizens of Lancaster heard that they would soon have the "Wats" in their midst in camp and out. He finished up by announcing that the "Wat Commandant" had been appointed and was in the room. I sank deeper and deeper into the big collar of my fur coat as the speech went on.

In the end that evening was a godsend. Sir John Brown was there, the Director-General of the Territorial Army, and also Sir Henry Jackson,

C-in-C. Western Command, and Col. Bradley, Secretary of the T.A. Association. There was a moment when I stood, still in my fur coat, backed against an extremely hot radiator, and surrounded by all these notables. I was fighting my first fight in the Army. All I needed was a clerk, and I wanted authority to engage one the next day. Fascinated, I watched them argue as to who was responsible for getting me one, and I got hotter and hotter as I continued to stick to my ground. By the end I had not only clerk but an office as well.

The next morning I went to Preston, established an office, engaged a clerk, enrolled her as a Senior Leader, and the West Lancashire (North) County Headquarters of the A.T.S. was formed.

THE OLD SCHOOL

DAME HELEN GWYNNE VAUGHAN, G.B.E.

IN the early days of the A.T.S. I was fortunate in finding myself in charge of the School of Instruction for Officers. I look back on it, its instructors and its students with special affection. It would have been hard to find a more interesting duty.

The school had as few amenities as a formation of the kind could possibly have. It possessed no accommodation of its own but subsisted in a T.A. drill hall and corporals' room. Each course lasted only five and a half days because the drill hall was needed for Territorial training at weekends as well as every evening. Most of the assistant instructors had never taught before, and moreover, had company duty in the evenings and sometimes paid work during the day. Yet what excellent work they and their syndicates did.

Between the opening in October 1938 and the declaration of war we held 13 courses of 90 to 100 officers each, training nearly as many for the R.A.F. as for the Army, and even an occasional Wren. County Commandants came to the early courses in considerable numbers, so that it was possible to group them in special syndicates and to set apart a conference room where they got to know one another and had a chance to discuss their problems. Most of them gallantly started from complete ignorance of the Army and its ways.

Most of the lectures were given by the staff of the school, but we had also excellent visiting lecturers; it was one of them, speaking of correspondence, who provided the rule which delighted his feminine audience: "Always pass the baby up and not down." Realising how small a part of any lecture remains in the memory of those who listen, we provided shorthand transcripts or full summaries which were sold for just enough to cover the cost. One on which I had spent much thought was unkindly known as the Penny Uplift.

Drill was taught partly by Guards N.C.O.s, partly by our own instructors. It was one of them who, having marched her squad into an impasse, achieved the unique order "Backwards, March!" which, wonderful to relate, the squad managed to carry out. On the demand of the students we pro-

Obituary

MISS L. GARRETT

Bradford Branch reports with very deep regret the untimely death on May 23, 1958, of their former chairman and friend, Miss Lucie Esther Garrett. She died at her home in Lightcliffe, near Halifax, after two operations. Lucy joined the A.T.S. in the London area in 1939, but later served in Yorkshire after her family had been evacuated there. She had the rank of C.S.M. She was very well known in the Halifax area, respected and loved by all she came in contact with on account of her friendly manner and generous heart. On her release from the Service she became one of the staunchest members of Bradford Comrades Association, serving it in many capacities until in January 1958 illness compelled her to resign from the office of chairman. She will be sorely missed as our representative to the Northern Area Committee, as she had the courage of her convictions and was never afraid to put forward any suggestion that she thought would be to the advantage of the Corps. She had a great flair for writing and was our press correspondent, sending notices of branch and area activities to *The Lioness*, etc. She was a member of the Bradford Writers' Circle and had a pen-friend in America. She was intensely interested in the Corps Chapel, and had embroidered a kneeler for it. In civilian life she had an important job and was very highly regarded by the directors and staff and, indeed, by everybody who knew her. Throughout her illness her room was like a bower of flowers, and letters and cards reached her by every post. We owe a deep debt of gratitude to her sister Ada for her devoted nursing and loving care of our dear comrade. Our Standard will be paraded at the City Somme Parade and Bradford members will lay a wreath on the Cenotaph to mark her services.

MRS. HARNETT

Eleanor Harnett, who died on June 19, 1958, in the Isle of Wight, joined the A.T.S. in September, 1938, and was appointed Deputy County Commandant in the County of London. She was a most capable officer with considerable powers of organisation, and did much to clear up the early difficulties of the area in which she worked. Already before the A.T.S. was formed, Mrs. Harnett had given valuable help, as a representative of Emergency Service. She had served on the War Office committee which considered preliminaries, she had interested herself especially in questions of military law, and she had shared in the training of potential officers. After the declaration of war she held various responsible posts with the rank of Chief Commander.

vided examples of ceremonial, such as inspections by County Commandants.

Cadet Wings and O.C.T.U.s followed later with reasonable periods of training and adequate conditions, but even they owed something to the original Officers' School.



for
Her....

We carry a treasure-load — always at least £10,000 worth — of priceless, much-prized Pringle Cashmeres — wonderful investments that pay handsome dividends in wear and beauty. We stock a dozen colours, six sizes, many styles. All at personal export prices that show big savings. No waiting — no bother. Every Cashmere you want is in stock and our *Pattern card* is free on request.

The Pringle CASHMERE BANK

at

MARSHALL & Snelgrove
OXFORD STREET,
LONDON, W.1.



● Marshall & Snelgrove is a high-class Store situated in Oxford Street at the top of Bond Street



UNIFORMS

TAILORS TO THE SERVICES FOR 80 YEARS

MOSS BROS
OF COVENT GARDEN W.C.2

Nearest Station Leicester Square
Temple Bar 4477

CORPS DAY OVERSEAS

Gibraltar

CORPS DAY in Gibraltar was warm with brilliant sunshine and blue skies. The flowers and shrubs growing around the W.R.A.C. building—Princess Royal block—were at their best and made a fine show. In the morning, 18 Independent Company attended a special parade service in St. Barbara's Garrison Church, Europa. It was a touching and impressive service conducted by the Rev. K. J. Till, D.A.C.G. The singing was excellent and the church was filled with friends and well-wishers. Also present were several visitors to Gibraltar who had an interest in the Corps and, having read in the local press of our celebrations, came along to join us.

After the service the salute at a march past was taken by Lt.-Col. M. H. Scott, M.C., a/C.R.A. and Commanding Officer of 54 A.A. Regiment, R.A. The gunners are leaving the Rock after nearly 2½ centuries and we made Corps Day an occasion for honouring the Royal Regiment with which we have been so closely connected. The W.R.A.C. first came to Gibraltar in October, 1952, as members of the then 94 (New Zealand) Mixed H.A.A. Battery of 54 A.A. Regiment. In 1955, when mixed batteries ceased to exist, 18 Independent Company was formed and 94 Battery was reorganised. However, we remained close to our original unit and are still sharing 94 Battery's other ranks' mess and N.A.A.F.I. The W.R.A.C. in Gibraltar are very sad to see the gunners disappear from the scene. On duty they have been our helpers and advisers and socially they have been our very good friends and companions.

After the march past representatives of 54 A.A. Regiment together with their wives were entertained at a sherry party in Princess Royal block. We continued our Corps Day celebrations by having the traditional unit "At Home." Games and sideshows took place out of doors. Tea was served indoors and many visitors took the opportunity of inspecting the living quarters.

F.A.R.E.L.F.

THIS year 4 Independent Company was brave enough to put on a five-day Corps Week of activities without exhausting either their enthusiasm or their wind. The junior ranks staged a very successful revue entitled (rather incongruously for the tropics) "Spring Fever." It played two nights at the R.E.M.E. theatre and provided active support for the fund which was raising money to send Singaporean athletes to the Asian games in Tokyo. This all-female show (bar the P.R. compère), originally sponsored by Radio Malaya, went through every sort of casualty before opening, but in the end it was a great and well-deserved triumph for Cpl. Wragg, the producer, and the individuals who put so much time and talent into it.

The sports afternoon was an innovation. The athletic events provided a good trial for the district

and G.H.Q. athletics meetings and the displays organised by Sgt. Thurgood (*née* Bridger) were a creditable swan-song before her retirement to married life. The fencing display advertised the fact that the W.R.A.C. in Singapore have some very promising fencers (Hong Kong, too, is preparing to send back some experts to compete in U.K.) and the display of Scottish country dancing fully justified our experiment of having a P.T.I. in the tropics to encourage the more graceful and less strenuous ways of keeping Service women fit. The congregation of Service families was an opportunity not to be missed for recruiting propaganda; the overseas enlistment scheme which sends recruits home to be trained is not widely known, and a stand with an attractive display of photographs was manned the whole afternoon. Members of the Singapore Branch of the W.R.A.C. Association were also "on show" to chat with ex-Service wives in the audience.

The usual all ranks' dance was held, its successful organisation being largely due to R.S.M. Clarke's efforts during her first Corps Week overseas. The service at St. George's Garrison Church on the Sunday was well attended and the Benevolent Fund well supported by the offertory collection. The smart turn-out of the women who paraded for the march past was the subject of general comment and many photographs. The W.R.A.C. officers entertained a smaller number of guests than usual owing to a concentration of official and social functions during the week, but their cocktail party was gay and marked by much well-wishing to Lt.-Col. Allerton on her arrival and Lt.-Col. Pooley on departure.

During W.R.A.C. Corps Week, 22 Independent Platoon in Hong Kong don their No. 3 dress and advertise themselves in their own small way. There is a good deal of talent in this unit as well and the skiffle group has continued to put on successful shows for local charities and their own social functions.

SPORT

FENCING

THE Army (Women's) Fencing Championship held at the Army School of Physical Training on May 5, 1958, was won by Capt. J. Tappin with 8 victories. O/Cadet P. A. Binny came second with 7 victories, and Pte. A. V. Janman third with 5. These three made up the Army team for the Inter-Services (Women's) Fencing Championships at Portsmouth on May 14, which resulted in a win for the W.R.N.S. (13 victories) over the Army (11 victories) and the W.R.A.F. (3 victories).

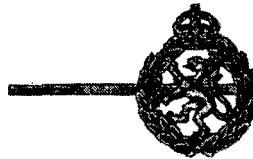
In the Final Pool of the Women's Services Foil Championship at the Royal Tournament, Earls Court, on June 10, 1958, L/Wren Brooks, W.R.N.S., was the winner with 5 victories, Capt. Tappin came second with 4, Pte. Janman third with 3, and 3rd Officer Strong, W.R.N.S., fourth with 2. The first four fenced in the evening in a match between the Combined Services and an L.A.F.U. team, and were defeated by 9 victories to 7.



BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
GOLDSMITHS & CROWN JEWELLERS

The badge of your Corps..

GARRARD & CO. LTD.
(formerly *The Goldsmiths & Silversmiths Company Ltd.*) have for many years specialised in the production of badge jewellery.



Women's Royal Army Corps
Gold and Enamel
Home £8 . 5 . 0
Export £6 . 5 . 0



Gold and Enamel
Home £14 . 7 . 6
Export £10 . 5 . 0

Here is illustrated the badge of your Corps, fashioned into a brooch, and produced in gold and enamel. If desired, these very attractive brooches can be set with diamonds or other precious stones for which designs and estimates are submitted without charge. Great care is taken to ensure correctness of detail, and expert workmanship is assured.

GARRARD & CO. LTD.

Crown Jewellers

formerly THE GOLDSMITHS & SILVERSMITHS COMPANY LTD.

112 REGENT STREET • LONDON • W.1

TELEPHONE: REGENT 3021

GOLDEN JUBILEE OF

England

EIGHT months of intensive preparation—selecting of representatives, fitting of uniform, practising and polishing, drilling and briefing—preceded Saturday, June 21, when special trains brought the Command contingents up to London for the Review by H.M. The Queen in Hyde Park on the 22nd. All women were accommodated at Richmond Park Camp, where infinite trouble had been taken to make them welcome and comfortable, and on Sunday morning coaches brought the detachments to the Duke of York's Headquarters, where again the organisation was wonderful. Rain was falling steadily during the morning, but had stopped by the time we arrived in Hyde Park at 12.30 p.m. Shoes got very muddy in the wet grass, and polishing cloths were passed round to try to restore some shine. Before proceeding to the Parade Ground we removed our greatcoats and left them (with some misgivings) on the ground beside us.

At 2 o'clock bands marched the contingents on to the Parade ground, and we really felt proud to be part of such a very large parade. Detachments stretched as far as the eye could see, with heels to the white lines which had managed faintly to survive the morning's rain. After a long wait, the strains of the National Anthem at last announced the arrival of The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh. The Royal Salute was given, and the review began. The Queen and Duke, standing high in their Land Rover, could be seen the whole time as they travelled backwards and forwards the length of the Parade, the Queen looking perfectly lovely in a soft apricot-coloured coat and hat. The central band played cheerful airs, and everyone waited for the thrilling moment when the Royal Land Rover would pass in front of her detachment. Pride, loyalty and gratitude for this great chance were on every face as The Queen passed by. We so hoped that in spite of the weather our turnout was a credit to our Corps, and we were glad that we did not have to disturb it by removing our hats when the "Three Cheers" echoed out at the end.

After the departure of the Royal Family to the saluting base, the contingents marched off one by one with their bands, and it was during this wait to march past that terrific thunder was heard and lightning seen some miles away. The storm held off until all but Western Command had passed the saluting base. The women marched magnificently, in spite of being in each case in the last detachment of the Command, which made it difficult to hear orders and brought the band behind into earshot. We were clapped by spectators the length of the parade, and our faces glowed with pride as we reached the official stands and the Royal Dais, where practically the whole of the Royal Family, the Prime Minister, Government Ministers and many senior Army Officers paid tribute to the Territorial Army by their presence.

Then came the storm, and in a very few minutes uniforms were drenched, men's white belts were running, and we were marching through muddy torrents, but on went the parade, swinging by, smartly as before, and infinitely encouraged by the crowds of spectators who stayed to watch and cheer, and get soaked as well. Everyone on parade felt the same—the Review had gone through and nothing else mattered. The W.R.A.C. retrieved their soaking greatcoats from puddles, accepted scalding mugs of tea, changed back into khaki, and caught their special trains home in a daze of unreality. It had been a wonderful weekend, and one that will be remembered and recounted for a lifetime.

Scotland

FORTUNE favoured the Territorials behind the "Tartan Curtain" on Saturday, July 5, for their Golden Jubilee Parade. In brilliant sunshine, with a cool breeze blowing from the heights of Salisbury Crags, some 140 W.R.A.C. (T.A.) lined up on Queen's Park for the parade which was to be the highlight of the Jubilee celebrations. Early morning "Army Specials" had brought them into the capital from as far away as Wick and Thurso (their most northerly strongholds), from Dumfries in the south and Campbelltown in the west, as well as from the central Highlands and from the Scottish Universities, not forgetting those of 317 (Stirling) Battalion just back from their camp exercises in Northern France.

By 2.30 p.m. they stood side by side with some 3,000 Highland and Lowland troops upon the parade ground, the green of the No. 1 Dress mingling to perfection with that of the kilts and trews of the men. After the inspection by Her Majesty The Queen and H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh from their Land-Rover, specially built by R.E.M.E. Workshops for such occasions, the march past began to the haunting and wistful music of the Pipes and Drums of the various Scottish T.A. Regiments. With proud carriage and erect bearing, marching to their native music on their native soil, they swung past the Royal saluting base. Their smart "Eyes right" gave one the impression that they were determined not to miss this chance of really "seeing their Queen" whose uniform they so proudly wore and in whose Service they are so proudly enrolled.

The spirit of the T.A. was surely never more strongly felt in peace-time, not only by those taking part in this memorable parade but also by the hundreds of serving and ex-Service persons and by the 16,000 sightseers spread over the heights. That remarkable spirit must have been caught by everyone who watched the thousands of marching troops as they swung away out of view round the base of the hills, followed by the armoured and scout cars and mounted guns of the Royal Artillery. A proud day, indeed, for the Scottish W.R.A.C. (T.A.).

THE TERRITORIAL ARMY

Northern Ireland

HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH, the Queen Mother, reviewed the Territorial Army Units in Northern Ireland at the Royal Naval Air Station, Sydenham, Belfast, on May 10, 1958. There were 3,000 on parade representative of all units, and this included nine officers and 160 other ranks of the W.R.A.C. drawn from 328 (Ulster) Battalion W.R.A.C. (T.A.), 351 (Ulster) Battalion W.R.A.C. (T.A.) and Queen's University Contingent O.T.C. It was a matter of particular pride to the W.R.A.C. that Her Majesty The Queen Mother, Commandant-in-Chief of our Corps, was to review the parade. The sun shone brilliantly throughout the afternoon, and the Air Station made a superb setting for the review. Before the arrival of the Queen Mother the guests were entertained by the Band of the 1st Battalion The Royal Warwickshire Regiment and the Band of the Irish Guards, followed by the massed Drums and Pipes of seven Territorial Army Bands, looking very smart in their blue and green jackets and saffron kilts. The Pipes and Drums continued to play while the units marched on parade. The C.I.G.S. arrived, accompanied by the G.O.C. Northern Ireland District, and so all was ready for the arrival of the Royal procession.

Cheers from the crowds surrounding the Parade Ground heralded the approach of the Queen Mother, accompanied by the Governor, Lord Wakehurst, and then the trumpeters of the North Irish Horse and 661 (Ulster) Field Regiment R.A. (T.A.) sounded a fanfare. Her Majesty was received with a Royal Salute and the guests in the Royal Enclosure were presented. The Queen Mother, wearing a coat and dress of steel-blue silk, and a close-fitting hat of matching flowers with a small veil, drove along the ranks in a Land Rover and inspected the parade, and then Her Majesty addressed the parade from a dais decked with a beautiful display of spring flowers.

The parade marched past Her Majesty under the command of Brigadier J. Drummond, D.S.O., Commander 107 (Ulster) Independent Infantry Brigade Group (T.A.), Lt.-Col. D. H. I. Wilson, A.D.W.R.A.C., Northern Ireland District and O.C. 328 (Ulster) Battalion W.R.A.C. (T.A.), was the senior woman officer on parade. The marching of the W.R.A.C. was superb, the eyes-right when passing the saluting base unequalled by any of the other units. The Queen Mother seemed greatly impressed by these women and continued to watch them as they marched off the Parade Ground.

It was now time for the Royal visitor to depart and she stepped into the Royal car while Sgt. B. Blackshaw, W.R.A.C., held the door and saluted. The Band of the 1st Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment played the National Anthem and Her Majesty drove round the Parade Ground waving to the cheering crowds before finally departing by the Royal approach.

The Guildhall Reception

THE DOWAGER VISCOUNTESS TRENCHARD

I WAS sent an invitation to the Guildhall on June 27 at 8 p.m., to the Corporation of London's reception to the Territorial Units of the City of London, celebrating the Golden Jubilee of the Territorial Army; and I was proud to go to represent the City of London A.T.S.

The Lord Major, Sir Denis Truscott, made a welcoming speech and mentioned all the units, and a reply was given by Brigadier A. D. McKechnie, Chairman of the City of London Territorial and Auxiliary Forces Association, from the dais. The pikemen and musketeers of the Honourable Artillery Company were on duty, looking wonderful in their uniforms, marching up to and on to the dais where some of us stood.

I have vivid recollections of how kind and helpful the City of London was to us all in our most ignorant days in 1939. To encourage us they gave us their emblem of the City Sword to wear on our left sleeves, which we were very proud to do. The sword is still worn by our successors, 326 (City of London) Battalion W.R.A.C. (T.A.), whose Honorary Colonel, Lady Bowyer-Smyth, was also at the reception. Brigadier M. K. R. Colvin, D.W.R.A.C., represented the W.R.A.C.

The Belfast Reception

THE evening reception given by the officers of the Territorial Army in the Ulster Hall, Belfast, was a glittering occasion and a fitting climax to a memorable day. The hall is normally used for concerts, but for the reception it was transformed by the Colours and Drums, the flowers, and a wonderful display of Regimental Silver which included the porringer presented to the W.R.A.C. Staff College by H.R.H. The Princess Royal. The display of silver was guarded by officers of the Irish Regiments in full dress uniform. Each regiment and corps had its own Mess table with staff in attendance. The Band of the North Irish Horse and Pipe Majors from the Irish Regiments played on the balcony during the evening, and the uniforms of the officers and evening dresses of the ladies made a gay and colourful scene.

The arrival of H.M. Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother, was heralded by a fanfare sounded by buglers of the 6th Battalion Royal Ulster Rifles (T.A.). Her Majesty entered the hall accompanied by Lt.-General Sir Brian Kimmins, followed by His Excellency the Governor and Lady Wakehurst and other distinguished guests. As Her Majesty entered, a quite involuntary hush fell over the assembled company, and it was not until the Royal Party had reached the centre of the hall that there was a spontaneous and sincere burst of applause. Her Majesty in a beautiful white crinoline dress,

embroidered in sparkling blue and wearing the sash of the Order of the Garter, with a wonderful diamond tiara and necklace, was a sight which none of those present will forget.

After meeting the distinguished guests on the stage, Her Majesty moved round the hall and many presentations were made. It was evident that Her Majesty had been greatly impressed by the review in the afternoon and described it as "really wonderful." The evening reception, although planned on a grand scale, was a happy and informal occasion, and it was with real regret that we bade the Queen Mother farewell when the time came for Her Majesty to leave for the Royal Yacht.

Bystander's Comment

DEAR EDITOR,

On Sunday last I had the pleasure of watching the Jubilee Parade in Hyde Park. As the wife of a T.A. officer but in no way connected with the W.R.A.C., I would like to express my admiration for the excellent bearing of all members on parade. Despite the appalling weather, they still maintained obviously high standards both in appearance and marching. Congratulations.

Yours faithfully,

M. A. JONES.

152 Rotton Park Road,
Edgbaston, Birmingham 16.

W.R.A.C. (T.A.) News

SOUTH-WEST DISTRICT

ON a glorious afternoon at the end of April, the advance parties of 70, 73 and 74 Independent Companies from Somerset and Dorset, Cornwall and Devon respectively, arrived in shirt-sleeve order at Chickerell Camp, Weymouth. All seemed set for a perfect camp. The sea was as blue as the sky where the gulls were flying lazily overhead, the Camp Commandant and his staff were delighted to see us, and the Sponsor Unit, two miles away, delivered our vehicles to us, all clean and in very good condition. Some very nasty clouds had gathered by the time the rest of "our army" drove in, but they were in excellent spirits and settled down in no time.

H.R.H. The Princess Royal was visiting Southern Command the following week and we had been invited to put on a vehicle and drill display for her to see at Larkhill. We had only five days in which to do this, so on Sunday morning we set to work—turning on the march, wheeling, counter-marching and "advancing in review order" 56 abreast, while eight Champs flew round the parade ground, performed figures of eight in the middle and passed backwards and forwards between the marching women. For five days (during which the fog seldom lifted) our drivers, clerks and cooks finished a hard day's training by turning out after tea to drill on

the parade ground with the R.S.M., who has the patience of a saint and more than her fair share of optimism. Thanks to her, by the end of that time the marching squads looked as if they had been at it all their lives, and the vehicles, too, appeared to know what was required of them.

"D" day dawned, and we were still enveloped in cloud. We climbed into our coaches at a very early hour and were off—the eight Champs disappearing through the mist in a convoy of their own. We were met on the parade ground at Larkhill by the M.T. Battery Sergeant-Major with the words: "Oh, well, we have never had a dry parade on this parade ground yet." Our dress rehearsal in the morning was a nightmare—the vehicles went to the wrong corners and drove through the women, the women went the wrong way round the parade ground and marched through the vehicles. At the height of this shambles the Garrison Commander came up to see how it was going. Even the R.S.M. was speechless, and so we went to lunch. The C.O.s of the three companies were to have lunch with H.R.H. The Princess Royal, a very delightful interlude. Her Royal Highness was quite charming and most interested in all we told her.

By the time lunch was over, the sun was trying to shine. H.R.H. The Princess Royal arrived on the parade ground and the display started with an "Advance in Review Order," followed by the Champs in "line abreast." All went perfectly, turning, counter-marching, wheeling—no one put a foot or a wheel wrong. The end was a formation showing the letter "M." Her Royal Highness was then good enough to get down from the dais and speak to the women who had taken part in the display, then to the drivers, and finally to our spectators, who were made up of very new recruits, and some of the cooks, clerks and orderlies not on parade. It was a very thrilling moment and a wonderful day which we shall none of us forget. Our very grateful thanks went to 9th Independent Company W.R.A.C. at Larkhill, who showed us the most wonderful hospitality, in spite of having a Royal Inspection themselves at the same time.

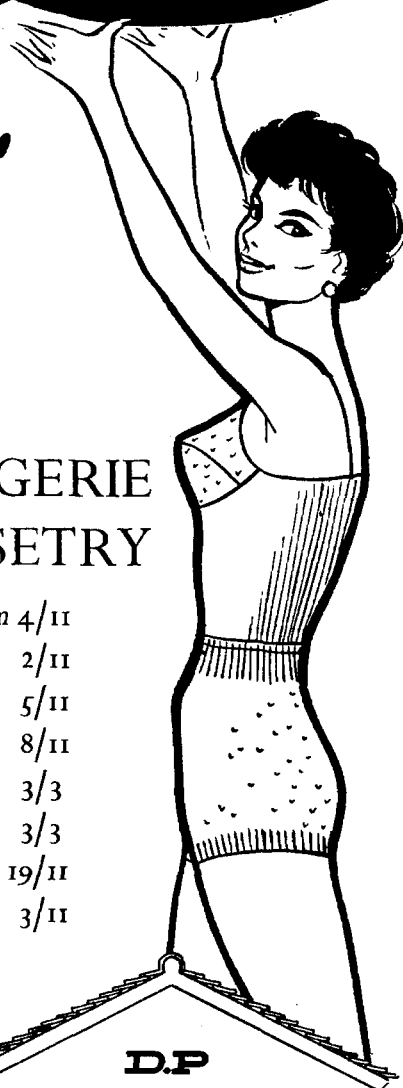
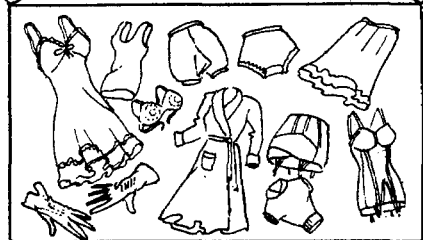
Back we went to camp and training, all feeling a little proud. On Sunday we had a drum-head service, our first ever. The sun shone and the camp marched on to the parade ground with the confident air of "old soldiers." Three days later we had our "All-day Scheme." It had been reported that a Megaton bomb had been dropped on Cardiff, and drivers were to be sent off to collect evacuees from the "fall out" area and take them to a "harbour area" to be set up at Arne. Great attention was to be paid to camouflage as it was expected that enemy "recce" aircraft would be overhead. In actual fact, a plane from the Joint Concealment Centre was to come and take photographs of our camouflage. Major-General Borraile, G.O.C. 43 Wessex Infantry Division, spent the day with us. This was our only other fine day. Two days later our annual camp was over. It had been one of our best, in spite of the weather, and our very grateful thanks are due to the Camp Commandant and his very willing staff, the camp doctor and our many friends at South-West District Headquarters.

Dorothy Perkins

*Where your
allowance
stretches
further*

FASHIONS LINGERIE
HOSIERY CORSETRY

BRASSIERES	from 4/11
BRIEFS	„ 2/11
SUSPENDER BELTS	„ 5/11
WAISTSLIPS	„ 8/11
KNITTED VESTS	„ 3/3
KNITTED PANTS	„ 3/3
PYJAMAS	„ 19/11
STOCKINGS	„ 3/11



OVER 100
BRANCHES
THROUGHOUT
THE
COUNTRY

307 (NORTHERN COMMAND) BATTALION

WE have entered the field of sport in a big way this year. Sgt. Blackburn of the Permanent Staff was at last selected for the W.R.A.C. hockey team after years of attending the trials and also represents the W.R.A.C. in the Badminton Championships. In the inter-unit table tennis tournament held at the W.R.A.C. Depot, our team, comprising R.S.M. Mallard, Sgts. Blackburn, Burton and Wilcox of the Permanent Staff, won their way to the final, being beaten only by the W.R.A.C. P.T. Wing. Cpl. Richards was the only representative from Northern Command in the cricket trials and was chosen to play for the W.R.A.C.

We took the wheel-changing practice for the Corps Day competition very seriously. Even our newest of recruits became proficient in the art and we were able to enter two T.A. teams, who did very well though they were not placed in the first six.

Emphasis has been on the T.A. Jubilee Year, and rehearsals of the London, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire T.A. celebrations have kept both the Permanent Staff and T.A. very busy. Our contingent in the London parade got soaked to the skin like everyone else, but all without exception would go through it again for the honour of being a member of Her Majesty's Territorial Army. May we express our thanks to the staff of 12th Battalion W.R.A.C. and those W.R.A.C. at the Duke of York's H.Q. who worked so hard to give the girls such a wonderful reception.

On June 27, we were invited by the R.A. and R.E.M.E. units of Scunthorpe to join them in a street-lining party for the occasion of the visit of Her Majesty The Queen and H.R.H. Prince Philip. The W.R.A.C. formed the centre rank of a combined T.A. detachment of a hundred strong. On arrival at the Queen's Gardens in Scunthorpe the detachment divided into single files, the W.R.A.C. being the centre of the parade directly opposite the trees which Her Majesty and Prince Philip were to plant, and thus we did really have a grandstand view. We were very proud of this honour accorded to us by our affiliated units in Scunthorpe.

316 (SCOTTISH COMMAND) BATTALION

THE T.A. jubilee year will be a memorable one for this Battalion. Local celebrations have already taken place in Aberdeen and Dundee. In Aberdeen, "A" Company gave an excellent display of Scottish country dancing as our contribution to the joint display by T.A. units on June 7. Battalion H.Q. and "A" Company also took part in the march through Aberdeen and church parade on June 8. The salute was taken by Admiral of the Fleet, Sir Rhoderick McGrigor, G.C.B., D.S.O., and amongst others on the saluting dais were Lt.-Col. C. A. Cecil, A.D.W.R.A.C. Scottish Command, the Lady Tweedsmuir, M.P., Hon. Col. of 316 (Scottish Command) Battalion, and the C.O., Major S. Rowan-Hamilton, T.D., W.R.A.C. (T.A.). On the evening of June 6, a reception and dance were given for the T.A. by the Lord Provost, magistrates and town council of Aberdeen, which

was thoroughly enjoyed by all. In his address of welcome the Lord Provost reminded us that we were really enjoying the hospitality of King Robert the Bruce, since the expenses were being defrayed from the Common Fund granted by him in recognition of the services of the Burghers of Aberdeen at the Battle of Bannockburn. On the evening of June 7, a number of us attended an officers' reunion dinner held under the auspices of the City and County of Aberdeen, Banff and Kincardine T.A. Associations. The highlight of the evening was undoubtedly the stirring music played by a number of unit pipers marching in single file round the room. We are very glad that our Hon. Col., Lady Tweedsmuir, M.P., was able to be present at all these functions as they occurred during the Parliamentary recess. On June 14, "C" Company took part in the jubilee review at Dundee of T.A. units from Dundee and Angus, and Sgt. W. Crawford was presented with the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate for Meritorious Service by the Earl of Airlie, K.T., G.C.V.O., M.C. Later in the evening four representatives of 316 (Scottish Command) Battalion attended the civic reception to the T.A. in the City Hall.

On May 17 the Battalion made a foray over the border and "invaded" Blackfell Camp, Washington, Co. Durham, till May 31. Iris, our instructional model, accompanied us. After active service as a truck she was assigned to R.E.M.E. where she had a hectic life, being thrown countless times over a cliff and "recovered." Passed on to us at the beginning of the winter, Lt. D. G. Swire and her assistants worked on training evenings and at weekends to strip her and paint the steering, electrical system, etc., in different colours, and now Iris hopes to enjoy a useful and dignified old age with the T.A. On May 20, we were visited by Major-General E. C. Colville, C.B., D.S.O., G.O.C. Highland District, and Lt.-Col. C. A. Cecil, A.D.W.R.A.C. After the camp inspection, Lt.-Col. Cecil personally judged our team for the Scottish Command cookery competition. On May 23, our newly appointed Hon. Col. paid her first official visit to the unit. Unfortunately it poured all day so that the parade had to be cancelled, but Lady Tweedsmuir inspected the Battalion under cover and presented Sgt. W. Crawford with the Territorial Efficiency Medal. She visited all departments, showed the keenest interest in the training going on, and chatted to a great many of the women individually. In the afternoon she toured the driving routes. After dinner in the Officers' Mess she looked in on the all ranks' social where she saw a display of Scottish country dancing before going on to the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess where she joined in dancing eightsome reels. After a few hours' rest she was escorted to Newcastle to continue her journey to Aberdeen by the night train. The visit was a tremendous success with all ranks, the general verdict being "Our Colonel's a smasher!" On May 27, as part of Civil Defence training, the majority of the Battalion enjoyed a midday meal at Whitburn Ranges cooked on the No. 4 (Civil Defence) field cooker set up and operated by a Battalion team under the supervision of Capt. H. D. Hitching, the unit Messing

Officer, who is a Civil Defence instructor in emergency feeding. Whilst the team was preparing the meal, the remainder of the convoy visited the surface workings of Hatherington coal mine by courtesy of the National Coal Board. Trade tests were held on May 29 for cooks, clerks and drivers, with very successful results, and on May 30 the road convoy set off, staging in Edinburgh as on the way down. Altogether a very happy and satisfactory camp.

W.R.A.C. Depot

PRINCESS ROYAL'S DAY was celebrated at Queen Elizabeth Camp on Sunday, April 27. To our delight the sun shone and the cold wind abated somewhat as H.R.H. The Princess Royal arrived on the Square, to be received by the Director, Brigadier M. K. R. Colvin, O.B.E., T.D., and the Commandant, Lt.-Col. E. W. Gibson, M.B.E. The official party was then presented, including Lt.-Gen. Sir Charles Coleman, G.O.C.-in-C. Eastern Command, and Lady Coleman, Alderman and Mrs. Kimber, Mayor and Mayoress of Guildford, Col. J. G. Grierson, Major J. Fisher and Major E. E. Michell. After Her Royal Highness had inspected the Royal Guard of Honour she watched the finals of the Wheel-Changing Competition, in which 37 Regular and T.A. units had taken part and put up magnificent timings. The cup was won by the Drivers' and Clerks' Training Wing in the remarkable time of 1 min. 31.1 secs. Recruits of No. 1 Training Company gave a Movement to Music Display, which they gallantly performed despite microphone difficulties. Over 2,500 people went round the various displays and places open to the public. A birthday cake made by the Cookery Instructional Centre for Her Royal Highness was much admired, and eaten with relish by Headquarter Company to whom Her Royal Highness kindly gave the cake. As usual, the children had a riotous time on the ponies and swings. We were particularly delighted to have so many Association members and members of the T.A. among our guests.

ONE of the recent gifts to the Depot Church has been a W.R.A.C. Book of Remembrance, presented by Col. S. M. Crawley, T.D. It lies beside the A.T.S. Book of Remembrance which records the names of those who died between 1939 and 1945. Major D. Stroud has now started our subscription list with a generous donation for a Book of Remembrance for the years between. When we have been able to have a book suitably inscribed it will be placed with the other two books.

THE Staff Band appeared on TV when its Director of Music, Capt. J. B. MacDowall, beat the "What's My Line" panel. The unit has twice featured in the B.B.C. and I.T.V. News Reels, and again this year had a "Stars on Parade" concert broadcast from the camp.

OUTWARD BOUND

LT. S. F. B. PROCTOR, W.R.A.C.

I WAS somewhat startled when told that I was to go on an outward-bound course for girls as an assistant instructor. I had, of course, heard about the courses for boys, but had not realised that there was a girls' equivalent. I had visions of myself hanging on to the precipitous side of a mountain by my eyebrows, getting lost in the mist on the fells or capsizing my canoe in swirling rapids. I was extremely doubtful of my instructional capabilities in any of these contingencies.

The setting for the course was a large house in lovely grounds, just outside the village of Coniston in the Lake District. I arrived on a Saturday morning and set to work immediately helping to make beds, sort equipment, etc. In the evening amid sleet and rain, the girls arrived. There were 52 of them, aged sixteen to nineteen; they came from all walks of life and all parts of the British Isles. Some were still at school, but most of them were earning their livings. A large percentage were doing some sort of clerical work and many worked in factories. They were sent on the course by their firms as it was felt they would profit from it.

The outward-bound courses offer girls opportunities of doing things they have never done before, of surmounting difficulties, overcoming shyness or fear and consequently developing confidence and self-respect. At Coniston, the outdoor activities included climbing, fell walking, riding, canoeing and camping. Indoors there were discussions, debates, drama, and a variety of lectures which included instruction in first-aid and map reading. On Sunday, the day following their arrival, the girls were issued with equipment—sleeping bags, climbing boots, anoraks, compasses and maps—and I, too, acquired these items. I was told by the Principal that the girl who was to have been in charge of the canoeing had got stranded in Belgium, having lost her passport, and I was to endeavour to take her place. My previous experience of canoeing was almost non-existent, but on the Sunday afternoon I was given some private instruction by another member of the staff and, on Monday morning, I made my début as a canoeing instructress.

The day began at 7 a.m. with the clanging of a bell, reminiscent of school days. Everyone was expected to be dressed and ready for prayers at 7.30 a.m. These were taken by the Principal and were undenominational. Breakfast followed at 7.45, and at 9 a.m. I conducted my first keep-fit class, lasting for about 10 minutes, which all the girls attended. I did this every morning, feverishly trying to remember exercises I had done at school, and strange thumps might be heard emanating from my room in the early hours as I tried out various exercises of my own invention or the bright ideas of my fellow instructors. I found it astonishing the variety of exercises required to fill a 10-minute programme, if it was not to be monotonous repetition every day.

After keep fit, the girls split up into groups and went off to take part in a variety of activities. Some of the other instructors were men from the staff of the boys' outward-bound schools, all experienced climbers and very familiar with the Lake District. One girl helped with the climbing and map-reading instruction, another with camping, and a third was a trained nurse and taught first aid, in addition to acting as matron. All the girls took part in all activities and for the first week I taught the rudiments of canoeing to each group. I had a fleet of ten canoes, two of them double ones and the rest single. In fine sunny weather, amid beautiful surroundings and, in spite of initial arm-aching and blisters on my hands, I found canoeing a very congenial occupation. The girls wore life jackets, which proved a sensible precaution, as there were one or two spills and on several occasions I hauled dripping but cheerful canoeists into the towing boat after they had been paddling a bit too enthusiastically and capsized.

During the second week, in addition to taking the girls on longer paddles, I organised an obstacle course which involved paddling to various parts of the lake, collecting things out of tins, gliding under a low pier, and paddling in and out through closely placed buoys. The weather by this time had seriously deteriorated and much of our canoeing was done in heavy rain or drizzle. The weather did not hinder any of the activities except occasionally climbing, when it would have been dangerous to attempt slippery rock faces. During the third week the girls took part in a four-day scheme which involved walking, climbing, canoeing and camping. One group paddled down the length of the lake and camped the far end, and next day walked to a mountain hut which was the base from which walks and climbs were made. All took their turn at the climbing, camping and canoeing. At the end of the week, I felt I knew the lake fairly well, having paddled its length three times.

From the camp site, it was a short paddle down a river to some rapids. Shooting rapids was another new experience for me and, before encouraging the girls to have a go, I had a private trial myself with the matron and an experienced canoeist. I donned a bathing dress for the experiment, a precaution I did not regret as it was not long before I was struggling in the water clinging on to my canoe and paddle, having gone over some rocks at the wrong angle. It was rather a thrill to go rushing down the river, paddling hard, trying to avoid the rocks and keep the canoe in the deeper water. Most of the girls made an attempt at it, some very successfully, while others capsized or got stuck on the rocks in mid-stream. It was then my turn, or that of another instructor, to wade in to the rescue. Not only was this rather a cold business but it was also very bruising, as the current dashed one against the rocks and on several occasions I slipped and went right in, much to the amusement of onlookers. By the end of the first morning I was black and blue.

I had the odd day's rest from canoeing and on these occasions I joined parties that were going fell walking. One day, in heavy rain and mist, we struggled up Scafell Pike and all felt a pleasant

sense of achievement at having overcome the elements and got to the top. At the end of the course, the girls gave a dramatic performance to members of the staff and local people—a very creditable affair considering the lack of time for rehearsals and the fact that few had ever been on a stage before. They had overcome some of their shyness of talking in public earlier in the course when each had had to speak for about five minutes about herself or any topic that interested her. When a course is over, a confidential report on each girl is sent to those who have sponsored her, this being based on the observations of the Principal and staff throughout the course. I think without exception the girls enjoyed the course, found it very worth while and were all sorry when the time came to depart and go their several ways. I, too, found it a very interesting and worthwhile experience.

12th Battalion

RICHMOND PARK

ON May 17 and 18, we held a Regimental Weekend when about 400 relatives and friends visited the unit. A display of country dancing, rhythmic movements with hoops and Indian club swinging was given by personnel of the Battalion in the afternoon, in spite of a bitterly cold wind. The evening was a great success as the W.R.A.C. Band opened a concert at which several professional artistes gave their services voluntarily. A drum-head service was held on the Sunday morning, and at the march past afterwards Col. J. G. Grierson, O.B.E., D.D.W.R.A.C. Eastern Command, took the salute.

IN a recent competition, No. 4 Platoon of "B" Company won the prize (a hair-drier) for having the highest percentage of women on 22-year engagements. No. 4 Platoon had 25 per cent. of their personnel on the longest engagement possible and the number continues to increase. The entire Battalion was delighted at the success of our cookery team, who won the District Competition, the Command Competition and, finally, the cup presented by the A.C.C. for the best W.R.A.C. unit team. Cpl. Gear, Pte. Ferguson (now L/Cpl.) and Pte. McInnes represented the Battalion and we are all proud of their achievement.

DURING May and in July a party of 50 young Australians ranging from 14 to 20 years of age were accommodated in Kingston Gate Camp. These young women have been making a six months' tour of the Continent and had visited Italy, Austria, Germany, France and Belgium before arriving in England. They told us how comfortable and pleasant they have found their quarters in our camp and how well N.A.A.F.I. (who supplied all their meals) have catered for them, so we feel that we have done a little to foster good Commonwealth relations. June saw us again in the role of "landlady," as we had about 400 all ranks of the W.R.A.C. (T.A.) to accommodate on June 21 for bed and breakfast before the Jubilee Review.

JUNE 18 has been a memorable date since 1815, but to us in 12th Battalion it is remembered less for Waterloo than for our appearance on TV. "Cool for Cats" may not be everyone's choice of programme, but it is watched by almost three million viewers, the majority probably girls in the teenage or early twenties bracket, so when the producer asked us if we would like the programme broadcast from our camp he was handing us on a plate publicity worth £1,000 per minute. The programme, as seen by the viewers, looked beautifully compact and smooth, but the preparation beforehand and complicated stage management had to be seen to be believed. About a week before the day of the actual broadcast a "recce" of the camp took place by the producer, choreographer and principal technicians. From then till the actual day of the programme, life was full of surprises. "B" Company clerks were just a little astonished as they walked to their office to encounter a happy boy and girl dancing along the path, ethereal figures were seen to float over the parade ground and the Quartermaster has not really been quite the same since she encountered a pixy skipping among the bracken to the "wood-notes wild" of Eddie Calvert's trumpet. Equipment began to arrive on June 17, with scaffolding, lighting, moving cameras, generators for electric power and miles and miles of cable. Strange modernistic gadgets (later turning out to be loudspeakers) sprouted up all over the camp and cameras were erected on the parade ground, in the gymnasium and the N.A.A.F.I. Rehearsals started in earnest on June 18, and the camp reverberated all day to the tunes of "That Happy Feeling," "Endlessly," and "Just Hanging Around." Every bicycle in the unit was lent to the programme team, numbering about 40, to enable them to get about quickly in this very large camp. One of the actors appearing in a typical "Army Game" number as a lieutenant caused quite a diversion. Our women were so alert to salute him that to avoid embarrassment he felt obliged to call out as they approached: "Don't salute me—I'm not real!"

The programme was made up by the stars, Eddie Calvert and Valerie Masters, and some very pleasant dance sequences arranged by Douglas Squires, but for a whole two minutes "A" Company held the screen while twelve women swung Indian clubs to the tune of "Three o'Clock in the Morning" with sufficient close-ups to please every proud mother! The excitement during this item was simply terrific. Many of us saw the live production on the N.A.A.F.I. stage simultaneously with the broadcast on the monitor set. It is rarely that we have a chance to peep behind the scenes and it was quite an education to see technicians, artistes and producer working together to complete the programme. Apart from the entertainment value to the women, which was considerable, the free publicity which we obtained was wonderful. The show, delightfully produced, showed good camera shots of the camp which in the sunshine couldn't help but look attractive, and the compère made several references (all pleasant) to the Women's Royal Army Corps.

8 Independent Company

BICESTER

THE strength of the unit has increased considerably during the past few months and we extended a hearty welcome to all the new arrivals. We bid farewell to Pte. Springthorpe and Pte. Newman on posting to M.E.L.F. and to our C.Q.M.S., S/Sgt. Grace Beer, who leaves for the Far East in July. We welcome Lt. Edlin from the Depot who has taken over as Q.M. from Lt. Holmes, now in Cyprus, and S/Sgt. Nichols who has joined us from Woolwich.

DURING the recent visit of H.M. The Queen and H.R.H. Prince Philip to the Regimental Depot, R.A.O.C., at Blackdown on April 11, 1958, a demonstration team led by S/Sgt. Angela Spears carried out maintenance work on vehicles. This is the first time W.R.A.C. personnel have ever taken part in a demonstration of this kind and Her Majesty showed tremendous interest in their fine performance. We are all delighted at the well-deserved award of the British Empire Medal to S/Sgt. Spears in the Birthday Honours.

THERE was a lot of activity in the unit in preparation for the garrison sports held on June 14, and the competitors were capably trained by Cpl. Scotte, on loan to us from the Depot. The 100 yds. was won by Pte. Kidd with Pte. Jackson second and Pte. Johnson third. We congratulate Ptes. Rumble, Butcher and Wilkinson on being selected to play for Southern Command in the Inter-Command Cricket Festival in June. We also have some keen archers in the unit who hope to compete in county championships during the summer. Two very successful all ranks' dances have been held in the N.A.A.F.I. Club during the past month and thanks are due to 2/Lt. Hancock and her committee.

ANNUAL RECEPTION OF THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

THE Rt. Hon. John Boyd-Carpenter, M.P., Minister of Pensions and National Insurance, attended the annual reception on May 9, at the Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea. Apart from the representatives of member organisations, many distinguished guests were present. The member organisations act as hosts at this annual reception, which enables members of the Committee to meet informally with representatives of Her Majesty's Forces and Ministries. This year arrangements were made for the reception by the W.R.A.C. Association.

The Chairman of the Co-ordinating Committee is Mr. J. R. Griffin, C.B.E., Secretary of the British Legion.

The Co-ordinating Committee consists of those responsible for the administration of the member organisations. The Committee meets regularly to exchange views, ensure a uniform application of the policies of their councils, and preserve a spirit of friendship, co-operation, and unity of purpose amongst all concerned.

NEWS from the BRANCHES

BATH. Members and friends spent a very enjoyable and interesting day at Wilton House, Salisbury, where the Southern Command Area Reunion took place this year. We were most impressed with the new W.R.A.C. quarters at Fugglestone, luxurious in comparison to some of the war-time camps. Our thanks go to Salisbury Branch who acted as hostesses this year. We would also like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Millard for their wonderful hospitality when the Branch entertained the Austrian refugees from Bristol. After a very enjoyable tea on the lawns of their house, in perfect sunshine, they most kindly showed us over the chicken farm and there we saw the egg in all stages, from the chicks breaking through the shell to chicks up to four week old in the incubators. We send good wishes for a speedy recovery to the member of Oxford Branch whom we visited whilst convalescing in Bath, and also to Miss Hood, a member of this Branch, who is in hospital after an operation on both feet.

BIRMINGHAM. On May 10, twenty-four members went by coach to the W.R.A.C. Depot at Guildford, at the invitation of Lt.-Col. E. W. Gibson, M.B.E., W.R.A.C. It was a fine sunny day and we had a beautiful drive via Oxford and Henley, through miles of flowering trees all at their very best. We were most cordially received by the W.O.s and sergeants, and we admired their comfortable quarters. Later we were taken round the Q.M. Stores and were full of admiration at the quality and variety of the present-day issue of clothing. The Depot Church was larger and more beautiful than we had anticipated, greatly enriched by the many gifts made by serving and ex-Service friends. We saw the large gymnasium, fully equipped for all sports, and the kitchens with their modern machinery. We could have spent hours in the Museum, the Q.M.A.C. members being especially interested in all the exhibits. We saw a squad of new W.R.A.C. recruits marching, and one member of our party thought that they were better than she was at the end of her service. To end a most enjoyable day, we spent a short time at the cathedral now being built in Guildford; the W.R.A.C. window is not yet in position, but we shall hope to see it on a future visit. On May 31, we held our most successful old people's party yet. Thirty-seven guests and four members went on a coach trip through Stratford and Warwick, which was greatly enjoyed by those who hardly ever leave home. The party returned in about three hours and sat down to a meat-and-pickles tea, with home-made cakes to follow. We ended up the evening with a grand sing-song.

BRADFORD. Since our last report we have suffered a great loss by the passing of our dearest friend and ex-Chairman, Lucy Garrett. We have only met once since her passing, and as a tribute most of our members made an effort to be present. We were particularly pleased to welcome our Standard Bearer, Miss Madge Mitchell.

Our Bring and Buy Sale in June enabled us to make a donation to Bradford Joint Group of the British Legion, who so kindly allow us the use of accommodation for our meetings. We are pleased to report that several of our sick members are now very much improved in health.

BRISTOL. A whist drive was held on April 10, at the British Legion Headquarters, Portland Square. Instead of the usual meeting in May, a trip to Bath was arranged on May 1. It was a lovely evening, both from the weather and the enjoyment point of view. On arrival at our destination, the more energetic members went far into the town, shop gazing. Others were content to sit and admire the gardens. Later we had refreshments at a nearby café, before returning to Bristol. We were sorry that we could not muster enough people to make up a coach load to Wilton House for the Southern Area Rally. Our annual visit to the home of our President, Mrs. Bernays at Winterbourne Park, was fixed for June. Unfortunately, several of us could not avail ourselves of this kind invitation, because of other engagements.

EDINBURGH. At our April meeting we had a very interesting evening when Mr. Somerville took us on an illustrated trip of the Continent. In May Mr. Napier gave an instructive talk on Medicinal Herbs and very willingly answered all our queries. The Scottish Reunion Garden Party held at Craigiehall on May 31, was very well attended. The weather clerk was kind to us, and during the afternoon we were entertained by the W.R.A.C. Band and a display of Scottish country dancing. We held our annual Bring and Buy Sale at our June meeting, and it proved very successful. On our summer outing we visited Strathaven and the Clyde Valley. The weather clerk was again very obliging and everybody enjoyed their "outing" very much.

GIBRALTAR. During the past three months our meetings have been fairly well attended. Tombola evenings once a month are held with great success. During the April meeting, ex-Service members challenged the serving members to an indoor sports evening to be held after the May meeting. This was accepted and was supported by the majority of the Company. Teams were arranged for table tennis, darts and quoits. Some members of the ex-Service teams failed to arrive, so the senior members of the unit took their places. All members enjoyed the evening and a win was recorded for the ex-Service members. After the June meeting an illustrated talk on Pot Holing in Gibraltar was given by S/Sgt. Sweeney, R.A.S.C. Members were given an opportunity of examining the equipment used by the local society. One member volunteered to try the stretcher used for the conveyance of any injured persons, and four other members tried lifting the stretcher with the volunteer strapped in it.

HARTLEPOOLS. Ten members attended and enjoyed the Annual Dinner held at the Staincliffe Hotel, Seaton Carew, in May. We missed the cheerful presence of our Treasurer, Miss M. McCarthy, who was away on holiday at the time but we were delighted to welcome Mrs. O. Bulmer and Mrs. G. Angus, whom we have not seen for some time owing to lack of baby-sitters. At our June meeting we were pleased to see Mrs. Susie Shelser, who has been under observation in hospital. We did not know soon enough to send our good wishes and flowers to the hospital, but we do wish her much better health in the future. We sent flowers and a letter to Mrs. Betty Sawkill, in hospital, and have received a letter of thanks. We hope that she will enjoy good health now that her operation is over. Several of the members are hoping to attend the Northern Area Reunion to be held at York on Saturday, September 27. Members wishing to attend should contact the Secretary, Mrs. M. Jewell, if they have not done so already. We are pleased to hear from Mrs. A. Shipley after such a long silence and hope to see her at our meetings again.

LONDON. Our various lectures this year have been full of interest, and the talk by Miss McNeil on April 17, was no exception. She told us of her visit to her niece in Malaya, and in a most entertaining manner gave us a very clear picture of the people and the life in that country. For our first meeting in May we had an excellent concert by the Mullard House Singers, and on the 15th Dame Helen was our speaker and we learned quite a lot about diseases and their causes. That same evening we also had with us Mrs. Chavannes, a U.S. veteran of World War II, who gave a little addition to Dame Helen's talk by telling us of her personal experiences regarding malaria. This lady was invited to attend as many of our meetings as she could while in this country, and on June 19 we were very pleased to have her with us again. On this occasion, Mrs. Chavannes brought photographs, and also samples of clothing as issued to the American W.A.C. and told us about her life in the American Women's Service. It was a most interesting evening and great fun to compare her experiences with our own. We only wish time had permitted us to have a longer talk, and are hoping to see Mrs. Chavannes again before she returns to the States. The bus strike affected our meetings to a certain extent as some members were unable to attend, but we held a Bring and Buy on June 5, and although attendance was very poor indeed, raised £2 15s. for the Branch funds.

LONSDALE. To bring our report up to date we have to go back to July last year when we were entertained at the home of our Vice-Chairman, Miss B. M. Sewart. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Our annual general meeting was held at the Drill Hall in September, and in October we paid a most interesting visit to a local factory, Messrs. Storey Bros. In November we held a whist drive among ourselves with one or two

DEBUT NARROW
A sleek and snug fitting court, available in Black or Blue Suede.



79/11

COLA
Elegant court shoe in Black, Spanish Red or Corda Suede.



69/11

Latin classics

from the **Van-Dal** range

VAN-DAL SHOES are obtainable at Swan & Edgar, Piccadilly, and at highclass Stores and Shops throughout the country. In case of difficulty, please enquire of **VAN-DAL SHOES LTD., SALHOUSE ROAD, NORWICH.**

SAN DIEGO
A fashion court in soft calf, available in Black, Blue, Morello Red, Tamarack or Katrine.



69/11

friends, and this again was most enjoyable. December saw us enjoying a "natter" evening and, in January, Col. Cowper very kindly invited us to the Priory Youth Club to see a film show. In February our last year's Mayor came along and told us about her year as Mayor, a talk which all of us enjoyed immensely and which got many laughs. In March we planned a whist drive and tombola night among ourselves, but insufficient members turned up. April again brought along our annual dinner, held at the King's Arms Hotel, Lancaster, and this year we were delighted to have as our guest of honour Dame Regina Evans. We sincerely hope that she enjoyed our company as much as we enjoyed having her. Our next meeting will be in September when we hope that all members will try to come along. We are very pleased to welcome a new member, Mrs. Grant, who will be remembered by many ex-A.T.S. as C.S.M. Doris Benson at Bowerham Barracks.

NORFOLK. Special meetings will be held in July, August and September, at Norwich and Yarmouth, to meet Miss Molly Howes, who has arrived for a holiday from Nairobi, East Africa. Our Assistant Hon. Secretary, Miss Withy, has been in hospital for several weeks, but is now better and recuperating in the country. Mrs. Robinson has been ill with throat trouble, but is progressing satisfactorily. We wish them both a speedy recovery.

NOTTINGHAM. The April meeting was a film show, and we saw "Greensleeves" and the 307 (Northern Command) Battalion, W.R.A.C. (T.A.), unit film which was taken at Blackfell Camp on the occasion of the visit of H.R.H. The Princess Royal. This gave us a rare chance to "see ourselves as others see us." We were very lucky in obtaining the services of Mrs. Randall for our meeting in May. She is a keen member of the Nottingham Horticultural Society and gave a delightful talk and demonstration of floral arrangements in the home. Despite competition from the Cadet Band, the Sherwood Foresters' Band and the Cadets' drilling, she managed to hold her own, and her floral display at the end of the talk was proof of her "green fingers." The beetle drive in June organised by Mrs. Loewenthal and Miss Burton was very successful and well supported by members and their friends. The prizes were won by the "friends" who, together with the rest of the "beetlers," agreed that the evening had been thoroughly enjoyable.

SALISBURY. We have held our regular meetings all through the winter and also a well-attended Christmas dinner at the Cathedral Hotel. Membership has remained constant and, although we are not able, owing to distance, to see many of our country members, we have been fortunate in obtaining one or two more local ones. We ended our season with the Southern Area Reunion on Sunday, June 1, which is fully reported elsewhere. This year we had the privilege of acting as hostesses. It was a grand chance to meet many old friends of other Branches and, judging by the many appreciative letters we have received, everyone appeared to have enjoyed themselves. The local papers covered the proceedings and some excellent photographs were taken, but unfortunately the newspaper block which we had been promised for *The Lioness* was inadvertently thrown out for scrap before we could claim it. A number of members at the reunion bought tickets for the raffle which we have been running in aid of the W.R.A.C. Benevolent Fund, and the first prize (an electric blanket) was won by Major L. E. Holt (retired) of Cirencester. This reunion marked the last appearance of our Chairman, Mrs. B. Taunton, in her official capacity. Mrs. Taunton has been our Chairman for a number of years now, but the time has come when she feels that it is time to hand over the reins to someone else. We thank her more than we can say for all the hard work she has done, but are glad to know that she will still be a member of our Branch. We are fortunate in having, as our new Chairman, Col. E. S. Macfie, ex-D.D.W.R.A.C. Southern Command, who is already a very popular and hard-working member.

SHEFFIELD. Our meetings are still held on the first and third Thursdays in the month at the Foresters' Hall, Trippet Lane, Sheffield, at 8 p.m. In April we paid a visit to Stanley Works in Sheffield. We also had a most enjoyable day out in May when we went to Lyme Hall, Disley, and after tea there we went on to the B.B.C. studio in

Manchester where we saw "The Clitheroe Kid" and "Mid-day Music Hall" being recorded. For our last meeting at the end of June we had a coach trip into Derbyshire and after touring the dams we had a buffet supper at the Yorkshire Bridge Inn, Bamford. About a dozen members and friends have joined a swimming club in Sheffield, so probably next season we shall be giving our own aquatic displays and, who knows, we may have a future channel swimmer in our midst.

SINGAPORE. It is the custom of the Branch to have a talk of local interest for its entertainment, and in February we were fortunate enough to hear Mrs. Helen Ling, an American who has spent most of her life in China and the Far East, give her expert account of jade, its history and its legends. Most of us had no previous knowledge of the subject, but after seeing the lovely examples of the art of jade carving and polishing we all felt we should like to possess one piece—the one piece that would live for us and not, according to legend, be just a piece of stone. At our May meeting Major and Mrs. Heather delighted us by an account of leave in Japan in a cool early spring, showing us coloured slides of the cherry blossom, gardens, temples, mountain scenery and girls in coloured kimonos, and describing their adventures connected with each picture in a way which made us all want to hurry off post haste to the travel agents.

SOUTHAMPTON. Our June meeting took the form of a walk to our very pleasant Sports Centre, and also in June we spent a lovely day at Oxford. We ate our luncheon sandwiches at the Squadron Club in the lovely gardens by the river, and spent the afternoon either sightseeing under the guidance of our kind hostesses, the Oxford Branch, or in boating on the river in perfect weather. We all enjoyed ourselves and were ready to do justice to an excellent tea. In July we went to Hythe, a village on Southampton Water, visited a waterside pub for refreshment and went down the very long pier (on foot or by train, according to our age and/or energy) to catch the ferry back to Southampton. The weather again proved kind. Most people seemed to be on holiday for our August meeting, but we passed a very enjoyable evening over a cup of coffee in a local cafe. In September we visited Marchwood Power Station, which supplies Southampton with electricity. We are very grateful to Miss Audrey Stott, a member of the staff, who arranged this interesting visit. We have at last managed to find a room for our winter meetings and had our Annual General Meeting in October in the new quarters. In November we organised a game of lotto, which was good fun, and also held a very profitable jumble sale. In December we had a good bring and buy sale, followed by an American supper. In January we gave a Christmas party to about 35 boys and girls who are under the supervision of the local N.S.P.C.C. We had a conjuror who entertained and mystified us all, and after tea, when only a few crumbs were left and the tables cleared away, games were played. The noise was terrific, but they all

seemed to enjoy themselves. Every child was given a present and some sweets and went away happy. Our thanks are due to local traders who helped us with presents and sweets either at reduced prices or free. At our February meeting we held a Baby Shower for Mrs. Leahy, one of our members who is expecting her first baby, and also had a very interesting talk on the work of the Citizens' Advice Bureau. In March we had a beauty demonstration by one of the staff from a local store. One of our members acted as model. In April we had the first of three one-in-five talks by a member of the W.V.S., the idea being that at least one in five women should know something of the effect of the fall out of the H bomb. On April 15, we had our annual dinner at the Royal Hotel. Col. S. F. M. Nimmo, D.D.W.R.A.C. Southern Command, was our guest of honour, and gave a very interesting account of what the Army of today does. At our May meeting we had a talk on cookery by a demonstrator from the Gas Office, who made our mouths water by her tasty recipes. On Saturday afternoon, May 10, we were able to watch the local evening paper being printed, and saw the type being set and the gigantic printing machines churning out copies folded and ready to be delivered to our homes. Altogether we have had a very full and interesting year.

TORBAY. In February a successful jumble sale was held and proceeds donated to the Mayor's Appeals Fund for the purchase of a local hall for the disabled and handicapped. Our annual dinner held in April was very well attended and a great success. For our May meeting members met and spent a pleasant evening at Cockington, a local beauty spot. We had planned to have a picnic supper for the June meeting, but owing to bad weather this had to be postponed.

Reunions

A.T.S. DINNER

THE Chairman and Committee of the A.T.S. Reunion Dinner announce that Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan, G.B.E., has kindly consented to be the guest speaker, and that music by a section of the R.A. Orchestra (by permission of the Officers Royal Artillery) has been arranged. Although the reception is not until 7 p.m. the club will be open at all times during the day, on production of your ticket (by kind permission of the club management). The Reunion will close at 11.30 p.m.

Members of the A.T.S. will be very sorry to read the following message from Dame Leslie Whately, D.B.E.

"It is with the most sincere regret that I have to announce my inability to act as Chairman of the A.T.S. 20th Anniversary Dinner on August 30.

"I have just received instructions to leave England on August 4 instead of 31 to deal with an extremely urgent matter in a far distant country. As you well know, when duty calls one has no option but to obey, however great one's personal disappointment, as is mine, in not being with you all on August 30."

LONDON BRANCH DINNER

THE London Branch Dinner will be held at the Victory Club, 73/79 Seymour Street, London, W.2 (nearest tube station and bus stop, Marble Arch), on Saturday, November 1, 1958. Tickets, 13s. each. Application to Miss M. Cockburn, 70 Highbury Gardens, Ilford, Essex, on or after Thursday, September 5. Early application is essential. Please enclose stamped addressed envelope for reply. Members of other branches welcome.

SOUTHERN AREA REUNION

THE Southern Area Reunion was held in the grounds of Wilton House (by courtesy of the Countess of Pembroke and Montgomery) on Sunday, June 1. Among those attending were two ex-Directors W.R.A.C. (Dame Mary Railton, D.B.E., and Dame Mary Tyrwhitt, D.B.E.), Col. S. F. M. Nimmo, A.D.W.R.A.C. Southern Command, Miss K. Acland, Col. D. Morgan, Mrs. A. J. Lumsden, and a large number of members from Bath, Oxford, Portsmouth, Salisbury and Southampton Branches. The Salisbury Branch, with its capable Secretary Mrs. Harris, admirably organised the proceedings which included a tour of Wilton House and its lovely gardens, and a visit to the most up-to-date W.R.A.C. Camp at Fugglestone. Tea was served in the refreshment hall of the grounds. Mrs. B. Taunton, Chairman of the Salisbury Branch, expressed appreciation of the kindness of the Countess of Pembroke and Montgomery in allowing the Reunion to take place in such beautiful surroundings, and Col. Nimmo, Area Chairman, thanked the Salisbury Branch for the admirable arrangements made.

ROUENITES LUNCHEON

THE Rouen lunch at the Service Women's Club on June 5 was a very pleasant reunion which brought members who had not been before. One was Mrs. E. Ray Warne (E. Turtle) of Brighton Branch who was an administrator at Baupau and who later went to Palestine occupation. She was very pleased to meet at least one of her girls, Mrs. Rosie Dobson. Robinson (of Louis Bouiller) came from Penrith and Mrs. H. Brown (Kendall) came from Lavenham. We all hope to meet again next year.

3rd GLAMORGAN COMPANY A.T.S.

THE Annual Reunion of the 3rd Glamorgan Company A.T.S. took place on May 10 at 176 Newport Road, Cardiff. As usual, this was in the nature of a social evening and all had a very, very happy evening. It was grand to meet old friends once again and talk over old times. We were very pleased to have Miss Stanley with us and appreciate the fact that she travels from Devonshire to be with us on these occasions. Several other members came a long way, from Shrewsbury, Derby, Gloucester, Ross-on-Wye, etc. Special thanks are due to Mrs. Smith (one of the Company's original members), who allows us the use of her home at these times and carries out the catering arrangements. Further particulars of these meetings can be had from Mrs. Walters, 80 Uley Road, Dursley, Glos.

W.R.A.C. Headquarter Mess

WITH the consent of H.R.H. The Princess Royal, a portrait in oils is to be painted for the Headquarter Mess by Major A. C. Davidson Houston. The portrait will show Her Royal Highness wearing W.R.A.C. No. 1 Dress as Controller Commandant of the Corps.

The number of retired officers who have recently joined the Headquarter Mess is encouraging, but many more would be welcome.

Silver and cutlery have been loaned to the Officers' Messes of five W.R.A.C. Territorial Army units for annual camp this year.

WOMEN'S ROYAL ARMY CORPS, DINNER, 1958

THE Women's Royal Army Corps Dinner will be held on Tuesday, November 11, 1958, at the Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge, London, S.W.1, at 7.30 for 8 p.m. Retired officers who have held Regular, Short-Service or Extended Service Commissions in the W.R.A.C. are eligible to attend.

Application for tickets (serving officers 28s., retired officers 35s.) should be made to the Secretary, W.R.A.C. Headquarter Mess, Queen Elizabeth Camp, Guildford, Surrey, before November 4, 1958.

OFFICERS' POSTINGS

(up to August 31, 1958)

Major D. M. BARLOW, S/Capt., "Q" H.Q., Land Forces, Hong Kong.
Major V. I. FISHER, O.C., 20 Independent Company, W.R.A.C., Catterick.
Major B. M. METCALFE, O.C., 27 Independent Company, W.R.A.C. G.H.Q., M.E.L.F.
Major A. M. METCHER, S/Capt. M.P.A., G.H.Q., FARELF.
Major M. J. ALLEN, O.C., 304 (Surrey and Sussex) Battalion, W.R.A.C. (T.A.), Kingston.
Major D. L. JOE, 21C (East and West Ridings) Battalion, W.R.A.C. (T.A.) (temporary posting).
Capt. E. M. CATHERALL, O.C., "H.Q." Company, W.R.A.C. Depot. Aldershot.
Captain G. A. SERGANT, 13 Command Workshop, R.E.M.E., Aldershot.
Capt. B. D. WATTS, Selection of Personnel Team, attached W.R.A.C. Depot.
Capt. E. D. FOSTER, Southern Command (M) Signals.
Capt. M. G. CAMPBELL, S/Capt., A.D.W.R.A.C. H.Q., Scottish Command.
Lt.(t/Capt.) S. M. HARTSHORNE, W.R.A.C. School of Instruction.
Lt. (t/Capt.) J. C. SWANN, Drivers and Clerks Training Wing, W.R.A.C., 6 Training Battalion, R.A.S.C., Yeovil.
Lt. (t/Capt.) B. N. LAVERACK, S/Capt., D.C.I.G.S. (Co-ord.), War Office.
Lt. E. E. ROSS, 1 Independent Company, W.R.A.C., Edinburgh.
Lt. C. G. PARSONS, 16 Independent Company, W.R.A.C., Kidderminster.
Lt. (Q.M.) A. ELSTON, 12 Battalion, W.R.A.C., Kingston.
2/Lt. B. E. HORNER, Aldershot (M) Signals.
2/Lt. S. MCDUGALL, 70 Company, R.A.S.C. (M.T.), Hounslow.
2/Lt. B. CRAIK, 12 Battalion, W.R.A.C., Kingston.
2/Lt. P. A. E. BINNY, W.R.A.C. Depot, Guildford.
2/Lt. B. M. SCOTT EASTON, 20 Independent Company, W.R.A.C., Catterick.
2/Lt. M. A. O. MILL, 12 Battalion, W.R.A.C., Kingston.
2/Lt. R. A. PARKIN, 12 Battalion, W.R.A.C., Kingston.
2/Lt. M. M. HAWORTH, attached Drivers and Clerks Training Wing, 6 Training Battalion, R.A.S.C., Yeovil.
2/Lt. D. J. DAVIDSON, 9 Independent Company, W.R.A.C., Salisbury.

PERSONAL

(For charges and particulars see Contents page)

For Sale. Khaki greatcoat and Service dress, beautifully tailored, Savile Row. Bust 32 in., height 5 ft. 3½ in. Greatcoat £5. Sam Browne belt 15s. Box No. 8/58.

For Sale. Officer's khaki greatcoat by Hawke. Bust 34 in., length 42 in. Excellent condition. Coaker, Madresfield, nr. Malvern, Worcestershire. Tel. Malvern 114.

For Sale. Khaki Service dress and greatcoat. Height 5 ft. 3½ in., bust 35 in., waist 27 in., hips 38 in., cap 6¼. Price £3, or offers for separate items. Mrs. B. B. Hanson, 129 The Mount, Shrewsbury, Salop.

For Sale. Officer's khaki Service dress, B.D. blouse and skirt, greatcoat. Good condition, £15 o.n.o. Height 5 ft. 6 in., bust 36 in., waist 28 in., hips 40 in. Box No. 9/58.

For Sale. Officers' No. 1 dress, jacket and skirt, shirt, two collars, tie, gloves, hat (6¾). Height 5 ft. 2 in., bust 34 in., waist 24 in., hips 36 in. Almost new, £15 or nearest. Box No. 10/58.

Wanted. Officer's No. 1 dress, jacket and skirt. Height 5 ft. 7 in., bust 40 in., hips 42 in. Box No. 11/58.

Wanted. Officer's No. 1 dress. Bust, 34 in., waist 24 in., hips 36 in., height 5 ft. 5 in. Also hat, shirt, etc., if available. £10, or state price required. Box No. 12/58.

For Sale. Handwoven bathroom/nursery rugs, approx. 22 x 36. Nylon 25s. Candlewick 27s. 6d. to 35s. Chenille 21s. Pure rug wool 37s. 6d. Plus 2s. postage. Formica table mat sets in stand 18s. 11d., postage 1s. 9d. Teapot stands 2s. 11d., postage 4d. Orders accepted for modern cane work, trays, plant troughs, etc. State whether contemporary or self colours woven rugs.—Maureen Lees, Coach-house, 52 Hamilton Square, Birkenhead. Tel. Rock Ferry 4851 (evenings).

The Service Women's Club, 52 Lower Sloane Street, S.W.1, exists for the comfort and convenience of Service and ex-Service women of all ranks. It provides accommodation and the usual amenities of a ladies' club at most reasonable rates and new members are always welcome. For full particulars and brochure please write to the Secretary. Tel. SLOane 9131.

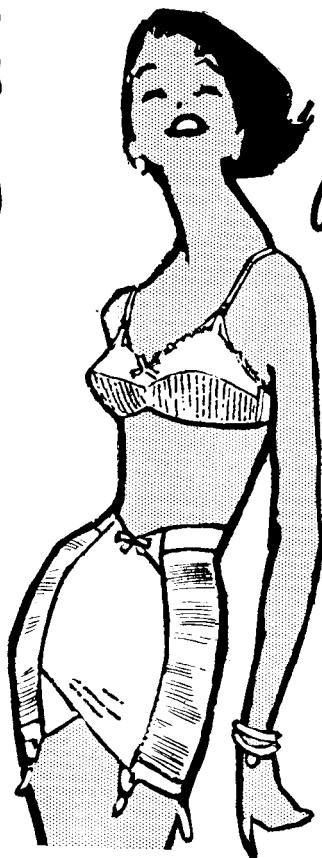
Edinburgh. When in Edinburgh stay at the Women's United Services Club, 12 Drumsheugh Gardens. All ex-Service women welcomed. Special terms for serving W.R.A.C. Write for the brochure to the Secretary. Phone No.: Edinburgh CAL 4952.

"Craigston," Knaphill, near Woking. This Rest Centre for Service and ex-Service women of H.M. Forces provides the comfort of a private home in country surroundings for those on leave or needing convalescence. All applications to the Forces Help Society and Lord Roberts' Workshops, 122 Brompton Road, London, S.W.3.

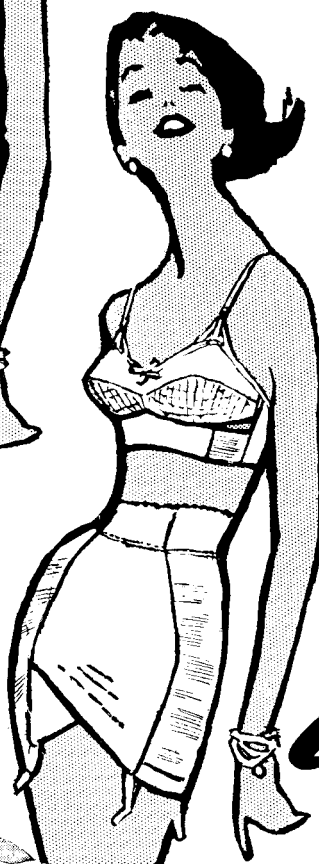
sarongster

REGD.

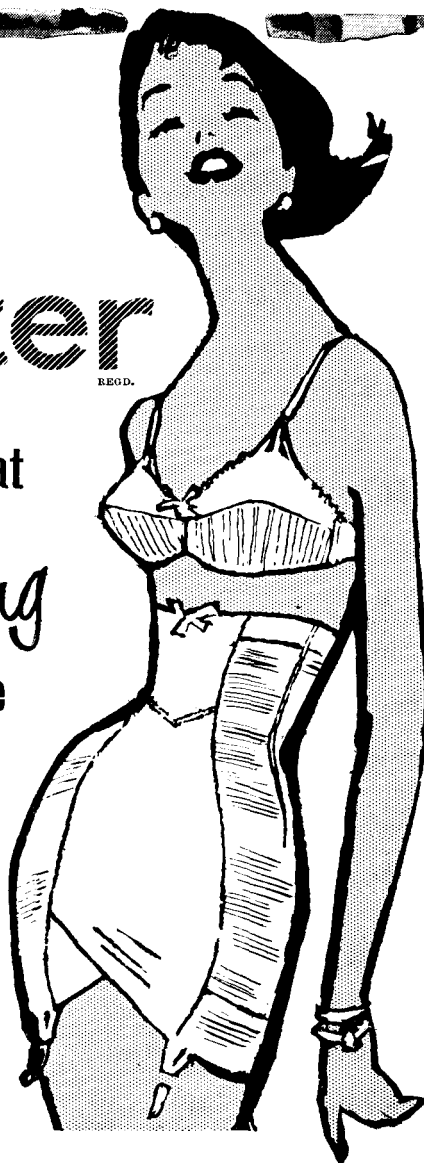
the step-ins that
do something
for your figure



LEFT: Dip-front 28/6



CENTRE: Popular 37/6



RIGHT: High-line 42/-

They're little, they're light—but, by golly, 'Sarongster' step-ins do beautiful things to your figure! The famous 'Sarong' criss-cross front gives wonderful lift and free-stride. In white nylon and nylon-covered elastic net. Small, medium, large. Your favourite 'Unda-

lift' bras in cotton or nylon also available from Naafi.

Berlei
REGD.

OLIVIER

Tipped Cigarettes



You'll enjoy this successful cigarette. Blended from fine tobaccos and specially tipped for coolness and flavour, Olivier cigarettes maintain the Benson and Hedges tradition for quality at an economical price.

20 FOR $3\frac{1}{4}$ 10 FOR $1\frac{1}{8}$

A BENSON AND HEDGES BRAND